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Monday 12 September 2022

**State funeral of HM Elizabeth II
School closure on Monday September 19th 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will have heard over the weekend Monday 19th September has been designated as a Bank Holiday, the day of the state funeral of HM Elizabeth II. This means that both Court Lane Schools will be closed on Monday 19th September. School will remain open as per previously circulated dates other than this day and all pupils are expected to attend.

Over the National period of Mourning we will support pupils as necessary in school and there will be some events within school that the children will experience these will be adapted according to the age and needs of the children.

As families in the local community, we would like to share the following information we have received from Portsmouth City Council. The following statement has been issued by The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Cllr Hugh Mason:

"On behalf of councillors and officers at Portsmouth City Council, I would like to express my deepest sadness following the recent announcement of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. I would like to take this opportunity to offer our condolences to the Royal Family, who remain in our thoughts and prayers at this very sad time."

Flags in the city are being flown at half-mast as mark of respect.

Book of condolences

[Buckingham Palace's online book of condolences](#) is open for anyone who would like to leave a message. You can also contribute to Portsmouth's book of condolence by taking a message to one of the below locations. Portsmouth City Council are encouraging people to write their messages in advance and drop them into boxes at the locations. The boxes will be available until Tuesday 20 September, after which all the messages will be compiled into a book of condolences.

Locations to leave messages of condolence are:

- Portsmouth Guildhall (open on Sundays)
- Southsea Library (open on Sundays)
- Cosham Library
- Baffins Library
- North End Library
- Paulsgrove Library
- Fratton Library
- Beddow Library
- Somerstown Hub
- Mountbatten Centre (open on Sunday)

All the information about how the passing of the Queen will be marked in the city and how our residents can pay their respects will be included on the PCC website <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/> as soon as it becomes available, so that is the best place to check for details of what is happening.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Geddes	Mrs Flitton
Headteacher – Infants	Headteacher - Juniors