

Being the best I can be

PORTMOAK

Headteacher's Newsletter – October 2024

A Wee Message From Mrs Cole

I will be resuming my Principal Teacher role from Monday 18th November when our new Headteacher, Mrs Anna Nesbitt, will join us. I would like to thank you all for the support you have given me during my time as Acting Headteacher. We really do have such a wonderful school community, and I am very grateful for all the lovely messages and feedback I have had from so many people.

Harvest Assembly

On Thursday 3rd October the school walked down to Portmoak Church for our annual Harvest Assembly. This year P4 were in charge of the service and they gave us lots of great information about harvest, as well as sharing two lovely songs with us.



School Photographer

We have booked the photographer, Ian Mitchell, who we used last year to take individual and family photographs. Photographs will take place on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November. Ian has a mobile studio which he sets up in the school playground. Families with younger preschool siblings, who wish to have a family photo taken are invited to come along at the start of the school day and we will then work through school siblings and then individuals.

Coats

There are a number of children coming to school without a coat on a regular basis. I have reminded the children that they need to bring a coat every day. Parents may find it useful to pack a light packable waterproof in school bags, which would help when we go out at break and lunch times in light rain or drizzle.

Student Teachers

We have two student teachers joining us at Portmoak this term. Miss Eve Farmer will take up her teaching placement in the P4 class in two blocks - Monday 4th November to Friday 13th December and Monday 6th January to Friday 24th January. Miss Mirren McLure will take up her two blocks of placement in the P1/2 class from Monday 11th November to Friday 13th December and Monday 3rd March to Friday 28th March. They will both work closely with the class teachers during their time with us.

Pantomime

We have booked for the whole school to go and see Sleeping Beauty at the Adam Smith Theatre in Kirkcaldy on the morning of Wednesday 11th December. We would like to say a huge thank you to our parent council, Friends of Portmoak School, for covering the cost of the pantomime tickets. We have three buses booked and would really appreciate a donation towards the cost of these. The donations can be made through Parent Pay. Please make sure you have given permission through Parent Pay for your child(ren) to attend this.

Halloween Discos

Thank you to everyone who helped to organise and run our successful Halloween discos. The children had a great time and I am grateful to all of the staff and parents who made this happen.



Christmas Events

There are three parties in total. The parties are in the afternoon, so children should come to school wearing their uniform for the morning session and children are welcome to be a home lunch that day or to bring clothes to change into after their lunch at school. The lunch break is 12.35-1.20. The parties are:

- Monday 16th December - P1-3
- Wednesday 18th December - P4
- Thursday 19th December – P5-7



We will be running our traditional P1-3 Nativity performance in the school hall. There are two opportunities for this show, which will be ticketed for numbers, but free to attend.

- Tuesday 19th: 5.30pm performance
- Wednesday 20th: 9.30am performance

Christmas lunch this year is on Thursday 12th December.

A Message From Our Parent Council

The Halloween discos were a *spooktacular* success! Thank you to all the incredible volunteers that made it happen and to the children and teachers who looked *woowesome!* After costs, a small surplus was left which will help fund future events. All ideas welcomed: please email: friendsofportmoakschool@gmail.com

The children have been designing their festive artwork and once completed we set up their unique codes for our seasonal online 'pop-up shop'. Details of how to place orders will be sent in November. This year products include cards, wrapping paper/tags, baubles, plush reindeer, cushion covers and tote bags. This is a great way to raise funds for the school while getting Christmas gifts and cards sorted.

Our Rag Bag bin continues to fill up at an incredible rate. If the bin looks half full please email: friendsofportmoakschool@gmail.com and we will arrange a collection. We can only collect wearable clothes, paired shoes, bags and belts. No uniforms please – school uniform can be donated for our next pre-loved sale at school and any ski-wear can also be donated to school to help build up a supply for Winter activities.

Finally, there is one month left to build up the school's cash pot with Asda. If you need to be reminded of how to sign up, please email friendsofportmoakschool@gmail.com.

Portmoak Primary Dates for the Diary

November 2024		
1 st	P2/3	Bonfire Assembly 9.15am
6 th	P6	Swimming (final lesson)
11 th	Whole School	Parent Contact 5.20pm – 7.30pm
13 th	Whole School	Parent Contact 3.30pm – 5.30pm
13 th	Whole School	School photographer
14 th	Whole School	School photographer
15 th	Whole School	Inservice day
28 th	P6	Ardroy – instalment 3 due
29 th	P5/6	St Andrew's Day Assembly – 9.15am
December 2024		
2 nd	Whole School	Flu immunisations - PM
11 th	Whole School	Sleeping Beauty pantomime at Adam Smith Theatre
12 th	Whole School	Christmas Lunch
16 th	P1-3	Christmas party – PM
17 th	P1-3	Nativity – evening performance 5.30pm
18 th	P1-3	Nativity – morning performance 9.30am
18 th	P4	Christmas party – PM
19 th	P5-7	Christmas party – PM
20 th	Whole school	Last day of term 12pm finish
January 2025		
6 th	Whole School	Term 3 begins
13 th	New P1s for Aug 25	P1 enrolment week
24 th	P6/7	Up Helly Aa Assembly – 9.15am
29 th	Whole School	Coffee & Catch Up
February 2025		
3 rd	Whole School	Open Afternoon 2.15 – 2.45pm
7 th	P4	RSPB Bird Watch Assembly 9.15am
12 th	Whole School	Inservice day
13 th & 14 th	Whole School	Holiday
21 st	P1/2	Sharing Learning Assembly – 9.15am
28 th	P6	Ardroy – instalment 4 due
March 2025		
14 th	P2/3	Sharing Learning Assembly – 9.15am
17 th – 21 st	Whole School	Scholastic Book Fair week
28 th	P6/7	Sharing Learning Assembly – 9.15am
28 th	P6	Ardroy – instalment 5 due today

April 2025		
3 rd	Whole School	Easter Service – led by P5/6 - venue TBC 9.30am
4 th	Whole School	Term ends 3pm
7-18 th	Whole School	Easter Holiday
22 nd	Whole School	Inservice day
23 rd	Whole School	Term 4 starts
28 th	P6	Ardroy – final instalment due
May 2025		
2 nd	P4	Sharing Learning Assembly – 9.15am
5 th	Whole School	May Day Holiday
7 th	Whole School	Coffee & Catch Up
9 th	P5/6	Sharing Learning Assembly 9.15am
16 th – 19 th	P6	Ardroy
30 th	P1/2	Road Safety Assembly
June 2025		
2 nd	Whole School	Sports Day
2 nd – 6 th	Whole School	Celebration of Wellbeing Week
13 th	Whole School	New classes issued
13 th	P6	John Muir Assembly
20 th	P7	Prom
25 th	P7	P7 Leavers' Assembly
26 th	Whole school	Term ends 12pm

Don't forget to save both school numbers 01577 867290 (school office)
and the absentee line & answer phone on 01577 867196.

