



PORTWAY JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Wednesday 30th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all looking forwards to seeing the Portway Junior School Christmas production of 'Bethlehem Bandits' next week – I am sure you know some of the songs already! Thank you for all your help with learning lines, songs and costumes. I am sure we will all thoroughly enjoy the show. Please make sure you request tickets by Friday 2nd December. Thank you.

	2.00pm	6.30pm
Wednesday December 7th	Cast A - 3G, 3B, 4Y, 5E, 5S	Cast B - 3W, 4B, 4C, 5P
Thursday December 8th	Cast B - 3W, 4B, 4C, 5P	Cast A - 3G, 3B, 4Y, 5E, 5S

Vacancy for a Midday Supervisor

We are recruiting for a Midday Supervisor. We are looking for a creative and caring Midday Supervisor. This will involve improving our children's enjoyment of lunchtime through the organising and delivering of play activities, with the midday meals team. If you are hardworking, organised and work well in a term we would be interested in hearing from you. Please see Mrs. Whitehead for more details and an application form.

The main duties and responsibilities include:

- * Supervision of children throughout the midday break to enhance the development of children's learning and social integration and deal with any issues that occur.
- * Promoting good behaviour and social and emotional development of pupils including organising the children to line up for dinners, assisting them in the dining room, helping them to play with other children.
- * Promoting outdoor, active play by leading and engaging with games during the lunch period

PTFA Christmas Fair and Disco

The PTFA Christmas Discos, held last week, were very well supported and everyone attending had a great time. The PTFA Christmas Fair is to be held in school on Friday the 2nd of December from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. Entrance is free. Please use either the year 5 door or the first door into the hall to gain entry. If you can help with the day, please see a PTFA member or speak to the office. See you all there.

I would like to thank the PTFA for all their hard work behind the scenes preparing for, and putting on, the fair – your efforts are much appreciated. I would also like to thank all the parents who supported the fair by providing your kind gifts. The money raised will go towards more equipment for the children.

Fundraising and the Year 6 Charity Fair

There have been a number of events this year where parents and children have raised money and collected goods for charity. Thank you to everyone for supporting the Lions' Charity, Children in Need and the Poppy Appeal. On the last day of this term, December 20th, the Year 6 children will be holding their annual charity fair (not on December 16th as previously advertised). This has become something of a tradition in school. Year 6 will be working hard making crafts, cakes, sweets and preparing games for the rest of the school. Each class in Years 3, 4 and 5 will have the opportunity to buy small gifts, refreshments and play some of the games. We have asked your children to bring in some small change that they can spend at the fair up to a maximum of £3. All the proceeds will be going to a charity of the Year 6's choosing.

Christmas Jumper Day

This year we will be supporting Save the Children Fund on Friday December 16th. Please can you send your child in non-uniform and a Christmas top/jumper. We are asking for a donation of 50p for this very worthy cause.

Christmas Parties

This year the Christmas parties will take place on the week commencing December 12th. You will receive a separate letter asking you to provide a certain type of food. If you have a DBS and are able to help at any of the parties please let us know via the party letter.

Year 3 – Monday afternoon December 12th 1.30- 3.30

Year 4 – Tuesday afternoon December 13th 1.30- 3.30

Year 5 – Thursday afternoon December 15th 1.30- 3.30

Year 6 – Friday afternoon December 16th 1.30- 3.30

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch at school is on Wednesday December 14th (hopefully you have received a letter about this). The meal must be pre-ordered and paid for by Monday December 5th, so the food can be ordered.

Asthma Inhalers

If your child suffers from Asthma. Please ensure that they have a spare inhaler in school. Thank you.

Portway Junior School, alongside Derby City Council, is committed to promoting equal opportunities, valuing diversity and tackling social exclusion in everything it does. Our aim is equality for everyone who lives, works and visits our school. Please contact the school, in the first instance, if you have any questions or concerns about school.

Christmas Nativity Assembly

The children will be attending a special Christmas service at Woodlands Chapel on Thursday December 15th at 11.00 am. This is for children and staff only.

School Choir

Mrs. Hindmarch and the school choir always have a very busy Christmas period and will be performing in a few events:

St Nicholas' Church – Sunday December 4th 10.00 am (Christingle service),

Woodlands Church – Sunday December 11th 4.00 pm (Family Carol Service).

Before and After School

Please park safely and carefully and considerately for local residents. Try to park away from school to reduce congestion on the roads immediately around school.

For safety reasons please also do not use the staff car park either before school or when school finishes.

Thanks for your help.

Dinners and Dinner Money

Dinner money for next half term (26 days) is £55.90. Our preferred method of payment is online; however, if you would like to pay by cash or cheque, these can be sent via your child to their class teacher. Please make cheques payable to **Derby City Council**. Dinner money per day is £2.15, therefore £10.75 per week. Dinner money must be paid for in advance, i.e. on a Monday for that week or termly if opting for the flexible arrangement. **Please note:** If we do not receive dinner money for two consecutive weeks, we cannot provide your child with a meal. You can pay online at your own convenience at any time – you can do this by logging in at www.schoolmoney.co.uk and going to the 'Shop' area in the top right hand corner of the screen. You will have the option of paying for single days, full weeks or a lump sum for the half term, and you can select any combination of these to make up the amount that you wish to pay for your child's meals. If you have any difficulty paying online, please contact the office and we will be glad to help.

In the Event of Snow

We will continue to do everything we can to ensure the school stays open in the event of snowy weather. Unfortunately the decision to remain open or to close is best made early in the morning and a number of factors have to be considered; the most important being the health and safety of children and adults in school. If, in extreme conditions, we have to make the difficult decision to close the school we will try to give you as much notice as possible. We will inform you of any school closure by sending out a text and by informing Radio Derby and Capital FM, who will then broadcast the information. We will also put a message on the school website in the 'Latest News' area as soon as a decision is reached.

Portway's Sporting Achievements

The school has participated in a number of sporting events this term including: football, futsal, cyclo-cross and cross country and will take part a gymnastics competition before Christmas. The school teams did very well in the cross country competitions with the Y3/Y4 and Y5/6 girls winning 5 out of 6 of the cross country events. The Y3/Y4 boys won one event. The boys' footballers came second and went forward to the County final.

Thank you!

Thank you all very much for all your support over this past term.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Fiona Marks

Acting Headteacher

Dates

Wed 4 Jan	Start Back
Mon 16 Jan	Boosters Start
Mon 16 Jan	Starlight clothing collection (clothes recycling)
WC 30 Jan	TEST WEEK
Thurs 9 Feb	Film night (PTFA)
Fri 10 Feb	Break Up
Mon 20 Feb	Start Back (Clubs Start for 5 Weeks)
Thu 9 Mar	Governor visit in the afternoon
Fri 10 Mar	INSET Day 4
WC Mar 13	Test Week 4
Tues 21 Mar	Mam Tor Visit for Year 5
Wed 22 Mar	Mam Tor Visit for Year 5
Thurs 23 Mar	Mother's Day gift sale (PTFA)
Thurs 23 Mar	River Study Visit for Year 6
Friday 24 Mar	River Study Visit Year 6
Mar 28 & 29	Parents' Evenings
Thu Apr 6	Year 3 Easter Assembly
Fri Apr 7	Break Up
Mon Apr 24	Start Back

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