

Newsletter

Pride, Passion, Achieving Together

November has been another busy month for us at Portswood Primary school, with our children continuing to work hard – building on the excellent starts that they have made to the year already. It has also been a month which has seen our children out and about in the wider community.

Year 3 took a trip to Droxford School located in the Meon Valley. A beautiful village, Droxford is famous for many things; one being that it was the location where the train that Winston Churchill was on stopped while he was meeting with a number of other world leaders to discuss the D-Day invasion plans. Our children visited as part of their geographical studies of the local area – ‘our place in the world’ and took the opportunity to compare city and village life in some detail.

Meanwhile the children of **Year 6** took part in a slightly longer trip when they went on a residential to Avon Tyrrell. The children had an amazing time taking part in a variety of activities including rock climbing, abseiling, mountain biking, staying up late and learning how to make their own bed and keep their room tidy! As in previous years the Year 6 teaching team kept a daily blog which received over 9,000 views during their 5 days away.

At the start of December, **Year 1** will also be venturing beyond the gates of the school as they explore Portswood High Street as part of their geography work. Whilst there, they will also be stopping off at Portswood Library to share some books. It is hoped that Year 1 will be able to return there again later in the year, with their own library cards, so that they can select books that they wish to take home and share with their parents.

I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents who have volunteered, or who will in the future volunteer their time to come on these trips with us. Without your support many of these visits could not and would not happen. Thank you.

Good News

Some of what your children do, or experience is shared within these newsletters. However, school life incorporates so much more than this and it is often the ‘little things’ that we as a staff would like to say and celebrate about our children and the school that can get missed. To this end, Mr Leonard has put up a sheet of sugar paper each week in the staff room for the staff write on. Below is a very small sample of what was written.....

Rayhan working incredibly in ‘maths on the move.’

Marie – for warming up our French breakfast.

Year 4 – being told by the staff at Butser Hill that they were a credit to the school.

Gulmaki, Faiza, Ayesha and Iman for planning, setting up and delivering a superb hockey lesson for Year 5. A real credit to Year 6 and Portswood!

Theresa – just loving reading.

Aryan – for going all out on ‘Children in Need’ day – creating a new clothing line (Gucci INNIT).

The Librarians – for full commitment to the job.

Rio – helped me when I fell going up the stairs. He turned back, picked up all my books and asked if I was okay.

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.



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.

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 £338.40. Thank you again for your participation.



School Lunches

Chartwells have not currently issued us with a school menu, however you can find the meal choices on our website.

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.



Christmas Lunch

School Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 18 December 2019. Please see the menu below:

Payment should be made in advance, on-line via Scopay.

Mains

Roast Turkey
Roast vegetable & cranberry slice

On the side

Roast potatoes or mashed potatoes
Brussel sprouts, Roast parsnips and carrots.

For dessert

Crispy snow bar
Rudolph's carrot cake with ice frosting
Snowman ice cream

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
Tuesday 3 December 2019	Year 6 Macbeth
Wednesday 4 December 2019	Year 1 trip to Portswood Library
Wednesday 5 December 2019	Present money deadline
Thursday 5 December 2019	Choir to Mayflower Care Home.
Monday 9 December 2019	Last week for clubs
Tuesday 10 December 2019	Year 1 & 2 Performance
Wednesday 11 December 2019	Year 1 & 2 Performance
Thursday 12 December 2019	Year R Nativity
Friday 13 December 2019	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 13 December 2019	Year 5 Egyptian Museum
Monday 16 December 2019	Year 5&6 end of term party. 1-3.30pm
Monday 16 December 2019	Present Room
Tuesday 17 December 2019	Present Room
Tuesday 17 December 2019	Year 2 Parents in for DT
Wednesday 18 December 2019	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 18 December 2019	Carols around the tree and raffle draw for hampers.
Thursday 19 December 2019	Years R - 4 end of term party. 1-3.30pm
Thursday 19 December 2019	Last Day of Term
Friday 20 December 2019	Inset Day (children not in school)
Monday 6 January 2020	Children back to school

Friends of Portswood Primary School (FoPPS)

Thank you to all those who supported FoPPs at the AGM in October. With the help of proxy-voting, we are glad to report that we have a new committee and thank Sarah, the outgoing treasurer for all her time given these past few years. Welcome to Shaheen Ahmed our new secretary. Max Davies will take up the books as treasurer and Patrick Childs our new Web and email man. Aimi Moignard will chair along side Meri Blincoe our outgoing secretary. Finally, thank you to Kiran Zaidi, also voted on to the committee.

We also voted in a refined constitution (which is available on request in the School reception) and are in the process of updating the website.

We are now raising funds (along side the school) for a new lighting system. It is fabulous that with your help we can help promote the arts and with that in mind, we look forward to FoPP's next event on January 31st 2020.

...SPRING TERM DISCO! ..Hooray! Details to follow..