

Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - October 30th 2017

Welcome back

We hope that everyone has enjoyed a lovely half term holiday. It is now the enjoyable, long and very busy eight week half term leading up to Christmas!

For parents new to school, each of the Christmas performances at the end of term will be ticketed due to maximum numbers allowed in the hall for fire safety, and consequently, there will be a maximum of *2 tickets per child* available for families. Further details will be sent out and tickets will be released at the end of November.

Parents Evening

Parents evenings

A reminder for our parents in Nursery and Reception who are new to our school, that on parents evenings this week and next, you need to come into the school hall just ahead of your appointment with the class teacher. The children's books will be set out in piles on tables in the middle of the hall and you are invited to look through your child's books with your child either before or after your appointment. Parents of Nursery children will meet with Mrs Lawrence and Miss Beavers for 5 minute slots.

Sickness bug

Before October half term, school was badly affected by a violent sickness and diarrhoea bug. We have a policy in school that a child **MUST** be kept off school for a **full 48 hours** after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This is to avoid the bug spreading and affecting many more children and staff. If your child is off school with either sickness or diarrhoea, we ask that you follow these minimum guidelines, provided to schools by North Tyneside school health service. If a child is returned to school ahead of 48 hours absence from school, the office will ring and you will be asked to collect your child from school. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Good luck

Sadly, Mrs Godfrey will be leaving us at the end of Autumn term. Originally, she was interviewed for the part-time Nursery class teacher post in Summer term when we appointed Mrs Lawrence. At the time, Mrs Godfrey was offered the Reception teacher post on a temporary basis, following on from Mrs Castling who emigrated to Australia. Unfortunately Mrs Godfrey's family circumstances can no longer allow her

to work full time and so she will be leaving to give herself greater flexibility and to work part-time. As soon as the Governors and I have appointed a replacement teacher we will inform Reception parents. The new teacher will meet the children before we break up for Christmas to ensure a smooth transition for them. We wish Mrs Godfrey all the best for the future.



Breakfast club

We are looking to appoint an additional Breakfast Club Assistant for breakfast club as soon as possible. Hours of work are Monday to Friday from 7.40am until 9.10am. The post will be subject to an enhanced DBS, and the successful candidate will be required to undertake Child Protection training and food hygiene course. Interviews will take place during the week beginning November 6th. If anyone is interested in applying for the post, please collect an application form and further details from the school office, which will need to be returned to the office by Tuesday 7th November thanks.

Teacher training days for 2017-18

The two remaining Teacher Training days for this academic year are as follows: Fri 22nd December and Mon 8th January. This means that the children will break up for Christmas on Thursday 21st December and the Spring term will start for the children on Tuesday 9th January 2018.

Halloween discos



This Thursday, the Friends of Preston Grange have kindly organised Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Halloween discos for the children. Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 will start their disco at 2.30pm and can be collected as normal at 3.30pm. Children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 will start their disco at 3.30pm, and their disco will finish promptly at 4.30pm. Please note that all children must be collected from the Halloween disco by an adult at 4.30pm, due to it being dark after school.

Please send your child's Halloween costume into school in a labelled bag and the staff will get the children changed just ahead of each disco. If there is anyone able to volunteer to help the Friends - at one or both of the discos, please let the office know and we will put you in touch with the Friends, thank you!

Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes

Before half term Mrs Royle sent home leaflets from the Samaritan's Purse, a charity that we support around Christmas time. If you would like to send in a Christmas shoe box for an underprivileged child overseas, please send it into school by November

10th thank you. If you would like to read some more information about the charity and what they do, please visit their website www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/ and see www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox/ for what kinds of items they suggest for the shoe boxes.

Whole school pantomime trip

Thank you for the prompt payments for our annual pantomime trip in school. We won't require any additional parent helpers this year due to the fact that we are taking so many staff and regular helpers in school. Thank you for the offers of help however.

Goodbye and thank you

We are extremely sad to be saying goodbye shortly to Isabelle Holroyd (Y5) and Mum Elaine as they move to a new house in Blyth. Elaine has been a huge part of our school community with her involvement in the Friends of Preston Grange in the past, and Isabelle is a constant smiling face in school. We would like to thank Elaine for her amazing support and involvement in our school over several years, we will miss you both very much. We wish Isabelle good luck as she starts her new school!

Curriculum leaflets

The children will come home from school tonight with their new half term's curriculum booklet, which outlines what they will be learning about in class in the second half of Autumn term. We hope that you find it useful - please ask your child's class teacher at your parents evening appointment if you have any questions regarding the leaflet or indeed the curriculum content.

Earrings and PE

We would be grateful if parents could make sure that earrings are removed before the start of the school day on the days that your child has PE. Thanks for your support with this matter:

Year 1 - Mon, Fri

Year 2 - Mon, Tues

Year 3 - Mon, Thurs

Year 4 - Tues, Fri

Year 5 - Tues, Wed

Year 6 - Wed, Thurs

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, October 21st 2017