



# NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,



Welcome to the last newsletter of the Spring Term. As always it has flown by in a flurry of learning and educational experiences for your child as well as the odd event just for fun! Year 6 visited Marwell this week. See below for further information on their successful trip. The school minibus has been very busy over the last few weeks ferrying the children to and from all their trips! Year 2 have been sharing their artistic knowledge with their parents, in hopes that they can make artists of them! Finally, the whole school have enjoyed their Easter Spring Hunt around the school this morning – adults and children alike! Sadly, we have had a couple of goodbyes to deal with as two of our staff members leave to begin new adventures.

## First Week Back

Date	Event
7 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter Holidays
22 <sup>nd</sup>	First Day of Summer Term – Gates open at 08:30
	Earth Day – Geography focus in school
25 <sup>th</sup>	Purple Up Day (see below)

## Saying goodbye to...

This week we said goodbye to two members of staff in our whole school assemblies. Below is their leaving speech which I shared with everyone.

### Mrs Walker

Today, we gather to bid farewell to a truly remarkable individual, Mrs. Walker, who has been the heart and soul of Copnor Primary School for the past 16 years. As our Welfare Officer, Mrs. Walker has dedicated herself to ensuring the welfare and wellbeing of every single one of us, always putting our needs at the centre of everything she does.

Mrs. Walker, your compassion, dedication, and unwavering support have touched the lives of countless students, parents, and staff members. Your ability to listen, understand, and provide comfort in times of need has made a profound impact on our school community. You have been a beacon of hope and a source of strength for so many.

Your tireless efforts to create a safe and nurturing environment have not gone unnoticed. Whether it was offering a kind word, a warm smile, or a helping hand, you have always been there for us. Your presence has made Copnor Primary School a better place, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

As you embark on this new chapter of your life in charge of Brontes Cafe, we want you to know that your legacy will live on in the hearts of all those you have helped and inspired. Your kindness and compassion have set a standard for us all to strive towards, and we will carry forward the lessons you have taught us.

Mrs. Walker, thank you for your 16 years of unwavering service, for your dedication to our wellbeing, and for being a true champion of our school community. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours and hope that you continue to spread your warmth and kindness wherever you go.

### Also, Mrs Burt

Today, we gather to say a fond farewell to Mrs Burt, who has been a truly valued member of our school community since joining in September 2016. Over the past eight years, she has made an incredible impact on the lives of so many children, teaching in both Year R and Year 2 and helping them grow in confidence with their phonics, reading, writing, and maths.

Her passion for teaching and dedication to her pupils has made a real difference, and we know that so many young learners have benefited from her kindness, patience, and encouragement. Not only has she worked tirelessly to provide engaging and inspiring lessons, but she has also supported her colleagues, working closely with them to plan wonderful learning experiences. She has also driven the minibus for school trips across the school, as well as driving the minibus for Year 5 children to take them swimming. Mrs Burt has many talents!

With a love for music and English, Mrs Burt has played an important role in our school as the music leader and the reading for pleasure leader, bringing joy and a love of learning to so many. She has also mentored new teachers, helping to shape the next generation of teachers with her wisdom and support.

Now, as she embarks on a new journey with Portsmouth University, we know she will continue to inspire and make a difference. While we are sad to see her go, we are excited for this new chapter in her career and wish her all the success and happiness in the world.

Mrs Burt, thank you for everything you have done for our school, for the children, and for your colleagues. You will be truly missed, but we know you'll be amazing in your new role. Enjoy your holiday.

Wishing you all the best!

### Reading in class continues...

Don't forget that 'Reading in Class' will continue every **Wednesday** between **8.35 am and 8.55 am** after the Easter holidays. It has been lovely to see our parents and children reading together. We look forward to welcoming you back in again during the Summer Term.



### Summer Uniform



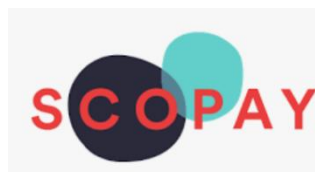
Now that the weather is improving, the time has come to find the children's summer uniforms! As you do so, please may we politely remind you that cycling shorts are not part of our summer uniform here at Copnor. As our policy states:

*'In warmer weather (or at the choice of the child) grey tailored shorts or a sky-blue gingham dress may be worn.'*

Thank you for your support with this matter.

## New School Dinner Menu

The new Spring/Summer 2025 menu will be available after the Easter break. You will be able to order from the new menu from **3.00pm today, Friday 4th April 2025**, via your child's ScoPay account. If you have already chosen meals for next term these have been removed. Please reselect from the new menu. Children with special menus have already received their new menu.



## Attendance Cup

This week's winning house is:

	Mary Rose	Victory	Alliance	Warrior
KS1	94.8%	94.8%	92.8%	97.8%
KS2	95.1%	93.8%	93.0%	95.8%

Congratulations to Warrior in both KS1 and in KS2 who have won this week's house cup.

## Attendance Update

**Certificates:** This afternoon all children who achieved 100% attendance from January to Easter will receive a certificate. In addition, we have identified all children who have achieved good attendance, and this is improved from this time last year and they will also be receiving a certificate. Well, done to all children receiving these today.

**Absence Reporting:** We have an exciting new function coming in the Parental Arbor App, which will be available from the first day of term 22/04/2025.

Whilst you will still be able to leave a voicemail for same day absences if you prefer. We would now recommend using the Absence Reporting Function on your Arbor Apps. Absences will still need to be reported on each day of your child's absence whichever method that you choose to use. Absences other than same day ones we continue to need these requested in advance using a leave of absence request form available in reception or on our website.

## House Points

This week's winning house is:

	Mary Rose	Victory	Alliance	Warrior
This week	250	212	263	227
Total	3496	2475	3071	3510

Congratulations to **Alliance** who collected the most house points this week.

Huge congratulations to all those children in **Warrior** who are the Spring Term Winners. The children celebrated this afternoon with their 'House Party'.

Well done to everyone whose hard work over the last 12 weeks has contributed to their own House Team's total, a staggering 12,552 house points have been awarded.

## Booksy Bear Winners



The KS1 class with the most children who have read 4 times or more at home is **Gravett Class!**

They will keep Booksy Bear in their book corner this week.

Well done, **Gravett Class!**

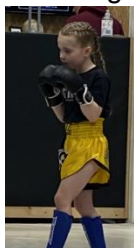
Booksy loves it in Gravett class but would really like to explore the rest of the classes too, so can everybody make a really big effort to enjoy books over the Easter break and make sure you write it in your reading record!

## Congratulations to...

### Amelia

Amelia was recently graded for her Demi-Blue belt and passed with 93%. She worked so hard over the last few weeks and put in 100% effort in all her kickboxing lessons and her 1-2-1 training. All her hard work has clearly paid off!

Amazingly, at the age of 7, she is just a few belts away from a brown belt which is the highest she can achieve under the age 16!



We are all so proud of Amelia – what a fantastic achievement. Well done!



## Non-school uniform for **Purple up day**, celebrating our military unsung heroes



To continue our involvement at celebrating our military forces at Copnor, the children are invited to come into school in something Purple on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April**. We are encouraging the children to wear something purple whether this is a piece of clothing or an accessory item to show support for those who work hard in the forces.

## Look out for the Pompey Stomp Monster!

Coming soon to Copnor Primary School.....

Help your child to have fun and be active when they stomp to school with help from the Pompey Monsters!

More details to follow after the Easter break!



## Golden Child

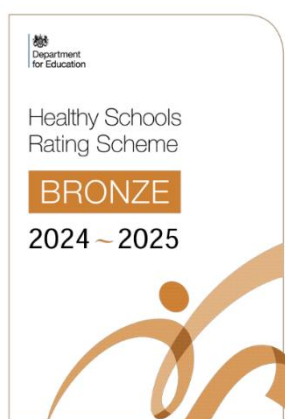


I am delighted to share the names of this week's Golden Children they are:

Year Group	Class	Golden Child
EYFS	Donaldson	Penelope
	Hart	Lia
	Rosen	Evelyn
1	Adeola	Jack
	Field	Deon
	Gravett	Amelia
2	Jenkins	Logan
	Simmonds	Beau
	Steadman	Henry
3	Adele	Samuel
	Murs	
	Sheeran	Reggie
4	Elba	Joshua
	Rickman	Bella-Rose
	Thompson	
5	Franklin	Jasper
	Hawking	Ava
	Peake	
6	Berry	Tommy
	Hussain	Ralphie
	Roots	

**EYFS/KS1** and **KS2** have all been recognised as someone who is **resilient in their learning**.

## Our Healthy Schools Award Rating



During the Autumn 2024 term, a selection of Year 4 and 6 pupils were asked to complete 'The My Health My School survey'. The survey is a pupil perception survey that asks children and young people a number of questions in order to generate vital information on the health and wellbeing of Copnor pupils. This week we have just received all of this information which will allow us to further improve what we offer our pupils in order to support them live a healthy life. We will be looking at our pupils' perceptions of healthy eating, physical activity and sport both in and out of school, wellbeing and the importance of play.

## EYFS/KS1 Anti-bullying Poster Competition

Thank you for all the entries to our Anti-bullying poster competition. It has been fantastic to see so many children take part and the effort put into each poster - it will be a difficult decision. All the posters are currently with the judges and the winners will be revealed after the Easter Break!



## Year 6 visit Marwell

Year 6 had a fantastic time at Marwell this week. In the beautiful sunshine, they were lucky enough to see lots of animals, all of whom, were enjoying the sunshine too! While they were there, they focused particularly on seeing how animals have adapted overtime to survive in their habitats.



## Year 2's Afternoon of Art

Year 2 welcomed their parents into school, for an afternoon of art. They had to follow the instructions their children had written to create a clay house tile. It was lovely to see so many adults embracing their inner sculptors!



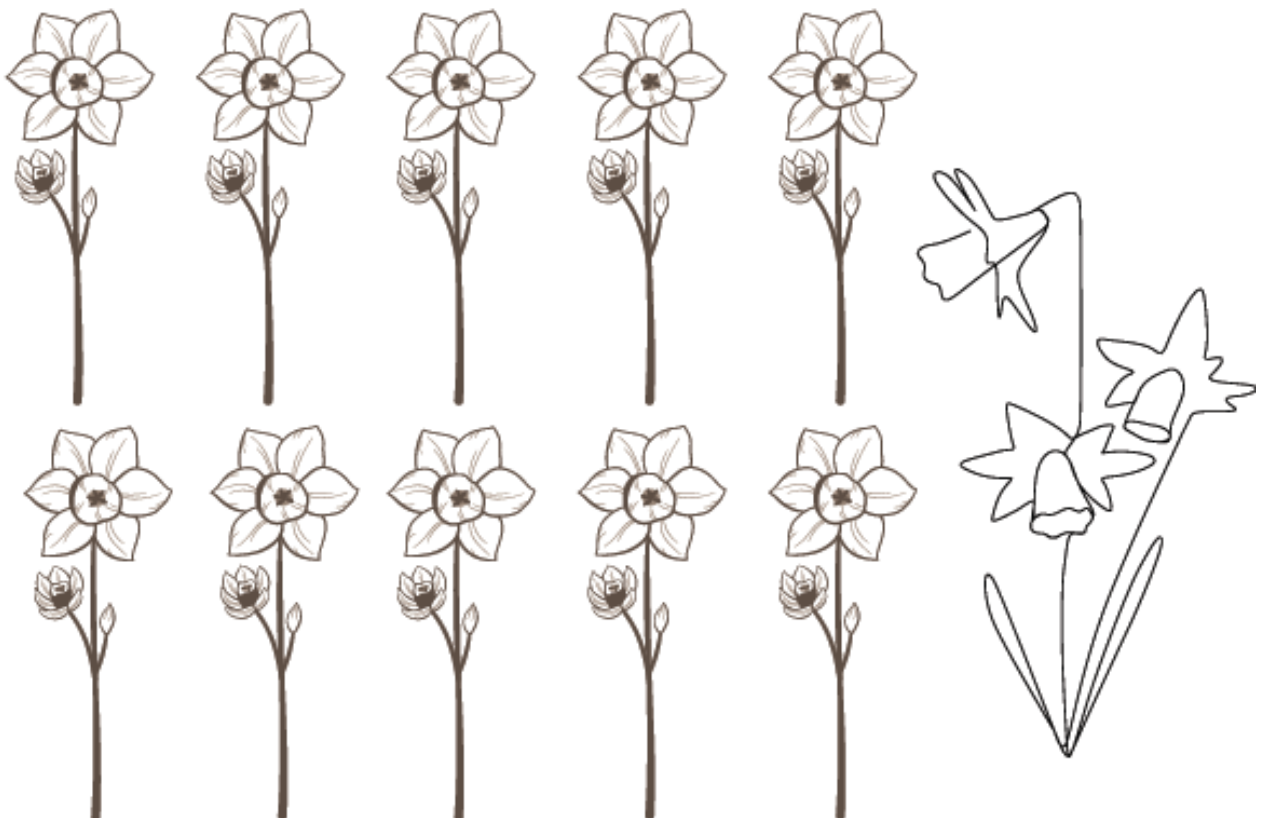
## Spring Reading Challenge – How many daffodils can you colour?



# Spring Reading Challenge

*The Spring Reading Challenge is very short, consisting of only 10 reading sessions. This is to ensure children are reading over the Easter holidays.*

*If your child reads for 10 minutes a book of their choice, allow them to colour in one daffodil and add your signature next to it. The tenth read is the empty daffodil for your child to design their own. Please **ensure** that you log a comment in the usual way in their reading diary too. We will check the reading diaries against this sheet. Try to do this each day so that they have completed the challenge before they return after the holiday. Don't be tempted to get it finished in one week. It's about little and often to ensure they enjoy reading and don't lose interest. Please bring this back on Tuesday 22nd April 2025 so that certificates can be handed out at the end of the week.*



*Anyone who finishes the Easter Reading Challenge will receive a Spring Reading certificate.*

*Good luck and happy reading!*

Your child will have received a copy of the Spring Reading Challenge at the end of the day today.

## Parent Power Courses

The Family Learning Place will be delivering a free 4-week Parent Power course after the Easter Holidays.

This course will give parents / carers the opportunity to learn new strategies to manage children's behaviour as well as receiving helpful advice to establish boundaries and create a calmer and positive environment.

If you are interested, please see the attached poster for more details and how to book on the course.



**COMMUNITY LEARNING SERVICE** Official Portsmouth City Council

### Parent Power / Managing Children's Behaviour

Come along to our **free 4-week** course to put the fun back into parenting!

**FREE**



Parenting can be tough! Come along and learn some new strategies, helpful hints, tips and advice to establish boundaries and create a calmer, positive environment. This course is recommended for parents/ carers of children aged 2-11.

**Tuesdays 29<sup>th</sup> April 6<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> May.**  
**Start time: 10am finishing at 12pm**

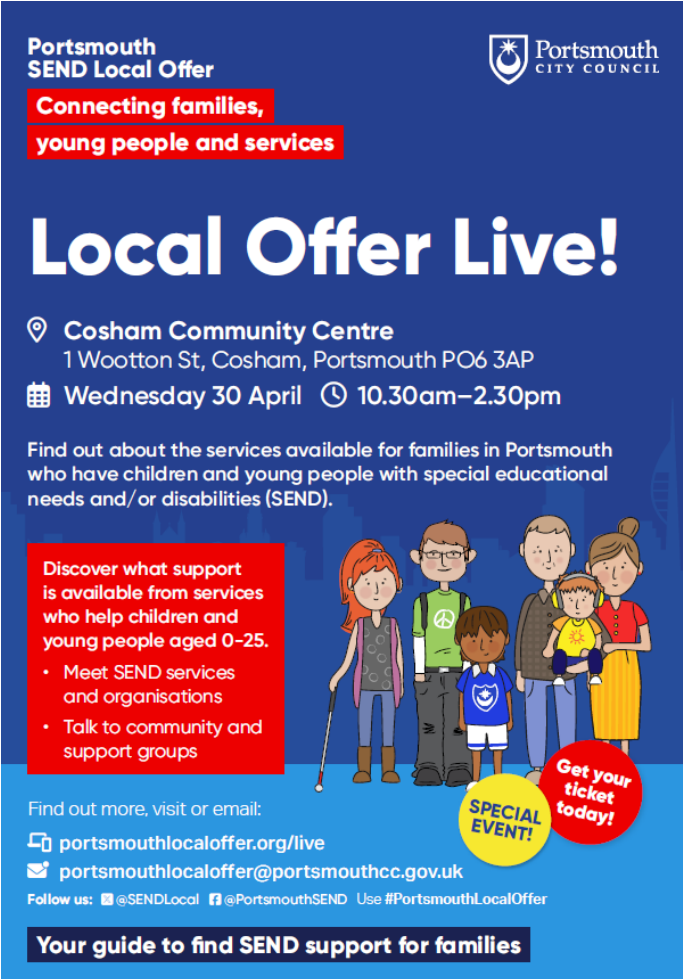
This course is based at

The Learning Place, 6 Derby Road,  
North End, Portsmouth, PO2 8HH.

To book a space call (023)92 621860

Or Email: [thelearningplace@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:thelearningplace@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

[www.learn.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.learn.portsmouth.gov.uk) [www.portsmouth.gov.uk](http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk)



Portsmouth SEND Local Offer

Connecting families, young people and services

# Local Offer Live!


**Cosham Community Centre**  
1 Wootton St, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3AP

**Wednesday 30 April** 10.30am–2.30pm

Find out about the services available for families in Portsmouth who have children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Discover what support is available from services who help children and young people aged 0-25.

- Meet SEND services and organisations
- Talk to community and support groups



Get your ticket today!

**SPECIAL EVENT!**

Find out more, visit or email:

[portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live](http://portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live)  
[portsmouthlocaloffer@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:portsmouthlocaloffer@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

Follow us: @SENDLocal @PortsmouthSEND Use #PortsmouthLocalOffer

**Your guide to find SEND support for families**

## Portsmouth SEND Local Offer Live returns to Cosham Community Centre

Families who have children and young people up to the age of 25 years old with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are invited to attend Local Offer Live at Cosham Community Centre on **Wednesday 30 April from 10:30am - 2:30pm**

Local Offer Live brings together community groups, organisations and services who can support families with information, advice and resources on SEND support in Portsmouth. Up to 20 exhibitors will be on hand to help, along with workshops from local music and dance SEND groups.

To reserve your space, please register using the online form on the Portsmouth SEND Local Offer website. [www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/live)



## Join the Fun at Portsmouth Force Basketball Club! (Summer Term 2025)



After the fantastic success of the last two terms running after-school clubs at Copnor Primary School, we're delighted to offer an extended basketball programme for the entire Summer Term! Your child is invited to join Portsmouth Force Basketball Club for a season full of fun, skill-building, and excitement. Recognised as Community Club of the Year by Basketball England, we proudly coach over 350 young players each week.

- Year 3 & 4: Mondays, 3:15 – 4:15 pm
- Year 5 & 6: Wednesdays, 3:15 – 4:15 pm

If you are interested in your child taking part in the Summer Term, please complete the google form using the attached link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfMSCMRLmtOcM\\_XZ9jNi1X7DDAIV\\_bEtGMnNya0s8wtRUEGw/viewform?usp=dialog](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfMSCMRLmtOcM_XZ9jNi1X7DDAIV_bEtGMnNya0s8wtRUEGw/viewform?usp=dialog)

## Keeping our children safe online

Continuing our sharing of the informative posters from #WakeUpWednesday, National Online Safety. Please take the time to read through all the tips that will help to ensure that your children are safe online.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# 10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

### AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

### TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

### CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

### THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police; location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

### BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

### STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

### USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

### MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

### BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

### Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Wired*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on BBC Newsnight, Radio 5 Live and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.

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Wishing you all a lovely Easter break and we look forward to welcoming your child back into school on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.**

Matt Johnson  
Headteacher