

Friday 19th November 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am writing a shorter letter than usual this week – from home. I am feeling much better and looking forward to being back from next Tuesday when my isolation finishes.

Thank you to all staff for being amazing – but especially to Danielle, Dionne and the Leadership Team who have of course led the school brilliantly. It has been lovely to hear of everything going on but I have missed seeing it all in person. I was particularly disappointed to miss Mary and Tim's Y6 class assembly and also of course Children In Need Day. At time of writing, you raised £275 for this brilliant charity so well done and thank you!

You will be aware that there have been more staff and large numbers of children absent from school this week, but just to reassure you, there has not been at the time of writing any further cases of Covid. However, when listening to the news, there are definitely more cases and so I remind parents to remain vigilant in encouraging children to sanitise regularly; to wash hands well after the toilet and before eating; and to blow their nose and put tissues in the bin in order to try to reduce the spread of infection.

Dates for next week

Monday 22nd November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anti-bullying fortnight continues with the theme of 'One Kind Word'• After-school clubs continue
Tuesday 23rd November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nasal flu vaccine taking place for children in Reception – Y6 whose parents have given permission• Group of children from Reception going to Forest School
Wednesday 24th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y5 classes visiting KAA in the afternoon• Group of children from Nursery going to Forest School• Y6 Football Teams playing matches at The Westway Sports Centre after school• Governors Meeting – 5.00pm via Zoom
Thursday 25th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emma's Year 4 Class Assembly: 2.40pm. All parents/carers of her class are warmly invited
Friday 26th November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jasmin Banji, an artist, is in school working with Nursery children

Other events for the rest of this Term

Individual School Photos

Children's individual school photos will be taken in school on **Tuesday 30th November**. Children will also have their photos taken with siblings within school. At the point of writing, I am unsure whether we will be able to take family photos with younger siblings who do not attend this school, but we will check with the photo company and let you know.

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. A Charity for donations will be chosen by the School Council.

News and reminders Parents Evenings

Thank you to all those parents who spoke with their child's teacher via phone this week. I know that some parents were disappointed not to be meeting in person and not to be able to see their children's work books; but thank you for your understanding in our need to revert to phone conversations following the increased numbers of cases of Covid. I am very much hoping that as soon as we can, we will be able to arrange something to enable you to meet with your child's teacher in person as well as see your child's learning.

If you did not manage to speak to your child's teacher this week, please try to re-book your appointment.

News from the Schools Nursery

This week the children in nursery have continued their journey into space with 'Space rocket' role play in each classroom and in the playground they have been investigating closer to home with an 'Archaeological dig' discovering fossils, dinosaur skeletons and ancient Egyptian relics. Lots of exciting and fun learning and some great discoveries along the way.



Avondale Park School Reception

For Anti-bullying week, Reception children have been sharing how they could show kindness. They have also made hearts to put on their kindness tree and to give to their friends.



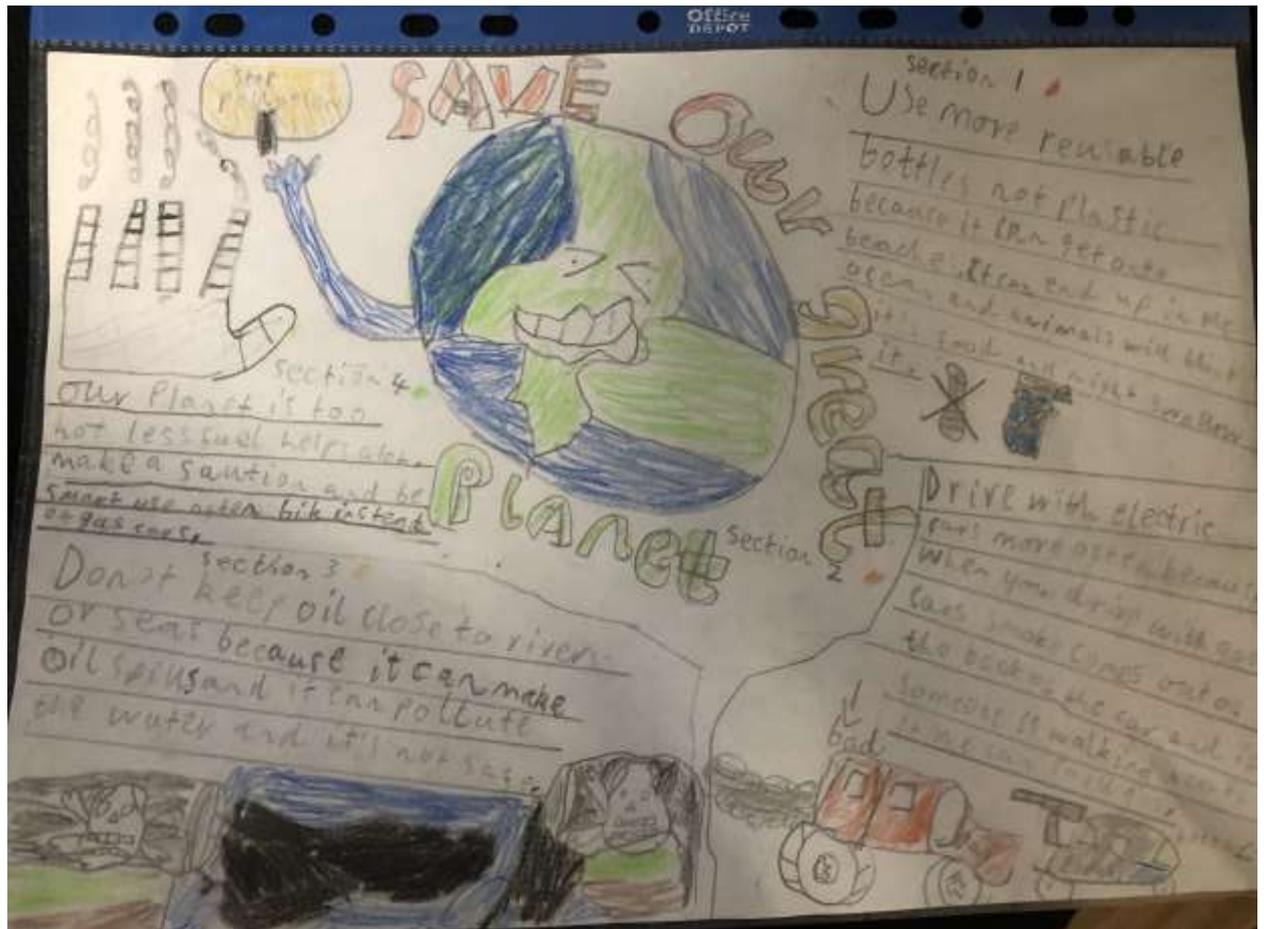
Year 2

Here are the colour monsters that Year 2 have made as part of their learning for Anti Bullying Week. The children discussed how they feel when people say and do kind things for them and then wrote these feelings in the hearts.



Year 3

As part of our work around Cop26, Malachi has made this lovely poster with lots of information about how we can help to save our planet!



Year 3 Swimming

Year 3 have been swimming at Kensington Leisure Centre every day for two weeks! They have worked so hard and shown their courage, resilience and growing confidence as they have learnt to swim or improve their swimming. The coaches have been full of praise for them all and told us how much they have enjoyed teaching them. We are so proud of them!



Year 5

In Year 5, we have been studying the book 'Wonder' in English and Guided Reading. This book is all about a young boy named August, who has facial scars and disfigurements. As this year's anti-bullying fortnight theme is 'One Kind Word', we thought it would be a good idea to focus on how we could be kind to those in school and our community, just like in the book 'Wonder'. We created precept walls to promote kind phrases or words to remind us to always be kind.



Attendance

The class with the highest attendance last week in KS1 **was Alexa's Year 1 Class with 98.6%** and in KS2 it **was Tim and Mary's Year 6 Class with 97.4%**. Overall last week, attendance was **93.9 %** which is slightly improved on the previous week but still not meeting our target of 95.5%

All children should be in school every day and the only reason they should not be in school is if they are ill. If your child is ill, I ask that you inform the office daily via email, parentmail or by phone.

Punctuality

There have been increased numbers of children late over the last few weeks and as the teachers start 'early work' as soon as they reach their classrooms before they even take the register, this impacts on children's learning. A reminder 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 Eucalyptus class you have been doing some amazing learning about space and the planets. Keep up all of the hard work amazing astronauts!
Anna's Reception	NAHID for participating and communicating more on the carpet and making good progress with your phonics!
Kripali's Reception	TYM for showing a great attitude towards learning and trying your best when forming letters - keep it up!
Laura's Year 1	ORSON for having a fantastic attitude to learning and always being ready to contribute ideas in every lesson. We have also been impressed by the way you can apply what you have learnt to other contexts and problems. Well done!

Alexa's Y1	ASIA for being such a kind and caring friend and showing thoughtful contributions during our anti-bullying week discussions.
Katie's Y2	SALMA for really challenging yourself this week. You never give up and always try your best even when we are learning something new and it's a bit tricky. We are very proud of you. Keep it up!
Phoebe's Y2	KARIM for his fantastic home learning. I have been so impressed each week that he has completed his learning and extra tasks with fantastic creativity and effort. Well done Karim!
Pippa's Y3	WHOLE CLASS for your enthusiasm and brilliant progress in swimming. It's been wonderful to see how much you have learnt, and to hear such wonderful comments from your swimming coaches! You should all be very proud of yourselves. Keep swimming!
Joy's Y3	WHOLE CLASS Everyone has worked so hard in their swimming lessons over the past two weeks. It has been amazing to see how much progress each child has made! Well done everyone!
Emma's Y4	YAHYA His learning this week has been excellent. He has pushed himself in Maths especially showing independence and resilience. Well done we are really proud of you!
Daisy's Y4	WHOLE CLASS They had an amazing Harry Potter day showing super enthusiasm for the stories and great sportsmanship during the Quidditch match
Francesca's Y5	CAMILIA For completing the most incredible home learning this week. Not only was this a project you chose to do in your spare time, it is also a divine piece of art. Well done Camilia!
Becky's Y5	NOUR For a wonderful first week at Avondale and settling in so well into Year 5.
Russell's Y6	SAMI for being a committed learner and role model since returning from half term. It has been lovely to see you showing your best self so regularly.
Tim & Mary's Y6	WHOLE CLASS for excellent teamwork during our assembly rehearsals and for your fantastic final performance!

Congratulations to all our stars!

Homework Club

Please see information below for anyone interested in support with their homelearning 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 Trust
**RUGBY
PORTOBELLO**
WIL... and beyond

12 Days of Christmas Raffle

Please see information about the 12 Days of Christmas Raffle. Tickets are on sale in the playground and the school office.

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

RAFFLE



"12 PRIZES TO WIN"

1 Raffle Ticket will be drawn on these days in December

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 7th, 8th,
9th, 10th, 13th, 14th, 15th & 16th

The winners will receive 1 'surprise' gift

(prizes include...Wax Burner & Melts, D & G Perfume, Smiggle Advent Calendar, Giant Art Set, M & S Biscuits, Nike Football Bag & Ball, Giant Cuddly Elf, Fidget Games Basket, £25 Entertainer Voucher, M & S Christmas Cake, £10 Entertainer Voucher)

The ticket drawn on the 16th of December will win

*****STAR PRIZE*****

PANDORA BRACELET

Tickets €1 a strip

ON SALE NOW

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.

And finally...

Looking forward to seeing you again next week. Have a good weekend.

Katy Blackler