



Newsletter Friday 25 August 2017 @TowerbankPS www.towerbankprimary.wordpress.com

Loose play parts - launch date 4th September

Following training for all staff and a huge amount of work and support from Playspace We are now ready to introduce loose parts play to Towerbank.

On Monday 4th September the Play pod/blue container will be open at lunchtimes on Mondays to Thursdays for children to play with loose play equipment.

This equipment will be restricted to the area within the outside blue running track line and out with the football pitch.

All A and B classes can use the pod on Mondays and Wednesdays eg P3a and P3b
All C and D classes will use the pod on Tuesdays and Thursdays eg P3c and P3d

I would encourage all families to watch this very short film from a number of other schools
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqi1KyJJeKq>

This is a report on loose parts play from the care inspectorate
<http://www.hub.careinspectorate.com/media/405223/loose-parts-play-toolkit.pdf>

When children interact with loose parts, they enter a world of 'what if' that promotes the type of thinking that leads to problem solving and theoretical reasoning. Loose parts enhance children's ability to think imaginatively and see solutions, and they bring a sense of adventure and excitement to children's play.



Towerbank skiers

On Thursday this week the first group of 60 P6 and P7 took to the nearly empty slopes of Hillend for the first block of lessons this term

One of the instructors was very impressed and said we are a very nice school.

Book Festival

Primary Three really enjoyed going to the Edinburgh International Book Festival on Wednesday. We loved our show called, "Gie it Laldy with Mac & Mike!" We learned that 'gie it laldy' is a Scottish phrase which means 'give it your all'. We also learned some other Scottish words such as 'braw' which means great or beautiful, 'stramash' which is a Scots word for crash and 'blether' which means to chat. We learned some songs and read the book 'Thistle Street' by Mike Nicholson and Claire Key. Mike also signed our copy of the book after the show.



During the show, some of us were picked to go on the stage! Dominic P3C, Jessica and Munro P3D helped to hang the washing on the line during one of the songs and Alice P3A was chosen to help lift the heavy weight! All the pupils have been provided with a £3 book voucher which they can use, if they wish to, at the book festival before 29th August.



Karate champions

On Sunday the 20th August we took part in the North East Karate Championships. We had a three hour drive to Darlington then we changed and warmed up for individual fighting. When we finished there was an trophy presentation. Lottie won Bronze and Rosa was two points away from winning Bronze. Sadly we weren't in the same team fighting teams but we had great results. Lottie's team won Silver and Rosa's team won Bronze. See you next time Darlington!

School Photographs this year

As the school had already booked Tempest to take individual pictures this year we will continue with this arrangement and consider the alternatives next session.

Packed lunches in the playground

From Monday P7 and P6 can have the option of eating their packed lunches in the playground. We will see how this works and we may extend this to other ages.



Plums from our Tree.

We noticed that there were lots of juicy red plums on the plum tree in the outdoor classroom. Robbie and Dylan thought it would be a great idea to make plum crumble. We all joined in to make the crumble and it was yummy and delicious. P3A and P3B

Monthly Maths Challenge - how high do we climb?

There are a lot of stairs in our school! Have you ever wondered how much climbing we do?

Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in Scotland, standing at 1,345 metres above sea level. If you use the main staircase at Towerbank to climb from the ground floor to the top floor, you have climbed 9 metres.

Your Challenge

How many times would you have to climb these stairs before you could say you have climbed the height of Ben Nevis?

If you climbed the stairs three times a day – in the morning, after break and after lunch – how many days would it take to climb Ben Nevis?

Would you like another challenge?

Have you cracked it? Why not find out how high Mount Everest is – use this to work out how long it would take you to climb Everest.



If you think you've cracked it, write down your solution along with your name and class and pop it into the Monthly Challenge box by 22nd September. You'll find the box outside the school office.

Little Tricks with Numbers

1. Think of a number between 1-9.
2. Double it.
3. Add 6.
4. Halve it.
5. Subtract the original number from your answer.
6. You will always finish with the same number – test it with a couple of different numbers to find out what it is.
7. If you see Mr. Rand next week, stop him and tell him what the number is.

Try this trick on a friend!



FREE YOGA TASTERS

CHILDREN'S YOGA

Monday 28/08/17

ages 3-5: 15.30 - 16.00

ages 6-8: 16.15 - 17.00

Tribe Party

mats provided, spaces limited!

any questions?
contact Agnes:
[facebook.com/agnespureyoga](https://www.facebook.com/agnespureyoga)
agnespureyoga@gmail.com



FREE YOGA TASTERS

TEEN YOGA

Sunday 27/08/17

preteens 17.00 - 17.45

teens 18.00 - 19.00

Tribe Party

mats provided, spaces limited!

any questions?
contact Agnes:
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Portobello 'Hornets' are the Mini Rugby Section of Portobello RFC - Porty's local rugby club.

We run Primary School age rugby teams from P2/3 up to P7 and we have a thriving and enthusiastic membership which is always looking for new faces to join us.

Rugby is a sport unlike many others – it encourages players of all abilities and there is a position for everyone. The friendships and camaraderie the kids make through rugby can last for life and as a confidence builder it has few equals in sport. The ties between kids at different schools in the area carry on right through to Secondary School level and it makes a wonderful grounding for the jump between Primary and Secondary schooling.

Our coaches are trained to encourage and develop the children and to ensure we have a positive playing, training and social environment within the club. All coaches are fully qualified and PVG certified volunteers and the game is taught and played in a way that encourages teamwork, friendship and develops a passion for this fantastic game.

We have our own clubhouse at Cavalry Park/129 Duddingston Road West and we play and train here as well as at the new Portobello High School 3G pitch during the winter months.

If your child would like to give rugby a try please get in touch – we would be delighted to welcome them to Porty Rugby.

**Fraser McCowan
Convenor – Portobello Mini Rugby
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Or

**Allan Brown
07450 870013**