

Weekly Update 30.06.2017

School Holidays

The school is now on holiday for the summer and will re-open to pupils on 16 August. Please note that the school office is closed until Tuesday 8 August. Any families needing to make contact should use email via admin@portobello.edin.sch.uk We wish all families a happy summer holiday – hopefully the weather will improve again!

Staffing Update

As always at the end of term we have a number of staffing changes and say goodbye to a number of colleagues who have worked as part of Team Porty. We wish them all well and thank them for all they have done for the school and its pupils.

- Ms Dowling has completed her temporary stint with us in the Music Department
- Miss Barrett has successfully completed her NQT year in PE and leaves us to take up a post in London
- Miss Scott has also successfully completed her NQT year and is staying with us as a Teacher of Chemistry
- Mrs Coates and Mrs Ritchie have begun their maternity leave
- Mrs O'Neill, Administrative Assistant in our school office leaves us to take up the post of Business Manager in Preston St Primary School
- Mr Nicolson has retired from his job as our Senior Science Technician after 30 years of service in PHS
- Mr Matthews retires from our Maths Department after 35 years in the school
- Mr Beveridge retires from our CDT department after 17 years in the school.

SQA Exam Results

SQA Exam Results will arrive with pupils on Tuesday 8 August. Whilst we hope all goes well with the SQA exams, we realise this isn't always the case for everyone and that sometimes pupils need to reconsider the courses they are taking next year. There will be the opportunity to meet with school staff by appointment on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 August between 09:30 and 14:30 each day. Appointments can be made by phoning the school office from Tuesday 8 August. It should be noted that some classes will be full and that the range of available courses may be restricted. These appointments are for pupils whose exam results are not as expected. All other pupils are expected to continue studying the courses they chose in March.

Edinburgh College will also be holding a drop-in surgery on 10 August from 14:00 to 18:30 where pupils can look at college options following their exam results. They will have a team on hand to provide information on courses with places available and to support applications on the day for courses starting in August 2017.

Save the Children Syria Appeal

The charities committee are pleased to announce we raised £637.35 on Friday for Save the Children's Syria Appeal. A huge thank you for your donations! This money will help to provide vital support to Syrian children living in besieged areas as well as those taking refuge in neighbouring countries. Well done to all who took part!

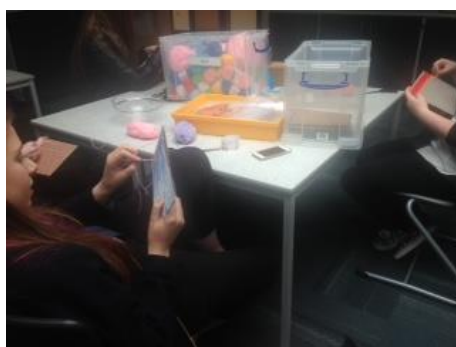
Young Ambassadors

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected as Young Ambassadors for Sports and Physical Activity!

Ethyn Smith	-	5BO9
Erin Crawford	-	4BO5
Stella Thompson	-	4BO9
Megan McCarthy	-	4BO5
Natasha Nicolson	-	5AO1

H Fashion and Textile Technology

The class have been working on fabric construction and so some experimental weaving is the main activity this week. They have been trying out different weaving styles and effects. The next activity will be felting.



Clothing Grants

The council is changing the way clothing grants are paid. Families who qualify and have applied for a clothing grant will receive a payment directly into their bank account. This payment should be received sometime after Monday 17 July and it will appear on your bank statement as 'clothing grant'. Please look out for updates on the council.

If you have not received your payment by Wednesday 2 August please contact the school grants team on 0131 469 3471

School Uniform

A letter regarding school uniform for the coming session was distributed to all parents earlier this week. Please support us by ensuring that your young person comes to school dressed appropriately and do remember that financial assistance with school dress is available. Our school dress code is:

Shirt or blouse:	White, long or short-sleeved
Skirt or trousers:	Plain and formal black
Jumper or cardigan:	Plain black (no hoodies please)
Shoes or trainers:	Plain black (no white trim or laces please)
School Tie:	Separate styles for S1-4, S5 and S6. Available from school office for £6 and provided to all learners when they join the school or move up into S5 or S6.

Edinburgh Schools Film Competition

Aimee Combe won the Best Documentary category at the Edinburgh Schools Film Competition, for her animation, 'Intersectional Feminism'. Katriona Tweedie's film 'Sync or Swim' was nominated in two categories and is currently being used to promote girls' participation in sport. Adam Dickson's film about his sister Emily was also nominated in the Best Documentary category. Big congratulations to all!



Rotary Youth Leadership Award

This summer, jointly sponsored by our local Portobello Rotary club and Portobello High School, Beth Ballantine will be attending a residential camp at Loch Tay. This opportunity will develop leadership skills and prepare Beth for her leadership role as Head Girl at Portobello High School.

Suspended Timetable

Thanks to all those who helped to organise our suspended timetable over the last week. A selection of photographs of activities follow!

Pride and Unprejudice

The Pride and Unprejudice Group had a Photography competition at Dr Neil's Garden and a Great Brownie Bake Off.



The Great Outdoors

30 brave pupils from S2,3,4+5 put up with the rain this week on 'The Great Outdoors' Suspended Timetable trip. They did a scavenger hunt in the Botanic Gardens, climbed Arthur's seat and learnt how to build shelters, light fires, and make Nettle tea with Primal Bushcraft in Dalkeith Country Park.



Jump Climb Fly

On a thankfully dry day (!) the group of S2-S4 had a splashing time at Fox Lake Water Assault course.



No Pain No Gain

