

Court Lane Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for continuing to adhere to social distancing restrictions. As many of yourselves, we were hoping for some lifting to enable us to go back to our traditional summer activities. We are still able to have an exciting end to the school year and are continuing to adapt to the circumstances.

Transition

Following national and citywide guidance, our transition activities will be virtual for all year groups. We will ensure that our September welcome is focused on wellbeing and induction. For the very small number of children moving elsewhere in September, where arrangements have been made for them to attend in person, they will need to quarantine for 48 hours afterwards before returning to school.

Year 6 Big City Read

We are pleased to be taking part in the 'Big City Read' initiative alongside other schools in Portsmouth and gifted a hardback copy of 'Boy Giant' by Michael Morpurgo to each of our Year 6 pupils on 'Empathy Day' on Thursday 10th June in recognition of the empathy theme in the book. The book promotes themes of kindness, hope and resilience that are especially pertinent in these times.

Michael sent the following message to all the schools taking part in the initiative: *"Portsmouth looks out to the world. We think of all the people who sailed the seas over the centuries from Portsmouth and found new worlds, and we think of all the people who sailed the seas and found new homes here with us. We think that there are about 60 million refugees in this world of ours and some will end up on our shores. What's important is that they are welcomed as fellow human beings, not as refugees, that we acknowledge the sacrifices they have made just to get here. That is why I wrote Boy Giant and many other books that are about those children who most need family, a future and safety. This is an initiative that I am so pleased to be a part of. It's through books and libraries that many of us first meet these people, and first discover that they are simply the same as us and that we need each other."*

Infant School fruit helpers for September 2021

Adult volunteers in school provide invaluable support to children and staff. We are recruiting regular volunteers who can help with the preparation /washing of fruit for the children's break time, to start in September 2021. This would take no longer than 30 minutes a day and can be done immediately after dropping your child to school. If you are able to sign up to a regular slot(s), please contact the Infant School office.

Sunscreen

We are actually having some sunny days, so please remember to apply sunscreen and provide a hat for your child as there is very little shade on the playgrounds.



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Dates for your diary

12/07/21 – Joint Theme Week

Join the Juniors on Social Media



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More info

www.courtlaneinfant.co.uk

www.courtlanejunior.co.uk

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Mini Olympics Week, 12th July

This summer we will be holding an Olympics, sporting themed Pause Week where we hope the children will be inspired and join in with a range of physical activities. This will replace the traditional sports day. Parents will be unable to attend due to Covid requirements and limited space for social distancing. We will let you know when the Junior school children are required to wear their PE kit if it is different to their current day.

Leave of Absence requests

We are seeing a very high number of absence requests that are not exceptional. Although we understand the difficulties of planning a family holiday, this is not an exceptional circumstance. Requests should be submitted in good time. Please can we also remind you, that if you have a medical appointment, we need to be made aware of this in advance so that your child can be ready on time. We may require proof of request for leave.

SEND Survey does your child need extra support with learning?

Parents and carers of children with SEND praised city schools and keyworkers for their support in Portsmouth City Council's annual survey. 86% said they felt they were being listened to, with education staff being more often identified as the main keyworker that supports them.

However, it also showed about half of families are still not aware of Portsmouth's SEND Local Offer website, meaning some might be missing out on important and helpful support. If your child needs additional help with their learning, please speak to your child's teacher and also visit www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org to find out about support and services available outside of school. You can read the full survey report [here](#).

Imagine Portsmouth

Imagine Portsmouth is challenging children, young people and adults to pick up a camera or pen this summer and capture what makes Portsmouth special and show others what Portsmouth means to you through a photo or poem. [Get inspired by the ideas in Portsmouth city vision](#) - such as Portsmouth as a healthy and happy city, a green city or a city that celebrates equality, community or respect. You can submit entries online at <https://imagineportsmouth.co.uk/how-to-get-involved/>. The winners will have their work showcased online and there will be prizes for the winners of each category.

A reminder that next Friday, 2nd July is the final INSET day for this academic year and school is closed to all pupils. We hope your families enjoy the extended weekend.

Term Dates

INSET Day

Friday 2nd July 2021

Last day of term

Friday 23rd July 2021

INSET Days

Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd
September 2021

Return to school for 2021/22

Monday 6th September 2021

Half term

Monday 25th – Friday 29th October
2021

INSET Day

Monday 1st November 2021

INSET DAY

Friday 26th November 2021

Break up for Christmas

Friday 17th December 2021

INSET Day

Tuesday 4th January 2022

First day of Spring Term

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Half term

Monday 21st – Friday 25th February
2022

Break up for Easter

Friday 8th April 2022

First day of Summer Term

Monday 25th April 2022

Half term

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June
2022

INSET Day

Monday 6th June 2022

Last day of term

Friday 22nd July 2022