



This is the last formal Portway Press of the term and this has been a very busy term. The 'Start the Year' meetings back in early September feel a long time ago! There have been clubs, visitors, a residential visit, ukulele lessons, sporting events, music performances, parent consultations and lots, lots more! We would like to thank everybody who has supported us in any way this term. We are very lucky to have such a supportive and positive group of parents and friends; it makes a huge difference to all of us - thank you!

Carol Services We are looking forward to welcoming you to these on Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 December. These are always a nice way to celebrate Christmas and our services will be led by Rev Alex Randle-Bissell and will include a variety of readings and modern and traditional songs that we have been singing in school. These are popular events and we have limited space in the hall, so we ask parents to be aware of this so that seats are not left empty and main walkways are clear for children.



Christmas lunch & 'wear your Christmas jumper to school day' On 19 December everyone is invited to dress in their Christmas jumper or something with a Christmassy feel (no football / sports kits). Our school Christmas lunch is also on the 19 and our festive outfits will be a welcome addition. If you haven't ordered Christmas lunch yet then please remember to do so via your SchoolGrid account by December 16 at the latest.



PTFA & Christmas baubles The PTFA Christmas Raffle and Tombola is on 19 December at 3:30 in the junior school hall and tickets for the raffle can also be purchased online via the new PTFA website. This is accessible from the Portway Junior Website under the 'Parents' tab - please click here: [Link to PTFA website](#). The raffle will be called at 4pm in the hall and all funds raised will go to pupils in both schools. If you have purchased Christmas baubles for the bauble competition, please return these to school by December 16 clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

Arbor Update We are moving from Scopay to Arbor for payments, including breakfast club and Portway Plus. As we need to move all payments and bookings from Scopay to Arbor there maybe a delay with the correct balance showing on either system, please bear with us. From 18th of December you will no longer be able to use Scopay, please make sure you are able to login to Arbor to make payments and book sessions. Any queries please contact the school office.

Last day of term Children can wear their own clothes (no football shirts) on December 20, this means that uniform can be washed and put away for the new term. Our last day of the autumn term is Friday 20 December and school finishes at 1:15. The external gates will be open from 12:50pm and our gates leading round to the playground will be opened after 1pm so that we can clear playground after lunchtime play. Children can be collected from classrooms as usual from 1:15. If you are meeting your child elsewhere on site, please make sure they know where this is and to return to the school office if they cannot find you.

Miss Windross

Parents / Carers / Grandparents of Year 4

Year 4 would like to invite their parents and grandparents to join them on Thursday 19 December at 3pm for a lantern parade in the hall as a finale of their DT project!



See you there!



Year 3 Ukulele concerts



Year 3 would like to invite you to their ukulele performances on Thursday 12 December at the following times:

9:40 - Bat

10:25 - Fox

11:25 - Owl



Portway Plus After School Care

This finishes Thursday 19 December and resumes on the first day of the spring term. Please remember that places must be booked in advance.

Key Dates

Wed 18 Dec 9am	Year 5 & 6 Carol Services
Thur 19 Dec 9am	Year 3 & 4 Carol Services
Thur 19 Dec	Christmas lunch & jumper day
Thur 19 Dec	PTFA Raffle & Tombola event
Fri 20 Dec at 1.15pm	School stops for Christmas holidays
Mon 6 Jan	Spring term starts for all pupils
Thur 9 Jan, 3:30pm	PTFA committee meeting - junior hall
Thur 30 Jan	Info eve for Y5 parents for Avon Tyrrell '25
Wed 29 - Fri 31 Jan	Hooke Court residential for Y4 pupils
Thur 13 Feb	Info eve for Y6 parents for end of KS2 tests
Mon 17-Fri 21 Feb	Spring half term holiday
Mon 7 - Mon 21 April	Easter holidays (return to school Tues 22 April)



Christmas Carol Services

Year 5 & 6 - Wednesday 18 December 9:10am

Year 3 & 4 - Thursday 19 December 9:10am

Both services will be held in the school hall and will begin at 9:10am. These services are our celebration of Christmas with whole school songs, carols for everyone to join in with and readings that tell the story of Christmas. We are hoping to be joined by Rev. Alex Randle-Bissell to help us celebrate Christmas.



Be Safe Online at Christmas

If Christmas presents are linked to the internet, then it is a good idea to get them set up properly before being used. The Internet Matters website is a great resource and they have lots of advice about what sort of tech is age-appropriate and also how to set up devices safely. It covers phone and games consoles, as well as tablets and computers. Find it all at:

<https://www.internetmatters.org>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/tech-guide/>

Y6 Residential Visit to Avon Tyrrell

Avon Tyrrell is a fascinating site, perfect for school trips! We stayed in the Manor House which was an amazing place to be for the week. There are 20 to 109 rooms (varied sizes) in the wonderful house. The food was great and it helped us gain energy throughout the day. It was a cooked breakfast, lunch and dinner which was an awesome start and end to the day.

These activities were marvellous and we thoroughly enjoyed them. Some of the best activities, in our opinion, were Archery, Zipline and Pedalos. The instructors were super encouraging and helped us and our classmates to overcome fears and create new goals.

In our night time activities, we enjoyed all of them: The twilight walk, orienteering and especially the campfire. Firstly, the walk taught us lots about the history of the manor house and we loved the light and sugar cubes experiments. We were thrilled at the orienteering but the campfire was something different. We sang songs and danced, plus we ate marshmallows!

Avon Tyrrell is jam-packed with fun and independence which has helped us with our wellbeing. It ensures safety and (thankfully) we all came back together in one piece. We loved our stay and we hope you love it too. Our group loved all the activities of this historic building and, if you ever visit, then check out the background of it and how it survived in World War 1 and 2.

Instructors guided us in all of our activities and were very supportive. This is our trip at Avon Tyrrell and, if we could, we would go there again. Thank you to all of our teachers for taking us; you can read a bit more about our trip on our website www.portwayjunior.co.uk

Rosetta and Jacob, Rabbit Class





Christmas

RAFFLE

& TOMBOLA



Raffle Tickets available after school on Mondays
Outside the Junior dining hall
Tickets also available from school offices & on the day
Cash and Card Accepted

Tot City • Driving Lesson • Beauty Treatments • Hair Cuts
Coffee Voucher • Disney on Ice Tickets • Stagecoach Trial
Finkley Day Passes • Ariel Skills Lesson • Football Tickets
Carpet Clean • Frankies Fun Factory • Real Christmas Tree

JOIN US IN THE JUNIOR HALL ON
THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER @ 3.20
RAFFLE WILL BE CALLED AT 4.00