

A message from Claire Taylor, Principal Oasis Academy Mayfield

As we start the academic year, I would like to say a huge thank you for your support in getting our new school year off to a flying start. I have been so impressed with the calm, mature and purposeful way our students have returned.

For me, a highlight of the Autumn term is our first whole school assembly. It is a chance for our entire school community to come together under one roof and reflect on what it means to study and work at Mayfield. The assembly is an opportunity to look back at the wonderful achievements of our leavers, but more importantly to look ahead to a new school year and the opportunity for a fresh start. During the assembly, I shared with students the three very simple priorities for our Mayfield community, which are:

- Leading happy and healthy lives
- Transforming lives and empowering communities
- Providing an exceptional educational experience

These ambitions are shared by the entire school community and I'm delighted that our prefect team will be leading work this year to impact and improve upon our environment, both in school and in the community. They are also focusing their efforts on improved student wellbeing; this will be enhanced by an exciting pilot project providing access to a dedicated Mental Health Support Team. We are one of the first schools nationally to be receiving this support, helping us to improve our approach to young people's mental health and provide additional capacity, supplementing specialist NHS services. More information about the launch of this service will follow.

Once again, this year we will be working with the Saints Foundation and their Community Champion scheme. Many of you already know Eddie Anderson who works within the academy to provide sporting opportunities and mentoring for our students, we are delighted that he will be based here at Mayfield working within our community team.

Finally, on the theme of community engagement, the Science Department have continued their strong links with Southampton University involving Year 9 in the exciting work with Lifelab, an organisation which is raising awareness of the future health risks to young people. It really is a fantastic project. You can read all about these events, and a lot more, through our social media channels on Twitter and Facebook.

I wish you all a successful and happy Autumn term and look forward to seeing you at one of the many academy events we have planned.

