

### Achievement Assembly

Our achievement assembly this week celebrated children who have shown "concentration" this week. Well done to the following children:

**Reception:** Molly **Year 1:** James **Year 2:** Esmae **Year 3:** Millie

**Year 4:** Faizaan **Year 5:** Aryanna **Year 6:** Eden

### Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 94.7%

Well done to Year 5 for best attendance this week at 97%

### Attendance raffle

**Remember**, the 100% attendance raffle has restarted so all children will be entered back into the draw. **BUT they need to be in to win!**

### Dates for Diary

- Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Jan - Y4 @ Newcastle Foundation STEM
- Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Jan - Y4 Parent/carers Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) meeting 4.30pm
- Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Reception Vision Screening in school via School Nursing Team
- Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Safer Internet Day in school
- Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb - Chinese New Year School lunch - no other lunch option available
- Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Feb - Valentines School Disco - whole school
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb - Break up for half term
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Mar - Easter Film night - whole school

### Reader of the Week Award

Celebrating our school's passion for reading! A huge congratulations to this week's school reading award winners. We are delighted to introduce this week's star readers who will receive a certificate:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2		
Heidi	Lola	Roman		
Henry	Franky	Theo		
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
Millie and Eloise	Marshall and Caitlin	Aryanna and Molly	Olly and Orla	



### Sports news

Some of our KS1 children went to Gateshead Stadium this week to take part in some multi-sport activities. They really enjoyed demonstrating their skills and working together as a team. Well done everyone.  
#TeamPortobello

### Right of the week

Article 42 - Everyone Must Know the Children's Rights - Governments should actively tell children and adults about this Convention so that everyone knows about children's rights.



### Chinese New Year

We will be celebrating in school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February with a specially designed lunch menu. Please see below, there will be no jacket potatoes or any other lunch option available on this day.



### Portobello Parent/Carer Fundraising Committee

Thank you to two parents/carers from Year 2 and Year 4 who have volunteered to become part of our school fundraising committee. If we could have a full complement across all year groups to input that would be amazing,  
If anyone from Reception and Year 1 would like to get in touch, we look forward to hearing from you.





## Lego

At Portobello Primary School we are extremely proud of our ambitious STEM program and our successful setup of PPS STEM and Robotics. We've had an amazing year so far and aspire to go even further.

One of our primary objectives for our school STEM program is inclusivity. We aim to include as many children as possible in our STEM clubs, projects, and competitions.

However, sometimes children require a simpler gateway into the field, which will later lead to more complex robotics. Our method of allowing all our students to access STEM begins with LEGO. Lego is an amazing resource, which supports children in problem solving and develops many STEM skills.

We are seeking out support from our local school community through donations of LEGO (not Duplo). If you have any complete sets at home, which you no longer require, we would greatly appreciate it if you would donate them to school. Our STEM clubs will make the most out of them and see that they are put to excellent use. Thank you in advance for any support or donations. If you have any questions about donations, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Mr. Chipchase and Mr. Bone STEM Leaders

## Online Safety

This week's Wake Up Wednesday is all about free speech vs hate speech.



**What Children & Young People Need to Know about FREE VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

**Free speech** is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

**Hate speech** refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demoralising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender, identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

**Meet Our Expert**

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for human, ethnic and religious minorities, and those who support them. It's a place where people can share their experiences, advice and support, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

**GLOBAL EQUALITY COLLECTIVE**

**The National College**

**NOS National Online Safety**

**#WakeUpWednesday**

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