


Being back We have settled into the routines of school really well and it has been lovely to see and hear about how hard everyone is working. The information from our Start the Year meetings and the half termly leaflets about our curriculum are available on our website under the relevant 'Year Group' tab. Below is some further information about some of what we have been up to so far.



Harvest We'll be celebrating Harvest soon in our assemblies and, through our donations, supporting Andover Foodbank who help individuals and families locally in crisis. We know that things are more difficult now than ever before but, if you are able to donate an item of food, your support will be much appreciated. The Foodbank welcomes donations of pasta, rice, tea, coffee, tinned vegetables, tinned meat and fish and any tinned puddings - there is a full list on the reverse of the Press. Donations can be brought to the school hall - through the fire doors at the side - on **Thursday 3rd October** and we'll use our assembly to remind ourselves of how the Foodbank is a valuable resource for our town. Many thanks for your support.

 **Weather** It is feeling much more autumnal now and rainy weather is becoming more frequent. This is a good time to remind everyone of the importance of a warm and waterproof coat. We will try to be outside as much as possible, and especially for playtimes or lunchtimes, unless the rain really is torrential.

Clubs Information - dates & sign up In our parent survey last term, a number of you said you would like to see a wider variety of clubs on offer. We believe clubs are important too and so we have been thinking about how we can develop this. Our teachers work very hard so, to help with providing more options, we now have a number of clubs on offer with external companies. We are always looking to add to this, so if you could run a club or know someone who might be interested, please let us know via the admin staff! With this Press is a link to a Google Form to sign up for the autumn clubs offer - clubs will change as the year goes on. Please discuss these with your child and make sure you only sign them up for clubs your child wants to attend. We will need the Google Form completed by Monday 30th September at the latest. Due to meetings for staff on Mondays and Wednesdays, our days for clubs are limited so children will need to make a choice. Clubs run by our staff start the week beginning October 7th and finish the week ending December 13th. All clubs end at 4:15pm unless otherwise stated. After you have signed up, the admin staff will notify you by the 4th October of the club your child has been allocated a place for.

PTA AGM Our PTA AGM meeting is Wednesday 1 October at the infant school. It would be really great to see as many parents there as possible. Our PTA do a great job in fundraising for our schools and raise much needed funds for our schools.

Miss Windross

Secondary School applications

If your child is currently in Year 6, you will need to apply for a Year 7 place in a secondary school for September 2025. You can apply online at [hants.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions) The deadline for applications is midnight on Tuesday 31 October. The Admissions Team contact number is 0300 555 1377. It is very important that you submit your application by this date. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered until after all on-time applications have been processed. This means that late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools. Find out more at the link below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

Nurturing Programme - starts 26.9.24 at Portway Infant School.

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun but looking after them can sometimes be stressful and challenging. Whether you're interested in simply expanding your parenting knowledge, seeking new ways to manage a tricky behaviour or perhaps looking for ways to make home life a little easier then consider the Nurturing Programme.

To call this a 'parenting course' is to do the programme a disservice. It is not a lecture on how to be a parent and attending a group doesn't mean you're a 'bad parent' either.

There's a lot of material and topics covered including:

- Understanding why children behave as they do
- Recognising the feelings behind the behaviours (theirs and ours)
- Exploring different approaches to discipline.
- The importance of looking after ourselves



If you'd like to take one of the last few remaining spaces, or you have any questions before you decide, please contact me as soon as possible. If the timings of this course don't work for you, you can always register your interest by filling out the expression form attached to this Press email or pick one up from the infant school office. Thank you, Mrs Sacree

Key Dates

Wed 23 & Thurs 24 Oct	Parent Consultations
Fri 25 Oct	School closed to pupils for staff training
Mon 28 Oct - Fri 1 Nov	Autumn half term holiday
Mon 4 Nov	Individual pupil photographs
Tues 5 Nov	Y6 parent meeting for Avon Tyrrell -final arrangements
Mon 25 - Fri 29 Nov	Avon Tyrrell residential for Y6 pupils
Fri 20 Dec	School stops for Christmas holidays
Mon 6 Jan	Spring term starts for all pupils
Wed 29 - Fri 31 Jan	Hooke Court residential for Y4 pupils

Uniform reminder: please remember that jewellery is not part of appropriate school uniform. Any earrings worn in school must be studs only and must be able to be removed (or covered with tape) for PE lessons. Necklaces, bracelets and other jewellery are not allowed.

School Dinners:

It is important that school dinners are ordered in advance on the School Grid system, children can still order in class on the day if needed. However, should a dinner not be ordered, children will need to wait until all the pre-ordered lunches have been served by appx 12:45, they will then be offered any available hot food or a sandwich. If your child is absent from school, please log into School Grid to cancel their lunch order by 8:50am as this is not done by the office staff.

The International Day of Peace

On Friday, all of the children from The Hive got to go to Harmony Woods to celebrate the International Day of Peace. It is important to have no wars, no fighting, no conflicts and to have good friendships instead. We flew a massive, humongous white dove (which is a



symbol of peace) in Harmony Woods. We also got to meet the Mayor and Mayoress and their dog called Moppit. He is the mascot of Test Valley. We painted different colours and peace messages on tree bark and decorated our own peace doves, which are now hanging in Harmony Woods. The trip was amazing and we even survived Mrs Finlay-Black's minibus driving!

By Hal H and James K

Drop off Foodbank donations to the school hall on the morning of 3rd October - thank you!



Shopping list

Harvest 2023

If you are able, please donate an item from the list.

Thank you for your help

- Tinned meat
- Tinned fruit
- Fruit juice (long life)
- Rice pudding or custard
- Coffee
- Curry sauce
- Tinned pulses
- Milk (long life)
- Biscuits
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned fish
- Pasta sauce
- Dried rice
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned vegetables

Thank you for your support



Reg charity no 1199568
Reg in England & Wales

House Event



Our Houses are Lightning, Ice, Fire and Earth and, we earn house points for our teams by showing our resilience and dedication to our work, encouraging others and by showing great ready, respectful and safe behaviour around school. We also compete in some intra-school competitions of various types and are looking forward to more of these opportunities throughout this year.

Our House Captains have worked hard to arrange a House Cross Country running event on our school field on October 4th. The event is inclusive and children can run competitively to win extra points for their house plus a place at the primary schools competition or they can choose to run for fun and mix it up with walking and jogging - completing the course will still win them points for their house.

Alternatively, if taking part isn't for them then cheering on and supporting their house team is just as important. The results will be announced in the celebration assembly that day too. The event is primarily to show our Portway values of positivity, resilience, integrity, dedication and encouragement.

Children should wear Portway PE kit for October 4th and may wear a t-shirt in the colour of their house - yellow, blue, red or green - if they have one. This is not mandatory. Football shirts may not be worn.

Mrs Brewer & the House Captains

In Year 4, we've been learning about doubling, halving and rounding. In reading, we've been focusing on two books: The Lost Words and The World's Worst Teachers.

In this second book, we've read about Miss Spick, a wicked librarian. In writing, we've been making an animal fact leaflet. We got to choose the animal we wrote about! In Year 4 Science, we have been learning about mixtures.

If you want to make a mixture you have to mix two substances together and we did an experiment to see what mixtures dissolved. In Geography we have been learning about physical features and man made features.

We have learnt how to use compass points and have found features in Hampshire using maps. We have also enjoyed drawing our self portraits in Art.

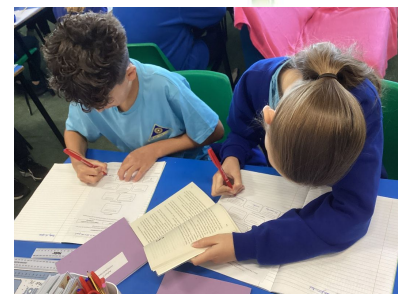
Jordi and Ruth (Hare class)

What we have been learning in Years 4 and 6

In Year 6 so far, we have really enjoyed all of our lessons. This year, we are going to Avon Tyrrell. We are going to stay there for 5 days and 4 nights! In art we are learning about a woman called Beatriz Milhazes.

She uses shapes and colours to make her art and hopefully we are going to make some brilliant art inspired by her. During our English lessons, we have been learning about The Explorer and we have even had an interview with the Author. So far, in maths, we have been learning about factors and we feel as a year group that we are doing very well even though it can be tricky. This year is going to be a great year. We are going to do the best we can throughout the year!

Alex W and Florence H (Magpie Class)



Positivity

Resilience

Integrity

Dedication

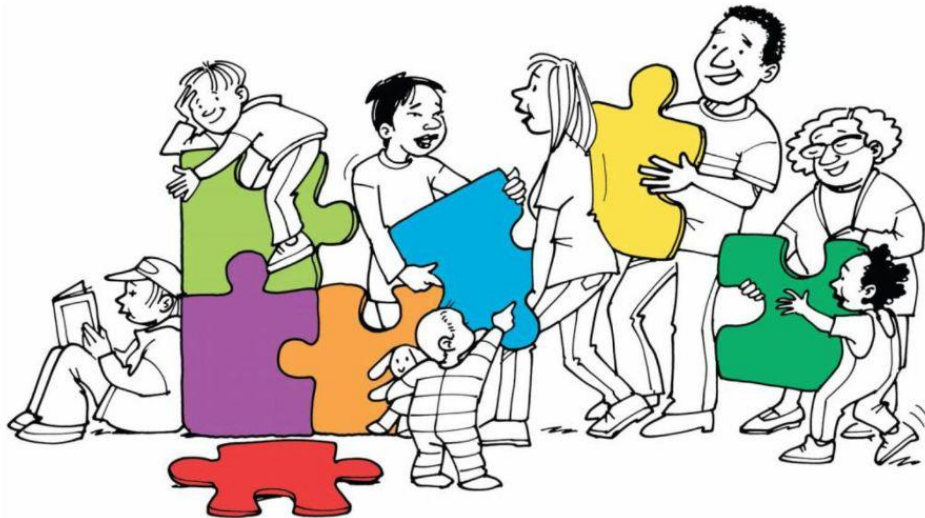
Encouragement



The Nurturing Programme

FREE daytime sessions starting soon

Battling bedtimes? Teatime tantrums? Sibling squabbles?
Do you want less nagging and more cooperation at home?



A 10 week programme designed to help parents understand why children behave as they do, to recognise feelings behind behaviour and explore strategies for positive parenting and discipline.

Starts: Thursday 26 September 2024

9.15am – 11.15am

Portway Infant School

Spaces are limited so don't miss out!

For more information or to sign up, contact Gemma on
07842 039491 or email g.sacree@portway-inf.hants.sch.uk