

# WELCOME TO PORTREATH SCHOOL

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At the moment we are unable to conduct tours of our school.  
Here is some information about our school and a virtual tour.  
We hope this gives you a flavour of our school. Please  
telephone the school if you have any questions.



# KEY STAFF FOR STARTING SCHOOL

- Head-Mrs Cassie Pamplin
- Assistant Head-Miss Lucie Clarke
- Class teacher-Mrs Sam Forsdick
- Teaching Assistants Mrs Kim Goldsboro and Mrs Vicki Shirlow



- Secretary- Mrs Caroline Jones



- Catering Manager- Mrs Dawn Cocking

# STRUCTURE OF THE SCHOOL

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There are 5 classes so each class has more than one year group:

Maple- All of Reception and a small group of Year 1

Rowan- Year 1 and 2

Sycamore- Year 2 and all of Year 3

Oak- Year 5 and all of Year 4

Cherry- Year 5 and all of Year 6

This means that children in Year 1, 2 and 5 are split over 2 classes, but all of YR, 3, 4 and 6 are altogether. We also teach certain things such as spelling and maths in single year groups.



Some pages  
from the  
starting  
school  
booklet...



## Welcome To Portreath Primary School

### A Starting School Booklet 2020-2021

We are delighted that you have chosen our school and, by working together, we will ensure your child enjoys a happy and successful learning journey.

Situated in the seaside village of Portreath our children enjoy the best of environments in which to learn and grow. We are wholly committed to providing inspirational teaching. We work hard to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and a range of varied opportunities enrich our children's knowledge and life experiences within and beyond the classroom.

In our school children are valued as unique individuals and in our school children are encouraged to develop socially, emotionally, spiritually and culturally. We have 5 learning behaviours that we promote. We want children to be:

- Brave
- Ready
- Resilient
- Responsible
- Happy

To help the children learn these we have an animal for each behaviour, you can find the soft cuddly versions of these in Maple Class!

#### We want to be:

brave like a...



ready like a...



responsible like a...



resilient like a...



happy like a...



### The Reception Curriculum

The Early Years is a distinct and unique stage of a child's education. Young children learn best by doing things for themselves and engaging in activities that not only stimulate their imagination but also develop their curiosity.

In an enabling environment, our youngest children develop and learn.

The three Prime Areas of learning are:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

The four specific areas of learning are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding The World
- Expressive Arts and Design

It is important that young children:

- Find out and explore, play with what they know and are 'willing to have a go'.
- Get involved and concentrate, keep trying and enjoying achieving what they set out to do.
- Have their own ideas, make links and chose ways to do things.

Your child will be assessed by the teacher through on-going observations. This information will be shared with you in the Early Years Profile and you will receive a Reception report in July.



## Our School Day

The school day starts at 8.50 a.m. Classrooms open at 8.35 a.m, allowing time for children to settle and carry out their morning routines

11.00 KS1 and 2 break

12.00: Lunchtime for Reception only

12.15: Lunchtime

1.15 p.m: Start of afternoon session

2.35 p.m: KS1 (Infant) break

3.20 p.m: end of school day

Please drop off and collect your child at the gate of in Maple Class's outdoor area at the back of the school. (For the first week you will be able to accompany your child into the class). The class teacher will release the children into your care at the end of the day.

In Maple Class a daily routine is followed which encourages the children to be independent. To help your child to be independent please support your child to learn to dress themselves and to take responsibility for their belongings. The children self-register and will participate in group adult-led and self-initiated activities throughout the day.

The start of the year will look and feel very familiar to the children who have attended Nursery or Pre-School and gradually changes when the children are ready.

The children in Maple Class will be offered fruit at snack time.

## LUNCHTIMES

Lunchtime for the children in Reception starts at 12.00.

Mrs Forsdick, or a TA from Maple Class supervises the class for the first 15 minutes of the lunchtime, whilst they are eating. Then the lunchtime supervisors will look after your child for the rest of the break.

All Infant children are entitled to a free school meal. The children are encouraged to try a range of foods, sample the salad bar and are encouraged to use a knife and fork. We promote good table manners and ask the children to sit to the table. When the children have finished their meal they are encouraged to ask permission before leaving the hall.

Time is taken to teach the children the routines of lunchtime, including the importance of taking a drink and eating most, if not all, of their meal.

Should you have any concerns about lunchtimes please come in and share them. We will do all we can to support your child. Parents are invited in at least once a year to share a meal with the children, if they so choose, and this is a great opportunity for parents to come in and see what happens at this time of the day.

If your child is having a packed lunch it is important that you don't pack too much food for them to eat as some children will sit at the table until they eat everything because they were told to. If you are happier to give your child a lot of food from which to choose, please make it clear to your child that they are not expected to eat it all.



## DRESSING FOR SCHOOL

There are many things for young children to learn, including being able to dress themselves. This is not an easy thing to do but it is helped if the children are dressed in clothes that are easy to put on and pull off.

Please make sure that the clothes you provide are easy for little fingers to fasten.

A polo T-shirt is much easier than a cotton shirt or blouse and it really helps if you have also shown your child how to fasten their trousers or skirt. Belts should not be needed.

We do expect our youngest children to participate in PE lessons and to wear an appropriate PE kit. Children are encouraged to dress themselves at P.E. times and any help you can give your child in learning to do this would be greatly appreciated.

P.E. shoes need to be the right size and the ones with Velcro fastenings certainly seem to be the easiest for the children to manage. It's a really good idea that you check the size of your child's feet throughout the year as it is surprising just how quickly they grow.

Wearing shoes that are either buckled or fastened with Velcro are so much easier to manage than lace ups.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE! It really helps if all your child's clothes are clearly labelled. A little time invested when your child starts school saves them a lot of needless worrying and saves your child's brand new clothing being added to the Lost Property pile.

Keeping things as simple as possible for the children does make it so much easier and gives the children less to worry about. A book bag will be given to your child when they start school and apart from a lunchbox, they really do not need to bring anything else to school.

### Breakfast Club

We know how difficult it is when you are working parents and, should you need it, there is a Breakfast Club available on site, in the school hall. It is run by our cook, Dawn Cocking and there are always additional members of staff available. The entrance to Breakfast Club is around the side of the school and it is open from 8.00 a.m. The cost is £3 per day. You can pay online for this.

Children can choose a breakfast from a variety of foods available throughout the week, including: cereal, toast, beans, sausages, yoghurts, fruit juices etc.

The children can select activities to play with and, when the weather is dry, can play outside. At 8.35 a.m. the children are reminded to collect their belongings and the youngest children are either taken to Maple Class by an adult or an older child.

### In school we have 3 golden rules:



We hope that you have found this booklet useful in helping you and your child prepare for life at Portreath School. Remember, this is an exciting time! Please take time to read the poem on the back of this booklet. We hope it puts things into perspective and reminds us all just how young these children are. It is your child that is important and your child that matters. Wishing you all a very happy start to school.

### A Five Year Old's View

Too much too soon, Please, don't let that be the way.

I just turned five years old today,

So let me grow please, let me play,

I know soon I must learn to read and write,

But have you forgotten,

I still get frightened in the night?

I need some time, some space you see,

Please, dear grownups, be patient with me.

You look so big, and you stand so tall,

I'm not sure if I'm ready to learn at all.

I don't understand how you grownups tell time,

But I'd love you to read me a nursery rhyme.

I'd love you to hold my hand and go slow,

I promise you all too soon I will grow,

And then you'll look back and say,

"Where did their childhood go?"

Oh please dear grownups, let me grow, let me play,

I just had my fifth birthday today,

Too much, too soon, let that not be your choice,

I'm small, but please listen, I do have a voice,

I must have some rights to say,

Slow down your pace,

Please don't make growing up into a race,

I'll read, I'll write,

And I'll make you proud, you'll see,

But please, dear grownups, be patient with me!



# WHAT MAKES OUR SCHOOL SPECIAL:

Portreath School wants the best for all its children; we want to be a school that stands out- a place where children are filled with positive experiences and their fires are ignited for learning. We aim to create lifelong learners with a passion for life and inner confidence.

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- It is at the heart of the community
- It has a family feel- all the staff and children know each other well and care for one another
- The children are kind and thoughtful
- The children demonstrate excellent behaviour
- Staff have high expectations and aspirations for all children
- We are a Mental Health and Trauma Informed School
- We were the 6<sup>th</sup> school in the country to be awarded 'Plastic Free Status'
- We offer a broad, balanced and progressive curriculum, with lots of enrichment opportunities - we want children to love to learn
- We love outdoor learning
- We work closely with 8 other local primary schools who are also part of The Crofty MAT



# WE HAVE A SCHOOL MOTTO

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# WE PROMOTE 5 LEARNING BEHAVIOURS:

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We want to be:

- brave like a honey badger



- ready like a meerkat



- responsible like a beaver



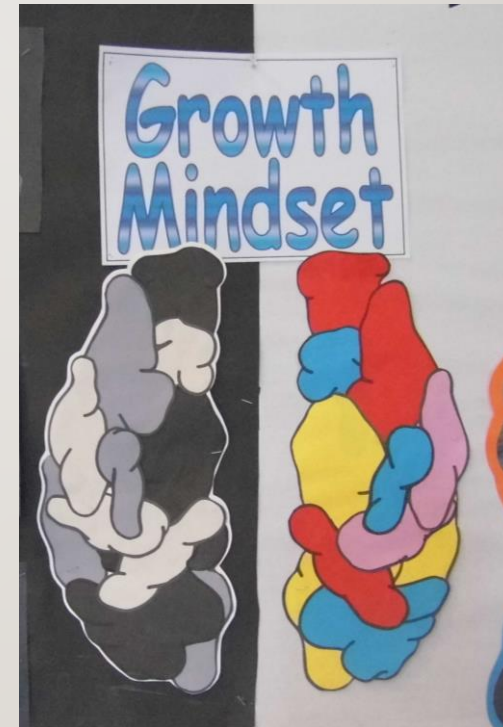
- resilient like an emperor penguin



- happy like a dog



# WE PROMOTE HAVING A GROWTH MINDSET:





# OUR GOLDEN RULES

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Here is Sarah's Garden and the entrance to the office







Here we have the pirate ship play area and around the back of the school with the gate to Maple Class ...









Inside Maple Tree Class...















Here are Dezzy and Turbo the class's tortoises







Maple Tree have their own outside area, including a nature pond...









The cloakroom and the infant toilets...





# SOME OF THE REST OF THE SCHOOL

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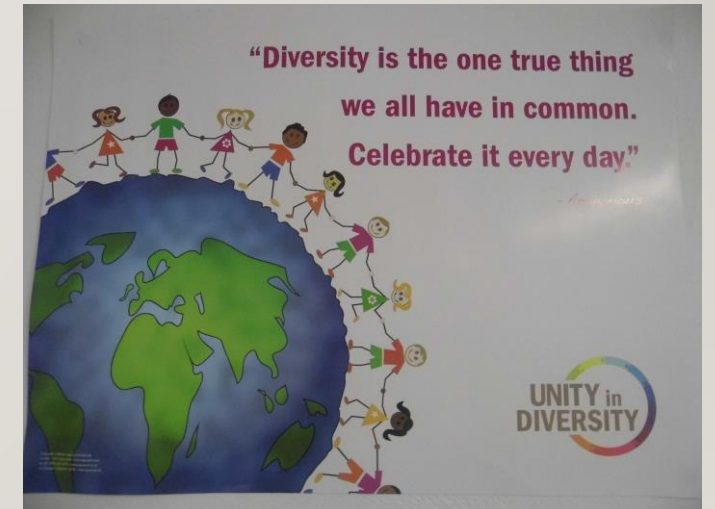
The library...















The hall...





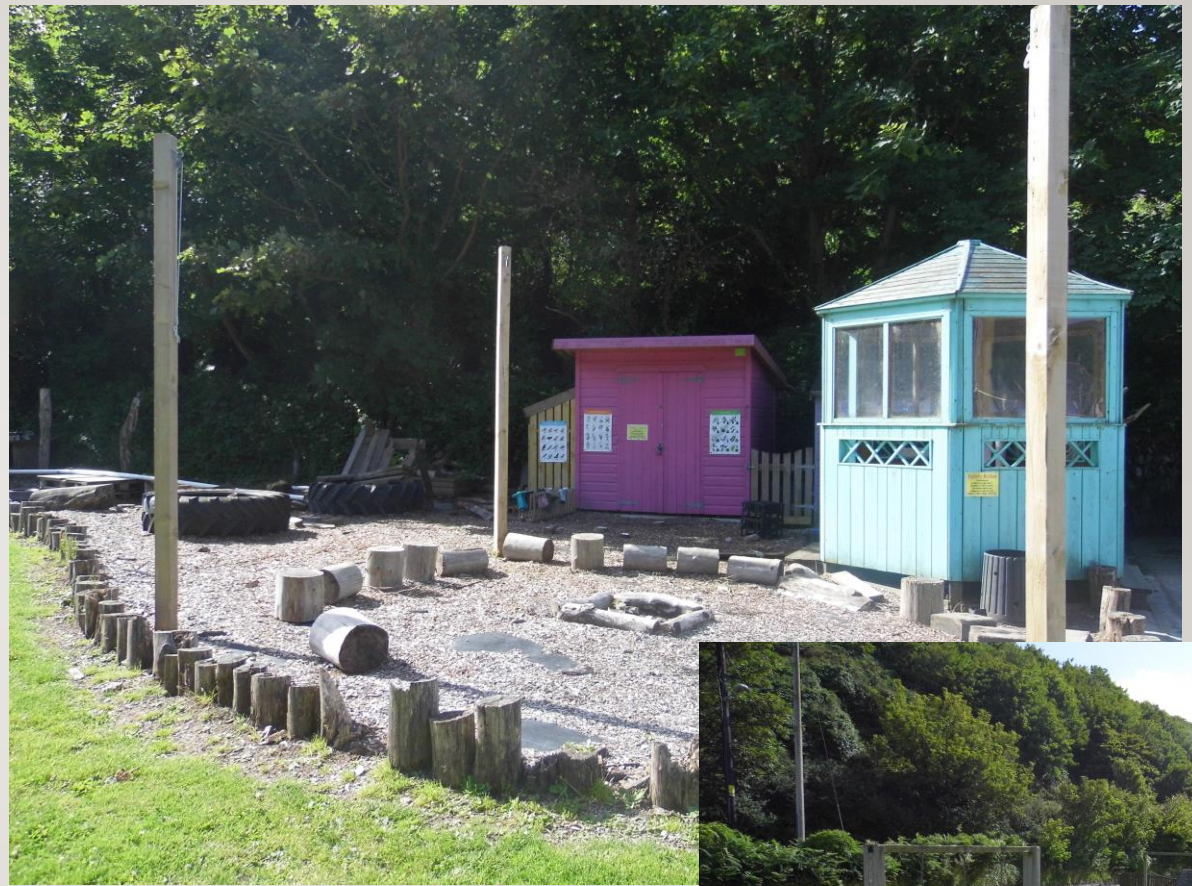


The playground and field...





The Bark Area where our outdoor learning sessions take place (a form of forest school)



The adventure playground







Greenhouse





# WHAT SEEMS TO BE MISSING? Children!

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In order to share this with you I have not included pictures of children. However, what makes our school what it is, isn't the building but the people! Have a look at our website- on it you will find all our weekly newsletters that contain lots of pictures of children.

We look forward to meeting you in person if your child is allocated a place at our school.

