



Junior News

THE PORTSMOUTH
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Dear Parents,

This week has been one of those weeks when we expected that nothing out of the ordinary was going to happen. Apart from creating a special curriculum day on Tuesday, dedicated to celebrating the French language and way of life, we were expecting all experiences to be as normal. However, we have ended up enjoying two unexpected 'official' occasions. On Tuesday the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth paid us a visit. Having heard a lot about PGS he decided that, before his period of office came to an end, he would like to have a tour of the School to see for himself what it was like. We were delighted to oblige and designed a special tour that included a visit to all parts of the School from the Nursery to Year Six enabling him to experience a breadth of different lessons and to hear the Year Three Brass Group. It was indeed a privilege to meet the Lord Mayor and to show him the School, he displayed a tremendous warmth and a very genuine interest in all that he was shown; in particular he enjoyed engaging with the children, the youngest of whom were especially fascinated by his splendid gold chain of office. On his departure the Lord Mayor said how very much he had enjoyed the visit and was pleased to hear that eight specially chosen Year Five pupils were going to be attending the Mayor Making ceremony next month.

Our second 'official' occasion of the week occurred on Thursday when all the pupils from Reception to Year Five went to see the Queen who was visiting the 'D' Day museum, the Guildhall and the Dockyard. When we heard she would be arriving by helicopter landing just 'up the road' at the Clarence Field we felt it was too good an opportunity to miss for our pupils to see the Queen in person. Pupils from Years Three and Four walked all the way to the 'D' Day museum in the hope that they would get a closer view of Her Majesty as she walked from her car to the museum entrance. Our younger pupils and those in Year Five had the excitement of watching the helicopter land and were able to see the Queen walk to her car and drive out past them as they stood close to the entrance of the playing fields. The children greatly enjoyed waving the Union Jack flags they made specially for the occasion. The location of Her Majesty's arrival could not have suited Year Five better as, following the event, they then proceeded on to the games fields for their morning games lesson! Our Year Three and Year Four pupils were the only school children waiting by the 'D' Day museum and as such were able to line the path leading to the museum and therefore had an excellent view of the Queen. Year Three pupils, Rebecca Hawdon and Harry Minal were delighted when the Queen spoke to them after Rebecca presented her with a posie and Harry gave her a copy of the School's publication 'Action This Day': a book about the 'D' Day landings. This will undoubtedly have been a truly memorable occasion for all the pupils, especially for Harry and Rebecca. The pupils all waited until Her Majesty and Prince Philip left the museum at the end of their visit. The wait certainly proved worthwhile as Prince Philip spoke to a number of our pupils asking about the School, being particularly interested in our lion logo.

Pupils in Key Stage Two had the opportunity of celebrating their knowledge of French on Tuesday when they were visited by the Frog and Rosbif Theatre Co. Two plays were performed—one to Years Three and Four and one to Years Five and Six—mostly in French with a small amount of English to aid comprehension. The play featured two actors—a female who played the part of Juliette, a French secret agent, and Mathilde, a French girl who likes to shop—and a male, who played the part of an English secret agent. The English

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boy, Rob, was learning French and on occasion needed help from our pupils! As ever, Junior School pupils were happy to show what they have learnt, and impressed the actors with their excellent knowledge of French, and in particular, their accurate French pronunciation! Madame Stirling was very proud. Years Three and Four watched the play as part of their French morning. In addition to the play, they took part in interactive quizzes, played games and produced French Day booklets, whilst learning about the origins of the English language and the influence that the French language following the Norman Conquest had on English; how William the Conqueror built a castle in Caen before leaving to invade England and the links that Caen has with Portsmouth; and a little history of the French Revolution. They also looked at the many French words that we use every day, perhaps not realising that these words are French. There was a bit of Geography with locating well known landmarks and places on a map of France, and a look at the route of the Tour de France last year and the one proposed for this—as well as some information on the Tour de France and a game. Years Five and Six experienced a French afternoon. They firstly made rosettes in the French national colours of blue, white and red to wear into the David Russell Theatre for the play. Following the play, pupils began quizzes on France which they have taken home to complete—to be returned to Madame Stirling next Tuesday!

On Wednesday evening, the JSA held its termly meeting which was a very well attended and very purposeful meeting. Arrangements for this term's special events: the Murder Mystery, Summer Fête, the Second Hand Uniform Sale and Year Six Leaver's Disco were discussed as well as those events that are due to take place next academic year: the 'Welcome' Barn Dance, Hallowe'en Disco, Christmas Parties and Pub Quiz Evening. It was commented how very successful and immensely rewarding the Book Week had been last term; the generosity of the JSA enabled this truly beneficial and extremely worthwhile event to take place and our gratitude to the JSA was warmly expressed. As this was the last JSA meeting of the year it was opportune to recognise the contributions made by those members of the JSA who will no longer have children in the Junior School next year, namely Ariadne Evans, Marony Choppen and Jenny Cornell. Their contribution has indeed been outstanding, attending all meetings, organising and attending all events and, in the case of Jenny, providing excellent support and service as the JSA Secretary. We are most grateful to them all and will most certainly miss them.

It was very pleasing to see so many pupils up at Hilsea for the Saturday morning games practice. Enthusiasm for both the Summer sports of cricket and rounders was very evident; it would be excellent if this enthusiasm were to be maintained over the term with many pupils attending the Saturday morning session each week.

I wish you all a very happy long weekend, hopefully, in spite of it being a Bank Holiday weekend we will have many rounders and cricket enthusiasts up at Hilsea tomorrow!

Philippa Foster

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INFORMATION AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 6 SATs

These take place in week starting 11th May. Parents are asked to avoid medical or dental appointments in this week as if a child misses a paper they cannot do it another time and so will not be graded for that subject. Please note the timetable is on page 5.

SUPER CAMPS

During the summer holidays we are delighted that 'Super Camps' - The No 1 Activity Day Camp provider for children aged 4-14 is operating for PGS children and friends between 20 July and 21 August 2009. The camps run a full range of activities for all children including sport, art, craft, drama, music team building and much more. For further details and booking call 01235 832222 or visit their website on www.supercamps.co.uk

JUNIOR SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

The Junior School Summer Fete will be here soon. For this years raffle prizes we are looking for that something special as well as all those little treats. So we are asking any parent, grandparents, friends or relatives who would like to donate any suitable prizes to the raffle to start bringing them into the Junior School Office. All funds raised at the fete go towards extra events for your child. If any parents have businesses, and would like to have a colour advertisement placed in the fete programme which reaches a large number of potential new clients, or would like a commercial stall at the fete, then please contact seggie_sarah@yahoo.co.uk or telephone Sarah on 07940 419757.

PORTSMOUTH FESTIVITIES

On Tuesday 21 April the 2009 Portsmouth Festivities programme was officially launched. This promises to be the most exciting Festivities yet celebrating the 500th anniversary of the accession of Henry VIII and the building of the Mary Rose, with a range of events for all the family from David Starkey at the Historic Dockyard to the illustrator of the 'Horrible Histories' here at PGS, The Sixteen at Portsmouth Cathedral to folk and jazz at the New Theatre Royal, Alston Weir and Robert Hardy to Tall Stories who return with a production of *Room on the Broom*, and many other events. The week will end with a spectacular Pageant inspired by the Tudors - *Ghost Ship: A Pageant for Portsmouth*. Flag bearers, musicians and dancers will fill the streets with colour in a parade from the Historic Dockyard to Southsea Castle followed by a Family Picnic and an evening Twilight Spectacle - a dramatic large-scale show with fireworks.

THERE'S BEEN A MURDER...(or at least there will be!)

The Junior School Association is proud to unveil its latest murder mystery production: *Murder Between The Wickets*. This event will take place in the David Russell Theatre on Friday 8th May 2009 at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced at £12 per adult and £8 per child which includes supper. Tickets will be available from the Junior School Office, Mrs Kent in the Upper Junior School and the Development Office at the beginning of the Summer Term. We hope to see you all there!

SIKHISM COMPETITION

During the Spring Term Year 6 pupils, as part of a focus on the Sikh faith, were set a competition by Mr Chadha our visitor. They were asked to design an information sheet about some of the key beliefs and practices of Sikhism and these were recently judged by Mr Chadha, who was very impressed by the quality of the entries he received. In third place was James Campkin, runner up was Tom Minall and the worthy winner was Georgina Henderson.

YEAR 6 NETTLECOMBE COURT TRIP

Calling all Year 6 parents—Parents' Information Evening in the DRT Tuesday 5th May at 7.30pm.

PUPILS' ACHIEVEMENTS

★ Congratulations to **George Davis-Marks** (1M) who has gained his ★ One Star Award for skiing.

★ Well done to **Harry Davis-Marks** (3P) who achieved a Fox Award ★ in skiing.

★ Congratulations to **Joe Stirrup** (5J) who has been awarded the ★ Chief Scout's Silver Award.

★ Congratulations to **Charles Elliott** (3J) who recently came first ★ with a distinction in the Classical Guitar Novice Section of the ★ Portsmouth Music Festival and also came second in the under 10's ★ Classical Guitar Section of the Chichester Music Festival.

BADGES

GOLD BADGE

Congratulations to **Edwina Bishop**
for gaining her *Gold Badge*.

GREEN BADGE

Congratulations to **Harry Minall**
for gaining his *Green Badge*.

CHANGE TO PHOTOGRAPH DATES

Please note owing to circumstances beyond our control we are changing the days on which the classes will be photographed. Years 5 / 6 will be having class/sport photos and all KS2 House photos taken on **Thursday 7th May**. Reception/Years 1/ 2 will be having photos taken on **Wednesday 6th May** and should have red jumpers in school. Years 3 / 4 will have class/sport photos taken on **Wednesday 6th May**. However the **House photos** will be taken on **Thursday 7th May** as they include all KS2 pupils. All Years 3 / 4 should come to school in **normal school uniform** bringing their games kit to change into later.

2009 FLORA LONDON MARATHON

Adrian Jennings ran the London Marathon on 6th April and successfully completed it in 4 hours 58 minutes. Thank you to all those that helped him raise almost £1000 for his chosen charity Cancer Research UK. To make a donation or for further details please go to www.runningsponsorsome.org/adrianjennings.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

If you have any items of school uniform/games kit you would like to sell at the uniform sale on Wednesday 24th June please leave them in the Junior School Office asap. This year we will price all times (10% of sale will go to the JSA). Please label all items with your full name and child's class. If you have any queries please ring Susan Lilley on 023 9286 2636 or 07794 147030

KIT LEFT ON LUCKETTS COACHES

Any kit left on Lucketts coaches must be claimed from Lucketts lost property on 01329 823755.

MENU WEEK 3



HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

The following Head Teacher's Awards were awarded: **William Doyle** for super creative writing as the character Katie Morag, **Ethan Simmonds**, **Jack Pearce** and **Alice Acklam** for superb reading of their prayers in the Cathedral, **Jack Silver** for consistently good work in RS, **Emily Curwood** for brilliant problem solving skills and concentration in maths, all of class 10 for putting so much effort and hard work into making group books about Harry and his bucketful of Dinosaurs, **Helen Jackson** for outstanding poetry writing, **Micheala Clancy** for excellent editing and improving sentences, **Olivia Hooper** and **James Woodward** for superb descriptive writing, **Nico Karayakaylar** for exceptional patience and politeness, **Oliver Saunders** for excellent transformation of a piece of text through the use of complex punctuation, **Isaac Platts** and **Tom Shahrn** for a super frog poster with neat handwriting, **Zoe Rademacher** for her version of Cinderella, **Nathan McBride** for a super holiday diary

ROLL OF HONOUR KS2

The following pupils signed the Honours Book this week:

English: Benjamin Caldera (x3), Tom Ferguson (x2), Thomas Miller (x2), George Sinden (x2), Devlin Stigant (x2), William Bates, Archie Bennett, Charles Boyd, Michaela Clancy, William Grandison, Harvey Hamilton, Rebecca Hawdon, Caitlin Hoddle, Sachin Khanna, Josh Leigh, Michael Rollins, Elicia Seebold

Spoken English: Henrietta Clare, Charlotte Dean, Matthew Holloway

English Homework: Nancy Fenton, Caitlin Hoddle, Kathryn Lock, Alice Priory, Samuel Tucker, Jessamie Waldon Day

Maths: Jack Shahrn (x2), Dominic Chew, Joseph Gowers, Benjamin Hall, Harvey Hamilton, Max Hill, Rhys Johnson, Sachin Khanna, Aadam Mactoom, Georgina McTear, Ben Nash, Frederike Rademacher, Lillie Simons, Mani Spencer, Dominique Warren

Maths Problems: Amy Stokely

Geography: Sabrina Choi (x2), Daniel Garcia Tarifa (x2), Rebecca Hawdon (x2), Isabella Barrington-Clark, Alexander Butler, Elizabeth Cameron, George Campkin, Alice Cheshire, Katy Courtnell, Emma Dorricott, James Harper, Sebastian Hiller, Theodore Hornsey, Oliver Nash, Ajay Patel, Tom Randall, Alexandre Sautreau, Jack Silver, Olivia Smitherman

History: Harry David-Marks

Science: Harry Davis-Marks, Max Hill

RS: Joseph McAuley (x2), Georgia Wright (x2), Rhys Johnson, Kathryn Lock, Jack O'Leary, Michael Rollins, Jack Silver,

Handwriting: George Sinden

Reading: Joseph Allen (x2), Michaela Clancy (x2), Caitlin Hoddle (x2), Oliver Barnett, Rory Bishop, Sabrina Choi, Harry Davis-Marks, Maxim Greenfield, Jamie Mellor, Devlin Stigant, James Woodward

Spelling: Grace Acklam, Joshua Atkins, Thomas Austin, Archie Bennett, Sabrina Choi, Henrietta Clare, Daniel Garcia Tarifa, Thomas Groves, Rebecca Hawdon, Alice Leonard, Oliver Nash, Phoebe Simons, Emma Watkins

ICT: Archie Bennett, Harry Davis-Marks, Max Hill, Philip Macanovic

D.T.: Oliver Morrell

Dance: Georgina McTear

Conduct: Oliver Nash

Homework: Charlotte Amenta-Lynch, George Campkin, Sebastian Hiller, Ajay Patel, Tom Randall, Olivia Smitherman, Amy Stokely, Matthew Waters,

KS1 HONOURS

The following pupils signed the Honours Book this week: Adam Buckley (x2), Grace Beardsley (x2), Emily Clark (x2), Yasmin Dyer (x2), Freddie Fenton (x2), Jevon Hannah (x2), Harry Hellyer (x2), Erik Hillman (x2), Robert Mitchell (x2), Ben Priory (x2), Lucy Albuery, Omar Al-Rahim, Giordano Avondo, Harry Barnett, Henry Buckle, Taariq Cassamo, James Christensen, Rebecca Cleary, Poppy Davenport, Ashwin Elanchcheliyan, Ethan Hards, Samuel Head, Louie Howe-Walsh, Zaeem Kara, Sakina Khaja, Alex Ly, Milla Macanovic, Sophie Matheson, Tess Matheson, Nathan McBride, Hannah Millerchip, Maddy Oliver, Meha Patel, Isabelle Pearce, Tom Shahrn, Dan Sherburn, Quinn Sinton-Gerry, Nahum Stocker, Alice Acklam, Danny Atherton, Alexander Barker, Samuel Bayco, Tara Bell, Tilly Bell, Claudia Bishop, Elliot Chubb, Cameron Clarke, Annabel Cunningham, Oliver Donworth, William Doyle, Jon Garcia Tarifa, Rory Gillies, Matilda Goldman, Aimon Haba, Stewart Jack, Grant Jackson, Sophie Jennings, Charlotte Johnson, Edward Lovatt, Samara Materna, Jaden McCoy, Callum Percival, Louise Shannon, Ethan Simmonds, Henry Simmons, Benjamin Steggall, Adam Stokely, Ollie Tinson, Toby Wingham, Oliver Wisbey, Henry Wood



SPORT



SATURDAY SPORT

HILSEA GAMES

There will be practices for **KEYSTAGE 2 PUPILS** at Hilsea this Saturday from 0930 to 1045. Saturday morning games are voluntary. There will be cricket for the boys and rounders for the girls as well as tennis for both boys and girls if numbers permit.

FIXTURES

Saturday 2nd May—10.30

U11A Cricket v Durlston Court (away)

U9A Cricket v Durlston Court (home)

WEEKDAY SPORT

POLITE NOTICE

There are occasions when weekday games sessions have to be cancelled even when the weather would appear to be fine. We strongly recommend that you make it a weekly habit to telephone the games line number on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The date is always stated on these occasions to ensure that there can be no misunderstanding. It would be appreciated if you could avoid ringing the Junior School Office for this information to leave the office free to deal with other communications.

FIXTURES

Wednesday 6th May—1500

U11A,B,C,D,E Rounders v Guildford High (away)

ANSWERPHONE SYSTEM

In the event of uncertainty due to inclement weather please check above sports arrangements using the answerphone system. Please phone the School on Saturday morning from 8.00 a.m. On weekday games days please phone from 1.30 p.m. **The number to ring is 02392 364266.** In **EMERGENCIES ONLY** please ring the following number: **07738 958314**

CHANGE TO YEAR 4 SWIMMING

The Year 4 swimming timetable has changed and the following will now apply:

4P & 4G—First half term

4J & 4S—Second half term

DESIGN A POSTER FOR THE SUMMER FETE

Open to everyone—Nursery, Reception, KS1 & KS2. Be as adventurous as you like.

Design your poster on a piece of A4 paper. You must put your name and class on the back of the design.

The competition will be judged in 2 categories: 1. Nursery, Reception and KS1 and 2. KS2.

All entries to be handed in to class teacher or Junior School office by Friday 8th May.