

PORTMOAK PRIMARY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2016



Staffing Update

I received confirmation yesterday that Mrs. Kellie will continue to be deployed elsewhere in the Council for a minimum of a further term. I am delighted that Mrs. Woods has agreed to continue to stay on as Acting Principal Teacher and teacher of Primary 6/7 for four days of the week until December.

Coffee and a Catch Up – Date Change

Thanks to everyone who came along for a biscuit and a blether last time. This was an informal chance to chat to Mrs. Woods and I along with various parents, including representatives from Friends of Portmoak, our Parent Council. The next coffee and catch up is on **Wednesday 2nd November at 9am** drop off. Please note this date has been brought forward from the Thursday as I am now out of school on the 3rd. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Ladies' Night at Portmoak Hall

Please "save the date" for this year's Shopping and Pamper night which will be held in Portmoak Hall on Friday the 11th November. This is a really super evening which raises a substantial amount of money for the benefit of our school.

Roald Dahl Dress Down Day

On Tuesday 13th September we supported Roald Dahl's children's charity by having a dress down day. There was a parade of outfits in the hall. As you can see from the pictures we had lots of fun dressing up as our favourite Roald Dahl characters. Primary 2/3 invited parents and friends along to a Roald Dahl assembly later in the month.



Macmillan Coffee and Open Afternoon

Great turn out on Wednesday afternoon for our open afternoon. Many thanks to everyone who made the effort to come along. The teachers were delighted to welcome so many parents as well as grandparents into the classrooms to share the learning and we also raised £218.00 for Macmillan cancer care from the uniform sale and the coffee afternoon. Thanks to the kitchen staff for baking for this event and to everyone who helped with the setting up of this and the uniform stall.

Getting Out and About

In term one so far we have already had a Primary 6/7 trip to Portmoak Hall for open studio to see artists Julie Close and Dick Crighton and to a STEM session at KHS. Primary 5/6 have been out on a farm visit with RHET. Primary 1/2 have been out exploring Kilmagad Woods and Primary 4/5 have started swimming lessons.

Another Award for Portmoak Primary

I was in Perth last week picking up another trophy to add to our cabinet. This time it was from Perth and Kinross cricket development awarding us the best school to club link for our work with Kinross-shire Cricket Club. Thanks to all those in the Club who have given up their time to support our cricket teams, especially Ken for the time he has spent with our after school club.



Well Done Kinnesswood in Bloom too

Congratulations to our green fingered friends from Kinnesswood in Bloom for their recent success at the Beautiful Scotland Awards Ceremony in Aberdeen as best small village in the whole of Scotland and also a silver gilt award. They also won a gold award for Take a Pride in Perthshire. Their work at our school was part of the assessment for both organisations. We certainly think the school is looking fabulous and would like to say a big huge THANK YOU for all of their hard work.

Bags to School

If you have any rag bag donations (clothing, textiles, curtains etc) you are able to add to our Bags 2 School collection we would be very grateful. Community donations have a big impact on the amount of money we raise through this. The next date is 9am on Friday 28th October. Donations can be dropped off here or at Buchan's garage.

Portmoak Harvest

Last year's school grounds committee members have been busy harvesting 33kg of veggies. Here are some of the photos.



Nativity

In response to feedback from working parents, we are going to trial having a later showing of our Nativity performance this year. There will be a late and a morning performance and no afternoon showing this year. The dates for your diary are therefore:

- Tuesday 20th December – Nativity 5pm arrival for 5.30 start
- Wednesday 21st December – Nativity – 9.45am start

Pantomime Dates

Please save the date for our school pantomime 'Dick Whittington' - Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th December both 6pm



ParentPay

Thank you to all of the parents who have already signed up to ParentPay, this has made administering money for dinners and school trips much easier for our office staff than our previous system. To anyone who has not yet signed up, but would like to, please ask either Mrs Davies or Mrs Clark in the office and they will be happy to assist you. Please remember to set up low balance reminders by email which can be done for free via the ParentPay system as our staff will be stopping sending out text reminders when your child is due money as this text messaging service costs the school. Please remember that school dinners should be paid for in advance and that if you are not using ParentPay or have no credit on your child's ParentPay account then you should send dinner money in with your child on the day they are having school dinner.

Snacks/Lunches with Nuts

Please ensure that the snacks and lunches you provide your child with are nut free. We have children in school with nut allergies and also have a member of staff with a nut allergy who could be affected in the playground. Please note this applies to all nuts, not just peanuts.

Coats

A reminder that all children require to bring a suitable coat to school every day. Please ensure your child comes to school with a coat every day, preferably with a hood, hat or umbrella. Children will be reminded to wear their coats on cold and/or damp days.



Dates for Your Diary:

- Monday 3rd October – P5/6 & P6/7 Outdoor Learning day
- Thursday 6th October – P6 Bikeability (Group 1)
- Friday 7th October – Harvest Assembly at 9.30pm in church (all welcome)
- Friday 7th October – End of term 3pm
- Monday 24th October – Back to school after October holidays
- Wednesday 26th October – P1/2 Woodland Session
- Thursday 27th October – Halloween Discos
- Friday 28th October – Bags to school before 9am.
- Monday 31st October – Events & Fundraising Meeting 9am.
- Tuesday 1st November – M&M Pantomime in school – 1.45pm
- Wednesday 2nd November – Parent Coffee & Catch-Up 9am.
- Thursday 3rd November – P6 Bikeability (Group 2)
- Friday 4th November – P1/2 Sharing our learning Assembly (P1/2 parents please join us)
- Monday 7th & Wednesday 9th November – Parent contact sessions
- Friday 11th November – P6/7 Remembrance Assembly (P6/7 parents please join us)
- Tuesday 15th November - Flu vaccines
- Thursday 17th & Friday 18th November – In-Service Days
- Friday 2nd December – P4/5 Advent Assembly (P4/5 parents please join us)
- Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th December – Dick Whittington Pantomime - 6pm start
- Monday 19th December – P1, P2 & P3 Christmas Party
- Tuesday 20th December – Nativity 5pm arrival for 5.30 start
- Wednesday 21st December – Nativity – 9.45am start
- Wednesday 21st December – P4 & P5 Christmas Party
- Thursday 22nd December – P6 & P7 Christmas Party
- Friday 23rd December – End of term 12pm

Don't forget to save both school numbers
01577 867290 (school office)
and the absentee line on
01577 867196

