

Newsletter

Pride, Passion, Achieving Together

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the start of a new year at Portswood Primary School. It has been a delight to see our new Reception children begin their journey with us so confidently over these first few weeks.

As always, it has been a busy start to the term and both the staff and children have been working incredibly hard since our return. Trips to Butser Hill, for the children of Year 4, and to Portswood High Street for Year 3 are currently being organised and will be taking place over the coming month.

As a school we have already had our first sporting fixtures of the year. Over 25 children from the school took part in the first inter school cross country race of the season, at Southampton Sports Centre. In a field of over 300, 3 of our runners came in the top 20. Meanwhile, our Year 5/6 boys represented us in the City's 6 a-side tournament at Wide Lane. Both the weather and the run of the ball were against us on the day and although they battled valiantly, they were unable to secure a win on this occasion. We are extremely proud of all our children who represent us at such events and will, as always, continue to search out more opportunities for them to do so.

We really enjoy seeing parents and appreciate that there are times when you may have something exciting to share about your child or a concern or a question to ask about your child.

We have therefore put together a structure that will help you decide who you need to contact:

Keith Watson –CEO
Strategic responsibility for the school.

Rachel Coney – Deputy CEO
Strategic responsibility for the school.

Tony Head –Principal
Day to day responsibility for the school.

Jeavon Leonard –Vice Principal
Responsibility for assessment, year 6 standards and pupil premium
Deputising for Principal and day to day running of the school.
Interim Year 3 & 4 Phase Leader

Ian Howie –Vice Principal (Inclusions)
Responsibility for Inclusions (welfare and learning needs).
Deputising for Principal and day to day running of the school.
Interim Year 1 & 2 Phase Leader

Anna Aldridge –Assistant Vice Principal (Early Years)
Responsibility for standards and day to day running for Years R and N.
Supporting the Principal in day to day running of the school.

Jimmy Ward – Year 5 & 6 Phase Leader
Responsibility for standards and day to day running for Years 5 and 6.
Supporting the Principal in day to day running of the school.

The first person to talk to regarding a concern is usually your child's class teacher who will alert the appropriate senior member of staff. If you feel your concern has not been addressed, then please contact the appropriate phase leader who will then be able to support you.

If you have a question regarding your child's general welfare, for example a behaviour issue, an emotional need or a specific learning concern then please contact Ian Howie, Vice Principal (Inclusions).

We are in daily contact with the CEO and all other members of staff are in daily contact with each other at school. Please rest assured, therefore, that we are all aware of your child's needs.

Having now entered our 4th week back in school, the pile of lost property has reached such a size that a team from the Ordnance Survey are likely to soon descend upon the school to see if it qualifies for 'mountain' status.

Please feel free to come and claim any of your children's misplaced items from the lost property area located near the school office. Any items not claimed by half term will be sent for recycling.

Tony Head
Principal

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 31 October 2019. This must be done 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/>.

If you need further information or have any questions please speak to Mr Ward.

School Uniform

From 4 November 2019 we will no longer stock or sell supplies of sweatshirts/book bags etc. From 23 October 2019, you will be able to purchase our school uniform directly from our supplier - Skoolkit. This can either be ordered online or by visiting the Skoolkit shop in Eastleigh.

To order online and have the items delivered directly to your home please visit www.skoolkit.co.uk

The Skoolkit shop is at: 31 Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9FF

School Lunches

Can we remind parents of children in Years R, 1 & 2 that school lunches are free for your child.

Years 3 – 6, please can you ensure payment of dinner money is made in advance; this is currently £2.30 a day.

It is very easy to check your balance and pay for school lunches on-line. If you do not have a code to be able to do this please ask at the office.



Cashless School Office

From 2 December 2019 Portswood Primary will be working towards becoming a 'cashless office'. This means that we will be encouraging all parents to pay online (using SCOPAY) for the following:-

School Lunches
Trips
Fruit (Key Stage 2 only)



SCOPAY is very easy to use and is a secure system.

You will need a code to be able to access SCOPAY. If you do not already have a code please ask at the school office.

If you envisage that paying online will cause you difficulties, please speak to Mandip Mandair in the school office. All discussions will be treated confidentially.

Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Monday 7 – Friday 11 October 2019	Year 4 Roman Week
Thursday 10 October 2019	Individual School Photographs
Monday 14 October 2019	Avon Tyrrell Parent meeting 3.45pm
Tuesday 15 October 2019	Year 3 Trip to Portswood
Wednesday 23 October 2019	Year 4 Trip to Butser Ancient Farm
Wednesday 23 October 2019	Individual School Photographs – Nursery
Friday 25 October 2019	Inset day – children not at school
Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November 2019	Half Term
Monday 4 November 2019	Children back to School.



School Uniform

From 23 October 2019, our uniform will be available to purchase directly from our supplier.

Where to Buy

Online: www.skoolkit.co.uk
In Person: Skoolkit (Eastleigh)

31 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9FF
Opening times: Mon-Fri 9.00am-5.30pm
Sat 9.00am-5.00pm

Friends of Portswood Primary School (FoPPS)

Members needed

As you may be aware, FoPPS needs new committee members to enable it to continue. Roles include treasurer, chair and secretary. FoPPS also needs someone to take over looking after its email and website, but this does not need to be a committee position.

If you can help please leave your name and contact details in the FoPPS box at reception before Tuesday 8 October 2019, or come along to the AGM on Thursday 10 October 2019, 6pm at Sainsbury's Community Room (everyone welcome!).

At this meeting FoPPS is hoping new committee members can be voted onto the committee. If there is not enough interest, FoPPS in its current form will end.

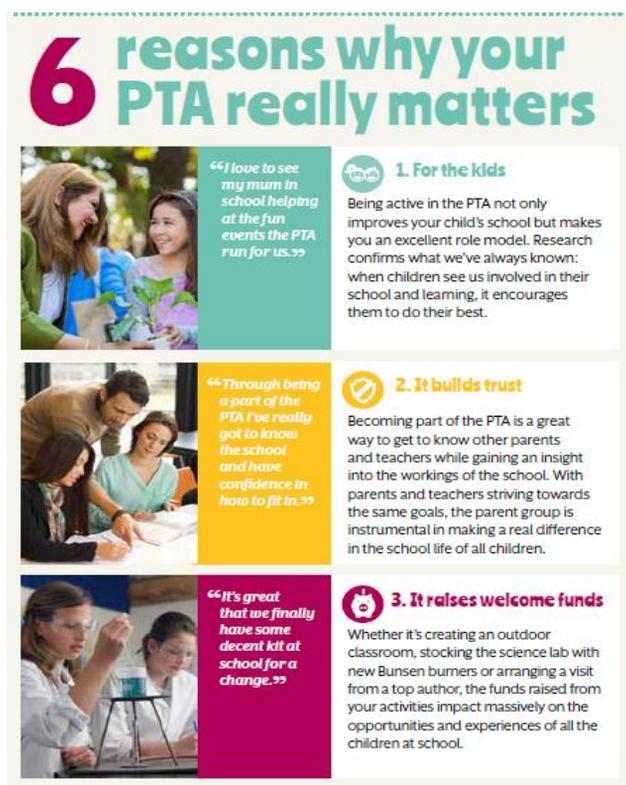
Please see posters in school for further information

Proxy Voting Form

I give my permission for _____ to vote on my behalf at the Friends of Portswood Primary School Annual General Meeting on Thursday 10 October 2019.

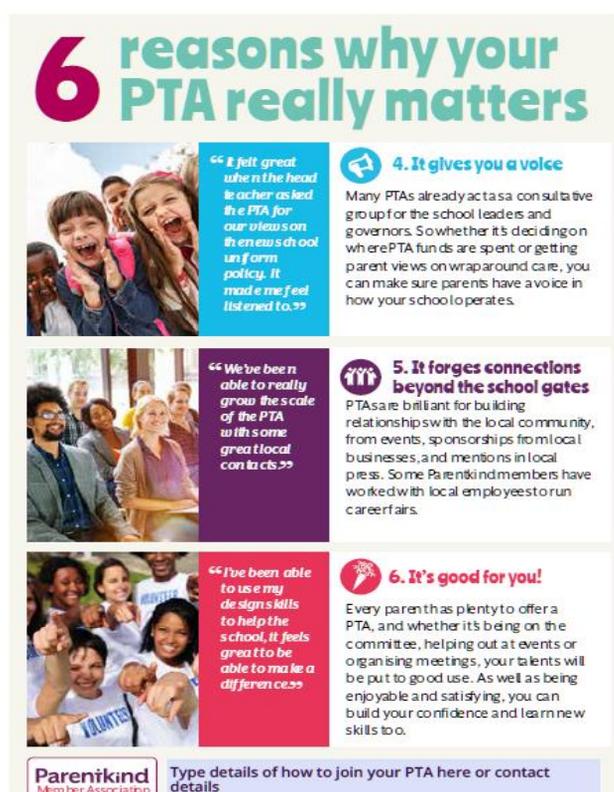
Name: _____

Signed: _____



6 reasons why your PTA really matters

- 1. For the Kids**
Being active in the PTA not only improves your child's school but makes you an excellent role model. Research confirms what we've always known: when children see us involved in their school and learning, it encourages them to do their best.
- 2. It builds trust**
Becoming part of the PTA is a great way to get to know other parents and teachers while gaining an insight into the workings of the school. With parents and teachers striving towards the same goals, the parent group is instrumental in making a real difference in the school life of all children.
- 3. It raises welcome funds**
Whether it's creating an outdoor classroom, stocking the science lab with new Bunsen burners or arranging a visit from a top author, the funds raised from your activities impact massively on the opportunities and experiences of all the children at school.
- 4. It gives you a voice**
Many PTAs already act as a consultative group for the school leaders and governors. So whether it's deciding on where PTA funds are spent or getting parent views on wrap around care, you can make sure parents have a voice in how your school operates.
- 5. It forges connections beyond the school gates**
PTAs are brilliant for building relationships with the local community, from events, sponsorships from local businesses, and mentions in local papers. Some Parent kind members have worked with local employers to run career fairs.
- 6. It's good for you!**
Every parent has plenty to offer a PTA, and whether it's being on the committee, helping out at events or organising meetings, your talents will be put to good use. As well as being enjoyable and satisfying, you can build your confidence and learn new skills too.



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Parentkind Member Association | Type details of how to join your PTA here or contact details