

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter – February 6th 2026



Enterprise half term

Starting after the February half term, some of our children will be working in small groups to organise and run fundraising stalls. They will sell a range of items, with all proceeds going towards the school fund. Each group will have one week to run their stall, with three groups taking part each week across the six-week half term. Weekly details of the stalls will be sent home so parents can plan which stalls their child may wish to visit.

Each group will meet with Mrs Smith, our Business Manager, to plan costings and pricing. Where needed, groups may receive £5 'start-up funding' for initial costs, which will be deducted from their final profit. There will also be a fun competitive element, with a prize for the group achieving the highest percentage profit.

At the end of the half term, the total money raised will be calculated, and the children will vote on how the funds should be spent to benefit the school. This project encourages entrepreneurial and enterprise skills, and we kindly ask for your support by sending some money with your child to spend at the stalls. Thank you in advance!



Online Safety

The Amazing Generation – Years 4, 5 and 6

Years 4, 5 and 6 all have copies of The Amazing Generation by Jonathan Haidt and Catherine Price. The book was released at the beginning of 2026 and is a follow-up to Jonathan Haidt's bestselling adult book The Anxious Generation. This child-friendly

version is aimed at children aged 8+ and explores the potential risks of smartphones and social media in an age-appropriate, positive and empowering way. Teachers have been reading the book during shared class reading time.

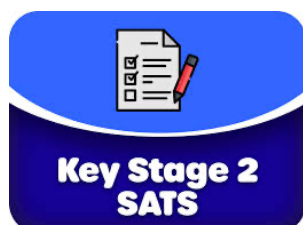
E-Safety Meeting for Parents of Reception, Y1 & Y2

E-Safety Lead, Mr Russell-Thompson, will be running a parent workshop for all parents and carers of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on Wednesday 4th March at 3:30pm. The session brings together information from a wide range of sources, including recent whole-staff e-safety training, and aims to help parents make informed choices about keeping children safe online. The session is not suitable for children; however, to enable as many parents as possible to attend, childcare will be available in school during the meeting.

Friendship Issues Online

We have noticed an increase in the number of online disputes between children, particularly on platforms such as WhatsApp, which are then being brought into school. While we teach children how to behave appropriately online through our Computing curriculum, PSHE lessons and assemblies, it is important to note that these incidents occur outside of school, on devices and platforms provided by parents.

We kindly ask for your support in helping to minimise disruption by promoting age-appropriate use of the internet and online platforms. Addressing out-of-school online issues during the school day takes time away from learning and is often more effectively managed by parents through monitoring use or, where necessary, removing access to platforms that children are not yet able to use safely or responsibly. It is also important to note that social media platforms (including WhatsApp) currently have a minimum age of 13+ although as you may have read there is a growing movement on banning under 16s from social media entirely as Australia did last year. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c93vdx3kxlo>



Year 6 SATS

Year 6 pupils will sit their national SATs during the statutory Key Stage 2 test week from **Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026**. These assessments in reading, mathematics and grammar, punctuation and spelling form an important part of the end of primary school and help measure your child's progress.

I would also like to remind all Year 6 parents that there will be an information meeting on **Tuesday 11th February at 3.30 pm** where you can find out more about what the SATs involve, how they will be organised in school, and how you can best support your child at home. We strongly encourage all Year 6 parents to attend.

Parking outside of school

It has been brought to my attention that there was a recent *near miss* involving a parent's car that was illegally parked on the zig-zag lines outside the school gates.

I cannot emphasise strongly enough that there must be **no parking** whatsoever on the yellow zig-zag lines. These restrictions are in place for the safety of our children.



We ask that all parents drive and park safely and considerately at all times, particularly in the area around the school. I have requested visits from the North Tyneside parking enforcement vehicle (with a roof-mounted camera.) These visits are unannounced and will be taking place in the near future. The vehicle records number plates and issues fines where illegal waiting or parking is identified.

As a school, we actively encourage and promote walking to school. We run a badge system using Travel Tracker to motivate pupils to walk, as we believe that most children at our school should be able to do so. This significantly reduces the number of cars around the school gates and improves safety for everyone.

Once again, I ask that parents who do need to drive and drop off, do so with our children's safety as the top priority. Parents must drive and park safely at all times, and there must be no parking on the yellow zig-zag lines. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our children safe.



Valentine's Discos

You should have received a letter from the Incredible 8 team from Year 6 about the plans for the Valentine's discos. If you have not received the letter, sent home on Thursday 5th February, please contact the school office, thank you. We're really proud of how hard the Incredible 8 have worked with Mrs Smith to plan the discos.

Children may come into school wearing non-uniform so that they are ready for the disco in the afternoon. Please note: if your child does not wish to go into the disco, there are alternative arrangements for them.



Parent appointments

We will be holding Spring term parent appointments on Tuesday 24th February. The booking system will be opened on Friday 13th February and will be closed at noon on Monday 23rd February.

Parent appointments are a key opportunity for teachers and parents to work together to support children's learning. These meetings allow us to share information about attainment, progress, and next steps, and they play an important role in ensuring that parents are informed and engaged in your child's education.

To ensure fairness for all families and to manage staff time effectively, attainment information will be shared through the scheduled face-to-face parent appointments on the allocated date of February 24th.

We are increasingly experiencing situations where appointments are either not booked or not attended, with an expectation that information can then be shared via a phone call. Unfortunately, this is not something we are able to offer. Individual phone calls will not be provided as a replacement for missed or unbooked appointments.

We value the partnership between home and school and expect parents to engage with opportunities to discuss their child's progress. Attending parent appointments is an important part of this partnership and helps us to work together in the best interests of your child.

Dates for your diary

Mon 9/2 - Children's Mental Health week starts
Tues 10/2 - Year 2 at Multi-skills JSCHS (PM)
Tues 10/2 - Safer Internet Day
Wed 11/2 - Early Years open morning for prospective parents 9.30am - 10.30am
Wed 11/2 - Year 6 parents meeting re: SATS 3.30pm
Wed 11/2 - Year 1 & 6 ceilidh dance sessions (PM)
Fri 13/2 - Valentine's discos PM
Fri 13/2 - break up for half term
Mon 23/2 - Children return to school
Tues 24/2 - parent appointments
Wed 25/2 - Tamar Court residents visit school to meet Year 2
Fri 27/2 - Relax Kids session for Year 2 PM (Connect Team)
Mon 2/3 - Year 2 at the Dance Festival (evening)
Wed 4/3 - Early Years & Key Stage 1 online safety session for families 3.30pm
Thurs 5/3 - World Book Day (wear pyjamas)
Thurs 5/3 - Reception & Year 6 heights & weights
Thurs 5/3 - Littleton League (football) @JSCHS after school
Fri 6/3 - British Science week starts
Wed 25/3 - Year 4 visit Tamar Court
Mon 31/3 - Year 3 dodgeball @JSCHS (PM)
Tues 1/4 - Year 4 badminton @JSCHS
Thurs 3/4 - Break up for Easter

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