



Parent queries can be emailed in to parents@westoverprimary.co.uk

IMPORTANT NOTICE: We will be cashless from September

Be Safe, Be Ready, Be Respectful



Commander Kindness



Lady Resilience



Captain Creativity



Doctor Resourcefulness

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our target is **96%** or more for attendance. We aim for every child to arrive on time to help them settle and make the best progress. This is also less disruptive for the other children already in class.

Last Week	Whole school	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
%	94	98	97	98	98	90	89	91
No of lates	15	0	6	3	1	0	3	2

AWARDS

GOLD AWARD

One child is chosen each week from every class for upholding our school values of resilience, kindness, creativity and resourcefulness. Well done to last week's Gold Award Winners!



Pufferfish – Ruby and Flossie

Dolphins – Florence

Penguins – Abel J

Seal - Ray

Seahorse – Jude

Shark – Lilly S

Turtle – Lily L



Photograph by Lillie and Oscar



Spinnaker House Captain, Roman, proudly showing the Sports Day trophy. Well done to all who participated.

We've seen lots of children this week who've popped in to share lovely work or good news! It's fantastic to see the work being shared from across all curriculum areas. Well done to everyone!

Dolphin – Sophia, Arthur, Lilia, Aayah

Penguins – Tom, Ethan, Alicia, Justin, Bear, Franklin, Jessica, Hunter, Sofia

Seals – Freddie, Avana, Savana, Maddison, Jasmine, Ray, Ozzy, Owen, Charlotte, Bella, Dylan,
Leighton, Hudson, Xander, Ted

Sea Otters – Flo, Pearl, Jacob, William,

Seahorses – Lucca,

Turtles – Charlie, Hendrix

BRONZE AWARD

Children upholding our school rules and values and or putting effort into their learning receive house points. The table below shows how well house teams are doing.

Mary Rose	Spinnaker	Warrior	Victory
426	383	406	357

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event	Information
2023-24		
Monday 22 nd July	Year 2 Exit Point 2.30pm	Parents welcome
Tuesday 23 rd July	Year 6 West Fest 3-5.30pm	Details sent
Wednesday 24 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 9am Leavers Arch 2.50pm	Details sent
Wednesday 24 th July	Last day of term school finishes at 3.10 as normal	
2024/25		
Monday 2 nd September	Inset Day	School closed to children
Tuesday 3 rd September	Years 1-6 return to school	
Tuesday 3 rd September	Year R home visits start	
Thursday 3 rd October	School Nurse Parent Clinic	Contact the school office to book an appointment
Tuesday 15 th October	Pupil individual photos	
Friday 25 th October	Inset Day	School closed to children

Monday 11 th November	Inset Day	School closed to children
Monday 18 th November	Nasal Flu Vaccination	
Monday 18 th - Friday 22 nd November	Year 5 Bikeability	Details will follow
Monday 6 th January	Inset Day	School closed to children
Monday 24 th February	Inset Day	School closed to children
Friday 23 rd May	Inset Day	School closed to children
Friday 13 th June	Inset Day	School closed to children

LEARNING UPDATE

Year R

I hope you all enjoyed your time with us on Tuesday. Pufferfish were amazing at demonstrating their knowledge of money. I hope they continue to treat you to spa treatments over the summer holidays. This week we continued to look at beaches round the world. We looked at pictures of beaches in Australia, we then created our very own rock pool. We used plasticine to create sea creatures that you might find in rock pools. Whilst we were in Australia, we explored some aboriginal art. We were then able to create our own pieces.






Year 1

This week in English, we have been writing a persuasive letter to the Big Bad Wolf to convince him to stop being the ... bad wolf! We read out these letters to our class as well. In Maths, we have been exploring equal groups. We were lucky enough to be able to see some of the Year 6 Matilda performance. Dolphins loved it and were a great audience! In Science, we discussed fruit and vegetable plants; how they are similar and different to

	<p>each other. Thank you to all of our families who came to the exit point yesterday. The children enjoyed sharing their Science knowledge with you in our quiz, and showcasing our Scratch Jr skills. We are very much looking forward to our beach trip and short week next week.</p>
Year 2	<p>We have had a fabulous last full week in Penguin. In English we had looked at persuasive writing and wrote a letter to our new teachers and will be waiting patiently over summer to find out if they were convincing enough. Maths we have recapped prior learning looking at measuring distance our paper planes flew, plotting graphs for questions we have gathered data for and revisiting how to solve word problems. Next week we have lots of fun things planned too. We have beach school Monday, exit point in the afternoon where we will show off our reading skills and you can too, DT all day Tuesday where we will be making pop-up cards and then our last day in Penguins Wednesday.</p>
Year 3	<p>This week began with a very exciting performance of Matilda the Musical! Since then, we have been writing a show review with the aim of including all the Year 3 writing features that we have learnt throughout the year. In Maths we have finished our unit on Graphs. We are learning about belonging in RE, with a particular focus on belonging within the Islamic faith. Finally, we have been working hard all week to prepare for our exit point to showcase our fantastic musical skills.</p>
Year 4	<p>Sea Otters have had a lovely last full week of Year 4. We really enjoyed seeing so many of you at our exit point on Thursday afternoon where we recapped everything we have learnt this year! The children have been writing some beautiful setting descriptions which they have then drawn. This has, in turn, helped them to edit their work and add in any suitable language features to bring their descriptions to life. The resilience and teamwork of the class has really improved as the week has gone on. They enjoyed a game of rounders this week where they cheered each other on and displayed great sportsmanship. They also became pirates in The Pirate Game where they were resilient in managing their emotions, especially when other crews were stealing their hoards! We are looking forward to our short, and hopefully sunny, week next w</p>
Year 5	<p>Year 5 enjoyed a special afternoon visiting the Not Forgotten Club at City Life Church. Being spoilt with a cream tea and chocolates, the children sang songs, danced and shared some jokes. Everybody left with big smiles on their faces. In school we have been planning and starting to write Viking action scenes. We've seen some great vocabulary choices and can't wait to read the finished pieces next week!</p>
Year 6	<p>This week has been all about Matilda. Please see a review of it from our very own Ms Stacey...</p> <p>Yesterday saw the last of two performances of Year 6's Matilda. After wowing Westover with their show, it was taken to Admiral Lord Nelson on</p>

	<p>the big stage. Every single child looked at home in character. I have truly never seen as terrifying a school performance as Trunchbull! Never again will I look at him without thinking of chokey! Trunchbull's enunciation during The Smell of Rebellion only adds to his menace. By contrast, the sweet Miss Honey carries such emotion in her voice, both in her acting and singing. Year 6 have been blessed to have had not one, but two fabulous Matildas, who, quite unscheduled, performed Quiet together last night. You could have heard the proverbial pin drop during that number. Leading the Revolting Children, Bruce's comic timing was impeccable. The Escapologist, Acrobat and Librarian beautifully brought to life Matilda's story. The Wormwood family were perfectly cast, as if they'd had their roles written just for them. What can I say about the Russians? They weren't stupid! The school children, with their amazing choreography, brought flow and professionalism to the show. It goes without saying, none of it would have been possible without the creativity of the prop designers, set designers and Ensemble. In fact, the chorus were so good that the singing teacher actually thought it was the backing track! In all, a very moving and professional performance from everyone in the year group. Well done to everyone and all the staff involved!</p>
<p>Senior Team Update</p>	<p>What a week! We have thoroughly enjoyed the year 6 performance of Matilda and how wonderful it was to be able to use the drama facilities at Admiral. We are very grateful to Mrs Spencer for all of her help and support. It was lovely to see the gardening gang sell their produce this week and thank you to the parents who purchased wonky veg. This money will be directly re-invested into the gardening club. Many children enjoy watering and digging at break times.</p>
<p>After School Club</p>	<p>This month in after school club the children have made pizza toast for their dinner using ham, pineapple, sweetcorn, cheese and pepperoni. they all really enjoyed making their own dinner. we also had some messy fun decorating biscuits with melted chocolate and sprinkles. one afternoon we made some of the classic sweets 'jazzies' using melted chocolate and a tub sprinkles. we have been making origami animals with coloured paper. We successfully made elephants, fish, and bears. Outside we have been able to take our snacks outside and enjoy picnics by the trim trail. we have also made nature bracelets using masking tape and leaves from the playground , the children really loved this activity. we have been playing football and tennis. we have also made some thank you cards and we made some England flags to support our football team in the Euro tournament.</p>

Gardening Club News

Thank you for supporting Gardening Club's wonky veg sale yesterday! We made £20.40 to put towards new supplies next year.

Self-Care Summer Toolkit:

The summer holidays can be a time to relax, recharge and take a break. However, school staff can find it difficult to switch off during summer, while young people may struggle with the loss of structure and not seeing their friends every day. It's important that the children and staff at Westover look after their mental wellbeing during the break. The summer can also be a great time to develop good self-care habits, so that when term starts again, you have techniques you can turn to in stressful times. This toolkit contains activities, teaching materials and guidance to help support and boost mental wellbeing over the summer and beyond. It is divided into resources to use with students and staff.

Please find the link to the toolkit here:

[primary_selfcare_toolkit.pdf \(mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk\)](https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/primary_selfcare_toolkit.pdf)

Wrap around care

Our breakfast and after school club are for Years R-6 providing care 7.30-6.00. Please book via parents@westoverprimary.co.uk. From September please note we will be a cashless school.

Pre school wrap around care – unfortunately currently we do not have enough bookings to make this viable with only 4 children requesting some places. As the pre-school grows we will keep reviewing this situation as we are keen to provide this service. Please note that there are different qualification requirements when caring for pre school children.

School Dinner Price Increase

The meal price for the next academic year will increase to **£2.68** from the start of term in September. This price is in line with the terms agreed and communicated when the contract with Caterlink was extended. With high food inflation and increases to the living wage this has been unavoidable, however this still compares well to the meal price in most Hampshire CC schools of £3.00. The price of an adult meal in Portsmouth will increase to £2.78 + VAT

Low-Cost Activities and Entertainment

We have found this really good website that includes low-cost activities and entertainment in and around the Portsmouth area. It includes free museums, events and activities. It currently has events for the month of July and this will be updated for the month of August.

[Low-cost activities and entertainment - Portsmouth City Council](#)

There is also another brilliant website - [50 Things to Do | Portsmouth](#). This offers a menu of fun, affordable ideas for play and learning. It is aimed at 0-4 year olds but the activities can be adapted to suit older children if needed.

Social Media

We are in the process of updating our policies in line with the Trust. We are having an increasing number of pupils friend request staff so thought it was a good time to send a reminder. The extract below is from our policy

Safeguarding children and young people

- You must not communicate with pupils over social media sites
- You must never send a direct message to a pupil through a social media account
- Staff must not respond to any direct communication from a pupil
- Pupils' personal accounts should never be tagged in a social media post
- Staff must not accept any current pupil of any age as a follower or friend on any personal account (see addendum)
- Any communication received on a personal account from a pupil must be reported to the School Leader/Designated Safeguarding Leader
- You must block unwanted communications from pupils
- You should not interact with any ex-pupil of the Trust who is under 18
- Privacy settings should be set so that age restrictions are set at 13+. Children under 13 are not legally allowed to create social media accounts

Payments to school

Please be aware that from Sep 24, we will be a completely cashless school and all payments for trips, dinner money etc. will have to be made using the MCAS app. If you need help with using the app don't hesitate to ask in the office.

Portsmouth Leisure Card

The link below gives information about Portsmouth Leisure Card which gives cheap and sometimes free access to Portsmouth attractions for families on low income.

<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/leisure/sports-and-activities/portsmouth-leisure-card/>

Mental health support for children and young people - message to parents and carers

We understand the importance of finding the right support at the right time for your child's mental health.

That's why key partners in Portsmouth have co-designed guidance with parents to describe where, how, and when to access support for children and young people's mental health problems.

The guidance explains the signs, symptoms, support available, and the steps to take. Knowing the signs and acting as early as possible, can improve the outcomes for the child, young person and their family.

The guidance has been split in two for:

- [Children aged 5-10](#)
- [Young people aged 11-16](#)

The full guidance is available here: www.portsmouth.gov.uk/SEMHguidance

Anyone aged 16+ can call [The Portsmouth Mental Health Hub](#) on 0300 123 6621.

Transition Information for children with SEND**Portsmouth Local Offer:**

The Local Offer currently features a [next steps after primary school](#) guide which has been developed to support the transition process from primary to secondary for children with SEND.

The page guides parents and carers through different steps to make the transition smoother, includes some top tips from teachers and some anonymous blogs from parents who give accounts of their experiences. Many of the tips include preparing early and doing lots of research, so this page could be useful to parents of children in years 4 and 5, as well as years 6 and 7.

You can access this page by clicking on this link:

www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/nextsteps

Rowans Hospice is excited to announce that we have launched our brand-new Shining Stars Walk!

This is a family-friendly walk that will take place on Saturday 21st September 2024. This fun evening is a 4 or 8 mile sponsored walk around Portsmouth and Southsea, with the registration and warm-up starting at 6:00pm at HMS Temeraire, Portsmouth, PO1 2HB. For more information please visit our website [Shining Stars Walk - Rowans Hospice](#)

The Hospice will be providing sessions for children and family members to come along and decorate candle bags which will then be placed on the HMS Warrior.

The sessions will take place on Friday 9th August 10am- 12pm and Friday 30th August 1pm-3pm, we would love to see you there!



The Mental Health Support Team

MHST SUMMER WORKSHOPS



MHST are offering an opportunity for parents/carers to learn CBT based skills to support young people's mental health and wellbeing. Each workshop is being delivered twice over the summer holidays.

All workshops are all being held online, delivered by practitioners from MHST.



These workshops have been developed for parents/carers of young people attending a school/college in either Portsmouth or Southampton.



Wednesday 31st July
11:00 - 12:00
or
Wednesday 28th August
14:00 - 15:00

SUPPORTING YOUR ADOLESCENT WITH LOW MOOD

This parent/carer workshop will cover: Understanding low mood and what keeps it going, acting outside-in, things we value in our lives, scheduling activities. It will include top tips to consider and skills to try when supporting your adolescent with their mood.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD TO STEP UP TO SECONDARY

This parent/carer workshop will cover: The step up to secondary. We will consider common worries and how we can manage them, friendships and how to make new friends in a new environment, self-care and how we speak more positively to ourselves. It will include top tips and some skills for you to try at home with your young person.



Monday 5th August
15:00-16:00
or
Wednesday 21st August
10:00-11:00



Monday 5th August
09:30-10:30
or
Monday 19th August
14:00 - 15:00

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH WORRIES

This parent/carer workshop will cover: Understanding anxiety, when it is normal/a problem, what keeps it going, avoidance, reassurance, communication tips and additional strategies to manage worries.

HOW TO SIGN UP:

To register your place on a workshop, please email MHSTSouthampton@solent.nhs.uk clearly stating which workshop and date you would like to attend.

You will then receive a link to the online meeting.