



**PORTCHESTER**  
*Community School*

**Year 8 Newsletter**  
**November 2023**

**Message From Mr Shaul**

The first two terms of Year 8 have certainly been busy, with me getting to know the pupils, meeting various parents and working with a fabulous group of caring tutors have been highlights. More recently, I have been extremely grateful to receive the support of Mrs Doncaster as the newly appointed Pastoral Assistant for Year 8. Quite a few of you have already had communication from her and I'm sure she will be a fabulous addition to the Year 8 team.

It has been great to see so many year 8 pupils involved in the after school enrichment activities, such as Dance Live with Mrs Budd, and various sports teams and activities (results can be seen on the @PortchesterPE X (formerly Twitter) pages. Thank you to the Year 8 pupils who helped out by leading tours and representing the school fabulously in the recent Open Evening on Thursday 5th October.

Don't forget breakfast club is open before school at 7.30 am and the latest school information can be found on the school's website.

I'm looking forward to the challenges year 8 will bring and supporting your child in their time at PCS.

**Pupil Leaders**

The Year 8 Pupil Leaders are currently in the process of choosing a charity to support and raise funds for this year.

We are hoping to support a local cause and link with them to provide much needed support in difficult times. Further details will be shared in our next newsletter.

**Calshot trip 2024**

There has been some interest in the trip to Calshot activities centre in July 2024. Thank you if you have responded to express your interest.

I have contacted the centre again to see if they would be willing to receive fewer pupils than we had originally reserved places for. If this is accepted and the trip is still financially viable, I will begin the process of requesting deposits and setting up a payment scheme for pupils wishing to attend the trip.

Please watch this space!

**Year 8 Sporting success**



Both the boys and girls football teams have built upon the successful seasons they had in Year 7. The girls team so far have won two games and drawn one. The boys team have won two games and lost one. Both teams have had recent success over local rivals Cams.



**Theme of the Month**

**November** – Welcomes new opportunities.

**Merit update for Year 8**  
**(September to November '23)**

Presently, Year 8 have achieved nearly 14,000 merits since the start of Year 8. Tutor group 8TWW are leading the way with 3,039 merits. Leading individual pupils at this stage are:

Ed Barry (8TWW) - 181

Hannah Waddington (8TWW) - 166

Ollie Street (8TWW) - 162

Declan Butler (8LHJ) - 157

Marc Daye (8LHJ) - 154

**Attendance**

Year 8 attendance this term has been 92.5%.

Tutor group 8LHJ are top attenders in Year 8 with %.

Please support your child in regularly attending school. Regular attendance is crucial in ensuring a child's success and progress at school.

**Key Events**

**Monday 13th November** – Year 8 summative reports to go home.

**Friday 15th December** – Last day of term (school finishes at 1.40 pm)

**Inset days 2023-24**

Wednesday 29 November 23

Tuesday 2 January 24

Friday 26 January 24

Monday 18 March 24

**Successful**

**Confident**

**Responsible**