



Portobello Primary School
Weekly Newsletter
19th February 2026



Achievement Assembly

Our achievement assembly this week celebrated "multicultural week" Well done to the following children:

Reception: Max **Year 1:** Oliver **Year 2:** Jack

Year 3: James **Year 4:** Roman **Year 5:** Leighton **Year 6:** Callum

Celebrating Attendance

Whole school attendance is currently at 96.1%

Well done to Year 2 for best attendance this week (and since week 16th January) at 98%!

Dates for Diary

Clubs running from week 2nd March

Monday - Rights Respecting and Eco - every week until Monday 30th March

Monday - Dance - every week until Monday 23rd March

Tuesday - 1st session for Mini Athletics Club - every week until 31st March

Thursday - Performing Arts will continue into the summer term

Friday - Karate will continue as usual

Other dates

- Tues 3rd March - Reception @ 2.30pm 'story with a grandparent/family supporter' in class
- Thurs 5th March - World Book Day and WBD change of menu
- From week 9th March - new after school clubs commence until week 30th March
- Friday 20th March - Comic Relief 2026
- Break up for Easter: Thursday 2nd April

Rights Respecting Article of the month: Article 28



Health and Safety Notice: Motorbikes outside school

We are aware and have seen a huge rise in illegal motorbikes along the path outside school recently. We have reported this to Police, as have residents too. If you see any of this activity, please join us and call the Police or report using their online portal. The more noise we can make about this issue, the more likely we are to see a Police presence and have this dangerous activity stopped.

<https://www.northumbria.police.uk/ro/report/>

Who to contact via Telephone:

999 - for a emergency or when someone is in immediate danger

101 - In non-emergency situations or Text 07786 200 814

Comic Relief 2026

Our online school donations page has now been published; you can find it on the link below:

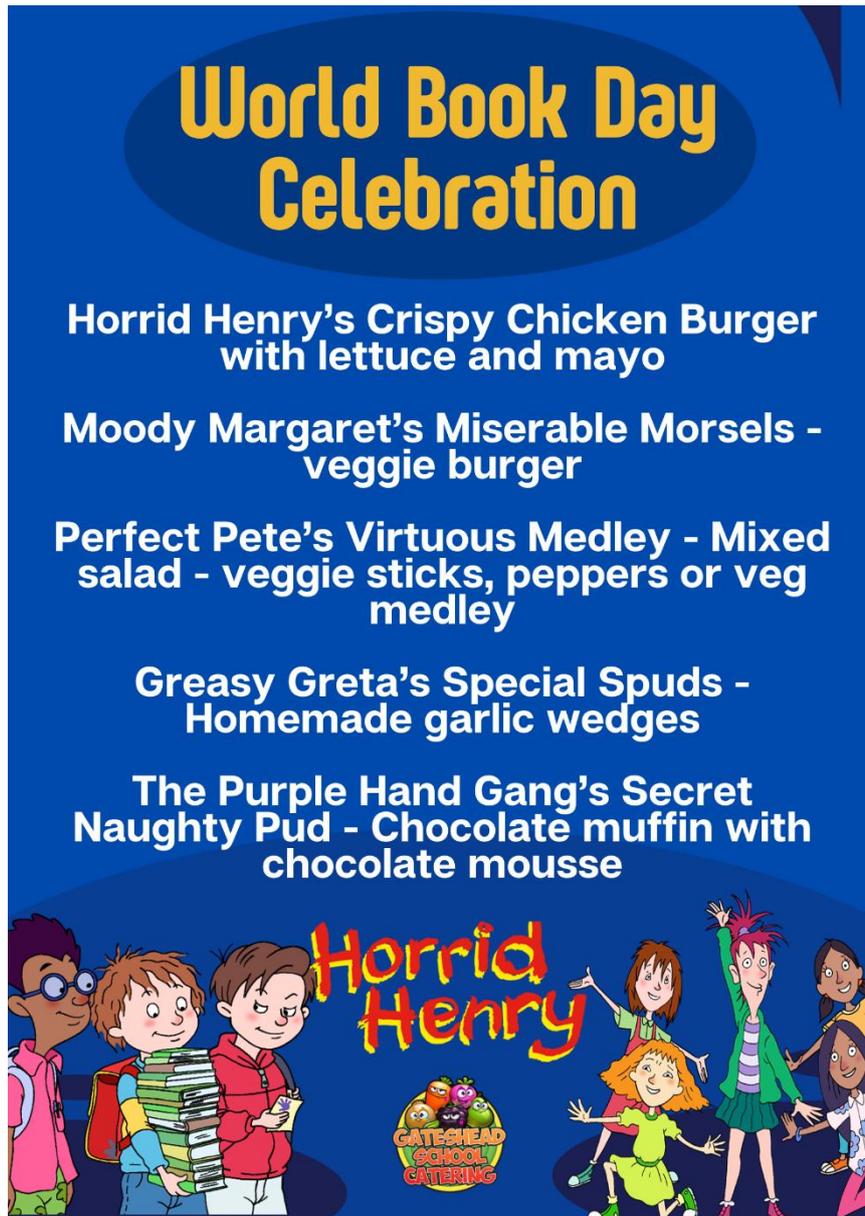
<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=20408>

Red to Toe non-uniform day

Are you red-dy to put a new spin on non-uniform day? From scarlet socks to ruby slippers, a raspberry beret to a crimson cape (or just a classic Red Nose and Red Nose Day T-shirt combination), everyone to wear something red in return for a donation. Bonus points to anyone who goes red from head to toe too.



World Book Day change of menu - no other lunch options available!



World Book Day Celebration

Horrid Henry's Crispy Chicken Burger with lettuce and mayo

Moody Margaret's Miserable Morsels - veggie burger

Perfect Pete's Virtuous Medley - Mixed salad - veggie sticks, peppers or veg medley

Greasy Greta's Special Spuds - Homemade garlic wedges

The Purple Hand Gang's Secret Naughty Pud - Chocolate muffin with chocolate mousse

Horrid Henry

GATESHEAD SCHOOL CATERING

Grapes, cherry tomatoes and blueberries for snacks/part of packed lunches.

We are concerned that several children are bringing whole grapes to school in lunchboxes or for morning snack, and that these pose a choking hazard. Equally some of the cherry tomatoes and blueberries that children bring in are large and pose a similar risk. We do not have capacity to cut up every child's fruit at lunchtime or at break.

If you continue to send in grapes, cherry tomatoes or large blueberries, we ask that you read the following advice please:

We all know you're supposed to slice grapes before giving them to children, if uncut they become a serious choking hazard. Are you cutting them the right way?

They should always be cut lengthwise so they can pass more easily through smaller throats. And never width wise, because they'll still be big enough to choke on.

You can either slice them downwards in half, or for younger children, you might want to cut them lengthwise again into quarters.

Please give yourself peace of mind (and us) and cut them up!

For more information on choking please visit: <https://capt.org.uk/choking-prevention/>



Healthy Packed Lunch Ideas

Whether squeezing it in before the school run in the morning or before bed on busy midweek evenings, preparing your child's lunchbox can seem like just another thing on the list.

School meals are a great choice, but if you do make a packed lunch for your child then check out the NHS site for a range of quick, easy and healthy lunchbox ideas and tips.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

Gateshead Libraries

Gateshead Central Library **Kim McGuinness**
North East Mayor

Stories Everywhere: Story and Craft with Storyteller Chris Adriaanse

Birtley Library • Monday 23 February, 10.30am-11.30am
Blaydon Library • Monday 23 February, 1.30pm-2.30pm
Leam Lane Library • Thursday 26 February, 10.30am-11.30am
Gateshead Central Library • Thursday 26 February, 1.30pm-2.30pm

Come along for a fun session of storytelling and crafting with author-in-residence Chris Adriaanse. Listen to a story then use your imagination to bring it to life in a pop-up book or story scene. Suitable for families and ages 5+

Free – Pre-booking essential
 Book online at www.gatesheadlibraries.com

FREE ACTIVITY

Discover more at **Gateshead Libraries** **Gateshead Council**



Gateshead
 Libraries



Gateshead

100 Years ^{NE} North East Combined Authority | Kim McGuinness North East Mayor

Celebration Day

Gateshead Central Library
 Saturday 7 March • 9am-4pm

Join us to celebrate 100 years of Gateshead Central Library with a special day of events and activities.

Maker Place activities	10am - 3.30pm
Exploring Your Family History	10am - 4pm
Photomontage Workshop with Tommy Anderson	10am - 1pm
Family Storytelling with Chris Adriaanse*	10.30am - 11.30am
What's Behind the Door? Library tours*	10.30am and 2pm
How to Care for your Family Collections*	11am - 12pm
Book Illustration Workshop with Josie Brookes	1pm - 4pm
Meet Author Peter James*	2pm - 3pm
GemArts Heritage Detectives Workshop	10am - 12pm

All events **free** apart from **Peter James** (small charge) and those marked with * are **pre-bookable in advance**.

Discover more at Gateshead Libraries

