

# Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - September 15<sup>th</sup> 2015

## **School photos**

This year, individual school photos will be taken on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. As usual, we will take photos of brothers and sisters in school, although we do not have photos taken with pre-school brothers and sisters.

## **Welcome**

We would like to welcome Arun Badhwal and his family to our school. Arun started Year 2 last week, and has settled into the class very quickly and made lots of new friends.

## **Medical forms**

If your child has a medical need and you have not returned a completed medical needs form, we would be grateful if you could please return it to the school office **by Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** thank you.

## **Thank you**

Thank you to all of the parents who have offered to be DBS cleared (old CRB) in order to come into school and volunteer on a weekly or an ad hoc basis. We now have all of the forms in, we will be finalising the reading helper timetable today and informing parents when their slot will be. Many thanks for all of the offers of support !

## **Reception parents meetings**

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September, Mrs Gibson and Mrs Davidson held a meeting 'how to help your child with Maths' for Reception parents. Thank you to those parents who attended. If you were not able to attend, Mrs Gibson and Mrs Davidson have copied some information for those parents and we would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to read it through. Please ask if you have any questions.

This Thursday (17<sup>th</sup>), Mrs Gibson and Mrs Davidson will be holding a meeting about 'how to help your child with Reading' at 3.40pm. We would very much like to see as many parents as possible at this meeting. It is the same arrangement as last week. Mrs Spowart will supervise the children in Reception classroom and the meeting will take place in the Year 2 classroom. Please let Mrs Gibson know if you are unable to attend, and once again she will send some information home with your child.

## **Jeans for Genes**

This Friday we will be having a non-uniform day in aid of 'Jeans for Genes' charity. We ask that the children come into school in their jeans but still wear their school polo shirt and

jumper, with a suggested donation for the charity of £1. The children will be learning about the charity in Castle time on Friday this week. Thanks for your support.



### Harvest Festival

This year, our Harvest Festival will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15am. The School Council are meeting this week to decide who they would like Harvest donations of food to go to, and will write to parents with their decision. Thank you in advance for your support.



### Halloween discos

Lorraine Harrison (Mum of Jacob) and Jackie O'Brien (Mum of Jack who left in July) have kindly volunteered to organise Halloween discos for the children on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Unfortunately we have to hold the discos this side of half term due to Halloween falling in half term. Further information from the Friends will be sent out in the next week or so.

### Parents evenings

This term, our parents meetings with parents will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October. At this meeting, you will be able to speak to your child's class teacher about how they have settled into their new class and talk about their attainment in terms of the new assessment system we are using. The letter will be sent out with an appointment slip in the next week or two. Please return the slip via your child's book bag thank you.



### Coffee morning

This year the Friends of Preston Grange will be holding a coffee morning from 9am onwards on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. We think that it will be a great opportunity for our new parents to meet other parents, and come into school early in the term. The coffee morning proceeds will be raising funds for school this year. The format will be as before: a Year 5 and Year 6 cake competition, a staff cake competition and we would be grateful for any donations of cakes for the coffee morning. More details to follow, thank you to the Friends of Preston Grange for organising this event for us.

### Manners

Each week in well done assembly, we award two children from each class stickers for 'amazing manners'. We have done this for about a year and a half, and the manners of children around school have improved so much. We notice when children say please, thank you, hold the door open for another person, help anyone who needs help, use fantastic table manners as well as other everyday manners. We are really proud that many visitors to our school and when the children go out on educational visits, comment on our children's manners.

### Advanced Notice

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October we are taking our Year 1 children to compete in a Key Stage 1 Agility event at the Powerleague, North Shields. Miss Wright will be sending out the letter at the end of the week. We would be grateful for offers of parent help for the afternoon, so that we have the appropriate pupil to adult ratio. Thank you for your support.

### Scholastic Books

Please can all orders for Scholastic books be with the school office by **Friday 25<sup>th</sup>** September. Please note, we can accept cash or cheques made payable to school thank you. We are unable to take debit/credit cards.

### Road Safety

This Friday Harry the lollipop man will not be on Malvern Road for the end of the school day. Please ensure your children know to cross the road safely on their own.

### Gardening

If there are any parents who would be willing to come into school to help us clear out the kitchen garden at the back of school, we would be more than happy to accept your help (when the weather clears up !) Please let Mrs Boyd or Mrs Royle know if you are interested in volunteering gardening help. Many thanks.

### Robinwood meeting

Next Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September we will be holding a meeting about Robinwood in the Year 4 classroom. Thank you to all of the parents who have sent in their deposits in already; this residential will strictly be on a first come first served basis this year. We require all deposits for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September thank you.

### Have lunch with your child

We will be inviting Reception parents into school in order for you to experience a school lunch with your child (11:40am start). You will be able to see what choices are available for your child, as well as seeing how the lunchtime routine works. A letter will be sent out to Reception parents this evening with a reply slip to send back via your child's book bag thanks. The menu on that day will be: Roast beef with Yorkshire puddings, new potatoes and vegetables, sweet and sour vegetables (vegetarian option) and for pudding, either sticky toffee date sponge and fudge sauce or fruit yoghurt. We will need numbers by **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>** September at the latest thanks.

### Meal in a box lunch

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, the school lunch will be a meal in a box. These are particularly successful with the children. If your child is in Key Stage 2, and don't normally stay for a school lunch, they may wish to do so on that day.

### Superstars wall

As you know, we like to celebrate when any of our children achieve anything outside of school. Parents can email in photos of sporting achievements, awards, medals and trophies. We have a celebration wall in school where all of these achievements are displayed. Thank you to everyone for sending pictures into the school email address.



### Thank you Mr Conaty

Over the Summer holidays, Mr Conaty amazed us by building a house and a police station for the Reception outdoor area. The original play house needed replacing but Mr Conaty built not one, but two



for the children. In the Summer, he also extended one of our break out rooms for working with groups of children in the KS2 corridor. Thanks to Mr Conaty for all his hard work !

buildings and some decking

### Dates for your diary:

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Sept - Reception parents 'how to help your child with Reading'

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Sept - Jeans 4 Genes Day (non uniform day)

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct - Year 1 at KS1 Agility event (Powerleague, North Shields)

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Oct - parents evening

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Oct - Year 4 NUFC Football for all session (am)

Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Oct - parents evening

Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Oct - Harvest Festival (9.15am)

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Oct - Year 5 & 6 Hoops 4 Health basketball training

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> - Halloween discos (pm)

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct - Individual school photos (school photographer)

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Wear it Pink Day (non uniform day for Breast Cancer)

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Break up for half term

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, September 15th 2015