

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter – October 23rd 2023



Coffee morning/afternoons

A reminder that this Wednesday we are holding a Harvest coffee morning and afternoon which will be split into four sessions (see below for times) At the start of the coffee morning/afternoon, the class teachers will share some important information about the curriculum/homework for the year ahead. Then, the children will come into the hall and sing 3 Autumn & Harvest songs. After this, there will be an opportunity to share a cake and drink with your child. We hope to see everyone there this Wednesday!

9.10-10.10am Early Years (Nursery & Reception)

10.40 – 11.40 Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2)

1-2pm Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4)

2.15 -3.15pm Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 & 6) (NB. This time has been updated)

A reminder that we are also collecting donations for the food bank in the entrance to school. We are very grateful for any donations -thank you to those who have already donated.

Earrings

Please note, that wearing earrings or retainers is not allowed in our school at any time. This is because it is a health & safety hazard when children wear them to school - it is not just for PE that we expect children take out earrings, they are simply not allowed to wear them at all in school. Please can you ensure that all children have earrings removed before coming to school, thank you.

Out of School Club

In September, we reopened our brand newly set established and resourced Out of School Club provision from 3.25-5.30pm. Although the OOSC has only been running for half a term, we are concerned that there are only a few children accessing this provision. Currently, on two evenings per week, there are no children accessing the provision whatsoever.

We seriously hope that numbers may pick up after half term. If you are interested in using our out of school club for your child, we will require you to complete the application pack before they may start; please call into the office to collect the form, thank you.

Halloween

This Friday we invite the children to come into school either in their Halloween costume and/or Halloween face paint, because in the afternoon, they will be watching a spooky Halloween film, along with some snacks in classes.

We have also had an invitation to take some children around to Redesdale, the old folks housing next to school, to perform some songs for the elderly residents and to have a biscuit & juice with them. This will be absolutely fantastic, since every event we have shared with them has been either during or after covid, when they were placed under restrictions, not allowing

us to visit. All of the singing we have done has so far been over the fence, and so we are delighted to think that we are able to go into Redesdale this time, and meet the residents face to face!

If you are DBS checked for our school and would be able to come around with us, please let the office know, thanks.

Panto arrangements

I cannot quite believe that the pantomime whole school visit has come around this quickly! It seems like 5 minutes since last year's trip.

A letter will be sent out after half term, with the full arrangements for the whole school pantomime trip to Newcastle Theatre Royal, to see Pinocchio on Thursday 30th November. Thank you for the kind offers of help to accompany the trip, but we have a limited number of tickets and we will be only taking staff, governors and regular helpers in school.

After school clubs for after half term

For this half term, we sent out the information about after school clubs along with a reply slip. This time, we will be reverting to booking the clubs online, and not on paper, as we feel that this works best. We will however be making the booking system go live at 6.30pm, so that it allows most parents to be home from work before the booking system is launched. We hope that this is fairer.

Please note, even if your child is in Year 5 or 6 and usually walks home from school, they will need collected from any after school club that they attend. With the dark nights children are only allowed to attend the after-school clubs if an adult collects them each week.

The information about next half term's clubs will be coming home mid-week.

Christingle Service

For many years, we have participated in a Christingle Service at Christchurch, North Shields along with other local North Shields schools. This year, the Christingle Service will take place on December 5th. Miss Wright will be sending a letter home asking children to join the choir to sing at the service shortly. Families are able to attend the Christingle Service even if your child is not taking part. It is such a lovely Christmas event.

Parent appointments

On Tuesday 7th November, we will be having our Autumn term parent appointments. The booking system will be launched today, and a text will also be sent to parents to explain this. Appointments will be from 1.30pm – 7pm. The booking system will be open from today until Friday 27th October at noon. Please book your appointment early to ensure that you get your chosen slot.

Dates for your diary

Wed 25th Oct – Coffee mornings & afternoons

Fri 27th Oct – Break up for October half term

Mon 6th Nov – Children return to school

Tues 7th Nov – Parents appointments (1.30pm – 7pm)

Tracey Taylor
Headteacher

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