Turtle Room Newsletter
Autumn 2 2026



http://www.portsdownprimary.co.uk/

Wow! What a fantastic half term!

We hope you had a restful week and enjoyed some of the Halloween festivties.
As a team, we are so proud and impressed by the children, they have settled into the new environment, developed and learned new routines and engaged in some fantastic learning.











We are excited to see what this new half term has in store for the Turtle Room.

Spare clothes

We have a very limited amount of spare clothes. Please ensure your child has a bag of spare clothes in school as we like to play outside in all weathers.



Tapestry

Make sure you are still checking Tapestry as we will be sharing your child's learning and adding Cherry Garden assessments.

Soon, you will be able to visit your child's own garden of learning.

Wow Moments

We enjoy celebrating your child and their successes.

Please fill out the WOW moment card that is attached to this newsletter. This is for anything you have seen your child learn or achieve at home that is new. We would love to disply these in the room.

This could be learning a new song, trying new foods or even learning to ride their bike without stabilisers.

Diary Dates

Trip to the Woods - TBC
Non-uniform Day for Children in Need - 13th November.
Christmas singing and crafts morning with parents - 10th December.
Christmas party - 16th December
Christmas holdiays - 21st December

Please remember if you ever need to contact a member of Turtle Team, you can email Miss Say or Ms Ludlam.

Miss Say - l.say@portsdown.portsmouth.sch.uk
Ms Ludlam - n.ludlam@portsdown.portsmouth.sch.uk

ECHP Outcomes

We have been working hard and getting one step closer to achieving personalised targets for your children. Each child has been engaging in learning that support the 4 key areas of their EHCPS.

If you would like a copy of the planning to see and/or support your child at home, please speak to a member of the team.

Phonics

As as school, we follow the Little Wandle scheme.

So far, our phonics learning has enabled amazing progress for your children. As a group we are learning digraphs (2 letters making 1 sound). Individually, the children are learning to blend their sounds ready for reading, learning new single sounds and digraphs.

The children are also reading or sharing stories with an adult during our phonics time.

As a room, we also have a storytime twice a day for the children to hear the adults read.

Communication and Interaction

Thank you for attending the Aided Language session last half term. We hope you found it useul and the resources provided are supporting communciation and interaction at home.

We will continue to develop the use of these Aided Language boards and support the children's progression with these. If you would like any more or different topics, please ask us.

We would like to continue sending books home, please make sure the children are returning them.
Please make sure you are reading with your children and then siging the yellow card. On a Thursday, the children will then recieve a prize!

Sensory

This half term, we will begin TACPAC sessions every morning. This is the combination of touch and music to support regulation.

Each week we will theme the sessions to link to our current learning and change the materials used.

Physical Skills

The children have enjoyed having daily access to such a big garden area. We will continue to use the garden throughout the colder weather. **Please make sure they have coats and warm clothes to wear.**

We are also continuing with PE sessions. **These have moved to a Friday afternoon, children can wear PE kits and plimsoles if they do not like taking their shoes off.**

In the Turtle room, we are continuing to develop the children's gross and fine motor skills with a range of activities including putting pegs on different items, picking objects up with tweezers and posting pom poms into small gaps.

Maths

We have a strong understanding of the children's starting points and can now continue to support their progression with number as well as shape space and measure.

All of our children can count to 10 and with the help of Number Blocks recognise most numerals.

Our next steps is accurately counting objects and adding objects together. We will also begin looking at 2D shapes and trying to remember their names.

