

# **PORTWAY PRESS**

Issue 866 6 March 2024

Parent Consultations: Many thanks to everyone who came to the meetings in the first week of the half term. We hope you found them useful. If you didn't manage to attend, it would be useful if you contact your child's class teacher to arrange an opportunity to meet. Parents of pupils in Finch Class will receive information about rearranged appointments soon.

PTA Pancake Breakfast This is on Friday 8 March run by our fabulous PTA and it's a great way to start the day! Please come along to support and and enjoy some pancakes, tea and coffee and help the PTA to help us fundraise for our schools.





World Book Day Just a reminder that World Book Day is 7 March and we'd like to celebrate by inviting everyone to dress as a favourite character from a favourite book. This could be a full costume or could be an accessory or two to represent the character.

Football club. In the summer term we're excited to be starting a football club with Matt Wells. Matt is a friend of Portway and is a trained football coach. This is a paid club and the flyer later in the Press tells you a little more. The club will run every Monday for pupils in Years 3 and 4 and on Fridays for Years 5 and 6 and starts at 3:30, giving pupils time to change in school first. Places are booked and paid directly with Matt via the link on the flyer.



World Down Syndrome Day This is a day that has been observed by the United Nations since 2012 and the message we are being asked to share is 'End the Stereotypes'. One way we will do this is by asking for everyone to wear their craziest and oddest socks on the 21st! 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. Miss Windross

# Safeguarding Pupils Online at Home.

We have had several children experiencing problems online at home when they have been playing games (particularly Fortnite) via their consoles and when messaging using WhatsApp and expecting staff to be able to solve these issues for them. Whilst we are happy to support any child in the best way we can, we are responsibility unable to monitor or solve problems that arise from internet use at home and outside of school hours.

Keeping children safe is everyone's

We understand that everyone is busy but monitoring children's safe use of the internet outside of school is parental responsibility. Our website contains many resources to support parents and carers to be able to do this. The link to our safeguarding page is here: Portway Safeguarding Page There is also some specific information click HERE to further support parents in monitoring internet use at home.

**Fortnite** this game is rated 12+ by PEGI. This is because. despite its cartoonish look, some characters and scenes may upset younger children.

**Fortnite Battle Royale** has an unmoderated chat functionality in which players are open to communications, either by voice or on-screen, from anyone they are playing with. Just like other games with chat functions, children may be at risk of exposure to inappropriate language, bullying or extremism.

Fortnite allows for voice chat to be disabled. Some settings allow you to filter out mature language and the possibility of receiving friend requests from players you don't know.

Make sure that children understand what to do if they encounter any unpleasant behaviour whilst playing Fortnite, and remind them not to share any personal information with other players.

If you're concerned that a child may have had inappropriate contact with someone on Fortnite, you can also seek advice and make a report to CEOP, Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command, through their online safety centre.

**Fortnite Privacy** Fortnite offers three levels of privacy settings: Public, where anyone can enter your child's online group; Friends, where only friends can join a group; and Private, which means that no one can enter your child's group without being invited by the child themselves

WHAT PARENTS
NEED TO

KNOW

#### **Fortnite Reporting**

Fortnite offers an in-game feedback tool in the Main Menu of the game to report bad player behaviour. You can also email Epic Games, the creator of Fortnite, through their website reporting any concerns you may have.

#### **Money Money**

As we approach the end of the financial year, we have to balance the books before they can be approved and audited by Hampshire County Council. If you have any unpaid dinner money, trip money or music tuition then could you please send it into the office asap. We have to make sure that all debt is recovered and your help would be most appreciated.

Integrity **Dedication Positivity** Resilience **Encouragement** 

# **Key Dates**

Friday 8 March
Thurs 14 March
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

PTA Pancake Breakfast
PTA Spring Fling
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 still to come:

Monday 3 June

Office telephone: 01264 352060 adminoffice@portway-jun.hants.sch.uk

Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 (4:00 on Fridays)
Messages can be left on the answerphone outside of
these times (or at any time during the day)

### Safety and parking around school.



With nearly 700 pupils coming to our site each day, traffic around the school is challenging. Unfortunately, there are no easy solutions and we need everyone to be as careful as possible around the school. Luckily we have never had a serious accident but we want to keep it that way. Please keep speed down to a minimum around the school as young children can appear from nowhere at times!

On Ashfield Road please do not stop or park in the turning circle at any time as this can block traffic. On Upper Drove we ask that parents do not park in the bus area. There are times when this is used for buses but, when this is not the case, it is also a really useful passing space. This space helps to keep the traffic flowing along the road during the busy periods at the start and end of the day. Please also do not park in any areas that are marked by yellow cones or anywhere on double yellow lines and be respectful of our neighbours by not parking over or obstructing driveways.

Please consider walking to and from school but, where this is not possible, consider parking a few minutes away from the site and walking the last part of the journey. It is only by us all working together that we can prevent an accident happening near the school.





Card Payment available! Buy stall tokens on the gate or in advance (details to be confirmed)