



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
6th September 2024



Welcome Back

Welcome back everyone! We hope you have all thoroughly enjoyed your summer break and are looking forward to the year ahead. All of the children have excelled themselves and settled so well this week, so a huge well done to them.

Keeping our Children Safe

We ensure that safeguarding permeates all aspects of our school life. There can be no issue of greater importance to our staff, governors and parents and carers, than the safety of our children. We ensure that the following underpins everything we do:

- Protecting our children and learners from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of our children's and learners' health or development
- Ensuring that our children and learners are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Undertaking a role to enable those children and learners to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully

If you have concerns about any child, please to speak to one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads:

- Mrs Humphrey (Headteacher) - Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Miss West (Deputy Headteacher) - Deputy Designated Lead
- Mrs Lockhart (SENCo) - Deputy Designated Lead

Achievement Assembly

Our achievement assembly this week celebrated children who have made a "great start" this week. Well done to the following children:

Year 1: Molly Year 2: Jamie Year 3: Kieran
Year 4: Spencer Year 5: CJ Year 6: Freddie

School Council

Elections have taken place for our school council this year! Well done to everybody who took part. We are proud to inform you that our School Councillors for September 2024 - July 2025 are:

Year 1 Cassien and Teddy
Year 2 Esmee and Ellie
Year 3 Emily and Dylan
Year 4 Lydia and Lucas
Year 5 Ella and Marshall
Year 6 Ava R and Rhys

Team Captains

Well done to our team captains who have also been elected this week:

Green Captain: Jake Green Vice-Captain: Paige
Blue Captain: Jack Blue Vice-Captain: Hannah
Yellow Captain: Ava T Yellow Vice-Captain: Rhys

Reception Class Meet the Teacher Meeting

Mrs. Lockhart will be hosting a special meet the teacher session for Reception class on **Wednesday 18th September 2024 at 4.30pm**. Please come along and find out how you can support your child and work in partnership with us this year.





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Reminder: Start and end of the day procedures

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

- Children should be brought on to the infant yard between **8.40am - 8.50am** where a senior member of staff will be waiting to admit them to the building. Doors will close at 8.50am.
- All classes will be dismissed on to the infant yard at 3.20pm.

Year 3 - Year 6

- Children should be brought to the main gates between **8.40am - 8.55am** where a senior member of staff will be waiting to admit them to the building. Gates will close at 8.55am.
- Year 3 and Year 4 will be dismissed on to the Key Stage 2 yard at 3.25pm
- Year 5 and Year 6 will be dismissed on to the Key Stage 2 yard at 3.30pm

Earrings Reminder

Earrings are not allowed to be worn in school; this includes clear plastic ones. If your child comes to school wearing earrings and cannot remove them independently, you will be contacted and asked to come to school to do so.

Support for families

If you are a member of the Armed Services, you will probably already know all about the government's funding scheme - Service Children Pupil Premium. The additional funding aims to help schools provide a support system for service children, who often have to move schools regularly or deal with separation from a parent serving overseas. For schools to secure the right funding to support pupils, we must have correct information recorded for your child. Therefore, can you please let us know if either parent/carer is a current serving member of the Armed Services.

In addition, the DFE make additional funds available for students who have been adopted from care. You are under no obligation to provide us with this information, however, if you wish to discuss this any further, please contact us to make an appointment to meet with myself or Miss West, Deputy Headteacher.

Please remember if your financial circumstances change even for a short while you may be entitled to benefits related free school meals which will stay with your child, under the current regulations, for the rest of their school days and schools can also provide support with the likes of breakfast clubs, after school clubs and trips too. If you would like more information, please contact Mrs Lister for a form or head to the council website direct: <https://www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/7433/Free-school-meals>

Attendance Guide for Parents/Carers

What YOU must do:

- Telephone the school before 9am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
- Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour, or friend.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance, then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.





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Home Learning

Home learning is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and home learning is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the home learning tasks that are set on e-schools each Friday and are to be completed by the following Thursday.

Dates for Diary (an annual parent planner will be made available in due course)

- Fri 13th Sept - Karate restarts after school
- Mon 14th October - Individual School Photos AM (younger siblings welcome from 8.50am)
- Tues 22nd October - Reception Vision Screening AM
- Fri 25th October - break up for Half term 28th to 1st Nov
- Mon 9th Dec - Y2 A Christmas Journey at Birtley Methodist PM
- Fri 6th December - Flu vaccination - whole school
- Thurs 19th Dec - Y1 to Y6 Panto Trip
- Break up for Xmas Friday 20th December!
- Inset day Monday 6th January - pupils return Tuesday 7th January 24

Right of the Week

Do you know the ABCDE of Rights?

A Rights are for ALL children. UNIVERSAL	B Rights are there at BIRTH. INHERENT	C Rights CANNOT be taken away. INALIENABLE	D Rights DO NOT have to be earnt. UNCONDITIONAL	E All rights are EQUALLY important. INDIVISIBLE
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After School Clubs Year 1 to year 6

After school clubs will commence on Monday 16th September for Year 1&2 and Wednesday 18th Year 3 to 6. To make the process more efficient we are asking all parents/carers to complete a google form by midday Tuesday 10th September. Once places have been allocated you will receive a text via eschools next Friday 13th by midday. Google forms have been sent via text and via Marvellous me today.

School office opening times.

Mon to Thur: 8.30am to 4pm

Friday: 8.30am to 3.30pm

If your child is unwell an email can be sent to the main school email address before 8.30am, please provide a reason for absence: portobelloprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk





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How to set up online payments for trips, meals or events etc

How to create an account:

- To register go to the login screen on the App/Web. If using the web version of School Gateway, ensure the **NEW USER** tab is selected before inputting any details
- <https://www.parentpay.com/schoolcomms/>
- Enter the email address and mobile number that is registered with the school.
- A PIN will be sent on a text.
- Enter the 4-digit PIN number received via text.
- Once logged in the home screen will be displayed.

If already registered

- Access as an existing user
- Enter the email that is registered with the school and your existing PIN
- Once logged in the home screen will be displayed.

If you have forgotten your PIN

- On the login screen click on **Forgotten PIN**
- Enter the email address and mobile number that is registered with the school.
- A PIN will be sent on a text.
- Enter the 4-digit PIN number received via text.
- Once logged in the home screen will be displayed.

If you are struggling with any aspects of ParentPay, please check out the link below:

<https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/sections/4407691522449-Account-Access>

For any other enquiries or generic parent support link below:

<https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb>

