



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
16th February 2024



Achievement Assembly

Our achievement assembly this week celebrated children who have thoroughly "enjoyed learning" this week. Well done to the following children:

Reception: Harry **C Year 1:** Ethan **Year 2:** Holly
Year 3: Luke **Year 4:** Isla **Year 5:** Year 6: Harry

Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 94.7%
Well done to Year 1 for best attendance this week at 100%

Huge well done to all 96 children who have achieved 100% attendance in the Spring 1 term. All names went into our Attendance Raffle and the two £50 prize vouchers go to Bronn in Reception and Ellyse in Year 2. Our raffle restarts after half term.

Dates for Diary

- Friday 16th Feb - Break up for half term
- Thur 7th Mar - World Book Day plus Scholastic Book Fair after school until 4pm
- Thur 7th Mar - World Book Day special lunch menu - see below, there will be no other lunch option available.
- Mon 11th, Tues 12th & Wed 13th March - Parents Consultations & book fair in hall after school (until 4.00pm) Appts will be available to book from Wed 28th Feb
- Tues 19th Mar - KS2 Dance club performing PM at the Glasshouse International Centre for Music
- Wed 20th Mar - please send in an unwanted piece of clothing/cloth for bunting
- Wed 20th Mar - Easter Film night - whole school
- Tues 26th Mar - Y3 at the Glasshouse for the Spring Sing
- Thurs 28th March - Break up for Easter return Mon 15th April

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 Cassien and Henry	Year 1 Aizah and Freddie	Year 2 Hastaj and Millie	
Year 3 Noah and Spencer	Year 4 James and Leah	Year 5 Charlie and William	Year 6 Harvey and Isabella



Breakfast Club

This week we had a themed breakfast on Shrove Tuesday, 49 pupils thoroughly enjoyed pancakes with fresh fruit toppings and sauces. Thank you to our wonderful Breakfast Club Supervisors, Mrs Bradford, and Mrs Johnson for making it extra special. We are going to have 4 further themed breakfasts up until the summer term, if you would like to make a booking, please do so online via Schoolcomms. (Usual breakfast club items will be served too!)

- Tuesday 26th March - Easter Breakfast - Hot Cross Buns
- Tuesday 30th April - Waffles with fruit toppings
- Tuesday 21st May - Toasted muffins or pancakes
- Tuesday 25th June - Health and Sports Week - Keep fit Breakfast!



Oral Health Promotion

We were recently visited by South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust Oral Health Promoter who approved our Oral Health Policy and gave us further advice about how to keep our children's teeth healthy. She asked if we could spread the message that small bags of jelly sweets that children can take home are a better and cheaper option than a birthday cake should you be thinking of sharing with your child's class.

We were also advised that parents and carers should register their children at any receiving NHS dentist and that this does not have to be the same dentist as the adult. To find your nearest dentist taking 0-16 patients simply type 'find an NHS dentist' into Google and click on the first link. If you have any difficulty with this or need some support, we are here to help.

Right of the week

Article 16 - Protection of Privacy - Every child has the right to privacy. The law must protect children's privacy, family, home, communications, and reputation (or good name) from any attack.



Bunting

To celebrate the 10 Year Anniversary of The Waste and Recycling Centre, our school has been invited to make celebratory bunting from old clothes or unwanted fabric.

On Wednesday 20th March please send in one unwanted item of clothing or fabric. Every class will have time to cut up and decorate their fabric to make a piece of amazing bunting.

All the pieces will then be assembled by the Rights Respecting Club and sent to The Recycling Centre for the big celebration.

Portobello Parent/Carer Fundraising Committee

Calling all Year 1 parents/carers would anyone like to come along to our next fundraising get together and check out whether you would like to get involved? Come along on Monday 4th March at 3pm to find out more, please let Mrs Lister know if you can attend.



World Book Day menu

WORLD BOOK DAY

GATESHEAD SCHOOL CATERING

Marvelous Mains: Mr Fox's Fantastic Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap
 or
 Magic Finger Veggie Hot Dogs in a roll

Served with: Supertatos Amazing Waffles
 Augustus Gloops Spaghetti Hoops
 Squad Farm Peas
 BFG Giant Mixed Salad

Dangerous Dessert: Charlies Chocolate & Orange Sponge with Chocolate Waterfall Sauce
 or
 James Peaches & Ice Cream



SCHOLASTIC TRAVELLING BOOKS

COME TO the SUPER AMAZING BOOK FAIR!

LAST YEAR, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED TO DONATE OVER £5.3M BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

FREE BOOKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU BUY AT THE BOOK FAIR!

A POP-UP BOOK-STORE WITH HUNDREDS OF BOOKS FROM JUST £2.99

NEW

Save £3

£12.99 ~~£9.99~~

NEW

£7.99

NEW

£7.99

NEW

£7.99

NEW

Available from 5th February

£8.99 ~~£7.99~~

NEW

£7.99

Illustration from Nina Peanut is Amazing © Sarah Bowie, 2024.

Date: World Book Day is Thursday 7th March

Book fair will be available after school
Thursday 7th March until 4pm and a tuck shop too
Monday 11th until 3.45pm
Tuesday 12th until 3.45pm
Wednesday 13th until 3.45pm

Scan the QR code to pay online!

Easy Fundraising

Sign up it's free and you can help us raise money for our school. So far, we have 64 supporters who have helped raise £264.86 in the last 4 years.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/portobelloprisch/?utm_medium=email-share&utm_source=Facebook&utm_campaign=dd-feb-24&utm_term=Q4232&utm_content=socialshare

Online Safety

Happy Valentine's Day!

Even young people can be looking for someone special - and with some teen dating apps boasting over 1 million users, the need to be aware of potential dangers is on the rise. This #WakeUpWednesday, we are diving into the risks of online dating and relationships.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ONLINE DATING & RELATIONSHIPS

Most online dating apps claim to be for over-18s only but, in some cases, relaxed age verification also allows children to access them. What's more, some popular social media platforms use similar design features to many dating sites - blurring the line between why a young person initially downloads an app and what they actually end up using it for.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

- ONLINE GROOMING**
Online grooming is when someone forms a connection with a child in the digital world and carefully cultivates this relationship with the intention of manipulating the child into doing something sexual or illegal. The process involves gaining the young person's confidence - which can make them far less likely to tell a trusted adult about their new online 'friend', or to recognise what is even happening.
- WEBCAM BLACKMAIL**
Some young people have been coaxed into getting nude or semi-nude on a video chat with someone they met on a dating platform. They're then told that, unless they hand over a certain amount of money, a recording of the video will be posted online (or possibly sent to their contacts). This can be hugely traumatic for a young person and, in extreme cases, has resulted in self-harm and even suicide.
- DAMAGE TO SELF ESTEEM**
Many dating platforms encourage users to rate the images that people upload; this has clear potential to negatively impact a young person's self-esteem. On some apps, pictures of a user's face and body can be rated anonymously, with notifications informing them if someone has then declined to match with them. This form of rejection can feel extremely hurtful and degrading.
- CATFISHING AND SCAMS**
Creating a false identity to deliberately lure people into a relationship (whether romantic or platonic) online is known as catfishing. Commonly, someone pretends to share interests or beliefs with their victim and gradually gains their trust. A young person's feelings for this fake 'friend' may cloud their judgement and can lead to them surrendering money, personal images, passwords and so on.
- STALKING AND HARASSMENT**
Stalking is obsessive behaviour by a fixated individual which disrupts their victim's life; it can bring intense distress and even the fear of violence. There have been frequent reports of stalking cases that originated on dating apps, with perpetrators creating new accounts in response to being reported or blocked. It's a particular cause for concern if a young person has ever given out personal details (such as their street or school name) online.

Advice for Parents & Carers

- KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING**
Reassure your child that they can always talk to you about anything online that's worried them. Emphasise that if they're being sent unwanted images - or if they've shared images or video content themselves - they should tell you straight away. Discuss the potential risks of online dating and check in with them frequently to ensure that they're feeling comfortable about their online relationships.
- TAKE A 'SAFETY FIRST' STANDPOINT**
Encourage young people to be careful about who they send invitations to - and accept them from - on dating sites and apps. Familiarise yourself with how to adjust the privacy settings on your child's devices and apps to help them control who can access their profiles and information. Talk to your child about why it's unwise to share any sensitive, private or confidential information in their profile.
- PROTECT CONTACT DETAILS**
If a young person is interested in using online dating sites or apps, strongly encourage them to choose one that offers the facility to conceal both parties' email addresses when messaging prospective dates. If that's not possible, ensure that the young person sets up a separate email address which doesn't include their real name. This is easy to do via providers like Hotmail, Yahoo! Mail or gmail.
- HIGHLIGHT COMMON DANGER SIGNS**
Talk to your child about some of the obvious red flags in online dating: requests for money, for instance, should always ring alarm bells. Likewise, if a young person is in contact with someone who they feel is pressuring them into providing personal or financial information - or who they suspect is trying to trick them into it - they should end communication immediately and contact the dating service provider.

Meet Our Expert
Helen Cooper-Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of safeguarding, and has been awarded 13 awards for her work in writing, researching and training young people, parents and schools, who share a subject matter experts on behalf of the Department of Education.

The National College | **NOS National Online Safety** | #WakeUpWednesday

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