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Portree High School Àrd-Sgoil Phort Rìgh

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20th September 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

KEY DATES

Our new session is well underway and already the work of the school continues to be busy. We have put together our school calendar for the year – some important details listed overleaf and on our [website](#) - which lists Parents' Evenings, key dates for Prelims, SQA exams and school trips, etc.

Other key dates for next term include:

Our School performance evening, which is on the 14th November at 7pm. Last year, it was a fantastic evening, where we were able to showcase the work of our talented musicians, dancers and actors. Please come along and support our pupils.

S3 Leadership academy with Columba 1400- 16 of our S3 will have the opportunity to take part in a residential week between the 25th-30th November- more details will follow next term.

The Portree High School Christmas Fayre has been organised for Saturday 7th December 2024. We are looking for help in organising this event and a meeting has been set up for Tuesday 29th October at 7:00pm using Google Meets (please use this link to join: <https://meet.google.com/kvk-whsr-ibw>). Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you are currently in the Parent Council, or not.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

Our school photographer was in at the start of the month and all pupils in S1, S4 and S6 had individual photos taken. There were also sibling photos taken. If you wish to order these, please go online to <https://tempest-orders.co.uk> (you will need the 10-digit code printed on your proof). Orders placed before the 25th September will benefit from free school delivery.

DYSLEXIA MASTERCLASS

There will be a free talk by Dyslexia Scotland's Sharon Hall on Thursday 26th at 6 pm for parents/carers of children with dyslexia. Please register at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dyslexiascotland2/1357816> if you wish to attend.

More information at the bottom of this letter

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

I wish to thank all parents and carers for supporting us with the roll-out of the amended mobile phone policy. Our young people have been very positive in embracing the "put your phones away at the start of the day" message and as a staff, we feel this has both benefited engagement in lessons and reduced the amount of time staff have had to deal with mobile phone issues.

PTO>

Mr A Breen
Head Teacher/Ceannard

Striving for Excellence

READY, RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL, RESILIENT





**Equally Safe at School:
A Whole School Approach to Preventing Gender Based Violence**



**equally safe
at school**

a whole school approach to
preventing gender based violence

As part of our commitment to promoting equality and the safety and wellbeing of all, Portree High School is pleased to be working on a new project to help tackle gender-based violence. The project is called *Equally Safe at School* (ESAS), and has been funded by the Scottish Government. It takes a 'whole school approach' to tackling things like sexism, harassment, harmful attitudes and protecting children and young people from all forms of gender-based violence.

The project will take place from October 2024 onwards, and will involve a number of activities:

1. **A self-assessment** with staff and students to find out what the key issues are that they would like to focus on.
2. **An action group** of students and staff who will look at the self-assessment, and make a plan of action, working with the rest of the school to help with various tasks.
3. **Training for all staff** in the school to help them understand more about gender-based violence and learn what they can do to help prevent it, and to equip them to teach young people about gender-based violence as part of the PSE programme.
4. **Enhancement of the curriculum** to find ways of promoting gender equality in all the subject areas, and make sure students feel they can choose whatever subjects they like – there are no 'girls' and 'boys' subjects.
5. **A review of policies** to make sure that gender-based violence and equality are included.

Although gender-based violence is a difficult subject matter, we know that it helps protect young people when they have a safe space to talk about it at school, appropriate to their age and stage. We are committed to ensuring Portree High School is a place where young people and staff feel confident in challenging sexism, harassment and harmful attitudes, which all helps to build a society where gender-based violence is never tolerated.

You can find more information about ESAS on the website www.equallysafeatschool.org.uk, including information about support services for anyone who has been affected by gender-based violence.

If you have any questions or ideas of ways that parents and carers could be involved please contact Mrs Julie MacLennan, Depute Head Teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Breen, Head Teacher

Striving for Excellence

Mr A Breen
Head Teacher/Ceannard

READY, RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL, RESILIENT



KEY DATES

	S1 Interim report	S1 Full Report	S2 Interim report	S2 Full Report	S3 Interim report	S3 Full Report	S4 Interim report	S4 Full Report	S5/6 Interim report	S5/6 Full Report
Reports issued to pupils	17 th Jan 25	22 nd May 25	19 th Mar 24	18 th Dec 24	20 th Nov 24	5 th Mar 25	20 th Feb 25	13 th Nov 24	30 th Oct 24	21 st Feb 25
Date of Parents' Evenings	Tuesday, 19th November 2024		Tuesday, 25th March 2025		Tuesday, 5th December 2024		Tuesday, 26th February 2025		Wednesday, 6th November 2024	

2024 holidays

- October holidays - 14 October to 25 October
- Christmas and New Year break - 23 December to 3 January

2025 holidays

- February break - 17 February and 18 February
- In service day - 19 February
- Easter holidays - 7 April to 21 April
- May Day - 5 May
- In service day - 2 June
- Summer holidays – school closes at lunchtime on 3rd July



Dyslexia Scotland
Skye and Lochalsh
Thursday 26 September
Portree High School,
Viewfield Road, Portree IV51 9ET

6 – 7.30pm Dyslexia Masterclass for Parents
For parents/carers of children with dyslexia

This free talk by Dyslexia Scotland's Sharon Hall looks at what we know about dyslexia and what you might see at home and in school. She gives tips and ideas of what you can do to help.

Full details and free tickets on Ticket Tailor:

<https://buytickets.at/dyslexiascotland2/1357773>



Please note that this is an in-person event and it is not possible to join online.

Email ds.skye.lochalsh@gmail.com to be added to the branch mailing list and informed about future events.

Contact Dyslexia Scotland's Helpline for advice about dyslexia:

0344 800 8484 | helpline@dyslexiascotland.org.uk

Dyslexia Scotland dyslexiascotland.org.uk
Helpline: 0344 800 8484 helpline@dyslexiascotland.org.uk
With thanks to the Scottish Government for funding this event Charity No. SC000951