

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - March 15th 2016



Congratulations to Year 5

After qualifying in an earlier round, Year 5 played in the semi-final of the North Tyneside Hoops for Health tournament at the Newcastle Eagles game on Friday night. They played extremely well as a team, and we were very proud that they finished joint 3rd out of all North Tyneside schools overall in the basketball tournament and received a medal. Thank you to all of the families who came along to support them.



Vocal Celebration



Just to confirm that the Vocal Celebration for choir at the Whitley Bay Playhouse has been moved to Wednesday 23rd March. Our website calendar needs the date amending as it states the original date, apologies for any confusion. Choir should have received a letter from Miss Wright about the arrangements for the night.

Please contact the school office if you have not received the letter, thank you.

Breakfast club for Nursery children

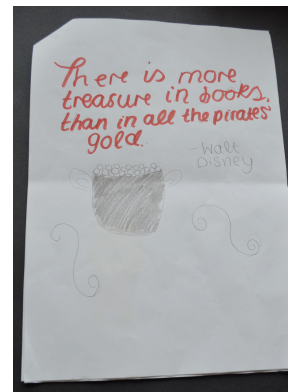
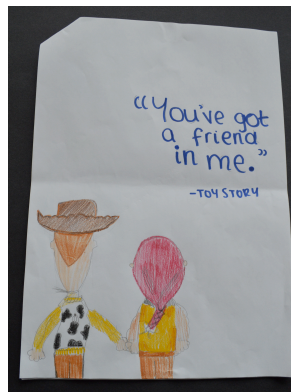
Governors decided that our main school breakfast club would not be suitable for the youngest children in school, with the older children and the numbers already in there, but we are delighted to have come to an arrangement with our pre-school Nursery. We are pleased to inform parents that as of September, there will be a breakfast club specifically for Nursery children in the pre-school Nursery from 7.45am until 8.45am. At the end of the session, a member of staff will take the Nursery children over to our school Nursery. Each session will cost £2.50, and will be run by our pre-school Nursery. Parents will have to book their child's place one week ahead in order to ensure the 1:8 ratio is planned for. We are grateful for them offering this service for our working parents, and hope that the breakfast club will be popular with our Nursery parents. A letter will be sent out to all parents of Nursery children in order to find out the initial interest for the breakfast club, as we hope that there will be sufficient numbers to make this viable.

Preston Grange Has Got Talent

Mr Burgess has been running heats for our annual talent show on a Thursday. This week's winning act was The Star Wars Force Awakens, with James and Sam from Year 5. The previous heat was won by Chloe and Izzy from Year 3, who did some amazing dancing. Well done to the first two acts; they now go through to the semi-finals.

Competition winner

We held a competition for the children to design ideas for murals for the school library, which will be named the Helen Dunn library in memory of Mrs Dunn our much loved Teaching Assistant. We are pleased to announce that we had some amazing entries, but the School Council have selected Harry Wallace from Year 4 as the winner. Harry designed some fantastic Disney themed panels along with inspirational quotes, which will be painted on the newly painted library walls ready for next term by Mr Young. A huge thank you to Harry for his wonderful ideas ! Here are a couple of his designs.



New appointments in school

We have recently appointed a new Office Manager in school. Mrs Clarke will start after Easter at our school. She currently works at Fordley Primary School. We have also made an appointment for our new Nursery teacher for September - Mrs Dyke will start in September, although will be involved in helping to set up our new Nursery provision before she starts. She currently works at Battle Hill Primary School. Finally, when Mrs Blackett takes her maternity leave from Easter onwards, Miss Reynolds will be joining us in school. She currently teaches at King Edward's Primary School.

Sport Relief

This Friday is Sport Relief. We are asking the children to come to school in sporty clothes or football shirts. Then in the afternoon we will be having a whole school skipping session to music, where the children can skip together, learn new skills and watch the Year 3 skip dance ahead of the competition. We would be grateful if as many children as possible can bring in skipping ropes to school on Friday.

Dinosaur eggs in school !

This week there has been great excitement in Reception class. A dinosaur had left Reception class a letter explaining that she needed somewhere to build her nest. They discussed where the nest would need to be. The children decided it should be somewhere safe, quiet and hidden. The children went outside and worked as a team to build a nest. The next day Deena the dinosaur had laid three eggs in the three nests, and the children were all very excited. They wrote letters to Deena to talk about what they had done, and added some grass to keep the eggs warm.



The next day the eggs had hatched and there were three dinosaurs for the children to look after. They talked about how they could care for the dinosaur babies. The children were so glad the babies wanted to stay in their classroom for the rest of the week and all took turns to look after them. At the end of the week Mrs Davidson and Mrs Spowart gave the dinosaurs babies back to their Mum. She was very happy that the children had looked after them so carefully!

NTLT Star Awards



As a school in the North Tyneside Learning Trust, we can nominate children for one of the eleven categories in the NTLT Star Awards. The awards are designated to inspire children, to recognise personal achievement and to celebrate success. The categories for which a child may be nominated are as follows: Local Hero award, Fundraising Award, Resilience Award, Green Award, Leadership Award, Inspiration Award, Volunteering Award, Inclusion Award, Can Do Award, Achievement Award and Breakthrough Award.

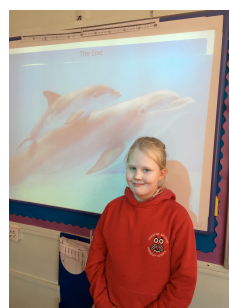
A nomination form may be picked up from the school office, as parents, staff and children are all able to nominate a child for a category. Please call into the office if you would like a nomination form, on which you will also find further details about each category. Each nominee is considered a winner in their own right and will receive a certificate. Finalists will be invited to a glittering awards ceremony at The Old Assembly Rooms, Newcastle on 5th July. Please note, nominations must be submitted by Friday 29th April.

Easter crafts

Mrs Davidson would like to invite all Reception parents into school on Monday 21st March at 3pm, to make Easter arts and crafts with your children. All welcome.

Homework projects Year 5

Well done to our Year 5 children for the range of fantastic homework projects which they submitted recently on the subject of 'habitats'. Mr Burgess was impressed with the quality and creativity of the projects. Please see the website for a full gallery of photographs.



Holidays 2016-17

Please find attached with this newsletter, the school holidays and training days for next academic year. Please note that there is no training day in September due to the children already having had 6 weeks and 3 days off school, since the children break up on Tuesday 19th July (there is a training day on Wed 20th July). We have therefore moved the Autumn training day to October 21st.

Dates for your diary

Thurs 17th March - football team to JSCHS after school

Fri 18th March - Sport Relief day

Fri 18th March - Year 4 to Badminton tournament at JSCHS

Mon 21st March - Reception Easter crafts, parents invited into school

Mon 21st March - children bring in hard-boiled egg to decorate

Mon 21st March - Year 3 at Skipping Festival JSCHS (pm)

Tues 22nd March - family decorated eggs to be in school by noon

Wed 23rd March - break up for Easter holiday

Wed 23rd March - Mrs Boyd's last day at school

Please note, children return to school on Monday 11th April.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, March 15th 2016