

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - May 2nd 2017



New payment system

Last week you should have received a letter about our new online payment system for paying for swimming, school trips etc. If you haven't received this letter, please contact the school office. For your information, our new system goes live as from tomorrow (Wed 3rd May). We know from feedback, that this will be preferable to parents and more convenient to be able to pay online. If a payment is due, you will receive a text which gives you a link to follow to make payment. Swimming will need to be paid for each week on our new system.

School uniform

For years, school uniform has been ordered via school and cash payments have been the only method of payment that is accepted. This year we intend to change this to make it more convenient for parents. You will be able to order the children's uniform and collect direct from Emblematic paying by any form of payment, or you can order the uniform online and it can be delivered. It also means that you will be able to try the sizes on your child and also call up to Emblematic at your convenience at any time during Summer. We hope that you find this more convenient.

Safety Works visits

On Friday Year 2 visited Safety Works in Newcastle to learn all about keeping themselves safe. The behaviour of the children was commented on, so we are extremely proud of the whole class! Year 5 are also visiting Safety Works today. A big thank you to all of the parents who accompanied the visits, we are grateful for your support.



SATs Year 6

Next week Year 6 complete their SATs, and we would like to wish them luck for the tests which are statutory. Thank you to Miss Daley for all of her teaching and hard work in the build up to the tests, and for running breakfast boosters this week. Thanks to all parents who have encouraged the children to attend. Good luck Year 6!

SATs meeting

On Monday 8th May at 3.40pm Miss Knowles will be holding a meeting for parents of Year 2 children about SATs at the end of Key Stage 1. We would encourage as many parents to attend as possible. If you are unable to attend there will be some information sent home however. If there are any younger brothers and sisters to supervise whilst the meeting takes place, Mr Jamison will supervise them in Nursery and you will be able to collect them as you leave.

Forest School

This Thursday Year 5 will spend the day outdoors as part of our forest school work, so we would be grateful if you could send them into school in uniform, but with extra warm layers, a waterproof coat and wellies/boots for the day. The following Thursday (11th) Year 2 will spend the day outdoors for a forest school day. Thanks for your support.

Twitter, website and newsletters

Over this academic year we have changed the way in which we communicate news from school. Whereas in the past, staff took photos which were then uploaded to our network and shared via our school website or a small number were added to the newsletter. Since September, we have used Twitter as a constant newsfeed from school, and staff now use iPads for taking photos. Galleries of photos aren't therefore uploaded to our network, so there may be a wider range of ongoing photos but not necessarily galleries of the same event on the website. This means that there is a wider range of events and news able to be shared with parents.

Sports Day - advanced notice

This year we have planned Sports Day for Wednesday 28th June, as this fits in with School Sports Week. Sports day will start at 1pm and we hope that by holding it this early, it will hopefully allow us to be able to rearrange the afternoon if we have bad weather.

Nursery places

We are delighted that our Nursery numbers are so good, and we can confirm that the Nursery is now full for 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 has limited spaces. Please note that if you apply for a place, all applications are acknowledged in writing, with either an offer or turned down if we are full for that cohort.

The procedure is as follows: parents that receive an offer then must return an acceptance slip that is sent out, by the date given. It has come to our attention that some people have been informing the office that they have handed in their applications. This does not guarantee a place, and our system is very thorough and all forms are logged as soon as they are sent into school. There are no places offered without the procedure outlined above.

Missing buggy

Last week, someone left a buggy near the main gates of school. If you have mislaid a child's buggy please contact the office.

Nursery start time

The morning session of Nursery starts at 8.45am prompt. With bringing the children into school via the Reception gated entrance, we would be grateful if parents could make sure that the Nursery children are ready to come into school at 8.45am. Otherwise it makes it extremely difficult to post them into school via the main entrance, where there are no staff to accompany them down to Nursery. Thanks for your support with this matter.

Scholastic magazine

If you wish to order any of Scholastic books from the recent magazine, please return your order forms to the office by Friday 12th May thank you. Please note, if you are paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to Preston Grange Primary School.

Ducks in school

We are very excited that next week we will be having some duck eggs and an incubator delivered to Reception class. The ducks are due to hatch on May 11th, when we will put them somewhere central in school for all of the children to enjoy. If all goes to plan, we intend to keep the ducklings in school! We will be having a competition to name them shortly after they hatch. We think there is going to be a great deal of excitement from the children!

Sainsbury's vouchers

If you have any Sainsbury's vouchers we would be grateful if you would send them into the school office, as the scheme is almost coming to an end. Many thanks.

After School clubs

Thank you to Miss Knowles for arranging the fantastic range of after school clubs as usual. This half term clubs are as follows:

Wed - Rounders

Thurs - Table Tennis

Thurs - Forest School

Fri - Lego Club

Unfortunately, due to low numbers, the multi-skills club for Monday has had to be cancelled.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, May 2nd 2017