



### Achievement Assembly

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

**Reception:** Jessica E **Year 1:** Karter **Year 2:** Ellyse **Year 3:** Harley  
**Year 4:** Heidy **Year 5:** Ava R **Year 6:** Bella

### Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 95.4%

Well done to Year 1, Year 2 & Year 6 for best attendance this week at 96%!

### 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

- Y2 - A Christmas Journey at Birtley Methodist Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Y5 trip to Parliament - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Flu vaccination - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec - whole school
- Choir singing at Morrisons - Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Dec - timings to follow
- Christmas Film Club - Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Dec (after school Y1 to Y6) - details to follow
- Reception Panto Trip - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day - Thur 7<sup>th</sup> Dec (donations required)
- School Fayre - Fri 8<sup>th</sup> December - start time 2.30pm (donations required/details below)
- KS2 Xmas show - 2pm Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec
- KS2 Xmas show - 9.30am Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Reception to Y2 Xmas show - 2pm Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Reception to Y2 Xmas show - 9.30am Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Whole School Xmas Dinner - Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Annual Xmas Shop - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec pupil only event - donations required/details below
- KS2 Xmas parties - Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Dec PM
- Reception to Y2 Xmas parties - Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec PM
- Y1 to Y6 Panto Trip - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec - non uniform/party clothes
- Break up for Xmas Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec - Xmas Jumper day/non uniform
- Inset day Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January - pupils return Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 24

### 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:

#### **Reception**

Jessica B  
Harry C

#### **Year 1**

William R  
Amelia

#### **Year 2**

Bobby  
Emily

#### **Year 3**

Luke  
Lydia

#### **Year 4**

Kourtney  
CJ

#### **Year 5**

Billy  
Paige

#### **Year 6**

Harry D  
Jack D



### Portobello Parent/Carer Fundraising Committee

Are you interested in joining our school fundraising committee? Can you give up a few hours of your time across the year to support events such as after school film nights/discos, or help on a stand at our school fayres or by supporting charitable fundraising efforts? We meet up to four times a year to plan events and spread the word too?

If you would like to get involved, please get in touch with Mrs Lister we would very much welcome new parents/carers to join our existing wonderful team.



### Anti-Bullying Week

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November we celebrated, thank you to all our children who took part in Anti-Bullying Day activities. It was fantastic to hear all their ideas about how to stay safe and make sure bullying does not happen at Portobello. They made some wonderful posters, performed some songs, and wrote some amazing poems! Portobello children definitely made a noise about bullying!



### Rights Respecting - Article 5

Governments should let families and their communities guide their children so that, as they grow up, they learn to use their rights in the best way. The more children grow, the less guidance they will need.



### World Kindness Day

This week we celebrated World Kindness Day by taking part in a kindness assembly with the School of Kindness ([www.schoolofkindness.org](http://www.schoolofkindness.org)). We learnt about what it really means to be kind, how kindness is contagious, the impact kindness has on our physical and mental health and how we can each play our part in creating a kinder world. The national Kindness Awards also launched today - do you know someone who deserves an award? Nominate them here [www.schoolofkindness.org/kindnessawards](http://www.schoolofkindness.org/kindnessawards)

### Children in Need

This year for children in need Joe Wicks is challenging schools to take part in the Pudsey Bearpees challenge. The challenge was for each class to complete 1000 'Bearpees' over the course of the week. Everyone has done so well with this challenge:

Total 'Bearpees' carried out by each class:

Year R- 1250 Year 1- 2017 Year2- 1440  
Year 3- 2452 Year4- 1454 Year5- 3794 Year6- 1070

Class winner is Year 5.

School council will count the school donations on Monday, and we will let you know the figure next week.

Thank you for your support.



### PE KIT reminder

Could all parents/carers please ensure that their child has both an INDOOR and OUTDOOR PE kit in school from Monday-Friday each week.

Children may still be taking part in PE lessons outdoors in the colder weather, so it is vital that all children have the correct kit in school for their lessons.

#### **Indoor PE kit:**

- white t-shirt - black/navy shorts- trainers- bobble for long hair

#### **Outdoor PE kit:**

- black/navy hoodie or jumper- black/navy joggers or tracksuit bottoms- trainers (separate from school shoes)- bobble for long hair. The kits can be sent in separate bags, or all in one if possible?

### Our Annual Pupil Christmas Shopping Experience Christmas Shop Donations Required

Our school council would like to set up a Christmas Shop with a buy a gift & wrap service in school on Monday 18th December. All pupils, should they wish to take part, will be able to choose and buy a gift for a loved one for £2.00 - this gift would then be wrapped and addressed to a loved one to open at Christmas.



Can you help? We have 194 wonderful pupils in our school - we therefore need 194 donated gifts which we can display in our shop, from which a child will choose one and it will then be wrapped and tagged ready to bring home.

Donated gifts can be for all ages (no alcohol products allowed) - do you have any new unwanted gifts to donate to school - a bath bomb, bubble bath, a candle, sweets, any unused soft toys/games, a pack of playing cards, books, colouring items, packets of seeds for a garden maybe, a scarf or a cotton hanky even. The choices are endless.

Staff will be on hand to carefully help our school council wrap up each gift and each pupil buying a gift for £2.00 will write their gift tag or get support doing so.

**Donations to be with us by Wednesday 13th December please.**

The gift of giving for just £2 is cheaper than the shops and a lovely experience for the children to choose something by themselves for a loved one too.

### Christmas Fayre Donations

Christmas Fayre in school Friday 8th December 2pm - all welcome

We will be holding a tombola stall, a bottle stall, Xmas crafts (made by the children), Guess the weight of the Xmas cake, Guess the name of the Teddy, there will be a hamper raffle, children's temporary tattoo stand, and other exciting things happening too.

If you or a friend would like to have a stall to sell any Xmassy items, please get in touch and let us know.

NB:

- Reception - Please donate the following: chocolate items
- KS1 - Year 1 Year 2 - Please donate the following: sweets/cakes
- KS2 - Year 3 Year 4 - Please donate the following: toiletries
- KS2 - Year 5 Year 6 - Please donate the following: Bottles - can be alcoholic/non-alcoholic

**Can we please have donations into school by Monday 4th December!**





School Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

If your child usually has a packed lunch and you would like to order a Christmas school meal, please let the office know and make a payment via ParentPay.

To advise no other meal option is available on this day.

# Christmas 2023



## PUPILS MENU



~  
**Roast Turkey Breast with Mini Chipolata,  
Stuffing, Roasted and Creamed Potatoes,  
Peas & Carrots and  
Gravy**

~  
**Quorn Fillet with Mini Veggie Sausage Roast  
and Creamed Potatoes, Carrots & Peas and  
Gravy (V) \***

~  
**Festive Treats: Handmade Festive  
Shortbreads, Cookies, Biscuits, Muffins and  
Cupcakes**



Are you watching TV? Or is the TV watching YOU?

As internet-enabled televisions become the norm, this week's #WakeUpWednesday guide has some useful #OnlineSafety tips to help parents ensure their children are viewing safely.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonsafety.com](https://nationalonsafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet-enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

#### INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

#### REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases. Buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example, if your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

#### UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

#### A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

#### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

### CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

### CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a broad remit to cover the latest in the industry. Previously the author of *Technical Debt: The Impacts*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

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