

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Station Road, Portishead, North Somerset BS20 7DB

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Website: www.portisheadprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mr Richard Riordan



Learning and achieving together

20th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you are enjoying 2023 and the new school term. Optimism is our value of the term which seemed very apt when we planned it and time spent looking around and counting our blessings is always time well spent.

Industrial Action

I am sure you will all be aware of the planned industrial action by members of the NEU. Rest assured, I will be working closely with the LSP and doing all we can to minimise any disruption, although this will largely be outside of my hands. It would be prudent to make provisional childcare plans for a school closure on the 1st of Feb and the other dates as we get nearer to them. We are expecting major disruption but there is no requirement for union members to inform the headteacher of their intentions so at the time of writing I don't know how many teachers and therefore classes this will affect.

As I know more information the school will update you. There are several Trust meetings planned to prepare schools and support pupils and families and I expect to send out further information over the coming days.

Planned days for Industrial Action:

- Wednesday 1st February
- Thursday 2nd March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March.

Sports

We have had some fantastic sporting success over the last few weeks with our Year 5/6 athletes coming second in the North Somerset County indoor Athletics Championships.

Our Year 5/6 boys football team won the North Somerset Championships before Christmas and will be playing in the Somerset Final in Street on Wednesday – we wish them the good fortune that their talent, teamwork and hard work deserves!

Curriculum

Our teachers have been sharing English and Maths work with other schools from across the Trust, moderating teacher assessment and sharing good practice. This has affirmed the strength of our teacher expertise and the high quality of the learning that your children do in school every day!

Myself, Mrs Sargent and Mr Sprake watched English lessons across the whole school this week. It was a joy to see the focus of our pupils, the high quality writing they are producing, their stamina for writing and the exemplary teaching we saw in all year groups.

I have been running maths and leadership workshops for the Boolean Maths Hubs which provides some additional funding for the school budget. As part of this work, we will be showcasing our maths practice to teachers from across the South West on March the 1st. The teaching of Maths is another school strength and Mr Capel will be working alongside Maths leaders and the Boolean Hub leaders to develop other maths leaders.

Mid-Year Reports

Teachers are finalising their mid-year assessments across the Trust and our teaching staff will shortly begin preparing mid-year school reports for you. These will be sent out to you on Friday 10th of February.

Punctuality

If you arrive after 8.50 in EYFS or KS1 please do not knock on the classroom doors as this disrupts learning and the supervision of children. You must come around to the school office and sign in there. Staff have been instructed not to let late children in to classrooms after the doors have been closed, inline with the Trust Attendance Policy.

Behaviour Policy

Myself and Mrs Sargent have been involved in a National Behaviour Programme which has included visiting other schools across the country. We will be visiting one in Birmingham and one in London during terms 3 and 4. We have been working with school staff, our school council and our anti-bullying ambassadors as we finalise our new behaviour policy and update our school routines, rewards and sanctions.

Phone Communication Friday 27th January

BT need to carry out some works on our phone system from mid-morning on Friday 27th January, and so the school phone will be out of use for an hour or so.

Unfortunately, it is not possible for them to carry out these works outside of the school day.

Please note that during this time you can either phone the school on 07935 315970 or email: school.office@portisheadprimary.co.uk

Events

- 25th Jan 7-8pm Year 6 Information Evening online
- 25th Jan FOS Women's Wellness Evening
- 3rd Feb FOS School Disco
- 6th Feb Children's Mental Health Week – more info to follow
- 7th Feb Year 2 Performance 2pm
- 8th Feb Year 2 Performance 2pm

Kind regards,
Richard Riordan

Headteacher
Portishead Primary School