

# Court Lane Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed a brilliant start to the school year and the changes to the school day have gone well. In the Infants this has provided extra time for securing reading skills and at the Juniors this is extra focused time on Maths Mastery. Both are already having a positive impact on learning. We have asked for outcomes from the two week October half term pilot to be shared as quickly as possible from the Central Trust so that we can all plan for next year as far in advance as possible.

## **Harvest Festival**

During this half term the children enjoyed Harvest celebrations. Thank you for all of the generous contributions donated to Portsmouth Foodbank to provide food for families or individuals within Portsmouth at a time of crisis. Court Lane Infants collected an amazing 305kg and the Juniors is still being calculated due to the sheer volume! Your overwhelming generosity was featured in the local news

<https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/community/court-lane-juniors-dress-down-for-donations-4816884>

## **Autumn Parent Consultation Evenings**

Letters have been sent out with booking links for the upcoming Autumn Parent Consultation evenings. If your appointment is online the links to join the virtual meetings will be sent out when we return from half term.

## **Road Safety**

At school drop-off and pick-up times, the roads around the school are especially busy. This causes congestion and can lead to frustration from residents and motorists. We encourage all drivers and pedestrians to model courtesy and good road safety practice for our children. We have recently had a visit from the PCC Cabinet Member for Transport and a local councillor looking at potential issues and solutions for parking, road management and road safety, as well as visits from our local enforcement officers to remind everyone of expected practices.

## **Portsmouth Leisure Card**

With the half term holidays approaching, the Portsmouth Museums programme have many great events and exhibitions running through the holidays and to the end of the year.

<https://portsmouthmuseums.co.uk/what-to-see-do/events/>

With a Portsmouth Leisure Card you can gain access to Cultural and Leisure activities around the city at a reduced cost. The Leisure Card is free and is available to residents who receive means-tested benefits living within the PO1 to PO6 areas of the city. Why not see if your family is entitled to a card. Visit <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/> and search for Leisure card.

## **Punctuality**

A reminder that the school day starts at 8.35am for the Infants and at 8.40am for the Juniors. If your child arrives after these times they must go through the main office to sign in as the gates will be locked.



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## **Dates for your diary**

5<sup>th</sup> (in person) & 7<sup>th</sup> (virtual)  
November – Infant School parent teacher consultations

12<sup>th</sup> (virtual) & 14<sup>th</sup> (in person)  
November - Junior School parent teacher consultations

8<sup>th</sup> November – School nurse parent appointments

19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> November – Year R school nurse screening

29<sup>th</sup> November – INSET Day

3<sup>rd</sup> December – Advent Cheer evening (held at Junior School)

6<sup>th</sup> December - CLACA Present Buying event at Junior School

9<sup>th</sup> December – CLACA Present Buying event at Infant School

13<sup>th</sup> December - School nurse parent appointments

13<sup>th</sup> December – CLACA Christmas Fayre (held at Infant School)

20<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of term

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## **Lost property**

We get a huge amount of lost property in school, most of which is not named. Please can you ensure that all of your children's uniform and equipment is named so we can return it to their rightful owners. If your child has lost items, please encourage them to check the lost property boxes in the school office.

## **Tesco Stronger Start Project**

Many of you may shop in Tesco and see the voting boxes. When you make a purchase, you ask the cashier for a token which is then put into a box to help a project in the local community. There will be a box for Court Lane Junior School Forest School, from 1<sup>st</sup> October to mid-January in the following Tesco stores:

Farlington Havant Road,  
Portsmouth North Harbour  
London Road Portsmouth  
North End Portsmouth  
Tesco Garage Copnor Road

We ask all to get as many tokens in our box as possible. If we win the votes, we will get £1500 for our Forest School. This will mean we can buy more equipment and improve the area.

## **Wake-up Wednesday – In Game Chat**

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity including among children and young people and many players are eager to connect with one another as they enjoy a friendly competition or go for the win side by side. Plenty of games now offer means for their players to talk to one another, be that in a text or voice format. Unfortunately, this functionality which is used to connect with strangers just as often as it is with friends, can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

The National College have created a practical guide, see attached, offering advice on the issues that may arise when using in-game chat. The guide will help equip parents and carers with the practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety and safeguard the children in your care as they make use of this technology.

## **Parent Governor Vacancy**

Thank you to parents who have expressed an interest in our post for parent governor. If you would like to find out more about how this role please contact Mrs Flitton, Head Teacher at the Junior School by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Junior School Open Days for Year 2 parents**

We have sessions starting at 8.50am on November 13, 20 and 28, and January 8 for parents and carers interested in a Year 3 place for September 2025. If you would like to book a visit and tour of the Junior School, please call the school office.

## **Contact us**

023 92378890 (Infants)

023 92375444 (Juniors)

[inbox@courtlaneinf.co.uk](mailto:inbox@courtlaneinf.co.uk)

[admin@courtlanejnr.co.uk](mailto:admin@courtlanejnr.co.uk)

## **Join the Juniors on Social Media**



@CourtLaneJuniorSchool



@CourtLaneJunior

## **More info**

[www.courtlaneinfant.co.uk](http://www.courtlaneinfant.co.uk)

[www.courtlanejunior.co.uk](http://www.courtlanejunior.co.uk)