

Weekly Update – 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019

### **Silver Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition**

A hardy group of S5 pupils battled through all weathers to complete their Practice Expedition this week. They spent two nights out in the Borders, one of which they were wild camping. Walking about 17km a day with everything they needed on their backs was quite a challenge but they all rose to it! They have their Qualifying Expedition in a few weeks.



### **Extra-Curricular Sport & Activity Clubs**

All Clubs start the week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> August (with the exception of Porty Bike Club – which starts on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September). To take part bookings must be made online at [www.joininedinburgh.org](http://www.joininedinburgh.org) - type in code POR-45 (for a full membership – all clubs), POR-20 (for Rugby membership only) or POR-00 for the free clubs. Please note that for those in receipt of Free School Meals or Clothing and Footwear Grant the clubs are free (just tick the box ☺). Parents are reminded that the school can offer financial assistance for taking part in clubs and activities through its Inclusion Fund – please contact us in confidence to discuss. Anyone not signed up will not be able to take part as our coaches/instructors need medical/emergency contacts for all pupils they have in their care.

### **Bookzilla is launched!**

On Monday, a group of Portobello pupils took part in the launch of Bookzilla, a free app commissioned by the Scottish Book Trust. It is designed to encourage teens to read more. Last November, app developers Dubit held a “design summit” in school to consult S1-3 pupils at the early design stages. We helped them by suggesting ideas and functions we thought the app could have. Later in the year, some Key Adult groups voted on a name and design for the app, which you can now download on your phone or iPad.

Through Bookzilla, you can receive book recommendations, take on reading “dares” and set challenges to motivate you to read more or more widely. Our First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon was invited by the Scottish Book Trust to launch the app, so we met her in Portobello Library to show her how it works. She said, “Whether you’re an avid reader or new to reading for pleasure, one of the greatest challenges is deciding what to read next. It’s been great

seeing Portobello High School pupils, who helped develop the Bookzilla app, talk about how it will help them find suggestions for new books to try in the future.”

I really enjoyed looking at the app and think it will be very useful in the future. My friends Hazel and Omar thought it was nerve-racking to meeting the FM, but they have realised she is just another person. It was great to have the opportunity to ask her about climate change, Brexit, and to find out whether she is interested in the views of young people. A few of us got some great selfies too!

*Ishbel Macdonald, S2*



## Portobello Village Show

Please see details below of the Portobello Village Show in Rosefield Park on Sunday 1st September.

POD PRESENTS  
**Portobello VILLAGE SHOW 2019**

Sunday 1st September  
2-5pm, Rosefield Park, Portobello

A guaranteed fun-packed afternoon for all at this year's show. There are competitions to enter, activities to get involved in, and live music to enjoy, along with the much-loved show competitions, duck races, dog show, stalls, sports activities, tea tent, bar, and great local food. We'll be finishing up with the famous tug-of-war!

email: [info@the-pod.org](mailto:info@the-pod.org) | [www.the-pod.org](http://www.the-pod.org)

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2019  
**VILLAGE SHOW**

COMPETITIONS 2019

**FRUIT OR VEG ENDANGERED SPECIES**  
This category is a show classic – will it be a green bean turtle, or a cabbage rhino?

**LEGO TRANSPORT OF THE FUTURE**  
How will we be getting around in the year 3000? Bring along your best Lego creations.

**PORTOBELLO FLAG**  
Design your best flag to represent all-things Portobello. This can be done on fabric or paper.

**RECYCLED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS**  
That's right. Whether Led Zeppelin would use it, or maybe it's more Bach's thing...create your best musical instrument from recycled materials.

**UPCYCLED T-SHIRTS**  
Get creative with your t-shirts. What can you make? A rug? A bag? Jewellery?

**PORTY PIE**  
Q: What can the whole Porty Pie do that the half Porty Pie can't do?  
A: It can look round. That's right, come with your best (and whole) meaty/vegetarian/vegan pies.

**STAR PRODUCE**  
We want to see Portobello's finest, biggest, juiciest, greenest garden or allotment offering. The competition's on!

Remember the competitions are open to all ages and abilities so no excuses! To enter, bring your entry to Rosefield Park between 12.30-2.15pm on Sunday 1st September. Winners will be announced around 4pm.

For further details on deadlines and rules go to [www.the-pod.org](http://www.the-pod.org) or visit us on Facebook.

**Portobello Open Door**

Fancy helping at this year's show? Email us at [info@the-pod.org](mailto:info@the-pod.org) Go on, we need you!

## Letter

All parents should have received a letter outlining the City of Edinburgh Council's recent decision on Climate Change Protests for this session. Please contact our office if you have not received this.

## **Twitter**

If you have a Twitter account, please follow the school @PortobelloHigh for our latest news.