

# Court Lane Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like it's only been 5 minutes since we were sending out our Welcome Back letters for the first day of term, and our first half term is already over! The children have settled in brilliantly and are already making excellent progress in their learning. They have been enjoying Titanic workshops, author visits and sessions with an Antarctic Explorer.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Teacher Consultation Evenings this week. We hope the in person format, with stalls in the Junior school hall, was helpful and you all enjoyed the opportunity to discuss your child's progress this term.

## **Harvest Festival**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> October we celebrated Harvest in both schools. We collected a massive total of 776kg across both schools which was donated to Portsmouth Foodbank to provide food for families or individuals within Portsmouth at a time of crisis. Thank you for all of your generous contributions.

## **Tesco Stronger Start Project**

During the summer term, Court Lane Infants took part in the Tesco Stronger Starts in-store voting to raise funds for the renovation of our Jubilee Garden. We are delighted to say that we came top of this vote and have been awarded £1500 from Tesco to help renovate this area.

## **Staffing Update**

Our Site Manager, Mr Elmes, who has worked across both schools for many years will be leaving us at the end of this half term to commence a well earned retirement. At the Junior school, our Cover Supervisor, Miss Robinson, will sadly be leaving us and Mrs Bunnage from our lunchtime team will be retiring. We wish them all the best for the future and thank them for all their hard work. The children will be pleased to hear that we will be welcoming Mr Leigh back to the Junior School after half term, as a Pastoral Worker in our support team.

## **CLACA Colouring Competition**

CLACA are again running their Autumn colouring competition. Pictures have been sent home via your child's bookbag. If your child would like to enter please return the completed picture with £1 securely taped to the back by Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November, please include their name. Winners will be announced during assembly.

## **Junior School Open Days for Year 2 parents**

We have Open Day sessions starting at 8.50am on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November and 4<sup>th</sup> December for parents and carers interested in a Year 3 place for September 2026. If you would like to book a visit and tour of the school, please call the Junior School office.



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## **Dates for your diary**

10<sup>th</sup> November – Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> November – Year R school nurse screening

15<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need

21<sup>st</sup> November – INSET Day; School closed

25<sup>th</sup> November – Junior Panto

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## The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We will be selling poppies and merchandise under the green canopy in the Infant School playground from 8.25-8.35am every morning from 3<sup>rd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> November. At the Juniors our Military Club will sell to children at playtimes on the 3-7<sup>th</sup> November and then it will be from the office for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November.

## Kenya Fundraiser

Two of our pupils, Jovie (year 5) and Ariella (year R) will be raising money for charity by cutting off their hair on 20<sup>th</sup> October. The girls' hair will be donated to the Little Princesses Trust to make wigs for children undergoing chemotherapy.

The sponsor money raised is going to be used to fund the shipment of useful items to be sent to schools and children's homes in Kenya.

If you have any items in new or good used condition that you would like to donate, we will be collecting the following items in the school office between 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November.

- School uniform
- Summer shoes (like crocs and sandals)
- Children's summer clothing
- Sunglasses
- Educational books (phonics books, textbooks and revision guides)
- Balls and footballs (deflated)
- Skipping ropes

Any additional funds raised will be donated to various environmental organisations in Kenya who are aiming to protect local ecosystems.

If you would like to sponsor please visit: - [Kenya fundraiser](#)

The family will be going out to Kenya during February half term to distribute the items so we will look forward to hearing all about their experience on their return.

## School Crossing Patrol

Debbie, our School Crossing Patroller on the Court Lane/Hilary Avenue junction, will be leaving her role after 17<sup>th</sup> October. We would like to thank her for helping to keep our children safe and wish her well for the future. After half term there will only be one crossing patroller at this location crossing Court Lane only. Please be patient and take extra care when using this busy junction.

If you are interested in applying for a school crossing patrol position please visit: - [School Crossing Patrol | No Expiry Date | Jobs and careers with Portsmouth City Council](#)



## Dates for your diary

2<sup>nd</sup> December – Advent Cheer evening – Cosham Baptist Church

5<sup>th</sup> December - CLACA Present Buying event at Junior School

8<sup>th</sup> December – CLACA Present Buying event at Infant School

17<sup>th</sup> December – Junior School visit to Cosham Baptist Church

17<sup>th</sup> December – Infant Christmas Lunch

18<sup>th</sup> December – Junior Christmas Lunch

# Court Lane Schools Newsletter

## Attendance and sickness

As winter approaches, we expect to see more illness-related absences. While some are unavoidable, many can be reduced through simple, proactive measures that minimise the spread of infections. This website has more information and useful guidance on when to come in or stay home. You can now use the Arbor app to report absences.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

Please also try to ensure that children arrive at school at the correct drop off time (8.25-8.35am Infants, 8.30-8.40 Juniors). Arriving late to classes that have already started can be upsetting for children who have been dropped off after these times.

## School uniform

Wearing school uniform encourages a sense of belonging. We ask parents to support us in ensuring children come to school dressed appropriately in the correct uniform. Please check the website pages for information on appropriate uniform, including shoes and bags. Pre-loved uniform is also available from the CLACA Facebook uniform [group](#) and the Hive Portsmouth uniform share [store](#).

Black trousers are not a part of our uniform at either school.

## Lost property

We get a huge amount of lost property in school, most of which is not named. Please can you ensure that all of your children's uniform and equipment is named so we can return it to their rightful owners. Unnamed items will be placed in Lost Property and then disposed of after 6 weeks.

## Healthy Snacks

We encourage children to bring a snack to enjoy during break, and as part of our 'healthy schools' ethos, we would like to remind you that these snacks should be limited to healthy options such as fruits, vegetables or plain rice cakes/breadsticks. Fruit winders/flakes are high in sugar and should be replaced with whole fruit. Please also be reminded that we are a nut free school so peanuts, nut/chocolate spread and nut related products are not allowed.

## Year 6 Girls' Football

Finally...

Congratulations to the year 6 Girls' Football team who won their tournament and will now be progressing to County Finals.

Well done, and we all wish you the best of luck in your next round. Go Court Lane!!!!!!

## Term Dates:

### Half Term

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
2025

21<sup>st</sup> November – INSET Day

### Christmas Holiday

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 –

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026

### Spring Term

5<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 27<sup>th</sup>

March 2026

### Half Term

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February  
2026

23<sup>rd</sup> February – INSET Day

### Easter Holiday

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup>

April

### Summer Term

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 –

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

### Half Term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

2026

22<sup>nd</sup> May – INSET Day

## Contact us

023 92378890 (Infants)

023 92375444 (Juniors)

[inbox@courtlaneinfant.chimat.uk](mailto:inbox@courtlaneinfant.chimat.uk)

[admin@courtlanejunior.chimat.uk](mailto:admin@courtlanejunior.chimat.uk)

## Join the Juniors on Social Media



@CourtLaneJuniorSchool



@CourtLaneJunior

## More info

[www.courtlaneinfant.chimat.uk](http://www.courtlaneinfant.chimat.uk)

[www.courtlanejunior.chimat.uk](http://www.courtlanejunior.chimat.uk)