

Newsletter

I would like to welcome you all back for the summer term. The children have all been busy learning since their return and we have lots planned for the rest of the term, Year 4 will be taking swimming lessons, and we have a lot of trips planned, please see dates for your diary.

Tony Head
Headteacher

Curriculum update.

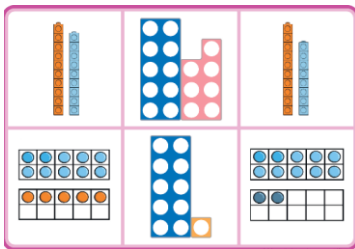
Year R

Year R have had a very busy month. We ended the term thinking all about springtime exploring the life cycle of baby animals, reading about the seasons, and doing lots of Easter and springtime crafts.

Since Easter we have started our People who Help Us topic. We have been dressing up, acting out being firefighters, police officers and doctors.



We have really enjoyed using spray bottles to put out the fires in the water area strengthening our fingers ready for writing.



Alongside this we have been thinking about the composition of numbers beyond 10 and using practical equipment to explore these numbers.

Year 1

Since returning from the Easter break, Year 1 have embarked on an exciting learning journey about the Titanic. Their excitement was evident as they eagerly shared the fascinating facts they discovered during their homework research. The children have been keen to find out more information and have recently written a fact file about Captain Edward John Smith and Fred Fleet. It has been pleasing to see them use their history knowledge and their writing skills to share this information.



Year 3

So far this month we have been very creative. We started with Stone Age Day. During the day, the children learnt about the different threats to hunter gatherers and the different tools they would use. They ended the day creating their own stone age cave art, which look very realistic.

Another highlight has been sculpting a clay Medusa head from clay. The children learnt how to create different shapes and the critical skill of joining clay. The final pieces are very impressive and when they are dry the children will bring them home for you to admire.

This week in science we have started our new unit on plants. We have reminded ourselves on the structure and function of the parts of a plant, and the conditions for growth. We have also started our sunflower challenge, and we cannot wait to hear how tall they grow! Please keep us updated via the class email.



Year 4

In Year 4, we have begun our exciting new topic on Rivers. The children explored how a river travels through the landscape by creating their own river here at school, before learning about the key features of rivers.



This learning has continued in our writing lessons. Inspired by the book *Rhythm of the Rain*, we have been writing imaginative recounts from the perspective of a droplet of water, describing its journey through the water cycle.



We have also been incredibly impressed with how hard Year 4 have been working on their times tables. Over the holidays, there was a fiercely fought Battle of the Bands on TTRockstars, with 4L taking the win! Many children are working diligently to turn their heatmaps green. Keep up the fantastic effort, Year 4!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic time recently! We have completed our final swimming session, and we are incredibly proud of all the children for their resilience and the excellent progress they have made.

In addition, we had the pleasure of making our very own pizzas. The children researched, designed and created their pizzas, and the results were amazing. We had great fun taste-testing and evaluating our creations.

Well done, Year 5!



Year 6

This month in history, we have started our new topic about World War II and how it affected Southampton. We are so impressed with their engagement, knowledge and understanding of what they have learned so far. What a brilliant start to the topic!

A reminder regarding donations for a SATs breakfast and reward. To help us purchase the items for both the SATs breakfast and the end of week celebration, we are asking for a small donation to support the costs. Please donate whatever you can afford, we know this may be different for different families, although we suggest around £5 to cover both events.

Please could any donations be made in cash, in a named envelope to the school office by Friday 1 May.

Thank you for your continued support with your children's home learning in the lead up to SATs.

April Sports News.

Well done to all the enthusiastic and determined Year 3 and 4 cross country runners who took part in the rescheduled race. The teachers loved watching many of you taking part in your first ever competition.

Congratulations to Yalika and Alisa who finished 1st and 3rd respectively.

Another special mention to the children who took part in our new hockey club who really impressed their coaches from Trojans with both their ability and their incredible attitude and behaviour – you represented your school proudly.



Next week we are excited to be hosting our second Orienteering competition on Wednesday 29 April.

Look out for photos of the event in the next newsletter.

Sports Day is fast approaching – save the dates!

Tuesday 23 June - am: Year 3 and 4 - pm: Year 5 and 6

Thursday 25 June – am: Year R - pm: Year 1 and 2

Reminders

Free School Meals

Are you receiving benefits? Your child may be entitled to Free School Meals.

Applying for free school meals not only gives your child the opportunity to have a meal at lunchtime but the Government also gives the school additional money to help with your child's education. It is therefore to your child's advantage that you apply for free school meals (even if your child is entitled to universal free school meals; or does not actually take up the offer of a meal).

You can apply on-line at [Online FSM Application \(cloudforedu.org.uk\)](https://cloudforedu.org.uk).

Parking

To protect the health of the children and all other members of our school community, please could we ask you to turn off your engines if you are parking by the school.

Sitting with your engines idling will produce harmful emissions which can contribute to ill health and damage to the environment.

If you can: turn your engine off.

Our usual parking reminders are here:

Please can we ask you to be mindful of residents when parking around the school.

Do not park or leave your car in the disabled bays along Northcote and Brickfield Road.

Please do not pull up on double yellow lines or the school zig zag lines, even if you are only dropping your child off, as this causes congestion.

Please do not park over the entrance to the allotments, these gates should always be accessible.

Please park a little further from the school and walk the rest of the way where possible.



Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Tuesday 28 April 2026	Year 3 Parent Workshop – Coding
Wednesday 29 April 2026	Year 1-6 Orienteering day – Wear PE kit.
Thursday 30 April 2026	Year 2 Trip to Porchester Castle
Thursday 30 April 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Monday 4 May 2026	Bank Holiday – School closed.
Wednesday 6 May 2026	5JC visit to Cantell for science workshop
Thursday 7 May 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Friday 8 May 2026	Year 3 Trip to Hillier Gardens
Friday 8 May 2026	Year 2 Castle Day
Monday 11 May 2026	KS2 SATs week
Thursday 14 May 2026	Year 5 Trip to Winchester Science Centre
Thursday 14 May 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Monday 18 May 2026	Year 1 Titanic Day
Thursday 21 May 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026	Half term
Monday 1 June 2026	Inset day – School closed.
Tuesday 2 June 2026	Children back to school.



Portswood Primary School

PRIDE. PASSION. SUCCESS.

YEAR R PLACES AVAILABLE FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

We are pleased to share that places are still available in Year R for a September 2026 start.

If you or someone you know are interested in securing a place, we would love to hear from you.

How to Apply

Applying is simple:

Please visit the Southampton City Council website: [Late Applications](#)

Contact our school office for further information or to arrange a visit:

[Portswood Primary School - Contact Us](#)

Tel: 02380 555885

We recommend applying as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.



Get into Teaching... with us!



If you are interested in any of the following, then please get in touch:

- a School Experience Day
- An online Information Event
- Applying for our courses

Email us on: teachertraining@hispmat.org



1. Primary teachers promotional

video: https://youtu.be/Jw9djCD7gDQ?si=_Y-53AO-Zu3bxuBC

2. Secondary teachers promotional

video: https://youtu.be/ISVo6ZsOxHg?si=PC8ii9q_YPbUdTAs

Events

Thursday 7th May 2026
9:30-12:30


**Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare**
NHS Foundation Trust

School Nurse Clinic



About Me

Hi! My name is Kirsten and I am your school nurse.

I will be running a regular clinic in school for parents to discuss health concerns for their children.

How to Book

Email senco@portswoodpri.org.uk
for the attention of Anna Adams

Please note this appointment will be a 25 minute slot for parents, I will not be able to see your child at this time.

What Do We Support With?

- Fussy eating
- Sleep
- Toileting
- Growth including under and overweight concerns
- Healthy lifestyles

School Nursing Duty Line
0300 123 6661



FAMILY FUN DAY

PORTSWOOD CHURCH

PORTSWOOD ROAD, SO172FY (OPPOSITE WAITROSE)

**FACE
PAINTING**

**BOUNCY
CASTLE**

BBQ

**MOST
THINGS
FREE!**

CRAFTS

GAMES

KARAOKE

SAT 16TH MAY, 2-5PM

ST DENYS CARNIVAL

& ARTS FESTIVAL 2026



SATURDAY 23rd MAY

11:00-15:00, then live music 'til late!

St Denys Community Centre
& participating venues across St Denys

www.stdenyscarnival.uk



The University of Southampton are hosting a Sing-Along family friendly show on the 25th of April at 2:30pm in The Annex (Building 2A)

They currently have a deal where that with every adult ticket (£12) one child comes free and any additional children's tickets are £5.

You can book your tickets here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCGRyRBOH3JnWeWV46GmJpSbNA6_sD0RPvDhJk6yqNdXoIhA/viewform

DISNEY HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL ON STAGE!

A SHOWSTOPPER'S PRODUCTION OF

Music Adapted, Arranged and Produced by Bryan Louie

Based on a Disney Channel Original Movie Written by Peter Barsocchini

April 22nd to 25th 2026
at
University of Southampton
Annex Theatre

Sing Along Show!
Saturday 25th 14:30

Free child ticket
with an adult ticket purchase

Get your tickets!

STAGESOC

BE WILDFIRE AWARE

AND HELP PROTECT THE COUNTRYSIDE



PACK A PICNIC
NOT A BBQ



DON'T
START CAMPFIRES



EXTINGUISH
CIGARETTES
FULLY



DON'T
DROP LITTER



SCAN ME
OR VISIT
bit.ly/Wildfire-Aware



**Hampshire
& Isle of Wight**
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE



IF YOU SEE A FIRE
CALL 999

