

Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - December 14th 2016

Christmas performances

The Christmas performances were delightful, we were so proud of all of the children. Thank you for all of the lovely feedback. Our first ever Nursery performance yesterday also saw our youngest children performing Christmas songs as part of a nativity. Thanks to the staff, who worked tirelessly to put on the productions each year, and thank you to everyone who attended. We are really pleased that you enjoyed them!

The Key Stage 1 performance can be found on www.chroniclelive.co.uk along with a video and gallery of photos. There will also be pictures of the KS1 performance in the Chronicle newspaper on December 21st.



Choir carol singing

This week Mr Chappell and Miss Wright took some of the choir to Rake Lane hospital to sing for the elderly patients and staff on the ward. Mr Chappell couldn't sing the choir's praises enough, and said that their singing and manners were fantastic. We are really proud of our choir, well done to all! Please see our Twitter feed to hear the children singing.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone for helping us raise more money towards our tipi for the school field. The total so far raised by school from the raffle ticket money and performance ticket money is a huge £1111 !! In addition to this, £156 was raised through bedtime story day, making a grand total of £1267. The Friends of Preston Grange Christmas stall money will be totalled after Christmas. Thank you everybody for your support!

Christmas jumper day

A reminder that tomorrow, it is Christmas jumper day. The children may wear jeans on their bottom half if they wish. All donations received will be sent to Save the Children charity. Thanks for your support.

Parking

We have been contacted by residents from Chiltern Road, who have requested that parents do not park over their drives either in the morning or at the end of the school day. We ask that you park with consideration for our residents thank you.

Christmas parties

Thank you to all of our families for sending party food into school this week for class parties. The children enjoyed their parties very much, and they even had a visit from Santa Claus!

Christmas holidays

Please note that we break up tomorrow, and at the normal time. We are not sending the children home at 2pm unlike many other Secondary schools in the area. Please note, the children return to school on Wednesday 4th January. Tuesday 3rd January is a Teacher Training day.

Mobile phone numbers

We would be grateful if any parents change their phones at Christmas, that you inform the school office immediately after Christmas thanks. It is really important that we have up to date mobile numbers for emergency contacts, and also so that you continue receiving the texts from school. Thank you.

Goodbye and good luck

We are very sorry to see Miss Reynolds leave school tomorrow, and wish her well for her new permanent post at King Edward's Primary. Miss Reynolds has taught in Year 3, covering a maternity leave, and then this term she has taught Year 6 groups, and has also taught in Year 2 and Year 3 for two afternoons a week.

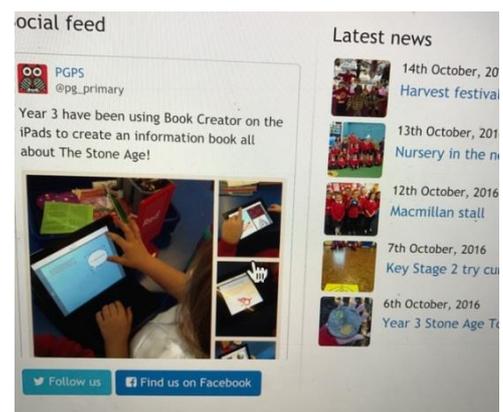
We are pleased to have appointed Mrs Christina Hall to school for the Spring term. Mrs Hall will continue with the same timetable until Easter.

Macmillan stall

Four girls from Year 3 will be running a stall to raise money for Macmillan cancer charity after the Christmas holidays. They will be selling teddy bears and loom band gifts. The stall will be held on Monday at lunchtime playtimes.

Twitter

We started using Twitter earlier this term, and tweet from the classrooms across the week. We now have 127 followers, which is great! Please note, you do not need to have a Twitter account to view the tweets we are sharing; either visit our school website and at the bottom left hand side of the screen under 'social feed' you may click here and scroll through the Twitter posts. Or, you can visit www.twitter.com and in the search bar, search for our school account by typing @pg_primary and this will take you to our Twitter page.



Please contact school if you would like to view the Twitter page but are having problems viewing it.

Communication between home and school

The different forms of communication we use to keep families informed about news from school is now as follows:

- Texts - the office send out messages that are usually reminders
- Newsletter - fortnightly on a Tuesday, uploaded on the website (this one a little late due to Christmas activities)
- Website - please see www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk - news, galleries, info for parents
- Twitter - current/up to date daily feed from classrooms: please visit www.twitter.com and search for @pg_primary (or see window on school website showing last 6 tweets)
- Tapestry - in Early Years we use Tapestry, an online learning journey shared with parents. This can be used to send either Nursery or Reception staff a message, if you are a working parent and do not collect or pick up
- Phone - please ring the school office should you have any questions or queries.

Food bank donations

Thank you so much for your generous donations for the Bay Foodbank earlier this month. The donations were delivered to the foodbank by Whitehouse Primary School, who had organised collections from other Primary Schools. The donations were delivered on December 10th, and we have received a certificate to recognise our contributions. Thanks to all of our families!

Huge congratulations!

We are all delighted to hear that Jessica Brown, an ex pupil of Preston Grange, and daughter of Mrs Brown, has been selected for the Under 15 England girls football squad. We are thrilled for her, and wish her well for her very promising future!



Parent helpers

We are looking for any parents who are willing to help either on an interim basis or regular basis in Nursery or Reception class. If you are prepared to volunteer, please speak to Mrs Clarke in the school office about DBS clearance thanks.

Busy term

This term has been incredibly busy and productive, and I would like to thank all of the staff for their continued commitment, hard work and energy. Thanks also to the newly reformed Friends of Preston Grange, who have fundraised in the run up to Christmas and have already got some exciting events planned for the rest of the school year.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all of our families a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, December 14th 2016