

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - November 11th 2014



Year 5 visit to the Mosque



Last week, Year 5 visited the Mosque in Newcastle as part of their RE topic on Islam. It is a statutory requirement that children learn about different religions as part of the RE curriculum. Although our school has a predominantly Christian ethos, it is also important to learn about other religions, as we do have children of different faiths

in our school. This was a valuable opportunity for the children to learn about the aspects of Islam, having studied the topic in RE. The visit was extremely interesting and informative.

Thank you to Mrs Wright for organising the visit, thanks also to Jackie Leadbitter, our Chair of Governors and to the Year 5 parents for accompanying the children. Please see the school website for the full gallery of photos from the visit.



Welcome to new staff

We are delighted to welcome onto the staff, Miss Beavers and Mrs Spowart, who are both full-time Teaching Assistants. Both members of staff are working across school with different children and groups, delivering Read Write Inc sessions and supporting in and out of class.

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everybody who has sent in a Christmas shoe box into school. We have collected 53 shoeboxes for the charity so far. Many thanks for your continued generosity and support. The last date for sending a shoe box into school is Friday 14th November (by 9am please).



Bikeability Year 3 & 4

This Thursday and Friday, Year 3 and 4 are taking part in Bikeability Level 1.

During Level 1 Bikeability training, children learn to control and master their bike. The training takes place in an environment away from cars or traffic - in our playground. The children will be trained in groups of 15. Once the children have completed their Bikeability Level 1 and been awarded their red badge, they will be able to:

- Fit their own helmet
- Carry out a simple bike check
- Get on their bike, start cycling, then stop and get off
- Ride their bike using the gears
- Make their bike go where you want it to, including moving around objects safely

- Control the bike with one hand
- Stop quickly if you need to
- Look all around you when they're riding, including behind, without wobbling.

Since JSCHS have their own small number of bikes, they will be on loan to school for the two days, so that if someone has an issue with their own bike, we have spares for the children to use. Mrs Monaghan and Mrs Udberg will be writing with further organisational details for parents.

Smartie tubes

Wow! What an amazing effort by all of the children in filling their Smartie tubes with 20p coins! Thank you SO much for your support. The classes raised the following amounts from their Smartie tubes:

Reception - £117.70

Year 1 - £100

Year 2 - £68.20

Year 3 - £108.80

Year 4 - £145

Year 5 - £159

Year 6 - £123

Total = £821.70



Well done to everyone. Each class will keep £20 of the money that they raised, and have planned (in secret) an enterprise project, in which they are going to make something with the money in order to raise even more money for Maggie's. Each class will let parents know what their project involves in the next two weeks.



Children in Need

On Friday 14th November, it is Children in Need. The theme this year is Superheroes. We encourage the children to come into school wearing non-uniform in Superhero t-shirts or outfits if they wish, and we suggest a donation of £1 to Children in Need. Thank you for your support.

Firewalking for Maggie's Centre

Well we can't hide from the date any longer.....the day has nearly arrived for the staff to walk over hot coals on Wednesday this week! I would like to thank the staff for their bravery and participation; we are all taking part in order to fundraise for Maggie's and in support of Mrs Dunn and Miss Minto. Please wish us luck with the event; who knows, we could be teaching with our feet in buckets of water on Thursday! Our Maggie's total is £2325.30 currently. Thank you for your continued support.



Competition to re-design the cage area

As you will have seen, we have created a new bin storage area in the car park area of school. Mr Conaty has worked extremely hard over October half term, and is nearly finished the bin store. We will be bricking up the original cage area of the old bin storage, and will be getting an artist to do a project in Spring term, to create a mural on the new wall area.

We would like the children to design what they would like on the new wall area, and the winning ideas will be used by the artist after Christmas when working with the classes.

Please ask your child to use the sheet that will be sent home tomorrow, to draw their design. All entries need to be returned to school by Friday 21st November, thanks.



Christingle at Christchurch

On Tuesday 9th December, Miss Wright will be taking 25 of our children to Christchurch in North Shields for the annual Christingle Service which our pyramid of schools takes part in. Each school sends a number of children, and together they make a large combined choir. We select our children predominantly from Key Stage 2, and ask the children to volunteer. The parents of the 25 children have volunteered to take part in the Christingle, are aware that their children are taking part. Everybody else is welcome to come along to the Christingle service on the evening, starting at 6pm.

Scholastic books

If you would like to place an order with Scholastic books, orders need to be sent into school by 21st November. Please note we can't accept credit cards, and cheques need to be made payable to Preston Grange Primary School.

Year 6 homework projects

Please find below, some very creative Viking homework projects which



Year 6 have completed recently on the Vikings. Please see the website for the full gallery of pictures. Well done Year 6 !

Tag rugby Year 3

Our Year 3 children took part in a tag rugby event on Monday at Percy Park Rugby Club. The children played really well, with great skill and were very successful at the tournament. Their sportsmanship was absolutely exemplary and we are incredibly proud of the class. Thank you to Mrs Aitken for the photograph, and thank you to Mrs Monaghan and the parents who accompanied the children to the event.



Armistice Day Parade

We are very proud to hear that Daniel Smee and Jed Mather represented the Beavers for 3rd Tynemouth (Ritson's Own) Group for the Armistice Day Parade on Sunday. Not only did they lead the parade for the Beavers, they were also chosen to wear World War One and World War Two medals that belonged to the two brothers who were founders of the Scouts group at Ritsons Own. It is very important, as these medals have never been worn as unfortunately the men themselves never got the chance. It was a great honour for the Daniel and Jed to wear these medals. They

were very proud to wear them and their behaviour was exemplary throughout the full march and service on Sunday. Jed's sister Freya was also at the march and was representing her Brownie pack. Well done to all three children.

Dates for your diary

Tues 11th Nov - Year 1 & 2 Praise party (pm)
Thurs 13th Nov - Year 6 visit to Yorvik, York (arriving back approx 4.15pm)
Thurs 13th Nov - Year 3 Bikeability
Fri 14th Nov - Year 4 Bikeability
Mon 17th Nov - Year 5 to JSCHS Sportshall Athletics (pm)
Mon 17th Nov - Magistrates in Year 6
Thurs 20th Nov - Year 5 & 6 Netball @ King Edwards (3.45-4.45pm)
Mon 24th Nov - Christingle practice (pyramid schools) am - 25 children from Y2-6
Thurs 27th Nov - Year 5 Astronaut visit to Centre for Life, Newcastle
Thurs 27th Nov - Year 6 Be Safe, Be Seen session (with Kian, Bike It Officer)
Fri 28th Nov - Year 5 Be Safe, Be Seen session (with Kian, Bike It Officer)
Fri 28th Nov - Open afternoon for prospective parents for September 2015 Reception class
Tues 2nd Dec - Whole school trip to the panto (Snow White, Theatre Royal)
Thurs 2nd Dec - Year 5 & 6 Netball @ King Edwards (3.45-4.45pm)
Tues 9th Dec - Christingle service, Christchurch 6-8pm
Thurs 11th Dec - Christmas lunch in school
Thurs 11th Dec - Year 5 & 6 Netball @ King Edwards (3.45-4.45pm)
Fri 12th Dec - Christmas jumper day (Save the Children) non uniform
Fri 12th Dec - KS1 Christmas production, doors open 9.10am
Fri 12th Dec - KS2 Christmas production, doors open 2.20pm
Mon 15th Dec - Christmas storyteller in school
Mon 15th Dec - KS2 Christmas production, doors open 9.10am
Mon 15th Dec - KS1 Christmas production, doors open 2.20pm
Tues 16th Dec - Reception, Year 1 & 2 Christmas party (pm)
Wed 17th Dec - Year 3 & 4 Christmas party (pm)
Thurs 18th Dec - Year 5 & 6 Christmas party (pm)
Fri 19th Dec - Break up for Christmas

Please note, children return to school on **Tuesday 6th January 2015** (Mon 5th is a Teacher Training Day)

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, November 11th 2014