



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018

## **Attendance**

We are currently at 96% Our target is 96.4% to bring us in line with other similar schools. Let's see if we can push us to our target.

Well done to all those classes who have had a week of 100% attendance and have earned a non-uniform day. Can we have all classes having a non-uniform Friday this last half term?

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## **Values**

This half term we have focused on the value of *Courage*.

Courage is not just about facing the Dragon like St. George, but about facing your own fears - whether that be spiders, snakes or speaking up. We looked at how we can show courage in the school. This might be speaking in front of the class, joining in with reflection in front of the grown-ups or standing up for what is right.

Courage is a value that they will need their whole lives and courage can change lives!

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## **Lower School Reflection**

Lower School decided to take their water topic learning, 'Do we drink the same water as the Roman's?' through a whole term as there was so much learning to do.

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Lower School did a brilliant reflection about their learning. They really raised awareness of the damage plastic pollution causes to the Seas and Oceans and its wild life.

Thank you to all of you who take the time to come and see what the children have been learning. It really means a lot to have you there to share with what we do in school.

## Year 6 - SATS

Wow! Well done Year 6 for being so brilliant through SATs week; a week where we test your grammar, punctuation and spelling, reading and maths. Unbelievably, you all managed to be silent for 30 - 40 minutes at a time!

The tests are designed to be challenging, but the way all the children approached them was remarkable. They demonstrated their values of:

- courage
- resilience
- perseverance
- positivity
- friendship

and we are all very proud of each and every one of them.

Although we won't know the results until July, we know that you could not have worked harder and you all did your very best.

Thank you for bringing so many children at 8.00 for yoga - it made a real difference to their attitude and allowed them to be relaxed before the tests started.

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## Duke's Barn

Our Year 6 residential was again at Duke's Barn, which is in Beeley, one of the villages on the Chatsworth Estate. We had three fun-packed days full of adventure and new experiences. Our values were tested again!

We weaselled over and under rocks, climbed on the indoor climbing wall, completed the huge rope trim trail, got VERY wet stream scrambling and enjoyed a peaceful lake ride when we were kayaking.

Who knew that they could make beds, keep their dorms (almost) tidy, set and unset tables and sweep the floor! Parents/carers, don't be fooled when they tell you they can't at home!

The children were stars! Their behaviour was excellent and they represented the school, and themselves, well. Miss Mintey, Mr Sansome, Mrs Watts and Mrs Foster came back tired but impressed. We can't wait for next year!

### **Lower School - visit from Severn Trent**

As part of Lower School water topic, Severn Trent came in to tell the children more about the water cycle and how the water is cleaned and pumped into our homes. They also told us some interesting water facts and challenged us to reduce the amount of water we use, including having 4 minute showers and turning the tap off while we clean our teeth.

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### **Year 6 Yoga**

We have been really lucky to have Naomi return for another stress-busting series of yoga sessions. These were done in the build up to SATs and during the week itself. The children were really well behaved and were brilliant in the sessions. The breathing stones and worry dolls were on every desk during SATs week and were needed!

Thank you to all the children and their families who made it possible for the 8.00 yoga sessions to be so effective.

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### **Royal Wedding**

How wonderful to see the children dressed up in their wedding finery or in red, white and blue. They all looked amazing. It was fantastic to see the playground so full of such a variety of outfits, from suits to bridesmaid dresses to football shirts and jeans.

The activities in the afternoon were all so different and interesting too. The children chose which two they would prefer, including maths problems, fortune tellers, bunting, flags, designing wedding dresses, maps and family trees.

What a lovely way to celebrate a lovely event.

### **Year 5 & 6 party**

To celebrate the end of 'THAT' week, Upper School had a party on Friday morning. A great time was had by all - flossing, dancing, playing games, eating snacks, playing outside, or relaxing with a film and chilling.

Thank you to all of you who provided enough snacks to sink the Titanic! It was greatly appreciated and enjoyed.

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### **Upper School reflection**

Thank you to all of you who took the time to share our learning about the Titanic and Forces in our topic, 'Can you feel the force?'

The children enjoyed sharing what they had learnt. We hope you enjoyed all the different ways the learning was presented too. We tried to entertain and inform and really enjoyed using PowerPoint and iMovie to share what we have discovered.

The poetry books raised £40 profit, which the children want to donate to the RNLI.

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### **Life-long Learners**

You constantly amaze us here at Porchester Junior School, with the learning you do inside school and the activities you do outside. Who knew we had such a vast range - dancers, gymnasts, boxers, swimmers and cheerleaders to name just a few. A professional photographer took photographs of some of your amazing children to show case the talents that Porchester has within its doors.

Well done all of you. If your child is a life-long learner outside of school, please bring any medals, trophies, certificates, etc in to school so that we can celebrate with the whole school. We love to know all about our children.

### **Flying High Trust Awards**

Thank you to everyone who voted and nominated for children and staff. The response was great and the school council have decided the winners. Miss Mintey and Mr Wilson were very proud of the children's maturity and fairness when reading the nominations and deciding the winners.

The winners will be announced soon! Well done to all those well-deserved nominees. We just wish you could all have won!

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### **Athletic Sports Leaders**

Well done and thank you to those Year 6 who went to Standhill Infants to support their athletics event. They represented the school really well and were a credit to us all.

It is so nice for the links between the Infant and Junior Schools remain so close. I know that the Infant teachers love to see how their former pupils have grown, matured and developed over the years.

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### **Guitars**

Well done to all our talented musicians who had the courage to perform in front of the whole school and their parent/carers. An audience of 200 is pretty impressive for a first gig!

They really showed how much they have learnt in their weekly lessons with Scott.

We cannot wait to get VIP tickets to their sold out gigs in the future!

## Dates for next half term

Date	Event
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for Half term holidays
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>	
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> June	INSET day
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Return to school
	Year 4 swimming continues
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> June to Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Scholastic book fair
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 TRIP programme begins for 6 weeks
	Lacrosse begins for 6 weeks
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Standhill Sports Day - Year 6 to help*
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photographs
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 parents' meeting 1.30 - 2.30 and 6.00 - 7.00
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> June	TCA Y5 Arts day*
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> June	TCA Y5 Arts day*
	Trip to Sherwood Pines*
	TCA Y5 parents evening - 6.00 - 7.00
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Fair
Tues 3 July	Trip to Sherwood Pines*
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports day - 1.00 - 3.00*
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> July	TCA Y7 parents evening 6.45 - 7.45
	Year 2 to visit their new classes
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Road Safety for US
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> July	US summer performance - Dress rehearsal + VIP
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> July	FHT awards evening at Royal Concert Hall*
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> July	US summer performances* 1.30 - 2.30 & 6.00 - 7.00
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> July	TRIP graduation - Y6*
	Reports to parents/carers
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Dress as your Hero day*
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
<b>Summer Holiday</b>	
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Admin day
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	INSET day
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Welcome back - Children return

\* more information to follow

## Key dates for the coming year

Rising Y7 children, your secondary school will contact you directly with dates for transition.