

Newsletter

Pride, Passion, Success

It has been a busy start to the term and both the staff and children have been working incredibly hard since our return. The children of Reception have settled in well and are beginning to become used to the routines of school life. The rest of the children have returned like seasoned pros and it is feeling more and more like it was before the onset of Covid restrictions nearly 2 years ago. Swimming has started in Year 5, and it was great to take them away from the school setting, up to the university swimming pool, to start their 6 session course.

Year 6 will also shortly be leaving the school setting as they embark on their residential to Avon Tyrell on Monday 11 October 2021. We are looking forward to the daily Facebook posts that get written whilst they are away.

Our first sporting fixtures for nearly 2 years occurred last Friday. Over 50 of our children took part in the first cross country race of the season at Southampton Sports Centre, with two of our children finishing first in a competitive field of over 250 children. We are all looking forward to today to see if we can do the double again!



Tony Head
Principal

Jacob and Kat

Year 6 Parents

Secondary school applications

A reminder to all Year 6 parents that the deadline for applying for a place at secondary school for your child to begin in Year 7 is Sunday 31 October 2021.

Applications must be made online by parents/carers and all information can be found by following this link:

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/schools-learning/find-school/apply-school/>

We would **strongly** advise you to include your catchment school in one of your three choices of secondary school. If you have any questions about how to apply, please email Mr Ward via 6W@portswoodpri.org.uk as soon as possible.

Free School Meals

Are you receiving benefits? Your child may be entitled to Free School Meals.

Applying for free school meals not only gives your child the opportunity to have a meal at lunchtime but the Government also gives the school additional money to help with your child's education. It is therefore to your child's advantage that you apply for free school meals (even if your child is entitled to universal free school meals; or does not actually take up the offer of a meal).

You can apply on-line at [Online FSM Application \(cloudforedu.org.uk\)](https://cloudforedu.org.uk).

Alternatively, please contact the school office for further details.

Before and After school Care

As you may be aware at the end of last academic year Paint Pots, our before and afterschool care provider sent out a letter to parents to gain an understanding of the level of demand for their service for the start of this year. Unfortunately, the level of need was not sufficient for them to be in a financially secure position to restart their offer.

Below you will find a link to a survey.

The purpose of this survey is to help ascertain the demand for before and after school care as we continue to search for a new provider. Obviously, different providers have different charge rates, but for the purpose of this survey we are using the costing of Paint Pots as a guide. Therefore, a breakfast session would run from 7.40 to 9.00 and would cost somewhere in the region of £5.40 per day and an afterschool session would run from 3.30 - 6.00 and cost in the region of £13 per day.

Please complete this survey by Friday 1 October 2021.

<https://forms.office.com/r/5Nkyq1z31d>

London Marathon 2021

Mr Ward will be following in the footsteps of our superb cross country runners on Sunday 3 October 2021, when he will be joining with thousands of others in running the London Marathon. Do keep an eye out for him on the television – he is wearing number 9603 if you would like to track his progress! He is aiming to complete it in under 3 and a half hours and is raising money for the wonderful charity Macmillan Cancer Support. If you would like to sponsor him you can do so at www.justgiving.com/jimmyward. Thank you!



Parking

Please can we ask you to be mindful of residents when parking around the school. We have received several complaints from residents who have had people park on their driveway. Please do not pull up on double yellow lines or the school zig zag lines, even if you are only dropping your child off.

Please do not park over the entrance to the allotments, these gates should be accessible at all times.

Please park a little further from the school and walk the rest of the way where possible.

Smoking

Please can we ask you to refrain from smoking around the school gates. Children are also waiting by the gates in morning and it is not nice having to inhale smoke or e-cigarette fumes.



Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Friday 1 October 2021	Year 5 - Swimming
Thursday 7 October 2021	Individual photographs
Monday 11 – Friday 15 October 2021	Year 6 – Residential to Avon Tyrrell
Friday 15 October 2021	Year 5 - Swimming
Wednesday 20 October 2021	Nursery children – Individual photographs
Friday 22 October 2021	Inset day – children not in school