



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
24th October 2025



Achievement Assembly

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

Reception: Adah **Year 1:** Jude **Year 2:** Bella **Year 3:** Ethan
Year 4: Raza **Year 5:** Harry D **Year 6:** Peter

Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 96%

Well done to Reception for best attendance this week at 100%!

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

- 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
- From week 10th November - Xmas Fayre and Xmas pupil shop donations please
- Fri 5th 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!

Farewell to Mr Nelson

It's Mr Nelson's last day today! We had a special assembly this morning with our whole school, where we had surprise guests on site including members of his family; his wife, daughter and three of his granddaughters, as well as Teachers who have worked with Mr Nelson over the years who returned for a special visit today plus current Governors too. Representatives from each class stood up and said a few words, from personal memories of Mr Nelson from over the years they have been in school, how he makes children feel with his daily smiles and hugs or to how well he has kept everyone safe. We then had a chorus of the Blaydon Races which was a fitting tribute as well as the tune of "Local Hero" being played upon entrance. Thank you for all of Mr Nelson's years of dedication to Portobello, he has smiled, hugged and looked after more than 920 children over the last 25 years. We wish Mr Nelson happiness and best wishes in his new adventures which await.



Meet Mr Bracken who will take over as Caretaker as of Monday 3rd November.

Mr Bracken is a Daddy, a Scout Leader and a charity fundraiser for local charities such as Daft as a Brush. Mr Bracken lives locally and comes to us from having secondary school experience as well as supporting academy primary schools too.

Please say hello when you see him around school.



Poppy Appeal items will be sold in school from Monday 3rd November. The school council will visit class daily to Friday 7th.

Poppy Slap bands, poppy bracelets toggle & rubber band types, zip pulls, plastic clip-on poppies £1
Paper poppies 50p



Calling all Parents/Carers/Grandparents - WE NEED YOU!!

Our fabulous school hosts many additional activities for the children to make their school year even more fun, as well as bringing in vital funds to support our resources. This would not be possible without the generous support of our fundraising committee! If you would like more information, please drop-in or call Mrs Lister in the office.

Packed lunch bags/boxes

We have seen several toys being brought in attached to packed lunches over recent weeks. Labubu's are the most popular by far as well as figures and teddys. Can we ask that nothing is attached to packed lunches moving forwards, other than the potential of being lost they are very unhygienic sitting on dining tables whilst children are eating. Thank you for your cooperation.

Collection of children at the end of the day

When collecting your children from school at the end of the day could we please ask that when you see your child you move forward towards the staff member on duty so that they can see you clearly. This will help us, to help you, keep your children safer.

Staff carpark

We would like to remind our families that our staff carpark should not be used to drop-off or collect children. Doing so makes it an unpredictable and therefore unsafe environment for other children.

Rights Respecting Article 27

27



I have the right to
have a proper home,
food and clothing

Governments should make sure families
have access to good housing, healthy food
and warm clothing.

School Photos

For free delivery to school on your child's school individual photographs order by Monday 27th October 2025. Order via the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk
Or call 01736 751555 for assistance.

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 still only have 118 of 284 parents/carers with responsibility for using the APP.



This year we are celebrating Children in Need by wearing ether PJ's or/and Oodies. Donations of £1 cash or via the School Gateway would be greatly appreciate for this amazing cause.



Throughout the day Children will be partaking in PE lessons with Joe Wicks!

Our school council is arranging an additional fundraising activity for children to take part in called Bear Pong. The player with the highest score will be the winner and reciev their very own Bear Pong medal, to partake it will be 50p per child.





HALF TERM BREAKFAST CLUB MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER TO THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER EVERYONE WELCOME

FREE

Birtley Community Centre
Ravensworth Road, DH3 1EN
0191 410 2343

admin@birtleycommunitycentre.co.uk

9AM

UNTIL

11AM