



The  
Portsmouth Academy

**Week 22B**

w/c 28 Feb 2022



# Parent Newsletter

## Important Dates

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February – INSET Day

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March – All students return to school

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 Parents' Evening

## Heads of Year

### Year 7 – Miss Piper

Team 2026 have accrued a total of 2833 habit points last week with 7KEL smashing it for the second week running with 344. Well done Year 7, this is incredible! Since September, #Team2026 have accrued a massive 39111 points.

In my drop ins to your child's lessons this week my focus has been on classroom behaviour. I have found that the majority of the year group are very respectful towards their teacher and their peers. However, I have seen some low-level behaviour that means the teacher has to stop teaching the class to deal with one child. I will be asking teachers to clamp down on this. Please check Class Charts closely over the coming weeks and support us by talking to your child about their conduct in lessons please.

#### How can you help?

We are focussing on equipment in school this week. Can you please make sure your child has a well-stocked pencil case with a visit to the stationary section in your local supermarket. Please remind your child about our uniform policy. Hoodies are not allowed in school and should be saved for weekend wear. If your child is cold, they can wear a plain charcoal grey jumper under their blazer. Tesco and Asda have some great ones for children now. No logos on them please.

Kind regards,

Miss Piper and Miss Bothma-Lubbe

### Year 8 – Mr Lock

The Year 8 cohort achieved an extra 229 positive habit points compared to last week and have finished the term off in style. The addition of 'RESPECT' to our 'ASPIRE and ACHIEVE' school ethos has been clear throughout the past 7 weeks. This was evident on Wednesday when our Year 8 boys Rugby team placed an impressive 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 8 in a very strong Rugby tournament, a big well done to them!

This week's habit point winners were 8JAR, GAM and LOP with 209, 181 and 110 respectively. Once again, we had much fewer late marks this week at both the beginning of the day and during lesson changeover. This has resulted in a much better learning environment which can be seen in the increase of positive and decrease of negative habit points.

Finally, I would like to wish all our students and parents a restful half term and remind all to spend as much time together as possible. If, of course our students do get bored there is always the option of completing some additional reading and Hegarty Maths tasks.

## **Year 9 – Mr M. Smith**

Across this half term, Year 9 have accumulated 840 positive habit points, which is a fantastic total! The tutor group with the most habit points continues to be 9JAM, leading the way with 488 – well done to Mr. James and the students in his tutor group!

This week, my assembly focussed on the theme of respect, which has run through most of our PSHE lessons this half term. I asked the students to reflect on how they have been more respectful throughout this half term, and what they have done differently. Since September, the year group have had over 2,100 awarded for acting respectfully, with the majority of those awarded in the latter part of the year, which shows that the students are beginning to reflect on their actions – this is fantastic!

When we return to school after half term, we will be focussing on equipment and ensuring that every student is equipped for the day ahead. Please ensure your child returns with a well-stocked pencil case!

We will also be celebrating World Book Day when we return, so please encourage your child to bring a reading book into school.

Many thanks,  
Mr. Smith

## **Year 10 – Mr Parnell**

After the half term, I am looking forward to speaking to the students in person during my Head of Year Assembly after a period of video assemblies. Hopefully with the promise of better weather on the horizon we can all look forward to an action-packed second half to Year 10.

I will be reminding the Year group that it will only be a year until they are preparing for their GCSE exams and that they will come around quicker than they believe.

I hope you have a restful half term break.

Best wishes,  
Mr Parnell

## Year 11 – Miss Hart

The Year 11s have continued to make me extremely proud this week with their attitudes and conduct towards their mock exams. Teachers will be sharing the results of these at Parents' Evening on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. More information regarding Parents' Evening will be sent to you in due course but we are excited to welcome you back in to the school for the most important Parents' Evening of your child's education and discuss with you how we can support your child together through their last few months at TPA.

The exams have helped us understand that a lot of students are coming in to school unprepared by not having any equipment. During the half term break, please can I ask that you check your child has everything they need for their learning and please contact myself or Mr Denman if there are issues regarding this where we will do our best to support.

Have a great week.  
Miss Hart

## Year 11 Countdown

There are **42** school days left until GCSE exams begin.

## School Phone Number

The Portsmouth Academy's phone number is 0333 360 2200. Please ensure that you have saved this number on your mobile devices as any calls to our old phone number are no longer being forwarded to us.

## French & Spanish GCSE - Year 11 Mock Speaking Exams

Year 11 French and Spanish students have speaking exams the first week back after half term. The French exams take place on either Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> or Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March with Miss Pszonak. The Spanish exams are on either Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> or Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March with Mrs Scarcliffe. Please check your child knows their exam time and direct them to their teacher if they do not. The exam consists of 3 parts: a role play, describing a photo and the general conversation. All students have chosen a general conversation topic that they should have prepared answers to already. Please remind them to revise the answers to their questions over half term. Thank you for your support.

Mrs Scarcliffe (Curriculum Leader for MFL)

## FSM Vouchers

If you are entitled to FSM please check your emails to cover the half term period. If you have any problems please contact Miss Meale at [k.meale@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:k.meale@tsatrust.org.uk)

## Medical – Miss Friend, Medical and Wellbeing Officer

Just a general reminder that if your child is asthmatic, please make sure they have their inhaler on them. Often children with asthma don't need them within school but it's always safe to carry it. This is the same with **school trips and away sporting events.**

Please continue to do your LFT testing at home so we can keep the school as safe as possible.

## Literacy Activities – Miss Fox, Reading Champion

### Portsmouth BookFest 2022

The Portsmouth BookFest 2022 runs from Monday 21 February to Sunday 13 March. Please visit their website for a programme of events: [Portsmouth BookFest 2022 – Public Library Service](#)

## Parent Newsletter Survey

We're working on improving the Parent Newsletter to better engage and communicate with parents. Share your feedback in this quick 2 minute survey.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s23q1ha\\_kkmgEHn2ijmNvBw1WhDCSDdOii8goP72iAFUMFY1UFdXM09FM0tYODY4NjhQNEUxMThPUC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s23q1ha_kkmgEHn2ijmNvBw1WhDCSDdOii8goP72iAFUMFY1UFdXM09FM0tYODY4NjhQNEUxMThPUC4u)

## Attendance – Mrs Blake and Miss Osborne

### 7<sup>th</sup> February – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Year Group	Percentage
<b>7</b>	<b>94.2</b>
8	90.8
9	91.5
10	88.8
11	88.9
Whole School	91.0

Best Tutor Group	Percentage
7FLE	97.7
8CUR	96.0
9HAS	97.3
10MAS	91.5
<b>11BEG</b>	<b>98.0</b>

Congratulations to the tutor groups from each year group with the highest attendance LAST week. 11BEG were the weekly overall winners so they received their reward on Monday

Attendance Attack will be taking place on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022**, the day all students are due back to school after the Half Term break. The easiest habit point a student will ever receive!

#TPARocksAttendance #MissSchoolMissOut #TPAAttendanceAttack



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 of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# 10 Top Tips for Respect Online: A DIGITAL WORLD FOR EVERYONE

Even before lockdowns inflamed the situation, one in every five 10- to 15-year-olds was experiencing bullying online: abusive messages, having rumours spread about them or being excluded from group chats, for example. Through smartphones and tablets, we're used to being able to communicate from anywhere, at any time – but digital devices became commonplace so quickly that it caused a problem: as a society, we haven't properly adjusted to how different they've made life. Our tips can help you to build positive relationships online and avoid some of the potential issues.

## WHAT IS NETIQUETTE?

Etiquette is a set of rules to help us interact with others; like a code of respect. People follow this code every day (mostly without even thinking about it) and it can help us decide how to act in certain situations. 'Netiquette' (etiquette on the net – we see what they did there!) is the same, except it's designed to help us interact with others online, which is sometimes a whole different ball game.

### 1 SEE THE OTHER SIDE

Usually when we're online, we can't use the other person's body language or tone of voice to give us clues about what we can say to them, or how to say it. Try to think what the situation might be like for them, how they're feeling and whether we'd say the same thing if they were actually there with us.

### 2 HIT THE PAUSE BUTTON

Without a person physically there in front of us, it's easy to send something quickly – before we've really thought about whether it's helpful or kind. Just because we can do things quickly doesn't mean we should; it's better to pause for a second and think it through, instead of simply reacting.

### 3 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

People have invented loads of different ways to communicate online (emojis, abbreviations like LOL, TBH and so on). Some of these can be triggering to other people (such as USING CAPS SO IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SHOUTING!), so it's important to stay aware of the style of language you're using.

### 4 BE SURE BEFORE YOU POST

On social networks like Instagram or Facebook, vast numbers of people might see what you've posted. So if that's something negative about a person, it can feel hugely painful for them. If you're ever tempted to post something like that, ask yourself "do I really need to go public with this?"

### 5 PROTECT YOURSELF

Always think very carefully before sharing any personal information with someone else or in a group. Once something's been put online, the sender loses any control over where it goes and who might see it. If you've got any uncertainty at all, it's a good idea to talk to a trusted adult about this first.

### 6 KINDNESS IS CATCHING

Negative communication can spread rapidly online, but so can being kind and helpful (this happened quite a lot during lockdowns, for instance). A friendly, positive message can make a big difference to someone as well as helping us feel good about ourselves – so share the love!

### 7 WAITING CAN BE HARD

When we've sent a message or posted something online, waiting for a reply or for someone to respond can make us anxious. It could be helpful to think whether you really have to message or post right now – or if you could wait until a better time when it will cause you less anxiety.

### 8 THE NET LOVES ATTENTION

Most apps, games and sites use sophisticated technology that's designed to keep us coming back for more. It's important to keep this in mind when you feel the need to reach for your phone, tablet or console – once we understand this fact, it becomes easier to control how we use our digital devices.

### 9 REPLY WISELY

Sometimes it's tempting to fire back an instant response to a post or message we don't like. How we respond is important, however – whether we reply privately to the person or on a platform where lots of people will see it, for example, makes a big difference to how whoever is receiving the message will deal with it.

### 10 FORGIVE AND FORGET

Even though we try to avoid them, mistakes can – and do – happen online. They can sometimes feel like a bigger deal than they actually are. It's important to remember that we're all only human, and sometimes we mess up. Learn to forgive others and – just as importantly – to forgive yourself.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who, through her research, specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with businesses and organisations to support positive and effective communication online, often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the mediums.



Source: <https://www.nos.gov.uk/people/people-at-risk-and-community/crime-and-justice/justice-for-the-future/online-safety-for-children-and-young-people/2020>  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/349443\\_The\\_Online\\_Domination\\_Effect](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/349443_The_Online_Domination_Effect)

