# PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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friendly



Learning and achieving together

23rd of October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you very much for your kindness and support during this unprecedented first term of full opening during the pandemic. We have been really impressed with continued adherence to government guidance and our school systems to reduce the risk of further school closure and disruption to the education of our children.

This is something we will all continue to need to carry on with as the school year progresses. Community spirit has always been a strength of the school and I applaud you for all you are doing for your own families and our school community.

This week we have built in more mindfulness and wellbeing time in to the curriculum to support children with a long and challenging term.

## **Staffing News**

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Jo Frost who leaves to join Trinity Primary as a class teacher after 3 years of HLTA work in key stage 1. We thank her for all of her hard work and for the memories she leaves us with of the dance festival preparation she did during this time.

We are joined by Mrs Rachel Morgan who replaces her in the HLTA role and also welcome Ed Shipsides and Natasha Dunne to our support staff team.

Unfortunately Mrs Hardwidge remains unwell and her SEND and LAC role continues to be covered by myself and Mrs Sargent.

#### Term 2

We start term 2 with a LSP wide SEND morning of staff training on our INSET day and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of November.

# **School Dinners**

We will be trialling hot dinners twice a week when we return to school. If this goes well we hope to extend it to a full week. The challenge for us is ensuring that the food is warm enough but also at a safe temperature when it arrives in class.

## Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings will be held via video call during week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> November. We are sending out a timetable with this letter indicating which evenings each class will be holding their meetings. Information on how to book your appointment will be sent out shortly after our return from half term.

### **COVID Testing**

If in the unfortunate event during the half term break a pupil tests positive for Coronavirus please email the school office using the email address <a href="mailto:school.office@portisheadprimary.co.uk">school.office@portisheadprimary.co.uk</a>. This will allow us to contact the HSE and take advice ready for the return to school as it may have an impact on our bubbles. It will also allow us to share any important information with anyone that may be affected. The email address will be checked once per day and we will not be responding to any other enquiries.

#### Remembrance

Poppies will be available for children and given out in classes for a donation of your choice after half term. Children can bring in a donation and it will be collected within their bubbles.

You can also support the 2020 poppy appeal at the pop up shop or by purchasing merchandise online and from supermarkets.

#### **Children In Need**

We will be taking part in this special day with a non-uniform day on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of November and ask that you make donations on line or by purchasing merchandise locally.

# **Anti-Bullying Week**

This will run during w/c 16<sup>th</sup> of November and include assemblies, lessons and a review of our policy and charter with children from across the school in a safe and appropriate way. Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November will be an odd socks day.

#### **Christmas**

We continue to monitor government guidance as our thoughts turn to planning the Christmas period at school and we will update you throughout the term as we make final decisions on what we will be able to offer. Whatever the challenges we will all work hard to make this important time of year a happy and enjoyable one in school.

# **Final Thoughts**

As we finish the term on a non-uniform day to help plant trees, I hope you all have a much deserved rest and get some time to enjoy the majesty of autumn, with all the wellbeing opportunities this season offers. The value of the term for Term 2 will be kindness.

A big thanks to our staff and governing body and to your children for being such a joy to work with.

See you all on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November.

Kind Regards Richard Riordan Headteacher