

Newsletter

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a belated Happy New Year and to welcome you to the first newsletter of 2019.

Since having returned, we have very much continued where we left off, with both teachers and children working hard together to create learning opportunities and work of excellent quality – the highlights of which are written below.

Nursery

Since their return the Nursery children have been looking at traditional tales, such as 'The Three Little Pigs'. During this work they have had the opportunity to carry out tasks, such as building houses made out of straw and using puppets to retell the story.



Year R

The children of Year R adventured to the Blue Reef Aquarium last Wednesday. During the day the children went on a guided tour to learn about different sea creatures as well as being given the opportunity to observe and touch animals such as star fish and crabs. The visit was a great success and we would like to thank the parents that volunteered, without whom the visit would not have been possible.

Year 1

We would also like to thank the parent volunteers for Year 1 who gave up their time to support us in taking the children to Milestones Museum in Basingstoke as part of their history work based upon toys. Yet again this visit was enjoyed by all that attended and allowed our children, amongst other things, to gain hands on experience with toys from the past.



Year 2

The children of Year 2 have been particularly busy since our return to school. As well as carrying out work in maths, geography and a range of other subjects, they have also had to persuade 'Aliens' not to land their spacecraft on top of our school. Needless to say, I am grateful that their powers of persuasion were up to the task and that we are not now hosts to green 'bug-eyed' creatures from a galaxy far, far away.....

Year 3

The children of Year 3 have been working hard within English since their return, exploring Greek Myths. This is linked to their history work and we are looking forward to the infamous 'Greek Week' arriving soon into Year 3.

Year 4

Within Geography the children of Year 4 have been studying Antarctica. As part of this work Mr May from Year 6, who in the past has been part of an expedition to this part of the world, spent some time talking to the children. He also gave some 'volunteers' the chance to try on some of the clothing that a person would need to wear if they were to survive in the sub-zero temperatures they might encounter. After having adorned the many layers given to them, they were particularly toasty!

Year 5

Geography work is also underway in Year 5. This half term the children have commenced their work on Italy and their posters displaying their learning so far are well on their way to being completed.

Year 6

In Year 6 the children have begun their History unit of work based upon the Victorians. As part of this the children have been investigating the types of jobs that children carried out during this period of time and the hardships that they endured. Hopefully being asked to occasionally empty the dishwasher at home may now not be met with such 'hard done by' disapproval!



Tony Head
Principal

Updates

Please note change in date for the Year 3 and Year 4 performance.

Date	Activity
Thursday 28 March 2019	Year 3 Performance
Friday 29 March 2019	Year 4 Performance

ParentMail

Improving School Communications

Registering with ParentMail is very easy! Once you receive your email from ParentMail, 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.

ParentMail



Clothes Bin

A reminder that the school has a clothes bin for any unwanted clothes, situated next to the infant building. Can we encourage you to donate.



Head lice

We have had several reports of head-lice this term. Please would you therefore carry out a check on your child's hair.

If you find either insects or eggs it is important that the whole family receives treatment at once.

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.



Weekly £11.25.

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.

Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Tuesday 29 January 2019	4E Assembly to Parents
Thursday 31 January 2019	1DM Assembly to Parents
Friday 1 February 2019	Non Uniform Day / Fopps Disco
Tuesday 5 February 2019	3J Assembly to Parents
Thursday 7 February 2019	RA Assembly to Parents
Thursday 7 February 2019	Year 1 Toy Museum – Parents in class.
Tuesday 12 February 2019	3B Assembly to Parents
Thursday 14 February 2019	RB Parent Assembly
Monday 18 – Friday 22 February	Half Term
Monday 25 February 2019	Inset day – children not in school

Friends of Portswood Primary School (FoPPS)

FoPPS disco

The disco will be held in the junior hall on Friday 1 February at 3:45-4:30pm for years R-2 and 4:45-5:30pm for years 3-6. Tickets cost £2 and are on sale in the lower playground after school on most days (depending on volunteer availability). The last day to buy tickets will be Thursday 31 January (sooner if tickets sell out!).

Thank you to all those who have volunteered so far, your help is greatly appreciated! If you are able to help out please speak with one of the ticket sellers or email friends@fopps.org.

Also do not forget that for a £1 donation payable on the day, all children at school are invited to wear non-school uniform!