



PORTCHESTER
Community School

Year 9 Newsletter November 2023

Key Events

Nov 29th – INSET Day
Dec 15th – Last Day of Term
Jan 3rd – First Day of Spring Term

Merits and Attendance

Pupils have started Year 9 positively and collectively had amassed 10693 merits in the first half-term, nearly doubling that which they achieved in the same time period last year. This is a real reflection of their efforts last half term for which they deserve much praise.

This half term has seen Alessia, Jonathan, Katy and Mathilde earn over 150 merits individually which is a fantastic achievement. Bethia, Lexus, Lauren St., Joseph, Alfie B, Archie, Holly P and Declan have all earned 75+ merits than the same time last year 8. A tremendous improvement and something to be proud of.

The year group's attendance for the first half term was 92.8%. There are fifty one pupils who had 100% attendance up to half term. This is a fantastic achievement.

Changes To Start The Academic Year

As I previously mentioned, there have been some changes to the Year Team to start Year 9. Mrs Morley, our new Computer Science teacher is now one of our tutors replacing Mrs Lewry. She has been busy getting to know her group and building positive relationship with them.

Mrs Rose-White has joined as the new Pastoral Assistant for Year 9 and has settled in superbly. I know many of you would have spoken to her over the phone already, but if you have any pastoral concerns regarding your child she can be contacted via email too, n.rose@portchester.hants.sch.uk.

The rules and expectations have not changed when we returned in September in regards to uniform. Please may I ask that all students continue without false nails/lashes, no nose piercings on show, and that correct school shoes

Message From Mr James

I have been delighted with the overwhelming positive attitude pupils have exhibited to start the year. Pupils have shown great passion towards their work and this exemplified in sheer number of merits they have earned. Earlier this term a group of pupils were offered an amazing opportunity to go to the Williams F1 team headquarters in Oxfordshire. The pupils worked in groups on a STEM task and then had the opportunity to tour the facility and make use of the driving simulator. A big thank you to Mr Woolrich who organised the trip.



It has been another busy half-term for pupils beyond the classroom. We kicked off the half-term with a SMSC session focused on Mental Health and Eating Disorders. Pupils participated in discussions and tasks showing a mature approach to the subject matter. This half-term, the SMSC session has focused on Organ Donation, with the pupils again discussing the topic with sensitivity.

I encourage you all to continue to visit www.twitter.com/PortchesterPE for more information regarding the school sporting achievements. This last half-term saw the girls participating in Netball and the boys in football, with a notably 2-1 win over Cams

For this academic year, 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. I look forward to sharing news about the year group's fundraising plans in my next newsletter.

Sophie's
LEGACY