

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - February 26th 2015



North Tyneside Learning Trust Star Awards

Our school is taking part in the NTLT Star Awards, a programme celebrating the outstanding achievements of children and young people. There are 12 award categories and anyone can make a nomination. Every child nominated is

considered a winner in his/her own right and will receive a certificate. 48 finalists will be invited along with their families and Headteachers to a glittering awards ceremony at the Discovery Museum on 1st July and all will be presented with prizes worth up to £100 each. The award categories are: Inspiration, Volunteering, Fundraising, Resilience, Green, Leadership, Can Do, Achievement, Inclusion, Local Hero, Breakthrough and Winners Choice. To find out more about the categories and make an online nomination please visit www.ntlearningtrust.org.uk/programmes/starawards The deadline to nominate a young star is Friday 27th March.



Welcome

We would like to welcome Salma and Ma'in Omran and their families to our school. The children recently joined us in Year 1 and Year 5. They have settled really quickly into routines and we hope that they will be happy at our school.

Fundraising from class activities

We have been absolutely overwhelmed to raise such a tremendous amount of money from the class fundraising activities for Maggie's, and are extremely grateful for the support from all of our families. The class activities have raised the following:

Reception - £133.60, Year 1 - £197.60, Year 2 - £79.00, Year 3 - £322.10, Year 4 - £311.30, Year 5 - £91.43, Year 6 - £485.60, Non uniform day = £111.00, Total = £1731.63 !!

Thank you everybody for the fantastic support. Our Maggie's total is now £5360.13, which is incredible.

New member of staff

We are pleased to welcome Mrs Connon to the staff. She has taken over from Mrs Ratcliffe in Reception class on a permanent basis, as Mrs Ratcliffe retired before Christmas. Mrs Connon works Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs Kewin works in Reception on Thursdays and Fridays.

Superstars

We are very proud to hear that we have some children in school who have performed recently at The Peoples Theatre in Jesmond, in a show involving dancing, singing and acting. Well done to Daniel (Y5), Mia (Y6), Emily (Y6), Charlotte (Y4) Michael (Y5) Mia (Y6) Megan

(Y6) and Nina (Y6). It is an achievement to perform on stage at a theatre, and we are really proud to hear about their talents out of school.

We would like to ask all parents to let us know when your child participates in an activity or achieves an award outside school so that we can celebrate their achievements outside school as well as in school. There is a new notice board in school for this reason, and achievements of children will be displayed there. Please contact the school office or let us know when your child has some good news to be proud of, thank you.

David Walliams competition

Thank you for the recent entries to try to win a visit from David Walliams on World Book Day. Unfortunately the winners were announced this week, and despite being told in the Chronicle that he would be visiting five North East Primaries, he will actually only be visiting Northern Counties School in Newcastle.

Never mind, this year our world book day will still take on a David Walliams theme. We will be carrying out lots of fun activities in school around the books of this exciting and funny author. As usual, there will be prizes for the best costumes in each year group. Your child may wish to come as a character from one of David Walliams stories, or any character of their choice. We look forward to a day of celebrating fantastic books.

Year 1 and 2 multiskills

Year 1 and 2 children recently competed in a multiskills event at John Spence, against other schools in the partnership. The children worked through a carousel of activities including jumping, running and throwing. Our Year 2 teams won gold and silver; Year 1 won 1st gold and bronze ! This is a fantastic achievement, and we are delighted with how well the children did. Thank you to all parents who supported at the multiskills event.

Valentine disco

Before half term there were Valentine discos for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, and the children had an absolutely fantastic time. A BIG thank you to Lorraine Harrison (Mum of Jacob & Rebecca) and Jackie O'Brien (Mum of Jack) for their time and energy in organising everything, shopping for the food, sweets, glitter tattoos and glow sticks for the discos. Thanks to all of the parents who helped on the day, it was much appreciated. The discos raised a total of £322 for school fund. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making the discos such fun for the children. Please see the website for the pictures.

Quiksticks

Well done to our Year 4 children who competed in a quiksticks hockey tournament before half term. The children really enjoyed the event and played really well. Thank you to the parents who accompanied the trip.

Egg boxes

Miss Wright would be grateful if parents could send into school any empty egg boxes as Year 1 are planning to use them for an activity. Please send them into school with your children and they will be given to Miss Wright, thank you.

Year 2 Dance Festival

Year 2 are performing in the North Tyneside Dance Festival at The Parks on Tuesday 3rd March. Please can we just remind Year 2 parents that you need to buy the tickets for the event directly from The Parks, thank you. The dance looks absolutely amazing and we can't wait to perform it at the festival. Thank for your support in sending your child in red, white and blue clothes for the evening.

Mammies for Maggies

Well done to the Mams who took part in the first Mammies for Maggies boot camp (Tuesdays 9.05am from school). They looked fantastic in their Maggies t-shirts and looked very fit jogging out of school! Please contact the school office for Claire Surrey's contact number if you would like to participate in future weeks. Please also contact Claire if you would like to participate in the evening boot camp (Thursday 5.30-6.30pm) starting on March 19th in the school hall.



Easter egg collection

Last year Virgin Money in Whitley Bay collected Easter eggs from staff, friends and local schools to give them to Rake Lane Childrens Ward. They have asked if we would like to support them. If you would like to donate an Easter egg (it can be a creme egg), please send them into school by Friday 27th March so that they can deliver them to the hospital. Thank you for your support.



Preston Grange has got Talent

Today saw performances from Ethan (Y3) who sang, Adison, Daniel, Mark and Hayden (Y5) were the Boxer Boys and danced. Sophie, Katie, Jess performed as ('JKS') and did singing and dancing. Katy Forsyth (Y4) sang 'Let it Go'. Although the acts were excellent, the school council judged Ethan the winner! Well done to Ethan and to everyone who participated today.

Scholastic books

Mrs Royle will be sending out a Scholastic book magazine this week. If you would like to place an order, please return it to the office by Friday 13th March, with cash or a cheque made payable to Preston Grange Primary School thank you.

Album found

If anyone's child has lost a Match Attack album almost full with cards, please can you call into the school office thank you, as one has been handed in.

Play equipment

The school council are going to officially open the new play equipment for the whole school. We have been letting the area immediately around the new equipment recover a little after the bad weather before letting the children play on the pirate ship and new climbing frame. The grand opening ceremony will be on Friday this week!

Nursery questionnaires

Thank you to the families who completed the recent questionnaire about Nursery provision. As you know, we currently have a private provider who rents our mobile classroom as a pre-school Nursery, but it does not belong to our school, and staff are not employed or managed by school. As a school however, we would like to secure our own school Nursery provision in the future. Thank you for responses.

The Big Pedal

Next Monday sees the start of The Big Pedal, when we encourage as many children to come to school by bike as possible. We compete against local schools, and we have to count how many children cycle each day and then enter these figures onto a chart. The Big Pedal runs for 3 weeks and there are some great prizes to be won for the winning school. Kian, our Bike It Officer will be doing a Big Pedal launch assembly with the children on Monday 2nd March. Please encourage your child to cycle to school over the next three weeks !

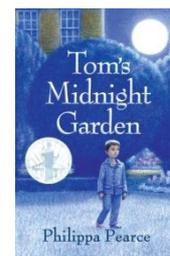


Red Nose Day

On Friday 13th March we will be taking part in Red Nose Day. The theme for this year is 'make your face funny for money', so we will be asking children to come into school in non-uniform with red noses and their faces painted/decorated and a suggested donation of £1 for comic relief. Thanks for your support.

Tom's Midnight Garden

Thank you for all of the parental contributions towards the cost of the visiting theatre company, who will be performing Tom's Midnight Garden. We think that the children will really enjoy the performance.



Dates for your diaries

Mon 2nd March - The Big Pedal starts

Mon 2nd March - Parents evening (NB there is no NUFC Family Football tonight)

Mon 2nd March - Image Musical Theatre in school performing 'Tom's Midnight Garden'

Tues 3rd March - Year 2 at North Tyneside Dance Festival, The Parks 6.30pm (NB. children need to arrive between 6.00-6.15pm)

Thurs 5th March - World Book Day

Fri 13th March - Red Nose Day (Make your face funny for money)

Wed 18th March - Heights & weights of Reception and Year 6 children

Thurs 19th March - Football team to JSCHS

Fri 27th March - Tyne and Wear netball finals (Y6 team) at The Blue Flames (pm)

Fri 27th March - Bikeability level 1 (Year 4) am and pm sessions

Tues 31st March - Year 3 skipping festival at JSCHS

Thurs 2nd April - Break up for Easter holidays

NB. Children return to school on Monday 20th April

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, February 25th 2015