



CUMBERLAND INFANT SCHOOL

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Tuesday 20th July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Now restrictions have been lifted, I wanted to share with you the plans we have for Cumberland in September. We are hoping that this will all go ahead and the government will not change their mind over the summer holidays!

Return to school

Children in Year 1 and Year 2 will return to school on Thursday 2nd September, with their P.E kit, book bag and looking very smart in their school uniform. We will return to the normal school start time of 8.50am and pick up will return to the normal pick up time of 3.15pm.

Children in Year R will have a morning and afternoon session with fifteen of their new class on Thursday 2nd September and Friday 3rd September. Parents have been informed when their child will attend.

Little Cumberland Pre-school will also open their doors at 8.30am on Thursday 2nd September.

Dropping off your child/children

We will be changing how parents drop their children off and pick them up. We will ask all parents to enter and leave the playground through the black gates on Methuen Road. Staff will come out to the playground to collect the children. I will send further details about the organisation of drop off and pick up at the end of August.

Over the autumn term, we will be developing the outside area into a new Early Years outside classroom so we ask all parents and children to remain in the main playground to drop off and pick up their children.

Early morning drop off

From Thursday 2nd September, we will be running the early morning drop off from 8.30am but it will be part of our Breakfast Club so we will be continuing to charge a £1 a day. Please email Mrs Hanns lhanns@cumberland.portsmouth.sch.uk if you would like your child to attend.

Reading and poetry morning

As a school, we have decided to have one session that parents are invited to attend to share books and read to their child. This used to be in the morning but we found it could be quite unsettling for several children so we have decided to start a reading afternoon. Parents are invited in every Tuesday between 3pm-3.15pm to read with your child. During this reading session, we ask parents to read with their child and other children whose parents cannot attend. It is a time to share books and promote the love of reading with all the children in the school. During this short reading sessions, we would like all parents to not to use their mobile phones and that any younger siblings who attend are also joining in with the reading. The first reading afternoon will be on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 3pm.

Take on Imagine Portsmouth's creative challenge this summer

Can you capture the spirit of Portsmouth in a photograph or poem? This summer Imagine Portsmouth is inviting children and young people to get creative and enter photographs of Portsmouth or poems about the City into its competition. There's a chance to win prizes, including a lesson from a professional poet or photographer - it's a great activity for the holidays. Children, young people (and adults!) can find out more and submit entries at <https://imagineportsmouth.co.uk/how-to-get-involved/>. The competition closes on 5 September. A Facebook link is provided below.

[https://www.facebook.com/Portsmouthcitycouncil/photos/a.126838830697739/4734676526580590/?_cft__\[0\]=AZUgVBs9N1o2e7K1WCPQjV0cviLDydM5twCAzwPupwtDFbh-iU9RGtF7DZI9X34GeOvmR_8bLBP4xZD5I7z5hr9u4qvrFZ7fgUdwyZhYAL-PdjnpL0BsXVs1ME7Onka5g1_7Bm7TdyaEpBs7zhDfaSgLmgOGFneM4fNzY6B2ZLgoppodzYqrj7Wl-oWAAzAPgw&_tn=%2CO%2CP-R](https://www.facebook.com/Portsmouthcitycouncil/photos/a.126838830697739/4734676526580590/?_cft__[0]=AZUgVBs9N1o2e7K1WCPQjV0cviLDydM5twCAzwPupwtDFbh-iU9RGtF7DZI9X34GeOvmR_8bLBP4xZD5I7z5hr9u4qvrFZ7fgUdwyZhYAL-PdjnpL0BsXVs1ME7Onka5g1_7Bm7TdyaEpBs7zhDfaSgLmgOGFneM4fNzY6B2ZLgoppodzYqrj7Wl-oWAAzAPgw&_tn=%2CO%2CP-R)

Tips for parents when choosing a Club for their child

With the summer holidays approaching and to help parents and carers choose a safe setting for their child when doing activities outside of school, Portsmouth City Council have put together some questions to ask providers, as well as positive signs to look out for when choosing a setting.

For top tips, a helpful video, example questions and the full guidance, visit www.portsmouth.gov.uk/safeclubs

New Website for parents to boost children's learning and wellbeing this summer

The DFE have launched a brand new site, designed especially for parents, with the support, information and resources you need to help your children enjoy the summer holidays and prepare for the next academic year. The site features links to programmes, activities, resources and videos to boost children's learning and wellbeing aimed at parents of 0-19 year olds, with extra information for parents of SEND children. Visit **educationcatchup.campaign.gov.uk**

Attendance and Certificates

Due to Covid-19, we will not be awarding attendance certificates or prizes for 100% attendance this year. On Wednesday, we will be awarding each class with four Shining Example certificates instead.

Covid-19 reminders

Quarantine

I know a few children will be spending the summer with Grandparents that they have not seen for over a year. If travelling abroad this summer please follow the Government quarantine guidance.

Testing positive

Please could you let me know by email if your child/children tests positive for Covid anytime up to midnight on Monday 26th July. Even though from Monday 19th July, schools no longer have to track and trace to reduce the spread and risk of Covid, I feel it is important our Cumberland community need to know if they have been in contact with a positive case at school.

Break The Rules Day

While finishing this letter, I have just heard that Cumberland has today raised an amazing **£358**! I know how much the children were looking forward to breaking the rules! Just amazing and thank you to everybody who contributed.

Final message from Mrs Herbert

This brings me to the end of my first year of being the Headteacher of Cumberland Infant School. Even though this has been a very tough and hard year for the whole of the country, I feel we have managed to keep the Cumberland spirit and community going which could not have happened if the children, parents and all staff, including our Governors did not work so closely in partnership. It will certainly be a year I will never forget and so many of my friends have mentioned to me, I should have kept a diary. I do not think there will be any surprise to hear that I didn't have time to do this!

I am looking forward, as are all the staff, to some quality time with my family/friends. Also having time for daily swimming in the sea and exercising in our wonderful city. I am sure I will bump into some of you enjoying the great outdoors too.

I know the staff will join me in thanking you for all your kind words and gifts at the end of term. I have really missed being able to say goodbye to the Cumberland Community this week but I look forward to seeing most of you in September or visiting your Junior school to see how you have settled in.

Keep safe and have a lovely summer holiday.

Mrs Herbert and the Cumberland Team