

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter – February 27th 2020



World Book Day



From 27 February-29 March, we are supporting World Book Day's Share A Million Stories campaign, championing the importance of sharing stories and for the chance to win £1,000 of books for our school.

Why Share a Story?

Sharing a story for just 10 minutes a day can have a lasting impact on a child's future, and can help to create readers for life.

How can you take part?

In February, your child will receive their Share A Million Stories Reading Record, for children to tick-off how many stories they're sharing at home and at school (including their curriculum books, audiobooks, magazines, comics or graphic novels), which we can then add to our school total, which feeds into the live national total.

Why is this campaign so vital?

1. Sadly, reading for pleasure is in decline: only 29% of 0-13s read for pleasure daily (down from 30% in 2017). Children's Reading for Pleasure: Trends and Challenges, Egmont, 2019
2. The number of parents sharing stories with their children is also in steep decline: only 56% of 3-4-year-olds are read to daily or nearly every day (v. 69% in 2013).
3. Fewer than 19% of 8-10-year-olds are read to daily or nearly every day (down from 25%). Understanding the Children's Book Consumer Nielsen, 2018
4. So, let's boost reading for pleasure back up! There are so many benefits to sharing stories together:
 - It boosts creativity and imagination
 - It's a calming, bonding experience that improves well-being
 - It builds empathy and closeness
 - It's great fun for everyone involved!

World Book Day needs ALL of our support and we look forward to helping them reach their goal of one million stories shared nationwide – and the opportunity to

win an amazing new supply of books for our school worth £1,000! Find out more at worldbookday.com/share-a-million-stories.

We are also inviting children to wear their pyjamas for the day and would love them to bring in a favourite bedtime story.

Thank you for taking part! Mrs Jones (Y6 class teacher)

Coronavirus advice

Please see the below advice from Wendy Burke Director of Public Health NTC regarding Corona Virus.

Category 1: Anyone returning to the UK from following countries should immediately self-isolate, even if asymptomatic, and call NHS 111 to inform of recent travel: as well as Hubei Province now includes Iran, parts of South Korea and the towns in Italy (11 municipalities) that are under containment measures Codogno, Castiglione d'Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano in Lombardy, Vo 'Euganeo in Veneto. There are now travel prohibitions to these areas in Italy, the government decree provides for the obligation of "personal protective equipment" for access to public services and businesses. Entrances and exits from these municipalities are manned by the police will only be allowed in situations of real need assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Category 2: Anyone returning to the UK from the following countries do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111: mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau and now includes Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, the rest of South Korea and 'north Italy' but excluding the areas included in category 1

Parent Governor Vacancy

One parent governor vacancy has arisen at school, and we invite you to stand for election as a parent governor, or nominate another parent to do so.

The governing body, with the Headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. Governing bodies have three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work. However, we would particularly welcome nominations from parents with the following skills; business, finance, industry or commercial. Training is available for all governors and this governing body has an expectation that those new to being a governor, attend free induction training.

There are circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a governor. In addition, parents/carers who have paid employment in the school for 500 or more hours per academic year or who are elected members of the Local Authority, are not eligible to stand in these elections. We also ask that if you are interested in applying, that you call into the school office and collect a copy of 'Parent governor elections – Maintained schools: Qualifications and disqualifications to serve as a school governor'

Nominations must be from parents or carers with children at the school on the day that nominations close.

If you would like to stand for election please complete a nomination form from the school office and return it to the school no later than noon on Friday 13th March. You may also include a short personal statement to support your nomination, which should be no longer than 250 words. Self-nominations will be accepted but if you are nominating another parent, please seek their prior consent. If there are more nominations than vacancies, the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Timmy the class attendance owl

These were the class attendances in the last week before February half term:

Reception – 90.9%

Year 1 – 98.4%

Year 2 – 98.0%

Year 3 – 99.6%

Year 4 – 99.4%

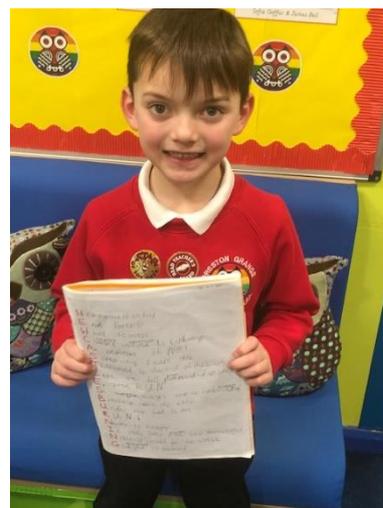
Year 5 – 97.3%

Year 6 – 98.4%

Our school target attendance is 96.5%. Congratulations to the classes who achieved above target attendance and well done to Year 3! They have earned Timmy the owl across the week.

Writing competition

We are delighted that Frankie from Year 2 has been awarded Highly Commended for his poetry in the Key Stage 1 section of the North Tyneside writing competition! There were over 500 entries for the competition. Frankie will attend a presentation next month. He did incredibly well and we are so proud of him!



Valentine discos

Thank you to the Friends of Preston Grange for the two Valentine's discos before half term. They raised £370 for school! Thank you to everyone who helped and organised the discos!



Hoops 4 Health

Our Year 5 basketball team are playing in the North Tyneside grand finals this Friday. Thank you to all families that are coming along to support them! A reminder that the coach from school will leave promptly at 4.45pm, and your tickets will be under each family name at the Eagles arena entrance.

Scholastic books

You will have received the scholastic book magazine recently. If you would like to order any books for your child/ren please return your order by next Friday (March 6th) at the latest, thank you.

Anti-bullying Policy

Please find a copy of our recently updated Anti-Bullying Policy sent home along with this newsletter. In the policy, you will find a clear definition of what bullying actually is, and also what it is not. We hope that you find this policy useful. You may also find a copy of this policy on our school website at <http://www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk>.

Dates for your diary

- Thurs 27 Feb – Year 5 basketball coaching (pm)
- Fri 28 Feb – Basketball team in NT grand finals 6pm
- Mon 2 March – Dance Festival rehearsal and performance (Year 2 and Y5/6 dance club)
- Mon 2 March – Year 5 challenge day @John Spence
- Mon 3 March – Y4 Hockey at The Parks (am)
- Tues 3 March - Parents evening, starting 1.45pm
- Thurs 5 March – World Book Day – pyjama day
- Thurs 5 March – Football team to John Spence 3.30pm
- Fri 6 March – Heights & weights (Rec & Y6)
- Mon 9 March – Science week starts
- Mon 9 March – Sports Relief week starts
- Tues 10 March – George Stephenson Museum visitor in | Year 2
- Fri 20 March – Y2 dribble, dish, swish basketball Eagles coaching
- Mon 23 March – Sports for Schools Olympic athlete in school
- Mon 23 March – Year 5 challenge day @JSCHS
- Tues 24 March – Able writers day at New York Primary (Year 5/6)

Fri 27 March - Y2 dribble, dish, swish basketball Eagles coaching
Mon 30 March – Music concert with choir & instrument children 3.45pm
Wed 1 Apr – Year 5 challenge day @JSCHS
Thurs 2 April – Year 3 in Skipping Festival @John Spence
Thurs 2 April – Year 4 badminton @John Spence
Fri 3 April – **BREAK UP FOR EASTER**

NB. Children return to school on Monday 20th April

Tracey Taylor
Headteacher
February 27th 2020