

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving together

18th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It continues to be a very busy but exciting time at Portishead Primary School though not without some continued challenges for us all.

Curriculum and Learning News

Mathematics: Senior Leaders and our LSP Trust advisor visited maths lessons across the school to assess the impact of our Mastery Maths approach and maths curriculum. A governor came to the feedback session, they will feed back to the governing body. The Trust advisor also writes a note of visit for school leaders and the governing body. It was a fantastic morning and we witnessed some fabulous teaching and learning that reflects the strong evidence of progress we have seen when we have looked at books and spoken to children earlier in the year.

Behaviour: A governor visited the school to review our lunchtime provision for pupils and see for themselves the high standard of behaviour that we see every day. Visits like this allow the governors to challenge and support senior leaders and independently evidence the quality of our offer and impact of school actions. This was a follow up visit to one earlier in the year that looked at behaviour in general and how our behaviour and anti-bullying policies impact on day to day school provision.

PSHE: Governors also came in and met with our PSHE and Science leads to review how we deliver our PHSE and Relationships and Sex Education. These curriculum areas have become increasingly important in supporting pupils after the last 2 years.

Parents can find out more about what the children learn from our year group newsletters that come out at the start of each term and on the curriculum section of our website. You can also see what else classes have been up to by checking in on the latest news section of our website and or following our Facebook page.

Parking

Please can we ask all car drivers to park responsibly and considerately when visiting the school site. Parking on pavements is generally illegal, dangerous to pedestrians and forces children into the road. We have had a number of evidenced concerns shared with us where parking has been both dangerous and very inconsiderate. We pass on concerns to Avon and Somerset Police and you should expect to see an increase in patrols of the area. We understand the time pressure you are under and are extremely grateful that the overwhelming majority of you do the right thing because it is the right thing – great personal integrity and modelling of appropriate behaviour and values to your children. Please find below a link to a useful website around pedestrian safety:

http://www.pedestriansafety.org.uk/pavement_parking_q_a.html

Weston Dance Festival Postponed until June

I just wanted to applaud the maturity of the children in our Year 4 Dance Club who have been working hard with Mrs Hawkes and Mrs Townley, learning a dance to perform at the Dance Festival. Sadly, this has been delayed but on Thursday they performed to the school and what a joy it is was to see the fruits of their labour.

Parents' Evenings

Thanks to everyone who attended the session on Thursday and we look forward to a great turn out on Tuesday night as well. These sessions are as important for us as I know they are for you. If you haven't booked an appointment yet, please do as we would like to opportunity to catch up with every family in the school.

Workshops for Parents

As well as inviting you to workshops, we have created a new section on the website where we will share presentations to help better inform you. This will give you the flexibility of accessing them remotely at your leisure. The first of these, an anti-bullying presentation led by our Year 6 anti-bullying ambassadors, was added yesterday. More will be added over the next month or so which we will inform you of.

<https://www.portisheadprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Workshops+For+Parents&pid=164>

Thank you

Despite the great steps forward we have made since March 2020, all schools continue to operate with a level of constant disruption. I would like to thank the staff for their flexibility and for continuing to rise to the challenges their different roles are presented with. Their flexibility, care and commitment to our families and each other is at the heart of our school's strengths. We also recognise your diligence, understanding and compassion. By working together there is no doubt that we have reduced the potential for disruption and I know we can continue to rely on each other to keep staff and pupil absence and illness to a minimum.

Thanks also to the generosity of everyone in the school community for your kind donations to the Ukraine Appeal and Red Nose Day fundraising. We appreciate that there are many financial challenges facing us all and it says a huge amount about our community that we continue to show kindness and generosity to others whenever we can.

Kind Regards

Richard Riordan
Headteacher
Portishead Primary School