



RC/JAE

24 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back from the Easter break. I hope that you and your families managed some quality time together. I know that many of our Year 11 pupils were taking advantage of the additional revision sessions being made available by staff during the break, and that Year 10 pupils were reflecting on some very positive work placements at the end of term. Some Year 10 pupils benefitted from additional trips and visits to employers in the area during the work experience week, several actually gaining some part-time or weekend employment.

This newsletter contains several updates and key dates for the remainder of this academic year.

Please see below for confirmation and clarification regarding the school day. During this academic year, we have been running a slightly earlier start and a condensed Friday. Initial feedback from pupils and staff has been positive but, to continue this next academic year, an improvement in overall school attendance and, more specifically on Fridays, needs to be seen between now and the end of this academic year.

The school week from September 2025

	Monday - Thursday.	Friday (compressed day)
First bell 8:40	8:40 - 9:00	8:40 - 9:00
Registration / Tutor / Assembly		
Period 1	9:00 - 10:00	9:00 - 9:50
Period 2	10:05 - 11:05	9:50 - 10:40
Break 1	11:05 - 11:35	10:40 - 11:10
Period 3	11:35 - 12:35	11:10 - 12:00
Period 4	12:40 - 1:40	12:00 - 12:50
Break 2	1:40 - 2:10	12:50 - 1:20
Period 5	2:10 - 3:10	1:20 - 2:10
Followed by Enrichment		

This is a very busy year for Year 9 pupils. They have been busy selecting their Options for Key Stage 4. Most have made their choices and now Mr Cousins is busy making it work ready for next year’s timetable. Where selections do not fit or impractical choices have been made, individual reviews will take place to support each pupil having the right curriculum for next year.

Current Year 9 pupils will also see changes to their ‘Core’ curriculum from September 2026. This cohort will have an emphasis on English Literature in Year 10 ready to take their GCSE English Literature in June 2027. In Maths, all pupils will now study both GCSE Maths and GCSE Statistics – ready for their final GCSE in June 2028. As a result of these changes, all three ‘Core’ subjects will be delivering at least two GCSEs with the Year 10 pupils.

Headteacher: Mr R Carlyle BEd (Hons)

Portchester Community School

White Hart Lane, Portchester, Fareham, Hampshire, PO16 9BD

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Portchester Sailing Club were in school this month to award sailing bursaries to two Year 9 pupils. The bursaries are worth up to £1,000 in value and were awarded to Amelia Fisher and Sofia MacLean. Congratulations! Portchester Sailing Club were also kind enough to offer an exclusive 'Discover Sailing' opportunity to all pupils at Portchester Community School. Please see the end of this Newsletter for the QR code and further details

Bursary presentations to Amelia Fisher and Sofia MacLean



YEAR 9 – SAILING BURSARIES FROM PORTCHESTER SAILING CLUB

Year 10 Work Experience

The significant majority of Year 10 pupils completed a work placement before the Easter break. For many, it was the first time working in a professional environment – working with older colleagues, dealing with clients, and self-managing their time. For some, it will have helped define what they would like to do once they leave education and help define further studies or training. For others, it may have informed potential Post-16 choices and informed a change of pathway. Either way, pupils have had a positive experience engaging with the world of work. Some pupils remained in school and benefitted from bespoke visits, presentations, and workshops, such as the Construct and Create event shown below.



**Year 10 - work experience
: From Monday 23rd March 2026
Construct and Create event.**



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Creative Forces Trip to Portsmouth University

In April, 9 members of our Forces Club were invited to Portsmouth University. Mrs Richards – our Forces Club Leader, facilitated the trip that included a tour of the campus, presentations, and an Arts workshop. The team returned with a wealth of presentation items that will be displayed in the Drama corridor.

Creative forces trip to Portsmouth University



Kenya Young, Poppy Kipling, Marcel Camara, Rowan La Roche, Thomas Winnerah
Logan Lyons, Grace Garwood, Masie Pearce, Alex Kerr

Retirement of our local Councillor Mr Roger Price



As you know, our school vision is that every pupil will be a ‘Successful Learner’, ‘Confident Individual’, and ‘Responsible Citizen’. After 55 years of continuous service as a local Councillor for Portchester, Mr Roger Price is a shining example of being a ‘Responsible Citizen’. This week, Mr Price came into school to be awarded his ‘Thank You’ trophy from the pupils, parents, staff, and governors for his unswerving support for the young people of Portchester during his term in office.

Mr Price spoke to Year 9 pupils about the importance of being actively involved in creating a safe and prosperous local community and that the voice of young people is crucial as we enter a period of huge change through Local Government Reorganisation. He encouraged pupils not to moan about issues, but to be active participants in shaping our community and our future.

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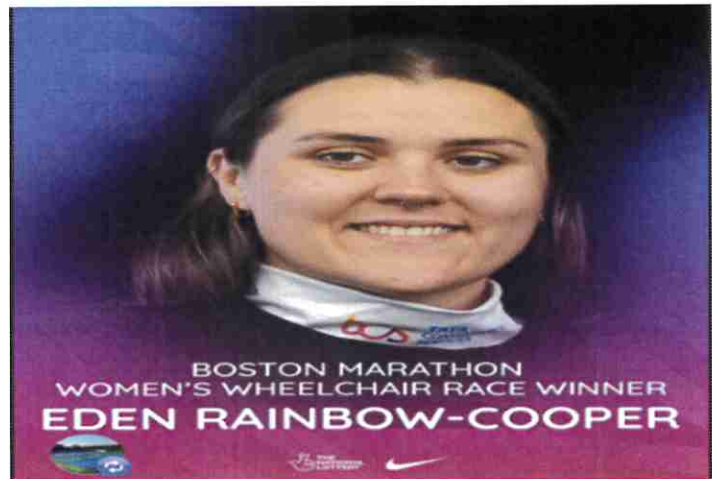


Recent sporting highlights include:

(many more are available on Instagram). Our Enrichment Timetable for the Summer Term, with the sporting calendar, are on the school website.



Highlights from PE!



Key dates for the diary:

Thursday 30 April	11C Final GCSE Art Exam
Friday 1 May	11C Final GCSE Art Exam
Monday 4 May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 5 May	11B Final GCSE Art Exam
Wednesday 6 May	11B Final GCSE Art Exam
Thursday 7 May	Formal Written GCSE schedule starts (see website for details)



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	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations Assembly
Monday 11 May	Year 9/Year 10 Data window opens PTA Meeting – 6.30 pm (Conference Room)
Thursday 14 May	Chair of Governors monitoring in school
Friday 15 May	Governors' Finance Working Group Meeting
Monday 18 May	Year 9/Year 10 Summative Reports home Cluster Headteachers' Meeting
Tuesday 19 May	Full Governing Body Meeting – 6.00 pm
Wednesday 20 May	Year 10 Parents' Evening – 4.00 pm – 7.00 pm
Thursday 21 May	Pompey in the Community trip Chair of Governors monitoring in school
Friday 22 May	Year 8 HPV vaccinations Half Term break starts at 2.10 pm
Sunday 24 May	Green Power Electric Car Challenge at Goodwood
Monday 1 June	Term starts Year 9 CAT Assessments
Tuesday 9 June	Year 7/Year 8 Summative Reports home Full Governing Body Meeting – 6.00 pm
Saturday 13 June	Portchester Gala
Monday 15 June	Year 6 Therapist Transition Day (by invite)
Tuesday 16 June	Year 6 SEN Transition Day
Monday 22 June	Year 10 Assessments start
Wednesday 24 June	GCSE Contingency Day Year 11 Prom at The Queens Hotel
Tuesday 30 June	Hampshire Book Awards Years 8-11 HPV vaccination recalls
Wednesday 1 July	Year 6 Transition Day Year 6 Transition Evening – 5.00 pm-7.00 pm
Friday 3 July	INSET Day – school closed to pupils – Year 5 Taster sessions
Tuesday 7 July	Full Governing Body Meeting – 6.00 pm
Friday 10 July	Sports Day Governors' Finance Working Group Meeting
Monday 13 July	Cluster Music Concert – 6.00 pm Year 10 Assessment Reports home
Wednesday 15 July	School Awards Evening
Wednesday 22 July	End of Academic Year 2025/2026

Yours sincerely

Mr R Carlyle
Headteacher



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RYA
DISCOVER SAILING
 at Portchester Sailing Club
 Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th May

To book visit:
www.portchestersc.org.uk

10am to 4pm

£5 Per person
 Under 18s FREE

Bar & galley open - Disco on Saturday evening!
 Please note we are a cashless club - All major credit cards accepted

Dinghy Sailing - Cruiser Sailing
 Kayaking - Paddle Boarding - Gig Rowing



Portchester Sailing Club - Discover
 Sailing Registration - Saturday &
 Sunday 16th/17th May



REMINDER: THE SCHOOL BELLS

Monday to Thursday

- 8:35 – 8:40 – AM Registration
- 9:00 – Period 1
- 11:05 11:30 11:35 – Break 1
- 1:40 2:05 2:10 – Break 2
- 3:10 – End of Period 5
- Enrichment/ Enhancements

Friday

- 8:35 – 8:40 – AM Registration
- 9:00 – Period 1
- 10:40 11:05 11:10 – Break 1
- 12:50 1:15 1:20 – Break 2
- 2:10 – End of Period 5
- Enrichment/ Enhancements



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Zero Tolerance

We are here to help and support you. Please treat our staff with respect.

- ✓ Here to help
- ✓ Here to support
- ✗ Not here to take abuse

Harassment, discrimination, bullying and abuse will not be tolerated.



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