

16 July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As the academic year 2024/25 comes to a close next Tuesday, I want to highlight just a few of the key achievements and successes across a very busy year:

- This year's leavers - Year 11 have demonstrated real resilience and determination as they faced the challenge of their final GCSE papers. Their hard work and commitment will return strong GCSE results for them in August and provide valuable 'tickets' to their post-16 destinations. Pupils in Year 11 did, however, find a little time to relax and celebrate completing their examinations with a very emotional Leavers' Assembly, and a wonderful Prom at the Solent Hotel in Whiteley.



- Year 10 have completed their end of year assessments. This will be used to reorganise some sets for the next academic year and help shape expectations for their final GCSEs in the Summer term. A large number of Year 10 pupils had a really positive work experience placement – some even found weekend and holiday jobs from the experience. Recent visits to local College and training providers have also started to shape pupils thinking about their post-16 plans. Year 10 Boys also became the County Volleyball Champions 2024/2025 – Congratulations!
- Year 9 pupils have completed their Options process ready for a refreshed curriculum in Key Stage 4. The next academic year will start with a formal 'Meet the Tutor' opportunity for pupils, parents and staff to shape expectations and ambitions for the next couple of years.

- Year 8 have achieved over 41,000 merits so far this year – this reflects a huge commitment to their studies, sporting activities and House Challenges. Top merits are held by Anthea B (977), Aleigha S (787), Kaitlin M (729), and Isaac S (588). Year 8 have also had a wealth of sporting achievements – they include: Year 8 Boys bronze medallists in the District Athletics Championships, District Silver medallists for boys football, Year 8 Girls Cross Country team achieved well this year, and the Year 8 Girls football had a number of wins, including a fantastic win against Mountbatten School.
- Year 7 are completing their first year here at Portchester Community School. They have made a hugely positive impression on the school. Year 7 girls are bronze medallists for the District Athletics, Year 7 Netball are District Silver medallists and Year 7 Boys football had a great season, concluding with a 2:1 win against Bay House. There were also a huge number of individually great performances – please see the school Instagram feed for details.



Transition: Our new Year 7 pupils have had a busy transition period getting ready for the move from primary to secondary school. This includes a free Three Day Summer School towards the end of August to help them make friends and get to know the school so that they can get off to a flying start in September. Mrs Kingston is looking for volunteers to help out on the Summer School days.

FOOTLOOSE IN ACTION



Headteacher: Mr R Carlyle BEd (Hons)

Portchester Community School

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It has been a great year for our Performing Arts team – over 50 pupils have presented/performed or supported through a range of exciting events and productions. Highlights of the year include the really successful entry to this year's 'Dance Live' presentation performed at the Portsmouth Guildhall. The outstanding production of Footloose had us dancing in the aisles and was enjoyed by audiences over three busy nights and a Cluster Schools performance.

Concerts throughout the year have showcased the many talents of our brilliant pupils – last chance is this Monday at our Summer Concert.

Awards Evening – Wednesday 16 July. We celebrated both progress and attainment at this year's Achievement Awards Evening. Trophies were awarded from all subject areas recognising outstanding levels of excellence, and inspiring levels of progress. House Leaders gave awards in line with the school vision for every child to be a Successful Learner, Confident Individual and Responsible Citizen. Pupils received trophies, vouchers and certificates in recognition of their achievements. A huge thank you goes to the team who set up the evening – all led wonderfully by Mrs Ford – thank you for a great evening.

AWARDS EVENING 2025



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Change to the school week from September 2025: Following a consultation period with parents, pupils and staff, the new school week is detailed below. The aim is to provide an improved work/life balance for all, provide a wider range of enrichment activities, and have the opportunity for required training opportunities. This timetable starts on the first day with Year 11 and Year 7 pupils in school on Friday 5 September 2025.

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		

From September – new Mobile Phone Policy: Based on the feedback from pupils, parents and staff:

- Portchester Community School applies an 'Away for the Day' policy which means **pupils are not permitted to use their mobile phones during the school day or on the school site.** (This includes during lessons, in the time between lessons, at breaktimes and at lunchtimes).
- Should a parent/carer wish for their child to bring a mobile phone into school, it should be switched off and carried out of sight in the pupil's school bag by the **first bell at 8.40 am and not be seen until the final bell at 15.10 pm** (14.10 pm on a Friday), therefore, Away for the Day.

This very busy academic year concludes on Tuesday 22 July at 1.40 pm for pupils, where we say a sad farewell to a small, but valued group of staff – Mrs Kagiouli (Cover Teacher), Mr Davis (Pastoral Assistant), Mrs Morley (Computer Science), Mr Walton (Geography), Ms Northcott (English), Mrs Grundy (Medical) and Mrs Gee (Exams and Assessment). They are leaving for a range of reasons from retirement, relocation, promotion and career change. I would like to thank them for their amazing work here at Portchester Community School and we wish them every success for the future.

New information on the school website includes Mental Health resources and opportunities available for parents and carers (under the Information – Safeguarding tab).

Our new Instagram feed is **school_pcs** Follow this for further information and updates on the Prom 2025/Sports Day/Year 7 at the Mary Rose Museum and much more!



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Key dates for planning ahead are:

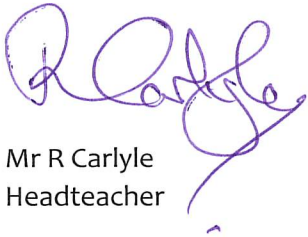
- ✓ Summer School – Monday 18/Tuesday 19/Wednesday 20 August (Year 6 to Year 7 pupils).
- ✓ Thursday 21 August – GCSE Results Day 10.00 am-12.00 pm.
- ✓ Wednesday 3/Thursday 4 September – INSET Days.
- ✓ **Friday 5 September - Year 7 and Year 11 pupils in school.**
- ✓ **Monday 8 September - all pupils return to school - in full uniform with equipment.**
- ✓ Wednesday 17/Wednesday 24 September - Meet the Tutor - Years 7 and 10.

Information enclosed with this newsletter is from NHS – Safe for Summer July 2025

Finally, thank you for your sustained support through Parents' Evenings, concerts, trips and visits, and your meetings with staff in school. Your support is vital in guiding the provision for your child.

Wishing you and your family a safe and relaxing Summer break.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Carlyle
Headteacher



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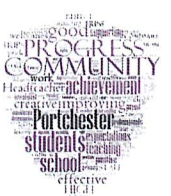
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SAFE FOR SUMMER

July 2025

NHS

Hampshire and
Isle of Wight Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Protecting your skin

Spending too much time in the sun can damage your skin and getting sunburnt significantly increases your risk of skin cancer:

[Sun Safety: Just the facts](#)

Festivals

The ultimate guide to staying safe at festivals this summer:

[How to stay safe at festivals](#)

[Ultimate festival kit](#)

[Clinic Finder: Sexual Health](#)

Drink your water

Staying hydrated is important for a healthy body and mind and even more so, to keep topped up in the summer when you're more likely to sweat more.

[Seven reasons to stay hydrated](#)

Respect the Water

Spending time in the pool or sea is great way to cool off and keep fit during the summer but remember to respect the water, know your limits, and how to keep safe.

[Water Safety | Health For Teens](#)

[Float To Live – What To Do In An Emergency – RNLI](#)

NEW

School Nurse Podcast

Made for young people, by young people

School's nearly out and the summer fun begins! But how do you enjoy your well earned break safely? Join our group and school nurses who run down topics like alcohol awareness, water safety, and protecting your skin from the sun. Chathealth is open all summer too so drop our school nurses a text if you have a question on 07507 332160. Open Monday - Friday (except bank holidays) 8.30am-4.30pm.



[Listen now!](#)