

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - May 13th 2014



Family fun day

I would like to give parents advanced notice of a fantastic family fun day. This is an event organised by Tynemouth and Whitley Bay Scout Groups of which Jonny (Year 4) and his brother are members. The money raised is going to help a group of 35 young people, take the trip of a lifetime to Hiroshima to do community work to mark the 75th anniversary of the Hiroshima bomb. Jonny's brother James was lucky enough to be selected to take the trip. Part of the experience is that the young people must actively participate in fundraising and organise events for the benefit of the community in the build up to the trip. The family fun day is on June 28th from 11am till 4pm at Rockliffe RFC in Whitley Bay. There will be activities such as a climbing tower, a bouncy castle, an inflatable slide, birds of prey, a children's carousel, pony rides, archery, laser quest, tea cups and much more. A flier for the family fun day will be sent out nearer the event. We wish the scouts well in fundraising for their trip.

Pupil pass

We are going to start a new system for when parents request to take their child out of school for a medical appointment. Firstly, we would ask that parents make medical appointments after school at best, or during the later part of the school day if possible. Please inform the office as usual that your child has an appointment, but when you come to collect your child, we have a new signing out book (a pupil pass book) which allows us to give parents the top copy when the child is taken out for an appointment, and the time they are taken and returned to school is then recorded on the school copy. This system will start after half term, from June 3rd.

Healthy School status

We are pleased to inform parents that we have maintained our Healthy School status, following assessment last week by Elaine Robson, School Improvement Adviser for North Tyneside. Every four years, schools who have been awarded Healthy Schools status, have to carry out a health check or audit in all 4 of the areas which the Healthy Schools programme covers, in order to maintain the status of being a healthy school: Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE), Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (EWMH). Following a review of these areas of the curriculum, staff training and a re-draft of our Sex Relationships Education curriculum, Elaine Robson met with two children from each class as part of the assessment which she carried out. She also met with Miss Knowles, PSHE subject leader on several occasions, before informing us that we had maintained our Healthy School status. We are delighted that we have achieved the Healthy School status once again, and thank Miss Knowles for her hard work and enthusiasm in leading us through the re-validation process.



SATs

This week our Year 6 children are sitting their end of Key Stage 2 SATs. We all wish them luck. Thank you to all of the parents for your support and hard work at home with the children in the lead up to the SATs.

Well done



Well done to Leo in Year 2, who completed the Childrens Cancer run at the weekend, running the 5 miles in an impressive 1 hour and 5 minutes. By completing the run, Leo has raised a huge £400 for the charity! What a fantastic achievement Leo.

Miss Wright has also been very active and has taken part in the Moonlight Walk for Cancer in London at the weekend, in aid of Breast Cancer Research. This was a 26 mile walk - in the dark! Well done Miss Wright, what an amazing achievement!



Litter picking

We have bought some new litter pickers. For the last two weeks our Eco Warriors have been picking up litter around the school site with Mr Conaty, keeping a tally of the litter that is collected. The children have decided that there is a great deal of litter coming from the hospital, and much of it has blown up against the boundary fence. The Eco Warriors will be designing posters, which will be sent to the hospital asking if these posters can be displayed. We are proud of the eco warriors and their enthusiasm for litter picking.



Robinwood and High Borrans

Year 4 will soon be going on their residential to Robinwood in Alston from June 23rd to 25th, and Years 5/6 will be visiting High Borrans from the 7th to 11th July. Please note that there will be a parents information evening for both of the residential trips. The parents evening for the High Borrans Year 5/6 residential is on Thursday 12th June at 3.30pm. The date for the Robinwood residential will follow.

Extreme Mountain Biking Show

Next Thursday, on May 22nd, we will be having an extreme mountain biking show in school. This is due to the amazing effort that children and families made during The Big Pedal. The children will absolutely love the show and we are all really looking forward to it.

Reading Festival

We have been lucky to secure places at the first North Tyneside Reading Festival. Year 2 children will be attending the Reading Festival on Friday 6th June 2014 at the Langdale Centre. The children will take part in a wide range of reading activities and workshops, such as 'Crafty with books', 'Seven Stories', 'Marvellous Maths', 'Storytelling Corners' and many more. Mrs Blackett will send a letter for Year 2 parents explaining the visit in detail and arrangements for the day.

Tesco visit

Year 1 visited Tesco in North Shields as part of their growing topic. They found out about a rainbow of fruit and vegetables, visited the fish counter and tasted different cheese ! They went inside the bakery and made their own



bread rolls. They also got to see all of the bread loaves cooking in the huge ovens. Many thanks to the volunteers who helped support the children on their visit. Please see under a full range of pictures of the visit on the website.



John Spence
COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

John Spence uniform sales

On Tuesday 3rd June, staff from John Spence will be bringing a range of school uniform down to our school, and parents are invited into school between 3.30 and 4.30pm, so that you may buy school uniform for John Spence. This is the first year that we have made this opportunity available to our parents; we hope that parents find it helpful.

School photos

If you would like to order a copy of your child's class photo, please can you send your order into the school office by next Thursday (22nd May) at the latest thank you. Please note: any forms received after this will not be able to be ordered.

Dates for your diary

Thurs 15th May - Reception parents in school looking at Learning Journeys (3pm)

Fri 16th May - Reception themed day 'Mad Hatter's Tea Party' (fancy dress)

Mon 19th May - Walk to school week

Mon 19th May pm - Tennis festival Year 4 (8 children)

Tues 20th May - Tennis festival Year 3 (8 children)

Wed 21st May - Basketball at JSCHS (after school, Years 5/6)

Thurs 22nd May - Extreme Mountain Biking show (am)

Thurs 22nd May - Years 5 & 6 Athletics (JSCHS, pm)

Thurs 22nd May - Years 5&6 dodgeball (JSCHS 3.45pm - 5.30pm)

Fri 23rd May - break up for half term

Mon 2nd June - **TEACHER TRAINING DAY**

Tues 3rd June - Skipping Festival Year 4 (am)

Wed 4th June - Year 6 Relationships session (school nurse)

Thurs 5th June - Year 6 Kwik Cricket festival, Tynemouth CC

Friday 6th June - North Tyneside Reading Festival (Year 2, am)

Thurs 12th June - Year 6 class assembly

Thurs 12th June - High Borrans information evening for parents of Year 5 & 6

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, May 2014