

# PORTWAY JUNIOR SCHOOL

## January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Well it has been a whirlwind start to 2017!

I am thrilled to have been appointed as the new Head Teacher for Portway Junior School and I feel very privileged to take on this very special role. I am beginning to get to know the children, staff, governors and even some parents and would like to thank everyone for their warm welcome and support.

Portway Junior is a very successful school that is well thought of in the community. The children are very lucky to have such a wonderful and committed staff to support their learning. The staff have high expectations for the children's learning and they all work incredibly hard to provide the quality teaching and interesting lessons required to stimulate the children's curiosity and interests. It is my intention to build on this strong platform to create a learning community that will continue to grow, enabling all the children to be happy, caring and resilient individuals who recognise the importance of working together and positive attitudes to life-long learning.

As a mother of three daughters I am fully aware of the challenges and delight these years can bring and I believe strongly that when working together both can be faced with equal success.

Please keep an eye on the school website as we will be adding further useful links and information over the next term.

Kindest regards,  
Karen Puszczynska

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The children are regularly being reminded about how to stay safe outside school. This week we have discussed road safety with the children and would politely request that parents continue to park appropriately and considerately outside school to ensure the children are safe and able to practise their road safety skills. Please remember the carpark is for **staff only**. Thank you.



...to become a Parent Governor.

Interested?

See the attached letter.

### 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.

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### SAFER INTERNET DAY

[www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2017](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2017)

**TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017**

We will be engaging in online safety activities with the children during the week to highlight safer internet use. Below are some useful links for parents to use at home to help support school in promoting safer internet use by children.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/.../keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

[www.kidsmart.org.uk](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk)

<https://www.ceop.police.uk>

### Behaviour in School

The vast majority of children are demonstrating superb behaviour around school. We have reminded them about the school Golden Rules and I am very impressed with the sensible and mature attitudes they are showing.

**Keep it up children and stay AWESOME!**

### DIARY DATES

WC 30 Jan	TEST WEEK
WC 6 Feb	Safer Internet 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
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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*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.*