

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - December 19th 2013



A busy half term !

This has been a very busy and full half term. Thank you to all families for the lovely positive feedback following the Christmas shows, we were incredibly proud of the children. We have all enjoyed the many Christmas events that we have taken part in over the last two weeks: the Christingle service at Christchurch, carol singing at Rake Lane, class parties, carol singing at North Shields Christmas market, the Friends



of Preston Grange crazy Christmas arts and crafts, the Christmas storyteller, our trip to the pantomime, Christmas lunch, Christmas jumper day and many more. Pictured above also are Jaden and Jasper, our jolly Christmas postmen.

School website

Our school website is being added to regularly. Please visit www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk for photos, events and news articles sharing all recent events in school. Please notice that there is now a 'find us on Facebook' link at the bottom of the page. If you click on this link, and like or follow our page, you will receive notifications when we update anything on our school website or add an article/newsletter/event.

Welcome to Preston Grange Primary School

On behalf of the children, staff and Governors I would like to welcome you to our newly designed website. Our website aims to provide you with up to date information about our school, general organisation and curriculum activities. We would also like children, parents, our wider community and new visitors to be able to see what we do and are so proud of at Preston Grange.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to find out more, or visit our school. You will be warmly welcomed by everyone involved in the life of our happy school.

Tracy A. Taylor
Headteacher

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Christmas parties

This week, the classes have enjoyed their Christmas parties across school. Thank you very much for the generous donations of party food, and thanks to the parent helpers who volunteered to help at the parties. Please see a sample of party photos on the school website.



Carol singing

This Wednesday, Year 5 and 6 choir went carol singing at Rake Lane hospital like we did for the last two years. The choir sang to a packed dayroom on Ward 3, and the elderly patients loved the childrens' singing. Thanks to Mr Chappell our choir leader, who accompanied the children on the keyboard. It was lovely to see several of our parents who work at the hospital, coming to listen to the children. Here is an article on the NHS website about the carol singing:

After school clubs

The numbers for after school clubs have all been finalised, and parents should have received confirmation of whether children have places in after school clubs for after Christmas. Please note that after school clubs start the first week back (week beginning Tuesday 7th January).

Toon Times sessions - Newcastle United Foundation

In January, the children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be working with Gavin Ferry, project co-ordinator for Newcastle United Foundation. The children will have a session entitled 'Toon Times', where they will learn about the history of Newcastle United.

Choir sweatshirts

At the Victorian Christmas market last weekend, we saw that another school choir had their own school choir sweatshirts. I have looked into getting sweatshirts for our choir, and have had confirmation from First Class Supply Teaching Agency in Whitley Bay, that they are prepared to sponsor our school. The sweatshirts are currently being designed, we look forward to seeing the choir wearing them in the new year.

Thank you

Thank you to Melanie Sanderson, Mum of Megan, who every Friday shops for, and runs tuck shop for our children in school. We are very grateful for Melanie's ongoing support. Thanks also to Lorraine Harrison, Mum of Jacob and Rebecca and Jackie O'Brien, Mum of Jack, for organising both the Halloween and Christmas tuck shops this term.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Oliver Marshall and Megan Sanderson who have been selected to represent North Tyneside in the Tyne and Wear Sports hall Athletics final which will be held in South Shields in January.



Congratulations also go to Mr Chicken, Grace's Dad from Year 2, who achieved his Masters degree. Very well done !



Dates for your diary

Mon 6th Jan - Teacher training day

Tues 7th Jan - first day back for children

Wk beg Tues 7th Jan - after school and lunch time clubs start

Tues 7th Jan - Year 4 first swimming lesson

Tues 7th Jan - Year 5 basketball coaching

Wed 8th Jan - Year 6 basketball coaching

Mon 13th Jan - school nurse in Reception: 'handwashing'

Mon 13th Jan - Year 2 & 3 visit to Safetyworks

Wed 15th Jan - Year 4 'Toon Times' Newcastle United Foundation

Thurs 16th Jan - Year 6 'Toon Times' Newcastle United Foundation

Fri 17th Jan - Year 5 'Toon Times' Newcastle United Foundation

Mon 20th Jan - Year 5 puberty talk, school nurse

Tues 21st Jan - Year 5 basketball coaching

Wed 22nd Jan - Year 6 basketball coaching

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you all very much for your generosity and presents. We would like to wish all parents and families a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Please note, the children return to school on **Tuesday 7th January**.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, 19th December 2013