

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - February 3rd 2015



Activekids vouchers

We would be grateful if you would start collecting Sainsburys Active Kids vouchers for our school, as we were able to get a considerable amount of PE equipment for school last year with all of the vouchers we had collected. Please send any that you may have, into school with your children thank you and there is a post box for the vouchers.

Maggies 'Show some love' campaign

As you are aware, we are supporting Maggie's Centre in Newcastle this year in our fundraising, due to two members of staff fighting cancer. Maggie's have launched a recent campaign 'show some love' which is similar to the ice bucket challenge last summer. People are encouraged to take a photo which 'shows some love', and then this can be shared on social media such as facebook or twitter (or directly to Maggie's facebook page) using #show some love and then a donation can be texted: MAGG78£1 to 70070. Following this, people can nominate two other friends to do the same.



The fundraising officers came into school last week to ask if we could spread the word about #showsome love campaign, and took these lovely photos of Year 2 hands (guess the children!) and a photo of Jacob, Taylor and Owen. We hope that the campaign raises awareness of Maggie's Centre, and raises further funds for this fantastic centre which supports cancer patients.

Mammies for Maggie's Bootcamp !

Claire Surrey (Alfie -Reception) is a qualified fitness coach and thought she would start a bootcamp on a Tuesday morning straight after children have been dropped off at school. The bootcamp will start on Tuesday February 24th.

The plan is, to head over to the Foxhunters Car Park/field area and do the bootcamp there, from 9.15-10.15am. (warm up will be short jog from school yard to Foxhunters!) Claire thought it would be a good idea to incorporate a bit of fundraising for Maggie's from the Bootcamp also. She will be charging a price of £3.50 for a session, and 50p from everyone will be donated to Maggie's each week. Maggie's Centre has kindly agreed to provide a Maggie's T Shirt for all participants!



So far there are about 4 of the Reception parents interested, and we are hoping that with some gentle persuasion this may rise! Posters and fliers will be sent out very shortly, and

there will also be an evening class later in the Spring term on a Thursday from 5.30-6.30pm in the school hall.

If you are interested in either daytime or evening bootcamp, please contact: Claire Surrey 07709 304 264 (People would need to book their place for numbers, and parents will also be required to give your T Shirt size for their Maggie's T Shirt) We think the bootcamp will be a fantastic opportunity to get fit and to fundraise for Maggies at the same time.

Mr Jamison is Steelman !

On July 18th Mr Jamison will be competing in the Cleveland Steelman triathlon to raise



money for Maggies. This is a half ironman event and will see him taking part in a 1.2 mile open water swim in Ellerton lake in Richmond, North Yorkshire, then after coming out of the lake he will be jumping on my bike to race 58 miles on a hilly route through Catterick, Northallerton and Brompton and finally jumping from his bike to finish off by running a 13.1 mile half marathon off road run.

As you can see this is quite a challenge but Mr Jamison likes a challenge and thought it might be fun ! Mr Jamison is looking for sponsorship for Maggies which as you all know is a charity very close to our hearts at Preston Grange and has been fantastic in supporting two of our colleagues. So please give generously and thank you for all your support. www.justgiving.com/

Thank you

Thanks to Marion Allen, Grandma of Sam in Year 4 and Mrs Sinton-Gerry, Mum of Quinn in Year 6, for their very kind donation of childrens books for our school library. We are really grateful.

New member of lunchtime staff

We are very pleased to have Mrs Hogarth on board. Mrs Hogarth joins the team of lunchtime staff, and is enjoying getting to know all of the children.

Preston Grange has Got Talent

It's that time of year again ! The children who would like to participate in this year's Preston Grange Has Got Talent competition have submitted their entries to Mr Burgess and audition rounds begin this week. The competition will end before Easter with the final, to which parents of the winning acts are invited.

Well done

Well done to our Year 5 & 6 hockey teams who competed recently in a hockey competition at John Spence Community High School between local schools in our pyramid, and were awarded bronze overall. Mrs Udberg said that the childrens' sportsmanship was fantastic and each team worked particularly well together. A great effort and achievement by both teams, well done !

Keyboard music lessons

Additional to weekly music lessons with class teachers, we offer the opportunity for the children to have small group lessons with visiting music teachers. Mrs Richardson who teaches keyboard on a Tuesday afternoon currently has spaces. Should anyone wish their

child to learn to play the keyboard, please contact Mrs Boyd in the school office thank you.

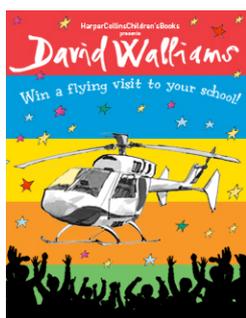


RE celebration

Year 1 took part in a role-play session during their R.E. lesson last week. They acted out a Sikh celebration; Guru Nanak's birthday. The children enjoyed offerings of fresh fruit and



bread while listening to the story of Guru Nanak's birthday. Here are some photos from the lesson.



David Walliams competition

You will have heard that David Walliams will be dropping in by helicopter at 5 North East Primary schools on World Book Day on March 5th. The competition requires the children to think of a reason why David Walliams would want to visit our school. The entries will be judged and the winning entry for our school (we are only allowed one entry) will be submitted at the end of next week. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we have a winning reason for him to visit our school !

Volcanoes from Year 3

This term, Year 3 has been learning all about volcanoes. The children were asked to make a volcano at home as a project for homework, and the results have been spectacular ! The volcanoes are extremely creative and we are delighted with the family involvement that has been shown. The children brought in the ingredients from home to make the volcano erupt, and really enjoyed doing the experiment. Please find a gallery of photos on our school website.

No levels - assessment

In September, the Government changed the way that we assess childrens' progress in schools, when they removed the system of 'levels' for describing a child's attainment. Each school is able to devise their own system of assessment and measures of progress, and this means that in the future there will be no nationally agreed system of measuring pupils' levels of attainment. This means that end of year reports to parents will look different this year. More information to follow in the Spring term for parents.

Spare PE kits

We would be grateful if any parents have any old or outgrown PE uniform that they would be happy to send into school in a bag marked 'old PE kit.' We are trying to build up a stock of spare clothes and sandshoes for instances where a child may have forgotten their kit. Many thanks for your support.

Dates for your diaries

Tues 3rd Feb - Hoops 4 Health Tournament (Year 5) at Lakeside

Tues 3rd Feb - High 5 Netball Finals (Year 6 team)

Thurs 5th Feb - Reception parents in school: sharing learning journeys (3pm)

Tues 10th Feb - Tanya Bentham storyteller in Year 5 (Saxons) & Year 4 (Greeks)

Thurs 12th Feb - Year 4 Quick sticks Hockey at The Parks (pm)

Thurs 12th Feb - Year 1 Multiskills at JSCHS
Thurs 12th Feb - Year 5 Puberty, school nurse
Thurs 12th Feb - Valentine discos (2.30-3.30pm KS1, 3.40 - 5.00pm KS2)
Fri 13th Feb - Year 2 Multi-skills at JSCHS
Fri 13th Feb - Break up for half term
Mon 23rd Feb - School re-starts
Mon 23rd Feb - NUFC Family Football starts 3.30-5pm
Wed 25th Feb - Parents evening
Mon 2nd March - Parents evening
Mon 2nd March - Image Musical Theatre in school performing 'Tom's Midnight Garden'

Thurs 5th March - World Book Day

Advanced notice: Bikeability Level 1 for Year 4 (postponed due to bad weather before) is now booked for Friday 27th March.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, February 3rd 2015