

# Newsletter

The children and the staff of the school have continued to work hard over the last month. Please read below to find out some of what they have been up to.

After half term the weather will hopefully start getting warmer, so please can I remind you to send your child to school with a named water bottle and sunhat.

**Tony Head**  
Headteacher

## Curriculum update.

### Year R

This month, the children in Reception have been immersed in the wonderful stories of Julia Donaldson, focusing on *The Gruffalo* and *A Squash and a Squeeze*. These much-loved books have inspired a wide range of exciting learning opportunities across our provision.

In exploring *The Gruffalo*, the children have enjoyed retelling the story using story language and props, developing their confidence and communication skills. They have created their own Gruffalo characters through art and construction, carefully thinking about features such as “terrible tusks” and “purple prickles”. In our outdoor area, the children have gone on “Gruffalo hunts”, following clues and using positional language to describe where they might find the characters.

Our work on *A Squash and a Squeeze* has supported the children in understanding concepts of space and capacity. Through role-play and small world activities, the children have recreated the story, exploring what happens when too many animals are squeezed into a small space! This has led to lovely discussions around feelings, problem-solving and making comparisons using language such as “more”, “less”, “bigger” and “smaller”.

Across both texts, the children have been developing their early reading and writing skills by labelling characters, writing simple sentences and engaging in shared storytelling. It has been wonderful to see their growing confidence, creativity and enthusiasm for stories.

We are very proud of how engaged and imaginative the children have been throughout this topic!



## Year 1

What an exciting month it has been for our Year 1 children as they dived into the fascinating events of the Titanic! This topic has truly sparked their curiosity and creativity, bringing history to life in the most engaging way.

One of the highlights of this learning journey was the incredible artwork the children created. Using their impressive collage skills, they worked together to construct a stunning class Titanic, alongside their own individual masterpieces.

Titanic Day was another unforgettable event. The children arrived looking fantastic in their outfits, adding to the excitement of the celebration. It was a brilliant day in which they particularly favoured was the afternoon tea, where they enjoyed delicious cake and refreshing squash.

We are so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic Year 1 has been throughout this topic. Their creativity, teamwork, and curiosity have made this a truly special month.



## Year 2

This half term in Year 2, we've started our exciting learning all about *castles*! We visited Portchester Castle, where we explored the roles of kings, queens, knights, and servants. We were amazed (and a bit shocked!) to learn that servants only washed once a year, but the King and Queen bathed once a week! We explored the castle grounds, spotting features like the drawbridge, keep, battlements, and arrow loops, and even enjoyed lunch in the outer bailey.



Then at school, we stepped back in time for our Castle Day. A huge thank you to Miss Meany, who transformed the hall with wonderful medieval activities! We had a go at calligraphy, candle making, purse sewing, bread baking, soap making and even clay gargoyle crafting. We finished the day with a grand feast, eating the bread we had made earlier alongside yummy cheese, crunchy fruit, and delicious traditional castle cookies. But we had to wait for the King's permission to eat—otherwise, there could have been serious consequences (it is his castle, after all!). The day ended with wonderful entertainment: jesters telling jokes, musicians singing, and actors performing for the royal court. What a fantastic time we've had becoming castle experts!

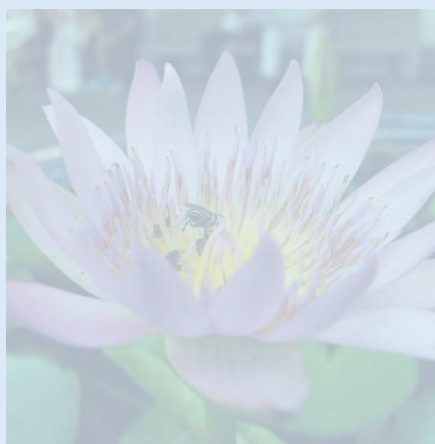
Afterwards, we used our English lessons to write a recount of Castle Day, helping us practise how to inform others about our exciting experience.

It truly was a day to remember!



## Year 3

This month Year 3 visited Sir Harold Hillier Gardens on our school trip. We learnt so much about plants from walking around the ground, the children were complimented on their enthusiasm and knowledge of plants! We enjoyed different workshops that helped us learn about seed survival, pollination and seed dispersal. We were even granted special permission to pick some flowers to discover the different parts of the flower! The children had a fantastic time and showed excellent behaviour outside of school. Well done, Year 3!



## Year 4

Year 4 have had an excellent month! We are into the routine of our Thursday swimming lessons and are really enjoying these. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who make this possible.

Other recent highlights have included some tense multiplication battles on TimesTable RockStars. So far, the score is 1:1, keep practising everyone!

We have been enjoying our sketching unit in art. Recently, we have chosen and sketched natural objects. Hopefully, we will be doing some outdoor sketching soon (weather permitting!)



## Year 5

Year 5 have had another brilliant month! We had great fun during our orienteering day, where the children learnt and applied a range of new skills while working together as a team.

We also fully immersed ourselves in our science learning during our fantastic trip to Winchester Science Museum. The children represented our school beautifully with their excellent behaviour, enthusiasm and curiosity throughout the day. They learnt so much and had an amazing time exploring all the exciting activities and exhibits!



## SOUTHAMPTON PARENT CARER FORUM INVITES YOU TO ...

### Transition event

Helping you and your child feel confident about their next step

#### What to expect:

- ✓ Meet schools, colleges & services
- ✓ Friendly advice and guidance from SEND team and SENDIASS
- ✓ Ask questions in a relaxed setting

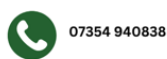
#### Who is this for?

- Year 5 parents (moving to secondary school) without EHCPs but who need support
- Year 10 & 11 parents (moving to college)

Date: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June

Times: 4pm to 7pm

Where: St Marys Football Stadium,  
Britannia Rd, Southampton SO14 5FP  
(parking available on site)



NHS  
Hampshire and Isle of Wight



FREE ENTRY



## Year 6

Congratulations to Year 6 for finishing their SATs. They have worked so hard all year and deserve every success. Last week we celebrated with ice cream sundaes and a film – a perfect end!

We are now looking forward to a summer term of sporting fixtures, enterprise projects and a show.

## May Sports News.

### ☀️ Community Event ☀️

Come and join us on Sunday 7 June for a vibrant community celebration of the Women's Cricket World Cup in England this summer 🎨

This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole community to come together, enjoy a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, and take part in a day filled with culture, activities, and entertainment for all ages.

Expect:

- 🎵 Music
- 💃 Dancing
- 🍷 Food
- 🎨 Arts & crafts
- 👉 Henna
- 🎯 A range of activities
- 🆓 **FREE ENTRY**

A fun, inclusive, and family friendly event – perfect for all ages and backgrounds.

- 📌 Full details on the flyer



## Hockey Club

We were incredibly lucky to be supported by the fantastic Trojans Hockey Club this half term. They coached a group of year 4 and 5 children for four weeks, teaching them new skills from how to hold the hockey stick correctly to moving to avoid their opponents. The coaches were all exceptionally impressed not only with their sports talents, but with their impeccable behaviour and manners. I was very proud to hear the kind words said about our amazing children and so glad many of the parents were able to attend the presentation of certificates in the final session.



## Reminders

### Free School Meals

Are you on Universal Credit? 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
Monday 25 – Friday 29 May 2026	Half term
Monday 1 June 2026	Inset day – School closed.
Tuesday 2 June 2026	Children back to school.
Thursday 4 June 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Thursday 4 June 2026	Year 6 Enterprise Fayre 3:45pm – 4.30pm
Wednesday 10 June 2026	Class Photographs
Wednesday 10 June 2026	5JC visit to Cantell for science workshop
Thursday 11 June 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Wednesday 17 June 2026	5I visit to Cantell for science workshop
Thursday 18 June 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Monday 22 June 2026	Year 5 Engineering Week
Tuesday 23 June 2026	Year 3&4 Sports Day AM Year 5&6 Sports Day PM
Thursday 25 June 2026	Year 4 Swimming
Thursday 25 June 2026	Year R Sports Day AM Year 1& 2 Sports Day PM



# 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.



# CREATIVE KIDZ

— CHILDCARE LIMITED —

**Trust. Care.  
Inspire. Grow.**

**TOGETHER WE THRIVE**

At Creative Kidz Childcare Limited, we provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment where children are encouraged to be creative, confident and curious. We're here to support your child's journey every step of the way.



## WHY PARENTS CHOOSE CREATIVE KIDZ



**Safe & Secure**

Your child's safety is our top priority.



**Caring Staff**

Experienced and passionate about childcare.



**Creative Learning**

Play-based activities that inspire growth.



**Family Focused**

Working in partnership with you.



*Happy children,  
bright futures!*



**Find Out More  
Online!**

We believe in clear communication and transparency.

Visit our website to read our:



### Key Information

Everything you need to know about our setting.



### Parents Guide

Support, advice and helpful information for you.



### Price List

Contact us for a price list.



### Get in touch!

admin@creativekidz.org.uk  
We're happy to help.



Visit our website today!

**www.creativekidz.org.uk**

Your child's future. Our passion.



Children's Therapy Service



Are you  
concerned about  
your child's  
development?

Please call our Advice Line if you  
have noticed a difference in  
the way your child walks,  
plays, learns or speaks

**0300 300 2019**

Ages  
**0-19**

**Our  
Advice  
Line  
can:**

- offer reassurance
- give you tips on ways to help
- give you activities to improve your child's skills
- decide if your child needs to be referred to us for a more detailed assessment
- suggest others who can offer you more advice

Email: **SNHS.SolentChildrensTherapyService@nhs.net**  
Visit: **www.what0-18.nhs.uk/solent**

## May Half Term

### Drop off your young people

#### Southampton Culture Club for Kids: Story Worlds (6½-12yrs)

- 📅 Tue 26, Wed 27, Thu 28 May
- 🕒 9am-4pm
- 📍 SeaCity
- 💷 £35, £90 all three days



#### Bugs in Boxes (4+)

- 📅 Tue 26 May
- 🕒 10.30am, 11.30am, 1pm, 2pm
- 📍 Tudor House 💷 £6

#### Tour for All:

##### Southampton Myths and Mysteries (6+)

- 📅 Tue 26 May 🕒 11am
- 📍 Tudor House
- 💷 £10 (children FREE)

#### Art for All: Clay Capybaras (5+)

- 📅 Wed 27 May
- 🕒 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm
- 📍 Art Gallery 💷 £8

#### Art for All: Birds, Beetles and Butterflies with Watercolour (7+)

- 📅 Thu 28 May
- 🕒 10.30am, 1.30pm
- 📍 Tudor House 💷 £8



#### Art for All: Make a Clay Stitch! (4+)

- 📅 Thu 28 May
- 🕒 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm
- 📍 Art Gallery 💷 £8



#### Toddler Time:

##### Under the Sea (under 4's and friends)

- 📅 Fri 29 May 🕒 10.30am
- 📍 SeaCity 💷 £6

#### Art for All: Minecraft Mosaic Worlds (7+)

- 📅 Fri 29 May
- 🕒 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm
- 📍 Art Gallery 💷 £8



# 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



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



IF YOU SEE A FIRE  
**CALL 999**



**SCAN ME**  
OR VISIT  
[bit.ly/Wildfire-Aware](https://bit.ly/Wildfire-Aware)