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# Portobello High School

## Snippets



### Dates for the diary

#### April

2nd - Spring Concert

4<sup>th</sup> - All finish

22<sup>nd</sup> - All resume

24<sup>th</sup> - S4-6 pupils begin study leave. S4 pupils will receive a personalised study leave timetable. Some S4 pupils will not receive the full study leave allocation and will attend school as normal during May. Full details will be emailed to S4 parents.

25<sup>th</sup> - SQA Exams begin.

### THE WEEK

- 1 The Navigator programme information including Easter school and immersion programme will be emailed on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- 2 S4-6 reports have been issued via the pupil tracking system and all parents/carers and young people should have received an email. If you cannot access your child's report then please contact the school office.
- 3 S4-6 pupils begin study leave on 24<sup>th</sup> April. S4 pupils will receive a personalised study leave timetable. Some S4 pupils will not receive the full study leave allocation and will attend school as normal during May. Full details will be emailed to S4 parents and young people will receive their timetables at the end of the week. S5/6 pupils will receive full study leave. All S4-6 pupils will return on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.
- 4 School uniform is available to purchase online or via the school office <https://portobellohighschool.imagescotland.com/>

## Marseum 900 Exhibition, Connecting Learners and Community with "Edinburgh 900"

Portobello High School proudly hosted its inaugural "Marseum 900" exhibition on Friday, 21st March, attracting an impressive turnout of over 700 visitors, including young people, parents and carers, school staff, and members of the wider community. The event was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback, showcasing the creativity, imagination, and teamwork of over 300 learners from across the school's learning community. Inspired by the city-wide "Edinburgh 900" celebrations, Marseum 900 challenged young learners to creatively envision Edinburgh as a vibrant hub of leisure, culture, and celebration, bringing together literacy, storytelling, and essential meta-skills in an interdisciplinary, collaborative project.

## Young Writers Success

Congratulations to Sam Gardner and Michael Crump, who have both been 'Highly Commended' in the prestigious Scottish Schools Young Writer of the Year competition for 2024/25. Michael Crump's thoughtful and compassionate review on Young Offender Institutions highlights the need for mercy, forgiveness, and a renewed approach to supporting youth in vulnerable circumstances. Sam Gardner provided an intriguing and eye-opening investigation into society's obsession with avocados, uncovering the severe environmental and social impacts associated with their trade. Well done to all participants.

## Developing the Young Workforce update

For the latest DYW newsletter visit <https://bit.ly/4if60ks>

## Sports Personality Nominations 2025

## New Dance Club!



## S6 Charities Committee update

The S6 Charities Committee are delighted to announce that over the last year Portobello High School has raised an amazing total of £1,183 pounds for Breast Cancer Now, Children in Need and Comic Relief, as well as 332kg of donations for The Trussell Trust! These charities help people up and down the country - as well as across the world - in a huge variety of ways, and Porty's generosity is supporting the incredible work they do.

We'd like to thank everyone who has contributed to our fundraising. Whether it's been donating in Key Adult, dressing down in colourful clothes, or buying from our bake sale, the support we've experienced has been amazing. We'd also like to give a special thank you to Miss Richards, as well as the staff in the office, for helping to facilitate these fundraisers.

Bailey Ewing Burnett S6

## S6 Update - Last day arrangements

As our senior students begin their exam leave on Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> April, we'd like to invite our S6 students back to school at the end of the exam period on Monday **2nd of June** for their official last day of high school. The S6 Leadership Team will be in touch soon with a more detailed plan, but in the meantime, please see a rough outline of the day below:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 9:30am  | iPad & Charger return, Optional Blazer return   |
|         | Shirt signing – collection of prom ticket & yearbook                                    |
| 11am    | S6 Awards   |
| 12:30pm | Beach party to be arranged by the S6 leadership team, including Beach BBQ & Pizza Party |

## Edinburgh School Mountain Biking Competition - Wed 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025

The inaugural Edinburgh Schools Mountain Biking competition will be held on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> June in Balerno and we are hoping to take a large group of young people to represent Portobello High School at the event. We have had a lot of interest in Mountain Biking through our outdoor education programme over the past few months and will be encouraging young people to take part in the competition. If you would like to enter then please email [greg.mcdowall@portobello.edin.sch.uk](mailto:greg.mcdowall@portobello.edin.sch.uk) If any parents/carers would like to get involved and support our participation at the event then please get in touch using the same email address above. The event is open to P7 pupils also so please pass this on to any P7 parents.



## Cross Country Success

PORTOBELLO HIGH SCHOOL

# JOE SMITH QUALIFIES FOR SCOTLAND

MARCH, 2025

At the recent Scottish Schools Cross Country Championship, Joe Smith an S4 pupil finished 8th in a field of 152 runners from across Scotland and in the process earned himself a call up to the Scotland squad.

Running the 5k course in 17 minutes 24 seconds, Joe finished comfortably inside the top 8, finishing 32 seconds ahead of 9th place.

Well done Joe!

A photograph of a young male runner, Joe Smith, standing on a grassy field. He is wearing a blue athletic singlet with a crest, black shorts, and pink running shoes. He is holding a white race bib with the number 2804 and SSAA. The background shows other people and trees in an outdoor setting.

# Key dates 2024/25

| Event   | Day/Date               |
|---|------------------------|
| Maths Week Scotland                                       | Mon 23rd Sep           |
| <b>S1 Parent/Carer evening</b>                            | <b>Tue 24th Sep</b>    |
| DYW Roadshow for S4-6 - Apprenticeships, Employers etc... | Wed 2nd Oct            |
| <b>S2 Sustainability Event</b>                            | <b>Mon 7th Oct</b>     |
| <b>All Finish</b>   | <b>Fri 11th Oct</b>    |
| <b>Pupils Resume</b>                                      | <b>Tue 22nd Oct</b>    |
| <b>Senior Phase Report 1</b>                              | <b>Wed 30th Oct</b>    |
| <b>S4 Parent/Carer evening</b>                            | <b>Wed 6th Nov</b>     |
| <b>Cabaret Concert 7pm</b>                                | <b>Fri 8th Nov</b>     |
| <b>S4-6 Prelim Navigator programme launch</b>             | <b>Mon 18th Nov</b>    |
| <b>S4-6 Music Practical Prelims</b>                       | <b>w/b 25th Nov</b>    |
| <b>S1-3 Report 1</b>                                      | <b>Wed 4th Dec</b>     |
| <b>S5/6 Parent/Carer evening</b>                          | <b>Thu 5th Dec</b>     |
| <b>S4 Prelims</b>   | <b>6-18th Dec</b>      |
| <b>All Finish</b>   | <b>Friday 20th Dec</b> |
| <b>Pupils resume</b>                                      | <b>Tue 7th Jan</b>     |
| <b>S5/6 Prelims</b>                                       | <b>7th-21st Jan</b>    |
| <b>Senior Phase Report 2(S4)</b>                          | <b>Fri 10th Jan</b>    |

| Event                                       | Day/Date              |
|---|-----------------------|
| <b>All Finish</b>                           | <b>Fri 7th Feb</b>    |
| <b>All Resume</b>                           | <b>Mon 17th Feb</b>   |
| <b>S4-6 Exam Navigator programme launch</b> | <b>Mon 17th Feb</b>   |
| <b>S3 Parent/Carer evening</b>              | <b>Wed 26th Feb</b>   |
| <b>S2 Parent/Carer evening</b>              | <b>Thu 6th March</b>  |
| <b>Senior Phase Report 3</b>                | <b>Wed 26th March</b> |
| <b>Parent Council Forum</b>                 | <b>Thu 27th March</b> |
| <b>All Finish</b>                           | <b>Fri 4th April</b>  |
| <b>All Resume</b>                           | <b>Tue 22nd April</b> |
| <b>Holiday</b>                              | <b>Mon 5th May</b>    |
| <b>Pupils resume</b>                        | <b>Wed 7th May</b>    |
| <b>S1-3 Report 2</b>                        | <b>Fri 9th May</b>    |
| <b>Holiday</b>                              | <b>19th May</b>       |
| <b>New Timetable (S1-3)</b>                 | <b>Mon 26th May</b>   |
| <b>Parent Council Forum (AGM)</b>           | <b>Tue 27th May</b>   |
| <b>New Timetable (S4-6)</b>                 | <b>Mon 2nd June</b>   |
| <b>P7 Transition</b>                        | <b>17-19th June</b>   |
| <b>Activities Week</b>                      | <b>23-26th June</b>   |
| <b>All Finish</b>                           | <b>26th June</b>      |