

'Start the Year' Meetings – Tonight (Wed 13th Sept 6pm) for Years 3 & 4 Parents

Thank you to everyone who came to the Year 5 and 6 Start the Year meetings on Monday – we hope you found it useful. Tonight are the meetings for Year 3 and 4 parents and we are looking forward to seeing you all.

Parents: Year 3 Meeting - Please go to main hall

Year 4 Meeting – Please go to 4RM (middle room in year 4 corridor)

Year 3 & 4 pupils that are coming to the video should go to Mr Hession's room in year 6 (middle room)



Books, books, books! We are missing quite a number of books from school – particularly many that we use for our Book Bingo. Please could everyone check at home and return any books with a Portway or School Library Service stamp in them. They might well have got mixed up with books at home and we would appreciate everyone checking. As you are aware, our budget is very tight indeed and so money to replace books is very difficult to find. Many thanks!

Dropping Off & Collecting Children If it is raining hard (rather than just drizzling) before school then we offer the opportunity for pupils to wait in the hall with a member of staff from 8:40 until school starts. We ask that parents drop off pupils at the main door rather than waiting with them as it can get quite crowded. Hopefully we won't need this too many times this year! Can we also remind everyone that when it looks like even a slight possibility of rain (we always use the BBC weather app) then pupils will need a coat in school. If we have very light rain at breaktimes and lunchtimes we try to get the pupils outside if at all possible, at least for part of the time. When collecting children from the school at the end of the day can we also ask parents/carers/older siblings not go onto the playground or the area outside of Year 4 until at least 3:10 as these areas are often being used up until this point. Many thanks.

Residential Visits – Year 4 and Year 6 Although we have submitted our numbers for the residential visits this year, we can request extra places (although this is not always possible.) If your child has not booked a place but you now want them to go, then please get in touch with the office ASAP and we'll see what we can do.

Video Games - Age Restrictions Those of you who already have children at the school will remember I have real concerns about pupils playing video games with a 12, 16 and even 18 age restriction. While many video games are entirely appropriate for children, there are some that are clearly not and can have some very mature themes. Some parents and carers might not be aware that video games are age-rated under the Pan-European Game Information (PEGI) system which rates games. More information about age ratings can be found on the PEGI website (www.pegi.info). The PEGI age ratings enable parents and carers to make an informed choice when buying a game for their child. It is clearly not appropriate for children to play, or to watch others playing, games rated 18 and therefore suitable only for adults aged eighteen or over as they contain content that is unsuitable for children, including extreme and intense violence, strong sexual content, strong language and use of drugs and alcohol. Parents and carers might like to consider using free online resources to help decide whether a particular video game is suitable for their child e.g. NSPCC site (www.nspcc.org.uk). If this is something you would like to talk about then please contact our Family Support Worker, Mrs Gemma Sacree, who may be able to help.



Clubs Today you should receive a club list for your child to apply for any of the extra-curricular clubs available. Clubs will commence on the week beginning 25th September – please presume your child has been accepted unless you receive a note to say they are on the waiting list. Some clubs can only take a limited number, depending on the activity, and so can get full. All clubs are provided free of charge by our staff who give up their own time to run them. There may be some additional clubs, which will be notified separately at a later date. Please note that due to staff training and parent consultations there will be no clubs taking place on Tuesday 17th and Thursday 19th October.

Tim Deery

The following children were awarded a 'Pride of Portway' Certificate or a Special Mention in Celebration Assembly last week ...

- Year 3:** Ethan Pike, William Gibbs, Rebecca Mitchell, Tilly Santi, Sophie Hicklin, Ella Reid, Tyler Dickerson, Lacey Green, Alicia Sexton
Year 4: Megan Clifford, Malia Cooper, Darcy Wincott, Riley Smith, Lucy Wilson, Mason Hewlett, Nikola Koczakowska, Nicole Drabik, Keira Hunter
Year 5: James Taylor, Olivia Hill, Joshua Winter, Charlotte Easton, Conor Ford, Arishna Purja-Pun, Jake Humphreys, Dom Jephcott, Avinab Thapa, Daniel Baitrum
Year 6: Alfie Franke, Isobel Warrender, Alfie Head, Kyle Smith, Miah Lazaretti, Jamie Field, Charlie Hopgood, Bethany Peachey, Thomas Bedwell

THRIFT SHOP

We desperately need some volunteers to help run the Thrift Shop. If you can spare a couple of hours every month, please come and see us in the office.

Other letters coming home today

- Autumn Term Clubs List

Copies of the Portway Press and other letters we send out can be found on the school website

www.portwayjunior.co.uk

Harrow Way School Open Evening/Mornings

Open Evening

Tue 26th Sept 2017 6.30–8.30 pm

Open Mornings

Wed 27th & Thu 28th Sept 2017 9.15–10.30am

You are warmly invited to visit all departments and to attend a short presentation by the Headteacher in the Auditorium at 6.30 pm, repeated at 7.15pm and 8.00pm



Don't forget you can find us on Facebook (Portway Junior School Group) and follow us on Twitter (@portwayjunior). Both are used regularly to help keep everyone up to date with events. (Parents only)

Staff Car Park Reminder

Please remember that the junior school car park is only for staff cars and no other vehicles must use it. It is also out of bounds for children at all times so please use the other gates when walking into school. Many thanks.

MUSIC LESSONS

We currently have two spaces in violin – please speak to the office if you are interested in your child having lessons. We will keep you informed if we have spaces for other instruments via the Portway Press over the next few weeks.

RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

If you would still like to sign your children onto either trip then we may be able to add them. Please get in touch with Mrs Staff in the office asap.

**Year 4 Hooke Court Residential
Nov 2017**

**Year 6 Calshot Residential
January 2018**

Want to get the best out of family life? The Portway Nurturing Programme starts again soon...

**Wednesday 27 September 2017
9.30am – 11.30am**

Open to all parents and carers
Limited spaces available

Speak to Mrs Gemma Sacree via the school
office or call 07842 039491

Are you a graduate and interested in training to teach with a group of excellent Primary schools in Hampshire?

You may be aware that as a school we are very committed to training the next generation of teachers. We are now involved in a more recent teacher post-graduate training programme, which is called **School Direct**.

If you know of someone who has a degree and you think might be interested in finding out more about School Direct (it might even be you!) then either leave a message for Mr Deery in the school office or attend the information evening on Thursday 28th September at 6:00 at Anton Junior School. Places can be booked by visiting www.teachaa.co.uk

www.teachaa.co.uk

Are you eligible for Free School Meals?

Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S) has an online service so parents can check their eligibility for free school meals themselves. This self-service option is available at

www3.hants.gov.uk/caterers/hc3s-freeschoolmeals

To complete a check you need the following information for yourself or the person you are checking on behalf of:

- your own name, date of birth, and contact details
- National Insurance number or National Asylum Seekers number
- child's name and date of birth
- school your child is attending

Remember that pupils do not have to take the free meals all of the time but can have them when needed.

If you would like to see the menus for this term they can be found at

www3.hants.gov.uk/hc3s/hc3s-primary/primarymenu
(or google HC3S primary)



Key Dates for your Diary

(Full Sheet should come home with today's Press)

Wed 13 th Sept	6:00 'Start the Year' Meeting (Years 3 & 4)
Mon 18 th Sept	Year 5 Trip to Winchester
Wed 20 th Sept	Year 4 Roald Dahl Day
Mon 25 th Sept	Author Visit for Year 3 & 4
Mon 25 th Sept	Clubs start
Tues 17 th Oct	Parent Consultations (3:30-7:30) – No clubs
Thur 19 th Oct	Parents Consultations (3:30-5:30) – No clubs
Thur 19 th Oct	School Finishes for ½ Term
Fri 20 th Oct	Day Closure
Fri 21 st Oct	End of ½ Term
Tues 19 th Dec	9:00 Year 3/4 carol Service – all welcome
Wed 20 th Dec	9:00 Year 5/6 carol Service – all welcome
Thur 21 st Dec	End of Term (School Closes at 1:15)
Thurs 4 th Jan	New Term Starts