

# Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - November 19th 2013

## Shoe box appeal

Thank you SO much for your extremely generous donations of Christmas shoe boxes for the Operation Christmas Child charity. We were very grateful to receive 64 shoe boxes !! The charity collected the boxes today and informed us that the boxes are heading for Swaziland, Belarus and Albania. Many thanks for your donations.

## Christmas school lunch

If your child would like to stay for Christmas lunch, with crackers and carols, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, please ask at the school office for a green school meal payment envelope then return £2 in this envelope **before Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at the latest**. The school office will not be able to take any orders after this date, as Karen our cook needs to order her ingredients more than two weeks ahead of the Christmas meal. If your child regularly stays for school lunch, then you need to send your child's lunch money as usual.

## School website

We have launched a new school website this week, at the same web address [www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk](http://www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk) Over the next few weeks we will be adding to the website, and we have uploaded all past newsletters from this term so far and also information about our consultation to join the North Tyneside learning trust on the website. Please note that in line with our safeguarding policy, no children will be named on pictures on the website.

## Arrangements for the pantomime trip

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, we will be taking the whole school to the pantomime at The Theatre Royal. If you have elected that your child will not be going to the pantomime, we would be grateful if you collect them from the school office by 12.30pm at the latest.

The children will get a snack and a drink of juice at the pantomime, and there is no need to send them with any money. We would really like the children to wear either a Christmas/Santa hat or headband on a Christmas theme, as this starts off our Christmas celebrations nicely.

We have had to amend our arrangements for collection of the children at the end of the trip, following last year, where there were considerable complaints from local residents about parent parking and access for buses when they arrived back at school at night. I had requested that the police coned off part of our estate, but they were unable to do this.

Therefore this year, in order to avoid these parking and access issues arising again, we will be arriving back at **John Spence Community High School**, where there is a lit, large car park and good access into the car park for the buses. We would ask that parents do not park in the area which will be marked for the 4 coaches, and arrive for **5.15pm** when we hope to be back. Please bear with us, should the coaches not all be back at this time, this is a guide time as it is only day 2 of the pantomime, they are unsure of the actual finish time and all of the coaches have to load up around the corner from the Theatre Royal, and dependent upon traffic out of Newcastle, they will arrive at slightly different times back to John Spence, so it may be later than we are anticipating. There are adult evening classes at John Spence on that evening, but there is ample parking in the main car park, their overflow car park and there is also alternative parking nearby, for example, Tynemouth swimming pool, as well as parents being able to walk from our estate.

Once the coaches arrive at John Spence, they will be parked in the bays marked for them (coned off), please note that there will be a sign put in the front window of each bus - A, B, C or D. We would be grateful if parents could approach the relevant bus, make a line at the door, then the children will be dismissed as you request your child from the class teacher at the bus door. *Please note that if somebody else is collecting your child that night, you must inform the school office on or before the morning of November 27<sup>th</sup>.* Should you have children on different buses, staff will keep children seated on the buses until they are all requested and collected. Buses will be as follows:

Bus A = Year 1 and Year 6  
Bus B = Year 2 and Year 5  
Bus C = Year 3 and Year 4  
Bus D = Reception

Since we are dismissing the children from John Spence car park, we anticipate that no children will need to return to school. Book bags can be left at school overnight for one night. If your child is staying for packed lunch on that day, we would be grateful if you could send them into school with their packed lunch in a disposable bag, so that lunch boxes will not have to be left at school overnight.

All children need to be collected by an adult from John Spence, and no children will be dismissed to walk home on their own in the dark. I am very grateful to the Friends of Preston Grange for their hard work and generosity in funding this trip for the children, and to the staff and adults accompanying the trip in their own time after school hours. Thank you for your support with this event, we are all really looking forward to the pantomime trip !

### **School calendars**

We are at present, sending the school calendar to the printers. We estimate that they will be on sale from the school office at the beginning of December. In a couple of cases, children were absent on the day that the birthday month photos were taken. In these instances, the children feature on the calendar but not necessarily in their birthday month. A copy of the calendar will be on view at the school office before orders are placed.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher  
November 18<sup>th</sup> 2013