



PORTWAY JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Friday 11th November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school for what is always a very busy, but very enjoyable, half term. As the clocks go back, and the mornings and evenings are darker, it is important to remember road safety on the journey to and from school. I have reminded the children about road safety in assembly before the half term break and I will repeat the message again this week. Will you please remind your children of the importance of road safety and point out the dangers on the roads at this time of year as statistics show that as the mornings and afternoons get darker accidents sadly increase.

SATS Results 2016 As many of you know Last year the assessments for Year 6 changed. They became a lot more challenging than previous years. We were very proud of how the Year 6s coped with this added pressure. Below are the results that were achieved.

Table 1

		Portway Junior School	Derby City	National
% achieving expected standard	Maths	71%	64%	70%
	Reading	78%	60%	66%
	Writing	76%	71%	74%
	Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation	83%	68%	72%
% greater depth	Maths	16%	13%	17%
	Reading	29%	14%	19%
	Writing	13%	14%	15%
	Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation	28%	20%	23%

Table 2

	Portway Junior School	Derby City	National
% Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined	61%	48%	65%
% Greater Depth in Reading, Writing and Maths combined	6%	4%	5%

Table 3

	Portway Junior School	National	difference
% of pupils making expected progress in Maths	-0.8	-5	+4.2
% of pupils making expected progress in Reading	+1.2	-5	+6.2
% of pupils making expected progress in Writing	-1.1	-7	+5.9

You can see from Table 1 that our school's attainment was higher than or in line with local and national averages in every subject.

Table 2 shows that the number of children who achieved standard or better in Reading, Writing and Maths combined is well above local averages and in line with National. This shows that the overwhelming majority of children at our school go on to secondary school with the reading, writing and maths skills essential for success in their next stage of learning.

Table 3 shows pupil progress at our school compared with national rates of progress. Children's progress is measured from when they leave infants to when they leave our school (from the end of Key Stage 1 to the end of Key Stage 2). The government calls this 'Value Added'. In other words, how far we have moved children on in the four years they have been at Portway Junior School. This measure is the most important and it is the main measure Ofsted look for. These results are, for another year, very positive. Although we have to remember that the standard expected is much higher than in previous years. Our challenge now, as ever, is to build on these standards year on year to ensure more children reach the standard expected of them when they enter Key Stag 3.

Year 4 Harvest Assembly

Well done to everyone in Year 4 for the Harvest Assembly which was such a success before half term. The children performed with confidence and were a credit to the school and their parents. The messages of being thankful for what you have and thinking about others came through clearly – well done Year 4. Thanks also to everyone for their contributions to the Padley Centre – they are gratefully received.

Online Payment System

Thank you for embracing our online payment system and bearing with us whilst we get used to using the system and to get it to work best for us all! School meals are available in the shop area by one meal, weekly or termly.

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.

If you are having problems using the system or haven't tried it yet and want help, please speak to the admin staff who will be happy to help.

PTFA Disco – Advance Notification

Tickets are available to buy now in the shop area on our online payment system until. Tickets can also be available to buy by returning a reply slip and enclosing payment. The closing date to buy tickets is Friday 18th November. Tickets will be issued to children through the classroom on Tuesday 22nd November.

PFTA – Dress Down Day/Christmas Fair

A huge thanks from the PTFA for your generous donations for the Christmas Fair and look forward to seeing you there after school on Friday 2nd December. If you can help on the day please speak to a PTFA member.

Are You Eligible for Free School Meals?

Children whose parents receive the following support payments are entitled to receive free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA - IB)
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA - IR)
- Child Tax Credits (but NOT Working Tax Credit), and your annual income is no more than £16,190.
- Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit element only)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

A form is available from the school office. The admin team are also able to process your application. More Information can be found on <http://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

Parents Evenings

Parents evenings were attended very well again this term. The majority of parents came into school to discuss their child's learning and progress. By the end of this term teachers will be using the data from assessments, and their knowledge of how your child has been performing in lessons, to make a judgement on which age and stage they assess them to be working at. This will be shared with you in the spring parents' evening.

New Website

We are very excited to have finally launched our new website after many months in development. We are really pleased with the results. If you've not already had a look, please do so. We will be adding new content regular basis, so keep checking back. The web address is www.portwayj.derby.sch.uk

Absence Procedures

Just a reminder of procedures if your child is absent from school. Could you please contact school before 9.30 am on the day of absence? There are several ways you can do this. You can ring and leave a message on the answering machine, please speak clearly, by email to admin@portwayj.derby.sch.uk or by sending a text message to +447786208889. Please provide the reason for absence, the child's name, class and your name. As a safeguarding procedure, if we don't hear anything, we will contact you to confirm the absence. If your child has diarrhoea and or sickness bug, the guidelines are 48 hours after the last episode before returning to school.

Times Tables

Following a recent visit by the Governors to look at Numeracy lessons, they picked up on the fact that some children still do not know all their times-tables. Without this knowledge they are unable to access a lot of the work set in lessons. Please can you support your child with their learning of multiplication and division facts up to 12x. Thank you.

Collection

Dates for your diary

Thu 17 Nov	Y2 Parents Introduction to Portway 2pm
Mon 21 Nov	INSET Day 3
Wed 23 Nov	Open Centre Visit – Year 5
Thurs 24 th Nov	Disco (PTFA)
Mon 28 th Nov	TEST WEEK 2
Fri Dec 2	Christmas Fair (PTFA)
Tue Dec 6	Flu Immunisation for Year 3
Dec 7 and 8	Afternoon and Evening Christmas Productions 2pm and 6:30pm
W.C. 12 Dec	Party Week
Wed 14 Dec	Christmas Dinner
Thu Dec 15	Carol Service at Woodlands Church
Fri Dec 16	Year 6 Charity Fair
Tue Dec 20	Break Up

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