

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - November 30th 2018



Christmas performance tickets

As last year, we have put a minimal cost on the Christmas performance tickets. This is so that we are able to buy the following for the children in school:

Crackers for Christmas lunch (£30)

Juice, paper plates & plastic cups for all Christmas parties (£15)

220 presents (one per child) which we sent to Santa for the children (approx. £600)

Selection boxes & bags of Haribo for Christmas party prizes (£35)

Resources, props for the Christmas performances (£150)

Total = £930

Unfortunately when we are given our school budget allocation in April each year, we are not permitted to buy items such as these for school. The school budget is for: staffing costs, repairs & maintenance, staff & school development, curriculum resources, service level agreements (gas, water, electricity, broadband etc)

We cannot buy additional extras or treats for the children from our allocated budget, so we have to try and find ways of providing these little extras for the children. The Friends of Preston Grange are huge fundraisers, for which we are very grateful. They have subsidised the cost of tickets and bus transport for the pantomime. They are providing drinks & snacks for the children for the panto trip, and have kindly funded fairy lights, cushions and shoe racks for our tipi.

As you can see, the cost of Christmas is approximately £900, hence the need to put a £1 ticket price on the Christmas performances. Thank you to all of our families for their understanding with this. We only ever make decisions based on providing the best experiences & opportunities for the children.

Referrals

Occasionally we speak to parents about referring children to outside agencies such as the Language & Communication Team, CAMHS and the Dyslexia Team. All of these services have significant waiting lists. Once the referral form is signed by parents the

staff complete the information required and Mrs Gibson, SENCO, sends off the referral. Unfortunately after this, it is outside of our control. The referrals are dealt with strictly in the order all schools submit them, and we only hear when the team has picked up our children's cases when the team phones to make an appointment to come out to school to assess the child.

We unfortunately try to chase referrals with outside agencies, but have found that they come to each case in turn, as all North Tyneside schools refer into the same teams. If your child has been referred to an outside agency, Mrs Gibson will contact parents as soon as we hear back from the relevant agency, but sadly we cannot speed up the time it takes for a specific agency to pick up a specific child's case.

The 12 days of Christmas Giving



Chloe (Year 4) and Isla (Year 2) wanted to organise donations for the local food bank at Christmas, and came up with a lovely idea of making a box for each year group in school. For the next 12 days, starting from Monday 3rd December, we will be asking for donations of non-perishable items of food such as tins, rice, pasta etc with the aim of covering each of the 12 days with food. On the last day of term the items donated will be

taken to the food bank.

A big thank you to Louise Cox for making the boxes for each class & to Chloe and Isla for the thoughtful idea of thinking of donating to the food bank around Christmas time!

Pantomime arrangements

We will be sending out a letter about the arrangements for collection of children following the panto. Please note that as the last few years the buses will be dropping off the children at Morrison's car park. Full details will be sent out on Monday in a letter.

Teacher Training Day

On the holiday and term list of dates that was sent to families in Summer term, it showed the remaining teacher training days as Friday 21st December and Monday 3rd

June 2019. However, we have brought forward the staff training which is required at the start of Spring term, as part of our School Improvement Plan.

So, the remaining training days are: Friday 21st December and Monday 7th January 2019. There will no longer be a Teacher Training day on Monday 3rd June 2019.

Early Years Open Morning

We are holding an open morning in Nursery and Reception on Wednesday 12th December starting at 9.15 until 10.30am. We would be grateful if you know anyone who may be interested in attending if you could let them know about this for us thanks, Also, if anyone is willing to collect a flier from the office, and place it on a community noticeboard or a playgroup, we would be very grateful. Thanks for your help!



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Early Years Open Morning
Wednesday 12th December 9.15—10.30am

Are you a prospective parent with a child starting Nursery or Reception in 2019?

Our open morning is a chance to come and see our exciting Early Years provision in action, tour our friendly and well equipped school and meet the staff.



After a school tour we invite you to enjoy a cuppa and a cake where our staff team can answer any queries or questions you might have.

Contact us; 0191 200 6347
prestongrange.primary@northtyneside.gov.uk



Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, November 30th 2018