



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
10th October 2025



Achievement Assembly

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

Reception: Scarlett **Year 1:** Harry **Year 2:** Teddy **Year 3:** Luna
Year 4: Ben **Year 5:** Luke **Year 6:** Isla

Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 95.8%

Well done to Year 2 & Year 5 for best attendance this week at 98%!

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

- Mon 13th Oct - 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)
- Tues 14th Oct - Last day we can accept foodbank donations
- Thurs 16th Oct - Reception 2026 - Open event from 4pm, applying for Reception 26? please come along or share the date & time with friends/family
- Mon 20th Oct - Y5 at Lord Lawson, Singin in the Rain showcase
- Tues 21st October - Reception Vision Screening AM
- Tues 21st October - Y3 @ Birtley Library PM
- Wed 22nd October - Y2 to Kirkley Hall Zoological Gardens
- Wed 22nd October - Reception Class Halloween Party
- Thur 23rd October - Y1 to Y6 Halloween Disco 4pm to 5pm
- 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!

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 for contributions so far!





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**EARLY YEARS
OPEN EVENT**

2026-2027 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

We invite you to come and explore our Reception setting – meet the team, discover the space, and see how we help children thrive from day one.

Event Details

- First Open Event - 16th October at 4pm
- Second Open Event - 6th November 4pm
- If required, please call the school office to arrange a different time to visit.

 Tamerton Drive Birtley Chester-le-Street Durham DH3 2LY

 0191 410 4571  portobelloprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk

eSchools APP - Urgent

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 117 of 284 parents/carers with responsibility for using the APP.

Contacts (Parental responsibility) (117 of 289)



BIG AWARD
awarded by the Education
Foundation





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Team Portobello sports news

Tag Rugby

Well done to our Tag Rugby teams who competed to a high standard in the event today, with one team narrowly missing out on a place in the Gateshead finals. Great effort from everyone.

Girls football

Well done to our girls' football team who represented Portobello with pride at the 6-a-side tournament last week. Well done everyone!

#TeamPortobello

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the Spy Dogs, Spy Cats, and Spy Pups series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

If your child has any Spy Dog, Spy Cat or Spy Pups books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site. It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.





JOIN US FOR A

Halloween Disco

OCT 23 | 4:00 PM - 5:00PM
Year 1 to Year 6
Tickets Cost £5.00 per pupil

Included with each ticket:
Soft drink & Pick 'n' mix