

Friday 3rd December 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Children in classes from Y2-Y5 began their first assessments for the year this week and overall, we have been pleased with the positive attitude shown by your children. There will be further assessments next week so please continue with the early nights and healthy breakfasts so that they can continue with this focus.

There have been a number of families out of school this week with symptoms of Covid who are waiting for PCR test results. There have been two further confirmed cases and parents of those year groups have been contacted. Please ensure that you read the guidance later in this letter if you or your child has symptoms in order that we reduce the risk of infection spreading. Thank you.

Dates for next week

Monday 6 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Week for Children in Y2-Y5- Maths • Assessment Week for Children in Y6 • Y4 taking part in Bright Sparks Electricity workshop • No after-school activity clubs- they have now finished for the term. Extended Club will continue to run every night until 5.45pm • Governors' Finance Committee: 5.00pm via Zoom
Tuesday 7 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group of children from Nursery going to Forest School (Reception children are not going this week) • Curriculum and Standards Governors Meeting: 5.30pm via Zoom
Wednesday 8 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group of children from Nursery going to Forest School
Thursday 9 th December	
Friday 10 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Jumper Day- see note later • Choir performance • Our Choir were due to travel to Sky Studios to perform a few Christmas songs and to enjoy various activities there. Unfortunately, due to increasing cases of Covid, this has had to be cancelled. However, two executives from Sky TV will travel to school to hear the children sing and so the choir will do a short performance for them in the afternoon.

Other events for the rest of this Term

Assessments in school

There will be further assessments next week

Week beginning Mon 6th December

Children in Y2-Y5 take tests in Maths

Children in Y6 take tests in Reading, GPS and Maths

Whilst these are not anything to worry about, please make sure that your children are on time having eaten breakfast so they are ready to do their best!

Christmas Jumper Day:

Christmas Jumper Day is on **Friday 10th December**. Children are invited to pay £1 to wear Christmas jumpers or Christmas colours such as red, green, silver or gold.

The School Council this week have chosen Great Ormond Street as the charity they would like the money raised from this day, which is a great choice. Great Ormond Street is a specialist children's hospital where a number of our children – past and present- have received or are receiving – treatment; so it would be lovely to be able to send them a donation at this time of year.

Wednesday 15th December: Christmas lunch for all children: our wonderful kitchen staff will cook a traditional Christmas Lunch for all children. If your child usually has a school lunch, you do not need to do anything (!) If your child usually has packed lunch but you would like them to have a school lunch for this day, please go to the school office to inform them. If you pay for your child's lunch, the cost will be £2.30 and we will need to know by Monday 13th December. Thank you.

Thursday 16th December: Christmas Parties for all year groups. Children may bring party clothes on that day to change into.

In order to reduce the risk of passing on infection, we are not asking for food donations.

Instead, we are asking for a donation of £1 and the school will order snacks and party food for each class

Thursday 16th December is Pam's last day. As I mentioned last week, Pam will be retiring after a lifetime of being a huge part of our school – as a pupil, a parent and a member of staff- and Thursday will be her last day.

Friday 17th December: Last day of Term

Children may wear their own clothes on that day

News and reminders

Concerts

This is traditionally the time of year when the children perform in their concerts. For the second year running, we are unable to have these at school due to our concerns of too many people being together in a hall. Instead, children have been learning a song in their music lessons, which will be filmed and sent home for you to enjoy.

PE

In order to timetable the rehearsing and filming of these special songs, we will be filming the children prior to their PE lesson. We therefore ask that children all wear their uniforms every day (rather than PE kit on the PE day) as we would like them to be filmed in their school uniform. We request that they bring their trainers to school to change into after the filming.

Covid

As stated earlier, we have had more children and parents with symptoms of Covid-19 and confirmed cases in two year groups.

I remind you that if you or your children has any of the main symptoms; ie, a high temperature, a new and persistent cough or a loss of taste or smell; you should book a PCR test for you and those you live with.

Self-isolation

The advice is slightly confusing currently in terms of what you should do if you are waiting the results of your PCR test – due to the new variant. We think it is as follows:

Please stay at home until you have the result of the PCR test.

If it is negative, you no longer have the symptoms, and you feel well; adults and children do not need to stay at home.

If it is positive and the new variant, we assume that the NHS message informing you of your result will inform you of this. If it is the new variant, it will inform you that you and your household would have to self- isolate for 10 days

If it is positive and not the new variant, the person with Covid has to self- isolate for 10 days but the rest of the family do not.

Christmas Playcentre at Avondale Park School

Please see the message below about the Playcentre at Avondale Park School for the first four days of the holidays:



We are pleased to advise that P3 will be holding a Christmas Holiday Play Centre at Avondale Park School, Sirdar road W11 4EE, with limited places available. The dates will be Monday 20 December to Thursday 23 December from 10am to 3pm each day.

The cost will be £12.00 per child per day and there will be a number of places available that are funded again free via the Holiday activities fund {HAF} which will be for those children who are entitled to a free school meal and must be booked in advance via magic bookings,

Please note the service is For children from Year 1 upwards, also please note if you book a free place please ensure that you child uses the place you have booked. If there are any problems on the day please phone the Playcentre directly on 0800 1968850 free phone. Or 07976 113438

We will be working in partnership with Lunchtime Co (the catering company at the school) and a hot meal will be available at lunchtime for all children who would like a hot lunch.

Activities will be fun and with a Christmas theme to include building a Santa's Grotto with presents and even the arrival of Santa, making of Christmas log cakes and chocolate decorations, Arts and crafts with Christmas theme, Sharky and George party games and a Pantomime on site of Dick Whittington together with the normal play and fun activities of arts and crafts, games, sports, construction, board games and fun.

If you have any questions regarding this holiday please email colin.simmons@p3charity.org

So don't delay register today before all the places are booked.

Thank you P3 Play



Free Christmas Hampers

SMART London in conjunction with K&C Foundation are again offering **Free Christmas hampers** available to families in RBKC. These will include fresh fruit and vegetables, special treats as well toys for children.

Any families at Avondale Park School or St Anne's Nursery on Free School Meals are able to click on the link below and fill in the form to register. If you are not entitled to Free School Meals but are struggling financially this year, the organisation has said that you may also be able to apply.

<https://forms.gle/4n8CenxLbbiizZNaA>

This year families will be asked to collect their hampers from one of 7 hubs in K&C on either the 19th or 20th December.

This project is the work of SMART London in conjunction with K&C Foundation and other Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations working in RBKC. You can find more information about this project [here](#).

It sounds an amazing treat, so I encourage parents to apply!

News from the Schools

St Anne's Nursery

In Eucalyptus Class, we have been learning about astronauts and about the type of food they eat in space.

We had the opportunity to try a Vanilla Cream Sandwich, which is 'freeze-dried' – and it was delicious!



Avondale Park School Reception

For their IYEC project- food, the Reception children visited the farm animals. They had a lovely time seeing the animals including a donkey, a pig, a dog, sheep and goats.



Year 2

Year 2 have been busy designing and making their own vehicles. They spent time looking at existing products, designing different ideas and finally deciding on their final product. Once their vehicles were made, they got to race them to see how effective their construction had been. Aren't they brilliant?



Year 3

Year 3 have been investigating the effects of different liquids on your teeth. We have put six eggs in six different liquids. We have used eggs because the outer shell of eggs are similar to the enamel of the teeth.



The children made predictions about what effect they thought the drinks would have on the eggshell and we will monitor the changes every day.

After one day, we have already seen changes to the outer coating of the eggshell!



Year 5

In Year 5, we have been learning all about space. To consolidate our knowledge of the planets, we created the Milky Way Galaxy using paper mache.

First, we blew up balloons to the correct sizes for each planet. Next, we used a mixture of glue, water and newspaper to create paper mache and covered our planets with it. Finally, we painted our planets the correct colours, looking at real photographs of them to help! Afterwards, the adults stapled them onto the ceiling to create our very own solar system!





Attendance

The class with the highest attendance last week in KS1 **was Phoebe's Year 2 Class with 94.3%** and in KS2 it **was Tim and Mary's Year 6 Class with 96.5%**.

Overall last week, attendance was **90.9 %** which is low due to lots of winter bugs and sadly not meeting our target of 95.5%

All children should be in school every day but if your child is ill, I ask that you inform the office daily via email or by phone.

Punctuality

Thank you to parents – particularly in Y5 and 6 who have made every effort to get to school earlier – please keep it up.

A reminder again that Y5 and Y6 leave the playground to go to their classes at 8.50am so anyone not in the line to go upstairs will be marked as late.

Year 1-Y4 leave the playground at 9.00am so anyone not in the line at 9.00am will be marked late. Reception and Nursery classes start their learning at 9.00am so anyone not in the building by this time will be marked late.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your children are in school on time every day so please make sure that this happens.

Thank you.



Stars of the Week



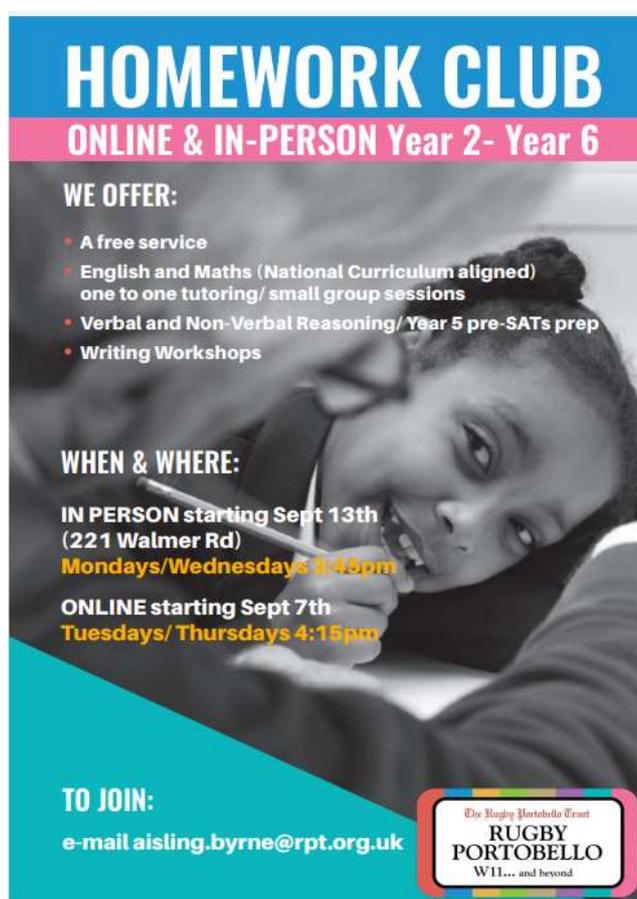
Class	
Nursery	Well done Willow Class we all love your creative, papier-mâché moon. I have heard some wonderful knowledge based language and it is lovely to see your small world play.
Anna's Reception	NIKA for being more confident and participating more on the carpet. Well done!
Kripali's Reception	ANTHONY for always following our classroom promises and being an amazing role-model in our class. You are showing great confidence in recognising letters and applying your phonics strategies to read and write simple words - well done Anthony!
Laura's Year 1	WHOLE CLASS for being such super stars on the tube and at the theatre as part of our trip this week! It was wonderful to see how much you enjoyed the show.
Alexa's Y1	WHOLE CLASS for making our first school trip together so enjoyable! You all listened carefully, represented our school well and most importantly had a great time! Well done we are so proud of you 😊.
Katie's Y2	SERDAR for shining like a star this week. You have worked so hard to challenge yourself in all areas of the curriculum. You have wowed us with your excellent choices, kind behaviour and brilliant listening skills. Keep it up!
Phoebe's Y2	AALIYAH for her increased confidence to join in class discussions and share her brilliant ideas. I am so proud to see you challenge yourself and step out of your comfort zone. Keep it up!
Pippa's Y3	SUMMER for your enthusiasm and confidence in maths this week and the great effort that we see in your home learning every week. Well done Summer!

Joy's Y3	INDIA has had a great few days back at Avondale. We have loved having her back, she has a wonderful attitude to school and her friends are so happy to have her back in their class!
Emma's Y4	GABRIELLA for her superb dedication to her first set of assessments this term. Well done for pushing yourself to focus, try your best and take responsibility for your own progress. Well done.
Daisy's Y4	WHOLE CLASS they have shown tremendous resilience and determination throughout their first week of assessments this year. They have raised to the challenge and given each question their best shot even when, at first, they may have seemed daunting!
Francesca's Y5	LEART For trying hard during all English assessments this week and having a positive attitude. Well done Leart!
Becksy's Y5	RIA for trying her best in all her learning this week, participating more in class discussions and focusing in her assessments. Also, for continually being such a helpful member of the class
Russell's Y6	SHAKUR for fantastic effort in English this week. You have used lots of impressive vocabulary and challenging sentence types in your writing which we have loved reading. Well done.
Tim & Mary's Y6	ROBERT for your fantastic use of scientific vocabulary during our food chain lesson this week!

Congratulations to all our stars!

Homework Club

Please see information below for anyone interested in support with their home learning at the Rugby Portobello Club – just around the corner!



HOMework CLUB
ONLINE & IN-PERSON Year 2- Year 6

WE OFFER:

- A free service
- English and Maths (National Curriculum aligned) one to one tutoring/ small group sessions
- Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning/ Year 5 pre-SATs prep
- Writing Workshops

WHEN & WHERE:

IN PERSON starting Sept 13th
(221 Walmer Rd)
Mondays/Wednesdays 3:45pm

ONLINE starting Sept 7th
Tuesdays/ Thursdays 4:15pm

TO JOIN:
e-mail aisling.byrne@rpt.org.uk

The Rugby Portobello Grant
RUGBY PORTOBELLO
WILL... and beyond

12 Days of Christmas Raffle

The first of the raffle tickets have been drawn next week and prizes have been won! There are still tickets available to buy – please ask at the office.



Covid-19

Cases of Covid continue to increase so I remind you, if your child has symptoms of Covid-19 they should take a PCR test and stay at home until they receive the result. If the result is negative, they may return to school when they feel better, but if it is positive, they will need to stay at home for ten days.

If you are informed that a member of your family has the new variant, the entire household will need to stay at home.

Please continue to be vigilant in using sanitiser/washing hands and wearing a mask in all the places you are required to do so. To reduce the risk of infection spreading.

And finally...

Have a good weekend.

Katy Blackler