

Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - September 12th 2017

Welcome

We have had an excellent start to the new school year, with the children settling into their new classes extremely quickly. We would like to extend a warm welcome to school to all of our new families. Further up school, we welcome the families of Charlie (Y2) Cameron (Y5) and Dior Lexi & Kayden (Y3 & 5) If any of our new families have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask or make an appointment to see me.

Castle points

We have some new castle points, which staff award to the children for reading; children can earn them by either; showing a positive attitude towards their reading, showing effective reading or comprehension skills, doing well learning their keywords (Reception & Y1), reading to the younger children and other such reasons. The castle tokens are green, and are worth 20 points. These tokens are counted up in separate castle jars ahead of well done assembly.

Coats

We would be grateful if parents could send the children into school with a coat from now on. The reason for this is that we have had a considerable amount of drizzle and rain recently, also the children spend 1.5 hours outside each day and it is colder than it appears. Thank you.

PE kits

We ask that every child brings their PE kit (red school shorts, PE t-shirt and trainers) on a Monday, which they should leave in school before taking it home at the end of the week. Unfortunately, the office have spent some time this week having to make phone calls home for PE kits, as the children are not able to participate in PE without their PE kit. We would be grateful if all children could have PE kits in school from now on thank you. PE is not on set days always, and timetables are changed, which is the reason we need them in school Monday to Friday.

Test dates 2018

The dates have been released by the Department for Education for next year's statutory tests across school. Please ensure that your child is not taken out of school during the following dates thank you:

End of Key Stage 1 (Year 2) - test period throughout MAY 2018

Year 1 Phonics test - week commencing June 18th 2018
End of Key Stage 2 - test period May 14th (Mon) to May 18th (Thurs)

Non-uniform day

This Friday (15th), we will be having a non-uniform day. We ask that for being able to wear non-uniform, the children bring into school either a tombola or a raffle prize which will be used on a coffee morning later this half term. Thanks for your support!

Friends of Preston Grange

A reminder that on Wednesday 20th September at 3.30pm, there will be a meeting for parents & carers interested in becoming involved with the Friends of Preston Grange. The Friends organise fundraising activities as well as family activities, or events for the children in school. It would be lovely to see some of our new parents at the meeting on the 20th, please come along. All welcome!

Thank you!

We have been delighted at the response for volunteers in school. Thank you for responding to the request for parents to help either as reading volunteers, Nursery volunteers, swimming helpers or to become DBS cleared as a new parent volunteer. If there are any more forms to return, we'd be grateful for them to be returned by this Friday at the latest thanks, as we will be drawing up timetables. Thank you for your support.

New parents

For information, school sends out a newsletter alternate Tuesdays. Please find these available to download on our website: www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk As a one-off the first newsletter has been sent home to all children on paper.

In addition to this, the school office sends out text messages to parents with reminders and messages. Please make sure that we always have your most recent mobile phone number thanks. Finally, we have a school Twitter account @pg_primary where we tweet daily class and school activities. If you have any problems accessing any of these, please ring the school office, thank you.

Christmas

It seems very early to mention Christmas performances, but here goes! This year there will be three Christmas shows, with two performances of each. Nursery and Reception will do an Early Years performance together, Year 1, 2 and 3 will be together for a performance and Years 4, 5 and 6 will do an upper Key Stage 2 performance. The dates are as follows:

Mon 18th Dec 9.15am Y4,5,6 performance
Mon 18th Dec 10.30am Y4,5,6 performance
Tues 19th Dec 9.15am Nursery & Reception performance
Tues 19th Dec 10.30am Nursery & Reception performance
Wed 20th Dec 9.15am Y1,2,3 performance

Wed 20th Dec 10.30am Y1,2,3 performance

Whole school pantomime

We will be taking the whole school to the Theatre Royal for our annual pantomime trip on the 6th December in the afternoon. A letter with further information will be sent home soon.

Parent & pupil survey

Over the summer, the company we send our parent and pupil surveys to have started to analyse the data from the returned questionnaires. The feedback and findings will be shared on the next newsletter. Thanks to everyone who returned their survey sheets!

SAT meeting for Year 6 parents

We would like to invite all of our Year 6 parents into school at 4.45pm on Monday 2nd October for a short meeting. Miss Daley and I will explain the arrangements for the Key Stage 2 SATS this year, and how you may help your child at home.

Teacher training days for 2017-18

Please note, below are the remaining dates when school will be closed to the children due to teacher training days:

Fri 22nd December

Mon 8th January

Dates for your diary

Fri 15th Sept - football team trials (12-1pm)

Fri 15th Sept - non-uniform day (see above)

Wed 20th Sept - Friends of PG meeting (3.30pm)

Fri 22nd Sept - Jeans for Genes day

Mon 2nd Oct - Year 6 parents SAT meeting (4.45pm)

Wed 4th Oct - Parent 'Living & Growing' meeting (Y5 & 6 parents)

Thurs 12th Oct - Praise Party for Y2 (pm)

Tues 17th Oct - Flu immunisation Rec - Y4 (info to follow from school nurses)

Fri 20th Oct - Wear it Pink for breast cancer non-uniform day

Fri 20th Oct - Break up for half term

Mon 30th Oct - Children return to school

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, September 12th 2017