



Wednesday 25th July 2018

Attendance

We have ended the year with an overall attendance figure of 95.8%. This is close to our target of 96.4%

Congratulations to the 18 pupils who managed 100% attendance all year - no mean feat! That is something to be really proud of. Well done! Let's see if, next year, we can have even more!

Values

This half term we have focused on the value of Trust.

Trust take years to earn, seconds to break and forever to repair. Being trustworthy is an important value to have, but we know it can easily be broken.

We looked at the England Football team and how well they did being able to trust each other to be in the right place at the right time; trusting their manager to develop them as a team; trusting the captain to give them the right instructions on the pitch. With that Trust they flew!

We also saw Trust in the heroic rescue of the Thai football boys and their coach. With Trust, they were rescued safely and quickly; kept healthy in the cave; were healthy enough to dive out of the caves.

Flying High Trust Awards

What a lovely evening where our winners were celebrated! Thank you to everyone who voted and who came out to watch and support our school.

The singers were amazing! They totally blew us away with their singing, such emotion and passion. Well done to:

Aspiration - Elena & Mrs Foster; **Confidence** - Wiktorina & Mrs Thomas;

Creativity - Amelia & Mrs Bradshaw; **Enjoyment** - Elle & Mr Wilson;

Perseverance - Ellie & Mrs Sawyer; **Pride** - Ada & Mr Murphy;

Responsibility - Brooke & Mrs Waplington; **All values** - Jasper & Miss Moore.

Book Fair

What a generous bunch you are and how you value reading, so much so that we raised a staggering £513.60 for us to buy books for school. These books are being ordered and introduced to each classroom to replenish and update the classroom book corners.

Lower School WOW

To introduce the children to their topic of 'Why am I so special?' the children had a bone hunt around the school then had to make a skeleton. It was amusing to see the children running around looking for a skull or femur! They certainly made the skeletons well, finding out that they had 206 bones in their bodies - far more than they thought.

Upper School WOW

Thank you to all of the parents and carers who kept our little secret. It was great to be able to surprise the children with the evacuation of their classrooms, making them into refugees.

It was wonderful that the Infant School joined in too, allowing us to stay there for a short while, before moving us on. The children were impeccably behaved throughout, despite the long aimless walk back from the Infants. Some of the children had an inkling that we might be tricking them, but we think some of that was bravado too!

It was a powerful start to a thought provoking topic.

Year 6 TRIP

This year, thanks to the Friends of Porchester Junior School, our Year 6 pupils have had the opportunity to take part in a new TRIP (Totally Ready for the Inbetween Phase) project that looks at and explores the pressures they will face in their teenage years to prepare them for their next, more challenging phase.

The children have enjoyed the sessions and have all graduated from the course. Thank you for all who attended.

Lacrosse

Again we have been fortunate enough to have Lacrosse lessons for Lower School. This is a very unique opportunity to learn a brand new sport and the skills are so different to all other sports, that it makes it a level playing field for all players.

The children have really enjoyed learning this sport. Their behaviour has been brilliant, they listened well to instruction and showed real perseverance for learning new skills. Who knows? Perhaps future professional Lacrosse players?

Rising Year 7 singing experience

Carlton Academy sent their finest Music teacher to us to prepare the children for the Show they will put on in October. The children really showed her how brilliant they were at singing - loud, proud and in tune!

You will hear more about the show next academic year. We cannot wait to get the invite too - to see how our Year 6 stars have shone and adapted to life at Secondary school.

Year 7 visitors

Former pupils from Porchester Junior School visited our Year 6 pupils to answer any questions and put their minds at rest. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to hear what they will be facing soon straight from the horse's mouth. They really made the most of the opportunity, asking questions that were clearly on their mind.

As a school, it was lovely to see our former pupils take the responsibility for talking to the new arrivals and for allaying their fears. They certainly did themselves proud. Cannot wait to see who we get next year!

Year 5 Art day at TCA

Our Year 5's were fortunate enough to take part in an exciting Art day where they made rockets that they flew, pressure fuelled and sketch characters on skateboards.

We really enjoy taking the opportunities that The Carlton Academy give us to make the most of their expertise and resources.

Sherwood Pines Visit

Both Upper School and Lower School have visited Sherwood Pines this half term. We had brilliant weather - made better by the shade of the trees.

The children had the opportunity to do orienteering, den building and fire lighting. These tested their values - resilience, teamwork, perseverance, trust, courage and sheer enjoyment!

One child, who was wearing her Fitbit, was shocked to discover that we had done over 15,000 steps throughout the day. No wonder they were quiet on the way home.

Good To Be Green Treat

Every year, we are amazed by those children who have gone all year without a yellow or red card, those children who are ALWAYS doing the right thing. We thought there would be about 50 children out of our 180, but we were very wrong. An amazing 120 children had earned their treat.

This year, we gave them the opportunity to play with the new playground equipment first and an ice cream van came to cool us down. The children all had a great time and really enjoyed playing with the new equipment, especially the parachute and goal targets. The equipment will be used from September for all children.

Let's see how many more we can get next year!

Merit Treat

Alongside the annual Good To Be Green Treat, we also organised a theatre production of *The Secret Garden* with popcorn for all the children who had over 150 merits term. The merits can be earned for outstanding behaviour and work above and beyond what has been asked of them. Again, we are amazed by the amount of children who have earned this treat. It seems to be getting more and more pupils every time.

It is really nice to see those children who may have missed out on the GTBG treat getting their 150 merit treat.

Keep it up everybody. You deserve it!

Transition

It is the hardest time of the year when we need to say goodbye to our wonderful classes who we have worked hard with all year. In September, we never think the day will come, but once July starts, we know that the countdown has begun.

However, it is always a pleasure to welcome our new children into our classes. Seeing the tiny Year Twos come up from Standhill is a joy, and realising that they will soon be part of Porchester Junior School makes us excited.

We are all looking forward to welcoming our new Year 3 children, and their parents/carers, in September.

Road Safety

Although the days of the 'Green Cross Code' adverts maybe gone, road safety is still of paramount importance, which is why we have had road safety for the Year 5 and 6 pupils.

The session is far more high-tech than in our day, but was full of the same information about safely crossing the roads that will keep the children safe. Even the teachers learnt something new about the new 'parallel crossings' that are being introduced across the County for pedestrians and cyclists to cross together. Look out for those in the coming year.

Trust Sports Event

A young team from lower School were sent to Harvey Hadden to compete in the Sports Event. Just like the new England Team, the hopes of the school rested on their shoulders. Just like England, they did us proud. They played every multisport event - including javelin, jumping and sprinting, with resilience, determination, teamwork and great sportsmanship.

At the end of a long and exhausting day, our fine team came second overall, out of the eight teams that competed with us. Belle won a sportsmanship trophy for Porchester too, just like Harry Kane's Golden Boot! Well done team. You did us proud!

Sports Day 2018

Unfortunately, the weather proved too much and our sports day had to be cancelled this year. Thank you for understanding and supporting this decision.

Porchester Bake off

Wow! Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood have some stiff competition. The amount and quality of cakes was overwhelming and all topic linked. We had Titanic cakes, water based cakes, cupcakes showing digestion, space cakes, Stonehenge cakes, Roman and Viking cakes and a Mayan pyramid cake.

The poor children who had to judge were looking a little green around the gills after a while, tasting so many delicious cakes. They had such a tough job, judging each cake based on appearance, texture and taste. From each Year group a winner and runner up emerged. Our winners can now bake their next cakes in their Bake Off aprons, while the runner ups can mix their next cakes with their wooden spoons. The certificates for the other entrances should be displayed with pride.

The majority of cakes were then sliced and sold to the hungry masses at Porchester. There were so many that we couldn't slice and sell them all, so some lucky families were reunited with their creations. We raise an impressive £43.50

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who baked, decorated and entered their cakes. They were creative, delicious and demonstrated their learning in a very unique way. Mrs. Spencer and Mrs Watts, with support from Mrs Bradshaw, did a great job organising and making sure this event ran so smoothly - despite having about ten times more cakes than initially thought!

Fingers crossed that this becomes an annual event.

Summer Fayre - Friends of PJS

The beautiful weather certainly made the Summer Fayre an excellent event. With stalls, bouncy castle, refreshments, raffle, tombola, games and a demonstration from the Taekwondo team, based at Porchester. They certainly were impressive, showing their skills and even teaching anyone who was brave enough how to break wood!

It was so lovely to see so many of you enjoying the weather, entertainment and stalls. We raised £674.47 from the event, which will be spent on enrichment opportunities for the children.

A huge thank you to all the Friends of Porchester Junior School, staff and parents/carers who made the event such a success.

Upper School Celebration Performances

On Thursday 19th July, there was not a dry eye in the house as the Year 5 and 6 stars performed their hearts out for a packed audience of proud parents/carers, friends and family.

This year, the Year 6 children wrote it all themselves, choosing to share memories from their time at Porchester Junior School. These were funny, moving and brilliantly performed by everyone who wanted to. There were a few stars too shy to shine publicly - but they supported the team by doing lighting, sound, props or just singing. We were so impressed by how well they worked together and entertained us all.

Our Year 5 stars had a secret project to do that made us all cry. They each had a Year 6 child to talk about, telling us why they were going to miss them and talking about their hopes for the future. The Year 5 children demonstrated all the values of Porchester Junior School and certainly allowed us to share in their messages for our leavers.

Thank you all for coming to support the event. We hope you enjoyed it - despite the tears.

Disco - Year 6 and Whole School Family Summer Disco

Thank you again to the Friends of Porchester Junior School for organising and running two successful discos, with our own Governor, Nigel Best, as the amazing DJ.

The Year 6 leavers disco was wonderful, with a fantastic buffet and an amazing cake (thanks Amy's Mum). The children enjoyed the music, games, food and atmosphere and a great time was had by all.

The Summer Disco was again well attended and enjoyed by all - thank you for joining us. An impressive £451.44 was raised! Wow!

Governor Awards

Each term, one amazing child is selected to receive the Governor's Award. This term, we are proud of Emilio, Holly, Jasmine, Ellie and Jacob.

Well done to all our recipients, they are well deserved.

Dates for next half term

Date	Event
Wed 25 th July	Last day of term
Summer Holiday	
Tues 4 th Sept	Admin day
Wed 5 th Sept	INSET day
Thurs 6 th Sept	Welcome back - Children return
Mon 10 th Sept	Upper School WOW*
Thurs 13 th Sept	Roald Dahl day and book swap*
Wed 26 th Sept	Jeans for genes day*
Fri 28 th Sept	Grandparents' day (lower school)*
Mon 1 st Oct	Grandparents' day (upper school)*
Fri 5 th Oct	INSET Day
Tues 9 th Oct	Parent's Evening
Thurs 11 th Oct	Parent's Evening
Fri 26 th Oct	Last day
Half term holiday	
Mon 5 th Nov	Return to school

* more information to follow

Key dates for the coming year

Year 6 SATS week - Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2019

Duke's Barn residential (Year 6 only) Mon 20th to Wed 22nd May

INSET days:

Wed 5th September 2018

Fri 5th October 2018

Mon 25th February 2019

Mon 3rd June 2019

Wed 24th July 2019