

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving together

6th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much for the way you have responded to the second lockdown. We are all working really hard to keep calm, stay safe and ensure that as many children as possible can continue to attend school.

We really appreciate the effective way both staff and families have followed government guidance to self-isolate when required, despite the challenges this then entails.

In school we are mindful of the impact a second lockdown presents to our wellbeing and are working hard to ensure that children and staff enjoy the curriculum and have regular opportunities for mindfulness and outdoor breaks whilst closing learning gaps from last year.

Please keep sending children in dressed for the weather as this ensures we can send them all out whenever it is safe to do so. We will use the outdoors in the rain but will balance this with the risk of slipping and getting soaking wet as you would expect us to do.

Kindness

As befits the value of the term we have been overwhelmed by your generosity in supporting the Poppy Appeal and Children in Need. Thank you for giving what you can and for supporting these events in such challenging times.

Parking

We understand that the location of the school presents a number of parking challenges, especially in cold and wet weather when more of the community drive to school. I am really grateful that the corner of Beach Road East Rd/Station Rd has been car free which allows children and families to use the zebra crossing safely.

Please could we ask that you apply the same safe approach to Station Road/Gateway Terrace/Lower Burlington Road and in particular avoid parking on the pavement as this makes it extremely difficult for pedestrians to walk safely. Please be mindful of how you can park safely to support children and families who may need to cross the road.

The PCSO's will be patrolling to enforce parking regulations.

Anti-Bullying Week 16th – 20th November

During the week we will be reviewing our policy and charter with children. I am training all children in KS2 as anti-bullying ambassadors via Teams and your children will be taking part in themed activities in classes. The week starts with Odd Socks day on Monday the 16th- (but school uniform or PE kit). We look forward to building on the excellent work our ambassadors have done in previous years.

We are really pleased to share that the hard work last year of the ambassadors and our staff team has meant we have been awarded the Bullying Intervention Group's award for excellence for a second year running. We are committed to continuing this work in partnership with our children and look forward to next week's work which will be delivered using Teams and in class with teachers.

Everyone can be proud of this school award.

Events

Monday 16th – Odd Socks Day to kick off Anti-Bullying Week 2020.

Year 3 Wow Days – Anning Class 18th November and Campbell Class 19th November

Keep an eye on our calendar on the website for more dates, events and school news.

School Garden and Tree Planting

Our school garden has been given a makeover as we expand our outdoor wellbeing opportunities for children. A big thank you to Brackenwood Garden Centre and Mrs Jenkins for the donation of plants, gardening materials and paint to give this space a well-deserved makeover. Mrs Wallace has led this exciting project that will allow all children to take part in some outdoor activities to support wellbeing and learning during this school year.

We recognise the value of time spent outside in general and time spent on these specific activities. So please don't panic if you see smoke coming from next to the cabin, especially if you can smell toasting marshmallows and hear the laughter and chatter of children.

Have a lovely weekend and don't worry about pairing up your socks this weekend as on Monday we insist that they are **ODD!**

Kind Regards

Richard Riordan
Headteacher