

PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving together

Friday 19th May 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been a very exciting, if slightly unusual, half term so far with 2 bank holidays to contend with. We are very pleased that the weather has begun to improve!

KS1 Author and Illustrator Visit

Last Friday morning EYFS & KS1 were lucky enough to have a visit from the author Lu Fraser and the illustrator Sarah Warburton to share their new book with them and take part in a drawing tutorial. The children were totally inspired and loved the opportunity to meet the talented women behind the book – Mavis the Bravest!

SATs

Our Year 6 children completed their end of KS2 statutory assessments last week. Congratulations to them on rising to the challenges of some very difficult exam papers, we are super proud of them all and the staff who work so hard to ensure our children are well prepared for the academic requirements of secondary school. The 2023 papers this year have made national news and it is fair to say that these tests did present a very high level of challenge for children in Year 6 nationwide.

Our Year 2 children are currently taking part in their end of Key Stage 1 national tests. These are much less formal but still challenging and again we are proud of our children and the learning they are demonstrating.

Staffing Updates

In July we will be very sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Blackmore-Squires and Mrs Spencer. Mrs Blackmore-Squires is leaving education to spend more time with her family and Mrs Spencer is also leaving to pursue new adventures. When the time comes we be thanking them appropriately for their fantastic commitment to the children and families of Portishead Primary School.

In the meantime, we are busy recruiting their replacements and a deputy headteacher to work alongside Mrs Sargent for September.

Car Parking Reminder

Further to the School Comms we sent out on Tuesday:

The staff car park is not for use by the parent community during school opening hours - this means between the hours of 8am and 4.30pm.

Individual parents have access by prior arrangement with the school office, notably - the disabled parking bay.

We are happy for parents to use the car park for drop off at wraparound care before 8am and after 4.30pm by exception.

This is to ensure the safety of children and parents entering and leaving the school site and to protect clear access for the emergency services should they require it.

Our staff will rightly but politely ask parents to move cars as necessary and we expect these requests to be followed and taken in good manner.

Walk to School Week

Thanks to everyone for their commitment to this annual initiative. We are grateful for your commitment and know that many of you choose to walk whenever you can. Let's all do our best to continue this approach throughout the year when possible and into our weekends. Most places in Portishead can be walked to if we just plan to leave a little more time. It is great for the environment, reduces pollution and is great exercise – when we walk we have so much more time to take in the beauty of the town we live in!

Congratulations to Campbell Class who won our school challenge.

Science Day Friday 26th May

We are very excited to be holding a whole school science day next Friday. Each year group will enjoy a workshop with a Scientist as well as having the opportunity to work scientifically with a different year group. Classes will learn about famous scientists from a diverse range of backgrounds and the impact their work made.

Kind Regards,
Richard Riordan
Headteacher
Portishead Primary School