



**World Down Syndrome Day** Just a reminder that tomorrow is World Down Syndrome Day and we would like everyone to wear their craziest and oddest socks. There is no 'fine' for this, the idea is to start a conversation so when we notice everyone's socks we can talk about everything we know about Down Syndrome.

**World Book Day** Thank you for all the effort that went into dressing as favourite characters from books - it was great to see the range of books represented and to hear what children enjoy reading. Each class spent time exploring books through activities to celebrate World Book Day and we concluded the day with a whole school story time as staff shared their favourite books.

**Attendance** As you probably know, we consider that an overall 95% attendance is the minimum expected of all pupils. If attendance falls below this then we may make contact with you, and we also look back at previous years to see if there is an ongoing issue. Many studies have shown us that pupils with good attendance are far more likely to do well, both in primary and secondary school. A quick reminder that we are also not allowed to authorise holidays in term time, unless there are very exceptional circumstances. Please put as much information as possible on the request form to help us with this. If a request is turned down, and is 5 days or more, then we have to inform the Local Authority. This is part of the procedures that all Hampshire County Council schools must abide by.

**PTA APRIL FOOL DAY OF MISRULE! (Thursday 28th March)** After our previous successful events, we are inviting pupils to break the rules again - on 28th March as we are on holiday for April Fools Day. Beware, there is a fine of **50p for every rule you choose to break**. You may break as many or as few as you like! They include - NO school uniform, NO temporary tattoos, NO nail varnish, NO hats, NO make-up or face paint, NO odd socks or crazy tights, NO superhero capes, NO fancy dress & NO football/rugby shirts. Your fines (1 rule broken = 50p, 2 rules broken = £1, etc) should ideally be paid by scopy (see flyer overleaf for more details)

**Clubs** Thank you to all the staff who are running clubs this term - this week is the final week for clubs, except for gardening club that will continue to run at lunchtime in school after the easter break.

**INSET dates for next year** These have been confirmed along with Portway Infant School and the dates can be seen in our 'Key Dates' section overleaf.

**Staffing Update** During this spring term, Miss King has been teaching Hare Class and has been an asset to the school. Hare class have continued to make good progress with her fantastic teaching and we are sad to be saying goodbye to her. She has secured a new teaching post overseas and is looking forward to a new adventure. We thank her for all her hard work with us this term and wish her all the best in her new post.

*Miss Windross*



## PTA Spring Fling

Thank you to everyone who helped with the PTA Spring Fling last week, which went very well indeed! The PTA did a brilliant job and there was lots to do and see during the event. Thank you also to the staff from both schools who gave up their time to help. The final profit has not been finalised yet and we are excited to know what it is - we'll let you know! Thank you to everyone who came along. We are really lucky to have such a supportive PTA and community, which we really do appreciate!

## Next PTA Meeting

The next PTA meeting is Thursday 23rd April 5:30-6:30 in the infant school hall - everyone welcome!



**Head Lice:** There have been some sightings of these little creatures. Please could everyone check hair to evict any that might be found there! If everyone could do a quick check over the next couple of days, hopefully we can stop them spreading. More advice on treating head lice can be obtained from pharmacies or visit [www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice](http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice)



## OUTSTANDING PAYMENT DEADLINE - NEXT WEEK

There's not long until the end of the financial year. Please ensure that outstanding money is paid ASAP, including any dinner money arrears.

**Easter Lunch** - will be held on **28.03.24** and is available to order on the day in class... Chicken Nuggets, Tomato Pasta, Jacket Potato or Picnic Meal and a chance of winning an **Easter Egg**.

## Key Dates

Thurs 21 March  
Thurs 28 March  
Fri 29 March - Fri 13 April  
Mon 15 April  
Mon 13 - Thurs 16 May  
Mon 27 May  
Tues 23 July - 1:15pm finish

World Down Syndrome Day  
Break the Rules day for PTA (early April Fools)  
Easter holidays  
Summer Term starts  
Year 6 SATS Assessment Week  
Summer half term holiday  
End of summer term

### **INSET Days for academic year 2024-2025:**

Mon / Tues September 2nd and 3rd  
Mon November 4th  
Fri February 28th  
Mon June 2nd

## **Portway Pop In Infant Community Room**

**8:45-9:45am**

This is open to all infant and junior parents.  
Toddlers are welcome too.



## The Nurturing Programme

**FREE evening 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: Wednesday 01 May 2024**

**6.15pm – 8.15pm**

**Vigo Primary School, Andover**

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](mailto:g.sacree@portway-inf.hants.sch.uk)



## Portway Parent Pop In



**Community Room  
Portway Infant School**

**8.45 – 9.45**

## **Hot off the Press ...**

Dates have just been confirmed for the next Nurturing Programme starting after Easter and sessions will be held in the evenings. This hugely popular course, backed by over 30yrs+ research and science will be delivered by Gemma and is offered to parents for **FREE**.

Course starts on Wednesday 01 May 2024 at 6.15pm, see attached poster for more information or contact Gemma if you have any questions. Spaces are limited so get in there quick to secure your place.

If you can't make this one or would prefer to work through a similar programme at your own pace, Hampshire County Council have partnered with The Solihull Approach and offer a **FREE** course online. More details and registration information can be found at:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/publichealth/solihullapproach>



Active Thru Football Presents

# FOOTBALL SESSIONS

TERM TIME ONLY

**3.30-4.30**

15TH APRIL - 24th MAY

MONDAY YEAR 3 & 4

FRIDAY YEAR 5 & 6

School Field

**£48 For the half term**

To book:

[bookwhen.com/mattwellsfootballcoaching](https://bookwhen.com/mattwellsfootballcoaching)





# BREAK THE RULES FOR APRIL FOOL'S

Let's celebrate April Fool's! On **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March** we want you to break the rules! Below is a list of 10 rules that you can break when you come to school....but beware, there is a fine of **50p for every rule you choose to break**. You may break as many or as few as you like!

## The Rules

1. NO crazy hair
2. You **MUST** wear school uniform
3. NO temporary tattoos
4. NO nail varnish
5. NO hats
6. NO make up or face paint
7. NO odd socks or crazy tights
8. NO superhero capes or fancy dress
9. NO football/rugby shirts



**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March...Come to school and break the rules.**

1 rule broken = 50p

2 rules broken = £1

All fines to be paid online via Scopay



Did you know **1.4million school uniforms** are thrown away each year?

Many garments contain high levels of polyester – that's plastic!

# PRELOVED



# PORTWAY

Introducing a cost effective and environmentally friendly way to kit out the kids and reuse Portway uniform.

Infant and Junior School uniform available

**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
**2.45pm onwards**  
**Junior School Hall**

**All Items – Donation only**

**Funds raised will go to the PTA**

**Card payment accepted**

If you would like to rehome any good quality Portway uniform you have at home we are accepting donations in all sizes – inc coats/jackets - and items can be dropped off at either school office.

No faded, stained or damaged items please.

**1.4million uniforms = 350 tonnes of plastic**