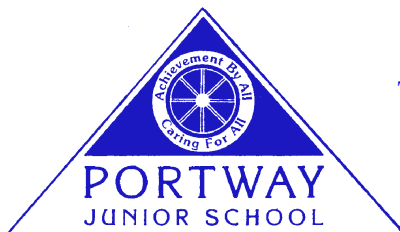


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January 2012

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back to the new term at school!

We have lots of exciting things planned for this term and we hope that you will want to be involved in as many of them as possible.

As you will be aware, we take very seriously our responsibility to prepare children for the future, and inspire them to achieve their potential. Our aim is to have a consistent approach across the whole school, which is supported at home, to ensure that all children at Portway enjoy and achieve in maths.

After several months of hard work, planning and consultation with parents we have produced the ultimate in self help maths manuals - 'Portway's Marvellous Maths' is a free DVD and booklet not to be missed!

The approaches to teaching and learning maths have changed as time has gone on and the focus now is on children having a thorough understanding of the basics before moving onto more complex methods. There are clear steps to help children make good progress in maths and it is important that they understand each of these steps before moving on. It is not vital that every child reaches the final stage, it is more important that all children have a strategy they are confident with and can apply in lessons and assessments.

These new approaches are clearly demonstrated in the DVD and the accompanying booklet. We know that you are as committed as we are to support your children's learning of maths using the same strategies we do at school and we hope that you will be able to make good use of these free resources!

We have enclosed a copy of the DVD and booklet for your use at home with your child and we hope that you find it useful. If you have any questions about it or wish to discuss this further, then please contact the school office who will be happy to make an appointment for you.

Regards

Miss Kate Gill  
Mathematics Manager

