



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
19th September 2025



Achievement Assembly

Our achievement assembly this week celebrated children who have shown "respect" this week. Well done to the following children:

Reception: Zoey **Year 1:** Isla **Year 2:** Molly **Year 3:** Alannah
Year 4: Lila **Year 5:** Dylan **Year 6:** Jack

Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 96.4%.

Well done to Reception & Year 2 for best attendance this week at 97.5%!

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

- Mon 13th October - Individual School Photos AM (younger siblings welcome from 8.50am, for example who currently attend a nursery, who do not attend Portobello, parents/carers please bring children via main entrance and photos will be taken before school starts)
- Thurs 16th Oct - Reception 2026 - Open event from 4pm, applying for Reception 26? please come along or share the date & time with friends/family
- Tues 21st October - Reception Vision Screening AM
- Fri 24th October - break up for Half term 27th to 31st
- Thurs 6th Nov - Reception 2026 - Open event from 4pm, applying for Reception 26? please come along or share the date & time with friends/family
- Thur 4th Dec - PM Xmas Fayre all welcome
- Mon 8th Dec - Y2 A Christmas Journey at Birtley Methodist PM
- Thurs 18th Dec - Y1 to Y6 Panto Trip AM @ Little Theatre (Payment via Schoolgateway please)
- Break up for Xmas Friday 19th December!

Mr Nelson's Retirement

It is with mixed emotions that we inform you of the decision of our Site Manager, Mr John Nelson, to retire at the end of this half term. Mr Nelson has worked at Portobello for almost 25 years; keeping us clean, keeping us safe and keeping us smiling! Although we hate to see him leave, we wish him the most wonderful and well-deserved retirement.

For all of us at Portobello 'our John' is irreplaceable and a new caretaker has very big boots to fill. If you know of a potential candidate then please ask them to pop in and talk to Mrs Lister or check out this link [Job profile](#).

Design Technology - we need your support!

Our DT curriculum is going from strength to strength with our children developing some exciting new skills and knowledge!

To support themes this year such as exploring and tasting a wide variety of fruit and vegetables, creating a menu and cooking various food items such as cakes/biscuits/stir fries, pizza or bolognaise dishes, sculpting with clay, modelling with wood and designing and creating mechanisms, a one-off £10 annual DT/Food contribution would be greatly appreciated. This will go a long way towards helping create future Technology experts. Payment can be made via schoolgateway. Thank you!



Homework

If you are struggling to access home-learning for your child at home your child may be eligible for home-learning club at school. Please email the school office who will then pass any queries to class teachers who can discuss this further with you.

Here comes autumn

As the days are becoming a little colder and the rain is a little more frequent, please ensure your child comes to school with a coat. This is particularly important for our Year 6 swimmers.

Rights Respecting - Article 3

3



Adults must do what's best for me



When adults make decisions, they should think how they affect children and do what is best for them.

eSchools APP?

If you haven't yet, can you please download the APP to view texts/emails and other correspondence.

Costly push notifications stopped on Friday 12th. The APP is free to download from your mobile phone APP store.

To stay in touch and be connected to what's going on in school, receiving texts and emails is incredibly useful. Can we please ask you to download the eSchools APP if you have a mobile phone, and haven't done so yet, it would be useful for all parents/carers to be able to access communications from us on a weekly basis.

We currently have 109 of 284 parents/carers with responsibility for using the APP.

Contacts (Parental responsibility) (109 of 284)

