



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
11th October 2024



Achievement Assembly

Our achievement assembly this week celebrated children who have "had a go" this week. Well done to the following children:

Reception: Oliver **Year 1:** Jack **Year 2:** Miles
Year 3: Raza **Year 4:** Katelyn **Year 5:** Rose **Year 6:** Lily

Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 96.2%.

Well done to Year 6 for best attendance this week at 98%!

Dates for Diary

- Mon 14th Oct - Individual School Photos AM (younger siblings welcome from 8.45am)
- Mon 21st Oct - Tiny Forest Sessions - Y2 to Y5 (wellies & weather appropriate clothing please)
- Mon 21st Oct - PPS STEM Family event 3.30 - 4.30pm
- Tues 22nd Oct - Reception Vision Screening AM
- We 23rd Oct - Y1 to Y6 Halloween Disco 4pm - 5.15pm
- Fri 25th Oct - break up for Half term 28th to 1st Nov
- Mon 9th Dec - Y2 A Christmas Journey at Birtley Methodist PM
- **Tues 3rd Dec - Whole school Xmas film night (please note change from 4th to 3rd)**
- Fri 6th Dec - Flu vaccination - whole school and School Fayre PM
- Thurs 19th Dec - Y1 to Y6 Panto Trip AM
- Break up for Xmas Friday 20th December!

Rights Respecting

Article 7 - Name and Nationality - Children must be registered when they are born and given a name which is officially recognised by the government. Children must have a nationality (belong to a country). Whenever possible, children should know their parents and be looked after by them.



Sport news

Another great week in the football league for our girls' team who came away with 3 wins out of 3. Scores - 1-0, 5-1, 3-0. Fantastic everyone, well done!

PPS STEM Family Event: Parent Power

Please click on this link: [Invitation to our PPS STEM - Family Event - Parent Power](#)



The event will be taking place on **October 21st from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.**

Parent Power's objective is to share our school STEM journey, engage with families and seek out potential opportunities for our fantastic students.

Everyone is invited to come along and enjoy some STEM and robotics activities alongside your child/children. We have amazing family members who we know work in the science, technology and engineering sector, if you do work within these industries and we don't know yet we would love for you to join us on our STEM journey too, please ask the STEM team for more information.



Upcoming events

Halloween Disco 23rd October (Y1 to Y6) - Please pay for a ticket by 5pm Wednesday 16th October. Please give consent via google form <https://forms.gle/tpB2EPtioXv3G9e48>

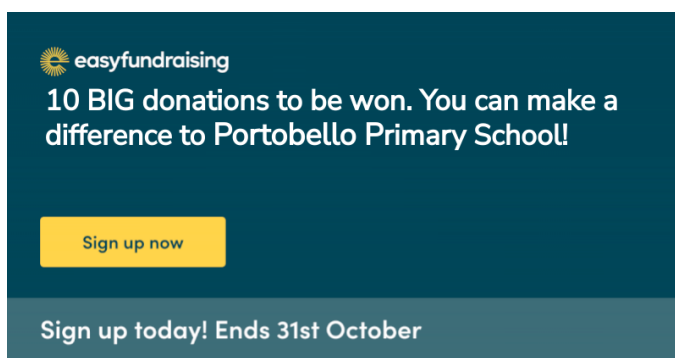
Xmas Film Night Tuesday 3rd Dec (whole school) - Please pay by 3.30pm Wednesday 27th November. Please give consent via google form: <https://forms.gle/RqRmG9aY2vyVhqb6>

Peter Pan Panto (Y1 to Y6) Consent can be given via Google form: flexible payment available can be paid in instalments of £5 if required: <https://forms.gle/CQPyRvKFB7rejuCh6Panto>

Information has been emailed this week too.

Easyfundraising

Our new campaign, Moments that make it count, focuses on the little moments that will have a lasting impact on Portobello Primary School.



easyfundraising
10 BIG donations to be won. You can make a difference to Portobello Primary School!

Sign up now

Sign up today! Ends 31st October

Whether it's raising a donation, entering a competition, or simply sharing on social media, every action you take counts.

Now is the perfect time to invite new supporters! This month, every supporter will earn you a free entry into our epic £3,000 grand prize draw!*

Once new supporters raise their first £5, they will match it! **

Wednesday 23rd October Lunch Menu Change



Jacket potatoes will be an available option too
(No Deli sandwich option)

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any firework activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000°C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"

Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES

Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are **not** toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20-30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



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Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fire-safety>

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