

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

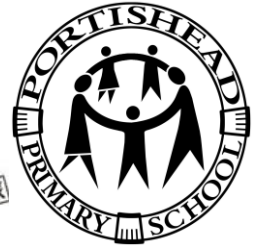
Station Road, Portishead, North Somerset BS20 7DB

Telephone: 01275 843360

Email: school.office@portisheadprimary.co.uk

Website: www.portisheadprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr Richard Riordan



Learning and achieving together

29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update

First of all a big thank you for the pizzas that were sent in to school on Friday. It was a lovely way to end the week and is great for staff morale. FOS has also sent in coffee pods and treats and we are regularly being sent kind messages of support for the work we are doing remotely and in school.

As a staff we face many of the same challenges as the rest of the community and are not immune from the impact of Covid and the lockdown. The strength of our school has and continues to be that partnership and we are very proud to be working with such a generous and caring community.

Children's Mental Health Week 2021 - February 1st to 7th

Next week will see the school take part in Children's Mental Health Week. Staff will be dropping in activities across the week and I will be leading assemblies linked to this. Whether we are at home or in school, we recognise the challenges that being isolated from school, families and friends presents as well as the wider anxieties around the pandemic. We will continue to adapt our curriculum when we return to school to place an important emphasis on supporting children as we recover from the effects of the pandemic.

Please find attached a link to some valuable resources for you to support your children.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/youre-never-too-young-to-talk-mental-health-tips-for-talking-for-parents-and-carers/>

You will also find a range of resources, information and links on the wellbeing tab of our website.

<https://www.portisheadprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Wellbeing&pid=125>

If you have any concerns about the mental health of your children please speak to us here at school and/or contact your GP who will be able to offer you advice or signpost you to further help.

Safer Internet Day 9th February

The following week is internet safety week. Again, this has never been more important for our children. Whether we are educating children to behave safely, keep themselves safe or increasingly helping them navigate the minefield of social media or fake news - home and school partnership is the best way to support our children.

Please take time to read the letter from Mr Capel, use the resources and check internet settings at home. If your children use social media, TikTok and other Apps we encourage you to have those conversations about staying safe and being mindful that what we see is not always a useful comparison to our own lives.

Covid Testing for School Based Staff

From Sunday we begin a comprehensive national testing programme of school based staff. Adults working in schools will take tests at home twice weekly. These tests are designed to identify any asymptomatic cases in the staff community and thus reduce the risk of the spread of the virus. We welcome this further measure to help keep our community safe.

Playstation Update

Unfortunately the Playstation will remain closed in term 4. This decision has been made now to give you all as much notice as possible. It is anticipated that it will be fully open from the start of term 5, dependent on a full reopening of the school to all pupils.

School Opening Update

On Wednesday the government announced that schools would not be reopening until March the 8th at the earliest. We will continue to offer remote and school based learning for you until such time as we are able to safely reopen. Senior leaders are working with teachers and our LSP partners to ensure that when this does happen we deliver a curriculum that acknowledges the impact of school closures, supports the wellbeing of children and will facilitate catch up and preparation for the next stage in your child's education.

Final Thoughts for the Weekend

It is starting to get lighter in the evenings now, which is some welcome relief for us all. At a time when so much is beyond our control all we can focus on is those things we can. It sometimes helps to look for the things in life we can still be grateful for despite the challenges we face. Whilst not every day may be good, there is always something good in each day.

Look after yourselves and each other. Stay safe and thank you for your kindness and support.

Kind Regards,

Richard Riordan

Headteacher