

# Newsletter

We would like to welcome both you and your children back after the half term and hope that for those who had the opportunity, a restful week was had.

The last few weeks prior to the break were as busy as ever.

## Year 1

In Year 1 the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed themselves whilst creating a toy museum, which was well attended by parents.

## Year 3

The Greek invasion finally descended upon Year 3 with both children and staff dressing in Greek attire for the entire week. During this time the children worked hard on a number of activities, including the creation of their own myths, some of which should find themselves being displayed during this half term.

## Year 5

Within Year 5 the final preparations for the Calshot residential are being made, which will be taking place between Wednesday 13 and Friday 15 March 2019. The excitement is building nicely, both the children who are attending and the staff who are going are looking forward to the adventures that await them.

Class assemblies will continue this half term and we look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to these events, as well as to parents' evenings which will be running during mid March.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Tony Head**  
Principal

## ParentMail

### Improving School Communications

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



## 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.



## ONLINE SAFETY UPDATE:

Please find below some of the latest guidance from 'National Online Safety' on how best to support your children when using online services.

### REAL OR HOAX?

As a parent it is natural to feel worried about certain things you see online that may be harmful to your child. However, not everything you see online is true. Check the validity of the source and be mindful of what you share as it may only cause more worry.

### BE PRESENT

It's important for you, as a parent or carer, to be present while your children are online. This will give you a greater understanding of what they are doing on their devices, as well as providing you with the opportunity to discuss, support and stop certain activities that your child may be involved in. As the nature of each task become progressively worse it's also important to recognise any changes in your child's behaviour.

### TALK REGULARLY WITH YOUR CHILD

As well as monitoring your child's activity, it's important for you discuss it with them too. Not only will this give you an understanding of their online actions, but those honest and frequent conversations will encourage your child to feel confident to discuss issues and concerns they may have related to the online world.

### DEVICE SETTINGS & PARENTAL CONTROLS

Ensure that you set up parental controls for your devices at home. This will help to restrict the types of content that your child can view, as well as help you to monitor their activity. In addition to this, it's vital that you are aware of your device and account settings to ensure your child's utmost safety. For example, on YouTube you can turn off 'suggested auto-play' on videos to stop your child from viewing content that they have not directly selected.

### PEER PRESSURE

Trends and viral challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they seem. Make sure you talk to your child about how they shouldn't succumb to peer pressure and do anything they are not comfortable with, online or offline. If they are unsure, encourage them to talk to you or another trusted adult.

### REPORT & BLOCK

You can't always rely on parental controls to block distressing or harmful material. People find ways around a platform's algorithm in order to share and promote this type of material. Due to this, we advise that you flag and report any material you deem to be inappropriate or harmful as soon as you come across it. You should also block the account/content to prevent your child from viewing it. Also encourage your child to record/screenshot any content they feel could be malicious to provide evidence in order to escalate the issue to the appropriate channels.

### FURTHER SUPPORT

Speak to the safeguarding lead within your child's school should you have any concerns regarding your child's online activity or malicious content that could affect them.

If your child sees something distressing, it is important that they know where to go to seek help and who their trusted adults are.

## Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Tuesday 05 March 2019	6M Assembly to Parents
Tuesday 05 March 2019	Droxford School visiting Year 3
Wednesday 6 March 2019	Nursery Children World Book Day – Wear your PJ's
Thursday 7 March 2019	Rest of School - World Book Day – Wear your PJ's
Monday 11 March 2019	No teacher led Clubs this week
Tuesday 12 March 2019	5A Assembly to Parents
Tuesday 12 March 2019	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 13 – Friday 15 March	Year 5 to Calshot.
Thursday 14 March 2019	1K Parent Assembly
Thursday 14 March 2019	Parents' Evening
Friday 15 March 2019	Wear red for Red Nose Day
Tuesday 19 March 2019	6W Assembly to Parents
Tuesday 19 March 2019	Year 5 Parents' Evening
Thursday 21 March 2019	2P Assembly to Parents
Monday 25 March 2019	Last week for clubs
Tuesday 26 March 2019	5H Assembly to Parents
Thursday 28 March 2019	Years 3 Performance
Friday 29 March 2019	Year 4 Performance
Monday 8 – Monday 22 April 2019	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23 April 2019	Children back to school.

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## Friends of Portswood Primary School (FoPPS)

### Disco

Many thanks to all the parents and staff who helped out at the FoPPS disco last term. The children had a brilliant time showing off their best dance moves! Combined, the disco and non-school uniform day raised £650. FoPPS are working with school staff planning how to spend the money and this will be published in a future newsletter.

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To get involved with FoPPS please email [friends@fopps.org](mailto:friends@fopps.org) - any help is appreciated! The next FoPPS meeting is at 9-10 am on Wednesday 13 March 2019, in the dining hall, all welcome!