

Newsletter

Pride, Passion, Achieving Together

As we approach the end of November, I find myself having to finally admit (after much personal denial and avoidance of television adverts) that 'Christmas' is in fact fast approaching and that this festive time of year will soon be upon us. Preparations behind the scenes are underway and the dates for the diary section of this newsletter outlines what will be occurring during the final days of term to celebrate this time of year.

Meanwhile November itself has been a busy month and much has occurred that is worth note. As part of their Geography work **Year 1** explored the local area and Portswood high street in particular. Miss Mander accompanied the children and their teachers on this adventure and had an excellent time supporting the children with their investigations.



Year 4 also found themselves away from school during this month, when they went on a trip to Butser Hill as part of their history topic based on the Romans. Fortunately, they managed to avoid most of the rain that day and had an excellent time, taking part in a variety of activities (photos of which will shortly be available to see on the display screen by the office). I would again like to thank both the efforts of the staff in organising these events and the parents who supported us during them; without whom such trips would not be possible.

November also saw a number of inter house competitions take place across the school. Within Key Stage 1 children were given the opportunity to take part in a 'Spelling Bee'. It was a hotly contested final with the team from Grosvenor eventually coming out as winners. With Years 3 & 4 the competition was based upon naming countries and their capitals. This was equally competitive with Welbeck coming out as eventual winners. Finally, in Years 5 & 6 multiplication tables were the focus with again Grosvenor eventually coming out on top. We would like to thank all those who took part on this occasion and to remind the children that a new competition will be being run during the Spring Term.

Tony Head
Principal

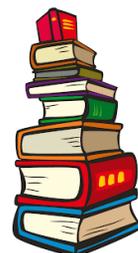
Prefects

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful Year 6 prefects who showed round prospective Year R parents on Monday 5 November. They were a credit to our school and each and every one of them gave an open and honest tour of the school, taking time to answer questions. All of the parents were impressed by you! Thank you and well done!

Book Fair

As in previous years the book fair proved to be tremendously popular whilst it was here last week. Thank you to all those who came to visit during this time and who gave the teachers the opportunity to practise their mental maths whilst adding up the cost of the books you purchased.



School Lunches

Once again can we remind you please that payment for school lunches must be paid for in advance. If your child is having lunch during the week then payment should be made on the Monday.

It is very easy to pay for school lunches [on-line](#) If you do not have a code to be able to do this please ask at the office.



Christmas Dinner

School Christmas menu

School Christmas lunch will be on Tuesday 18 December 2018. Please see the menu below:

MAINS

Roast Turkey
Or
Caramalised red onion and cheese tart with
Fresh Basil
Or
Quorn Roast

SIDES

Roast Potatoes
Carrots, peas, roasted parsnips and sprouts
Served with gravy

DESSERTS

Iced chocolate brownie
Or
Crispy snow bar

Please make sure payment is made in advance for the school Christmas lunch.

Children in Need

The children and parents of our school once again helped us support this worthwhile charity by dressing up in all things spotty. Due to your contributions both on the day and after we were able to raise over £430. Thank you again for your participation.



Stay safe

Please help your children stay safe on the way to and from school as the winter months draw near. Please may I take this opportunity to remind you to send your child in with a named coat, named gloves and sensible footwear. Thank you for your support.

ParentMail

Improving School Communications

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do, making sure you get the correct information about school news, activities and things that really matter is something we care about.

ParentMail will be beneficial to you because you can:

- Use a free mobile app on Android and iOS to pick up school messages instantly.
- Have an account simply for school messages (away from your busy email inbox!)
- Connect to other schools, nurseries or clubs that use ParentMail.
- Highlight important messages or archive old messages to make life easier.
- Messages can be sent directly to mums, dads and carers – even grandparents!

Registering with ParentMail is very easy! Over the next few days you will be sent either an email and/or text message from ParentMail, when you receive this please just follow the instructions in the message.

Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would highly recommend you download the ParentMail App for the best user experience. To do this, simply search for “ParentMail” in your App store.

Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Wednesday 5 December 2018	Year 6 Macbeth theatre visit
Monday 10 December 2018	Last week for clubs
Wednesday 12 December 2018	KS1 Performance 2.30pm
Thursday 13 December 2018	KS1 Performance 2.30pm
Friday 14 December 2018	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 17 December 2018	No In2Music or after school music lessons this week.
Monday 17 December 2018	Walk to Church – Christmas rehearsal
Tuesday 18 December 2018	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 18 December 2018	Year R Nativity
Wednesday 19 December 2018	Present Room
Wednesday 19 December 2018	Year 3&4 Christmas party (PM)
Wednesday 19 December 2018	Christmas Performance at Highfield Church 6-7pm
Thursday 20 December 2018	Year 5&6 Christmas party (PM)
Thursday 20 December 2018	Infant Christmas party (PM)
Friday 21 December 2018	Present Room
Friday 21 December 2018	Last Day of Term

Friends of Portswood Primary School (FoPPS)

Cake Sale!

The cake sale held just before half term was a great success and raised £285! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped including all those contributing delicious cakes (Mr Head's chocolate cake sold out particularly fast!) and the parents and teachers who helped to sell on the day – it couldn't have happened without you!



Highfield Church Donation

During the first week of October Highfield Church held a pop up café offering free drinks, cake and Wi-Fi with donations going to FoPPS. They raised an impressive £450! A big THANK YOU to anyone who attended and donated, and to Highfield Church for this very generous donation.

Second hand school uniform

Following limited interest in previous second hand school uniform sales, FoPPS donated the remaining stock of uniforms to Southampton Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

School Disco

FoPPS are arranging a disco for years 1-2 and years 3-6, after school on Friday 1st February 2019. Further details will be released in due course so keep an eye on the newsletter and look out for posters in the school grounds. The disco can't go ahead without volunteers to help sell tickets before the event, and help out at the disco itself. If you are able to help in any way please contact us at friends@fopps.org, or via Facebook at 'Friends of Portswood Primary School'.

FoPPS

For further information about Friends of Portswood Primary School (FoPPS) please see our website <http://fopps.org/> or contact us at friends@fopps.org or via Facebook. The next FoPPS meeting is on Wednesday 12 December 2018 at 9am in the dining hall. Everyone is welcome!