

# PORTCHESTER Community School

# **Year 9 Newsletter** December 2023

## **Key Events**

Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> – INSET Day Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> – First Day of Spring Term Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – INSET Day

## **Charity update**





Year 9 pupils will continue to support Sophie's Legacy as their charity. The charity focuses on supporting families locally who end up in hospital with their child. We are ending the term with a non-uniform day to help start our fundraising and in the new year, we would like to hold some more fundraising events for this cause. If there are any unwanted Christmas presents or gifts that are received over the holidays, please could they be sent into school with your child for a tombola. Equally we like to raise some money via a bake sale. When the date is announced, we would appreciate any baking or monetary donations from pupils and parents alike.





Many Year 9 pupils have been enjoying partaking in the catering element of Technology this year. Some of the pizza they made was fantastic! Unfortunately for me, no one would share their brownies that they have made last week! I am sure many pupils will be keen to pick catering when they are considering their option choices next term.

This half term has seen the Year 9 representing the school in both basketball and volleyball. There have been some excellent team and individual performances. Special mention to Jon who led the boys to a 44-42 victory over Crofton where he scored 34/44 points himself. I again encourage you all to continue to visit www.twitter.com/PortchesterPE for more information

regarding the school sporting achievements. Girl football will begin in the New Year with matches commencing after the February half-term.





#### **Merits and Attendance**

Pupils have continued Year 9 positively and collectively have amassed 17580 merits since the start of the academic year in September. In the last week, three students, Mathilde, Alessia and Jonathan were awarded their purple badges in assembly. This is achieved by earning over a 1000 merits since the start of Year 7 which is an amazing achievement. They are the first pupils to be awarded this badge under our rewards system.

It should also be noted the improvement that some of the pupils have shown in comparison to the same timeframe last year. Alfie H., Joseph S., Aston, Frankie and Bonnie all have 90+ more merits this year than at the same time last year. Well done and keep up the good work!

Whilst there are twenty-four pupils who had 100% attendance so far this year which is a great achievement, it should be noted that the Year group's attendance has dropped by 0.9% this half term to 91.9%. Good attendance is the most important key to success. Please support your child coming to school every day.

## Message from Mr James and Mrs Rose-White

As we break for the holidays, may we wish you all a peaceful and happy holidays and send our very best wishes for the New Year. We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Wednesday 3rd January. Please can we ask that you support us by ensuring pupils are wearing the correct uniform and shoes and come equipped to learn.

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