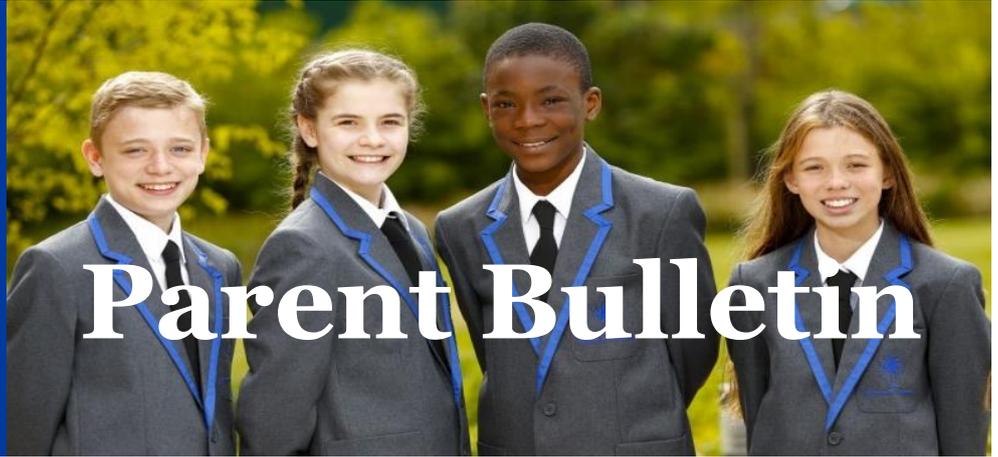




The
Portsmouth Academy

Week 6B

w/c 11 Oct 2021



Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher – Mrs Grey, Principal



Both Mr Dolphin and I were able to take the time to meet with a range of students for Hot Chocolate last week. We discussed the current reward system and they were able to articulate what they loved about it, and where the system could be improved.

All the children said they really valued our 'Class Accolade' process. This is where a teacher is able to acknowledge the learning of the whole class being at such a level they wish for a member of the Senior Leadership Team, or Pastoral Team, to come along and praise the class. All students are then rewarded with a positive habit point. On some days we have had as many as 28 of these, which shows how fantastic the learning across the Academy is. All the children also love it when postcards are sent home by tutors, class teachers and Heads of Year to recognise their achievements. Unfortunately, not all of the children we met with had yet received these and so we have notified the relevant staff members and asked that this be completed asap.

Some of their ideas for further rewards were...movie nights, whole school events for all those who have achieved well, more focus on house competition in assemblies, and a follow up reward trip for those who could not go at the end of last year due to the need to self isolate.

Once again it was a pleasure to meet with the children and I very much look forward to my next hot chocolate!

GL Assessments – Miss French, Assistant Principal for KS3

Year 8 GL Assessments in English, Maths and Science: 11th – 15th October 2021

Week beginning 11th October 2021, all Year 8 students will be completing their GL assessments. These assessments are national progress tests and will be completed in Maths, Science and English over the course of the week in normal lesson time with their subject teachers. Each assessment will be done online using a school device and the students do not need to revise before the assessment.

For information, please check your child's tutor group to see which days their assessments will fall on.

	MONDAY 11th Oct	TUESDAY 12th Oct	WEDNESDAY 13th Oct	THURSDAY 14th Oct	FRIDAY 15th Oct
8DAK	Maths	English		Maths	English & Science
8JAR	Maths	English		Maths & English	Science
8LOP	Maths & Science	English		Maths	English
8PAY	English	English	Science	Maths	Maths
8CUR	Science		English	Maths & English	Maths
8GAM		English	Science	Maths & English	Maths
8KEN		Science	English	Maths	Maths & English
8SEY	English	Science		Maths & English	Maths
8SMA	English	Science		Maths	Maths & English

Tutors will remind the children when they are completing each assessment, but please use this for reference to help prepare your child each day.

If you have a set of cabled headphones with a jack attachment, please allow your child to bring those to school (there are low cost options for these available) next week for each of their assessments.

If you have any questions please direct them to tutors in the first instance.

Important Dates

Tuesday 12th October

Year 7 'Meet the Tutors' Evening

Wednesday 20th October

Year 11 Intervention Evening

Friday 22nd October

INSET Day – School closed to students

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October

Half Term

At-Home Lateral Flow Testing

We would like to remind parents that it is advised that all students are to continue with the at-home lateral flow testing.

Year Group	1 st Weekly Test	2 nd Weekly Test
11	Evening of Friday 15th October	Evening of Tuesday 19th October
10	Evening of Saturday 16th October	Evening of Wednesday 20th October
9	Evening of Sunday 17th October	Evening of Thursday 21st October
8	Evening of Monday 18th October	Evening of Friday 22nd October
7	Evening of Tuesday 19th October	Evening of Saturday 23rd October

If your child's test result is positive, we ask you to inform us by either emailing absence@theportsmouthacademy.org.uk or completing the digital form at <https://bit.ly/3eL9VHM>

Heads of Year

Year 7 – Miss Piper

Reminder that it is 'Meet the Tutor' evening on Tuesday 12th October and you will have had your allocated time emailed to you. Please let me know if you did not receive this.

In PSHE next week Year 7 will be completing their PASS tests. These tests help us determine your child's learning style so that teachers are able to adapt their lessons to support.

Year 8 – Mr Lock

#Team2025 are up to 55% of the year group on 25+ habit points which is excellent, coupled with the feel-good factor of a 4-2 victory in the local football derby. This week's assembly topic is 'Be kind, be polite and be respectful' which will address how the pupils should be conducting themselves in lessons, at break and lunch and over social media. With only two weeks left until half term there is still plenty of time to gain extra habit points in the e-platform reading competition.

Finally, can I please ask that all parents access the Class Charts parent app as soon as possible. Our aim is to complete as much, if not all communication through the app which will also give you a detailed breakdown of your child's behaviour, both positive and negative. If you need further login instructions please contact your child's tutor.

Year 10 – Mr M. Smith

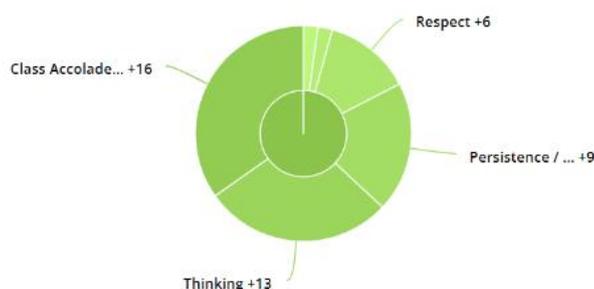
Thank you for your continued support with your child's uniform. As the weather gets colder, we will of course see students wearing their coats to school. Could you please remind your child that their coat must not be worn in the building? I would also like to remind you that hoodies are not part of the uniform and will be confiscated if they are worn in school.

PSHE Theme: Mental Health

Year 10– Mr Parnell

Thank you to all of those parents who have downloaded and are using 'Class Charts'. It is an incredibly powerful tool for communicating transparently between staff and parents. You will be able to see both positive and negative entries made for your child.

We have also noticed a lot of the Year 10 students using the app themselves in order to monitor their very own 'wagon wheel' - hopefully it will look like the one below!



We continue our careers theme in PSHE lessons and I am delighted that Portsmouth College are delivering an assembly next week for our students. I am very keen that students have a focus and direction very early on in their GCSE studies; this will help them to aim for a bright future.

Regards,
Mr Parnell and Mr Snokes

PSHE Theme: Career choices – my future after TPA

Year 11 – Miss Hart

After a tough week last week, the majority of the year group have continued to make us proud. Lots of them have been talking to me about the college open evenings they have attended and are starting to discuss with me their plans for when they leave TPA. Please continue to have these discussions at home as this can support in the application process which we are currently covering in PSHE lessons.

Just a gentle reminder that hoodies are not part of the school uniform and should not be worn on the school premises. Please can you contact myself or Mr Denman if there is an emergency issue with uniform so that we can arrange for your child to have a uniform pass. It has also been noticed that students are not arriving equipped for lesson, please can you ensure your students has the necessary equipment with them for school.

Thank you all for your support.

All the best,
Miss Hart

Nellie the Recycling Fish by the Eco Schools Club



Nellie joined TPA on the 20th of September, and stayed until the 7th of October. She encouraged many students and staff to put more effort into recycling their plastic bottles and aluminium cans.

Altogether, we recycled 1137 bottles and 807 cans, a fantastic effort and a big well done to everybody that contributed. Particular thanks to members of the Eco Schools Club who kindly helped empty Nellie each week and count up all the bottles and cans. Also, a thank you to the Eco Warriors from Meon Juniors and New Horizons who helped feed Nellie. Finally, an

enormous thank you to the Final Straw Foundation for letting Nellie come to visit TPA.

Journeys Festival International at St Mary's Church



15th – 24th October 2021
9am – Noon or 7 – 9pm

St Mary's will be co-hosting a major light and sound installation as part of a national festival. It is interactive and reflects on the experience of Refugees.

Please book here: <https://mailchi.mp/artreach.biz/jfiports2021celebrationevent-4821942?e=Odda71f729>

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one game of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents Need to Know about

POKÉMON GO



Pokémon GO has been among the world's most popular mobile games since its spectacular release in 2016. It's recently enjoyed a resurgence, thanks partly to people combining entertainment and exercise during lockdown. In Pokémon GO – like the Pokémon TV show, trading card series and other video games – players capture, train and battle with their Pokémon creatures: physically exploring locations while using augmented reality via their phone's screen. The game generally provides a positive experience, but there are still some safety concerns to consider.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Pokémon GO requires players to visit in-game landmarks like Pokéstops and Gyms. These are often situated at public real-world locations such as churches or post offices. Sometimes, however, they can inadvertently end up being placed in dangerous areas which are unsuitable for children, even when accompanied by an adult: near a construction site or a main road, for example.

STRANGERS & MEETING OFFLINE

Players often cooperate with friends in the game, and there are many online discussion hangouts. As well as sharing tips and info, these groups may arrange to meet offline to catch Pokémon or attend raids (communal events where players flock to the same real-world place for a mass battle). This can put children at risk of being messaged and invited to meet by strangers under the pretence of talking about the game.

DATA COLLECTION

When a player logs into their Pokémon GO account, the game collects personal data about the user and their device. Locations, emails, names, ages and even camera images can all be accessed. What then happens to this information is open to debate. Niantic, the game's developers, maintain that they do not sell user information to third parties – but the fact that they have it at all is a concern, nonetheless.

VISIBLE PROFILES & LOCATION

Pokémon GO players can add each other as 'friends' in the game by sharing their trainer codes. Two trainers who do this can then view each other's information, such as their username. If a username gives any clues to the player's real name or personal details, a stranger may then be able to look them up online. The game also lets users upload images to social media, which could publicly disclose a child's exact location.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game uses a currency called Pokécoins, which can be bought for real money (in bundles between £0.79 and £99.99) and exchanged for in-game items such as Pokéballs and berries. It's extremely easy for a child to purchase Pokécoins (even accidentally) if there's a payment method connected to their mobile phone – and possibly rack up a sizeable bill without realising it!

Advice for Parents & Carers

PLAY ALONGSIDE YOUR CHILD

Finding and catching Pokémon with young ones could turn into a great mutual hobby. At 25 years old, it's one of the few games franchises that spans two generations. Enjoying the game together will give you plenty of new things to talk about with your child – and if you played Pokémon in your own childhood, you might impress them with your knowledge of the digital critters!

ENCOURAGE AWARENESS

Remind your child of the physical dangers they could face while catching Pokémon and emphasise staying aware of their surroundings. The game will often alert children (through their phone) when they are close to an interesting Pokémon item – usually sending them excitedly rushing off to find it – so they should never play Pokémon GO near busy roads or in places they don't know well.

DISGUISE THE EXERCISE

One of Pokémon GO's benefits is that it encourages young (and not-so-young!) ones to get exercise outdoors. Some parts of the game can be completed from home, but it's best experienced while walking around your local area. Certain tasks (like visiting Pokéstops) can be repeated every day – and an hour outside having fun catching Pokémon will hardly feel like exercise at all!

USE AN OLDER PHONE

If children use an older phone to play Pokémon GO, then they won't be walking around with their own new device, which could get broken or stolen. Parents are also far less likely to have left a credit card linked to the old mobile. It also means that you can limit the amount of information used to set up an account, and what companies who gain access to your data can do with it.

AGREE PLAY BOUNDARIES

Ensure your child knows where they are (and aren't) allowed to go searching for Pokémon, when they have to be home, and how often they can play the game. Talk to other young Pokémon GO fans' parents or carers to see what boundaries they set for their children. Lunchtimes (if allowed by the school) or after school are ideal times for getting some exercise and catching all those Pokémon!

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world: UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Having started gaming at a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work – but, more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES: <https://heimdalsecurity.com/blog/is-pokemon-go-safe/>
<https://bleedinggood.com/games/pokemon-go-announces-quality-of-life-updates-for-february-2021/>