

Weekly Update 18th June 2021

Marking an Extraordinary Year



Session 20/21 has been unique. We have said many times that we are living through history. Our strength has been tested, both individually and collectively, in many ways by the twists and turns of the course which the pandemic has taken. The strong sense of community we feel as a school has been one aspect which has kept many of us going amidst all the uncertainty and worry. While we know that we are not yet out of the woods and that our society will feel the effects of the pandemic for years to come, there is a growing sense of confidence that things are - finally - looking more positive.

We wanted to mark this extraordinary year in our school's history in a way that really captures the essence of #TeamPorty – an incredible array of individuals, each one unique and special, who come together through the shared experience of our school. A positive and inclusive way to reflect the fantastic diversity in our community and express individual hopes for our collective future. We have Fraser Cruickshank of our departing S6 to thank for planting the seed of an idea which is now becoming a reality.

Over the course of the last week, each young person, including our departing S6 and our incoming P7, has been given a coloured wooden star and invited to write their hope for the future on the reverse. These rainbow coloured stars will be arranged together and the resulting galaxy will form a permanent display in the heart of our school to serve as a lasting reminder of the time we spent apart - and the power of being together.

Summer Concert Success

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part in a fantastic virtual Summer Concert last night and a special thank you to Jack Gardner and Mhairi Klein, both now S5, for their awesome organisation and wizardry.

We had over a hundred families watching our live stream and by the time we consider the fact that there were several people watching on most links, we reckon we had a record-breaking audience! We know some guests dialled in from further afield (Canada being the furthest away which we know of) and it is lovely to think that our talented young musicians played a part in creating a shared family experience at a time when we have been forced to spend so much time apart.

Once our vast recording uploads to YouTube, we will share a link which will allow even more people to enjoy a brilliant evening's entertainment.



S3 iPad Launch

There was great excitement in Key Adult Time yesterday morning when our new S3 got their hands on their new school iPads. We look forward to being a completely 1:1 school early next session when iPads will be rolled out to S1 and S2.

Health Care Information for Pupils in S2 – S6 Session 2021/22

As we come to the end of this session, we want to update our health care records to make sure we are looking after our young people whilst they are in our care. The Guidance issued by the City of Edinburgh Council requires various forms to be completed depending on the health care needs of a young person. To help us issue the correct form as quickly as possible we would be most grateful if you could take the time to complete the short questionnaire which can be accessed on the link below. Even if your child has no health care needs, can you please complete the form, so that we know we have reached out to all our parents and carers.

If you have difficulty accessing the form, please contact the office and someone at school will help you complete it. Forms should be submitted by the end of the day **Monday 21st of June 2021**.

<https://forms.office.com/r/HTifMQR5eu>



SQA Update

As part of the SQA's Alternative Certification Model, our teachers are busy determining provisional grades, which will be submitted to the SQA on Friday 25 June.

In common with all City of Edinburgh schools, our young people will be emailed their provisional grades after school on **Wednesday 23 June** and parents/carers will also receive a copy of the letter by email. Pupils who have just left school can access their school email through office 365 on any device with their school user name and password.

The letter will include details of the SQA's appeals process, details of which can be found on the SQA website:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/79049.html>

The SQA has also produced an information booklet for pupils: https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/SQA-Appeals-2021-what-you-need-to-know.pdf

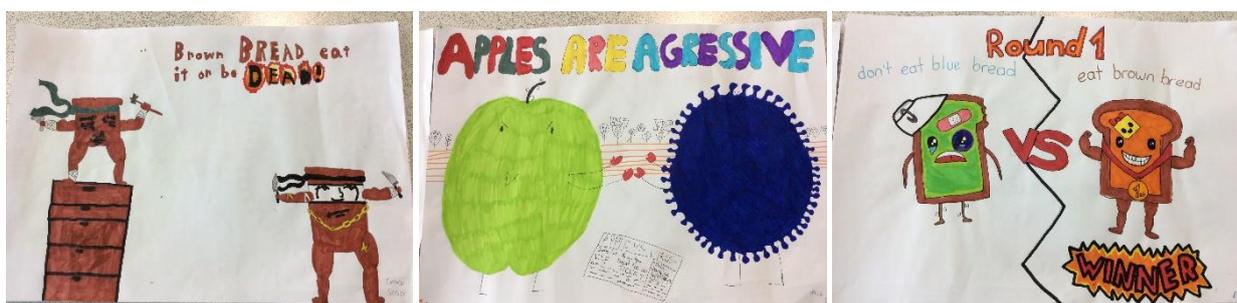
Should you have any questions at this stage, please contact Admin@portobello.edin.sch.uk

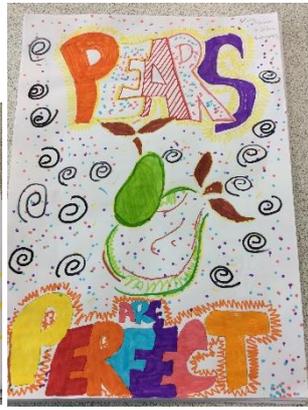
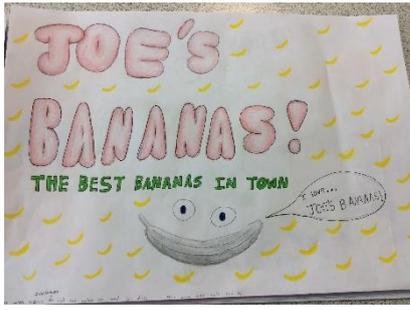
Mobile Phone Consultation

A reminder that the parent consultation has been shared via email this week and we would appreciate having your feedback by Wednesday 23 June.

News from FFT

S1 now in second year were asked to design a poster using a catchy slogan, alliteration or both as part of their healthy eating literacy unit to finish off the academic year. Attached are a selection of their efforts.





Portobello CFA 200

Finn Middleton and Jay Mill, both in the new S3 year group, play for the local Football club -Portobello CFA 200 and train on the Porty pitches and at Bingham park. The club, the boys, their coaches and the parents are extremely proud of what they have achieved this season with their hat-trick of wins:

Under 14's 1st division League Winners 🏆

Kenny McLean Cup Winners 🏆

South East Region Cup Winners 🏆

They play in the final of the Willie Bauld Cup on Sunday 20th June and hope to make it a 4th win.



Karate

Congratulation to **Lottie Burnham S4** who has secured a place on the Scotland National karate team. Lottie has been selected to represent Scotland at the European Championships to be held in Tampere, Finland this August. Well done Lottie!

Congratulations also to **Daniel Lyons S5**, Daniel has recently attained 8th place in the World rankings.