

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter – June 15th 2026



Sports Day

We are looking forward to celebrating Sports Day on Friday 19th June, weather permitting. Sports Day will take place from 1.15pm until approximately 3.15pm. As you arrive, please find a place to sit. Chairs will be provided and positioned between the KS1 and KS2 sections of the event. Staff will then bring the children out in their classes to begin.

A text message will be sent before 9.00am on 19th June if poor weather means we need to postpone the event to the reserve date. The back up date for Sports Day is the 24th June (pm).

There will be two tracks marked out on the KS2 field: one for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, and one for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Chairs will be available between both tracks for visitors, and teas and coffees will be served.

We are always delighted by the fantastic turnout from families at our annual Sports Day. The level of support for our children is tremendous and greatly appreciated. However, even if we were to empty the school of every available chair, we would still not have enough seating for everyone who attends.

We therefore kindly ask that, where possible, parents and family members bring their own camping chairs, stools or picnic blankets to supplement the seating available. Thank you for your support and understanding in helping us ensure everyone can enjoy the event comfortably.

Please note that entry to school will be through the main entrance on Chiltern Rd only. The Malvern Rd gate will be locked. Please share this information with other family members. After sports day the Malvern Road gate will be open.

Children should come to school wearing their red school PE shorts, castle-colour T-shirt and trainers. They will also need a sun hat, sun cream and a water bottle. Please ensure your child also brings a lightweight waterproof in case of changeable weather.

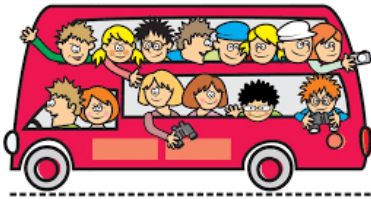
Castle colours are as follows:

- Alwick – Blue
- Bamburgh – Pink/Purple
- Chillingham – White
- Dunstanburgh – Green
- Newcastle – Red
- Warkworth – Yellow

To ensure the smooth running of the event, we ask that parents do not approach their children during Sports Day. If you need assistance, please speak to a member of staff. Children will remain with their classes throughout the event and staff will supervise any toilet visits.

At the end of the event, children will return to school to collect their belongings and will be dismissed from their usual collection points.

Educational Visits



Educational visits are a valuable part of our curriculum, bringing learning to life and providing experiences that cannot always be replicated in the classroom. We remain committed to offering a broad and engaging curriculum that includes high-quality visits and enrichment opportunities.

However, like many schools, we are facing increasing financial pressures due to rising costs, smaller class sizes, and a growing number of families who are unable or choose not to make voluntary contributions. In addition, the school can no longer subsidise educational visits from its core budget, as it has done in previous years.

We would very much like to continue offering our current range of visits, but this will increasingly depend on parental contributions. We greatly value your support in helping us sustain these opportunities for our children.

In line with Department for Education guidance 'Charging for School Activities', we may request voluntary contributions for educational visits. No child will ever be excluded because their parents are unable or unwilling to contribute. However, where insufficient contributions are received and no alternative funding is available, a visit may need to be cancelled.

To support transparency and help families plan ahead, we will:

- Share a schedule of planned visits for each year group at the start of the academic year.
- Provide estimated costs in advance.
- Offer the option to pay in instalments or in full via our booking system.
- Continue to highlight the educational value of visits within the curriculum.

A separate Google Form will be sent this week to gather parents' views on educational visits, including affordability and future planning.

We recognise that many families are also facing financial pressures and will continue to balance this with providing meaningful learning experiences for our pupils. We hope to work together to ensure our children can continue to benefit from these memorable and enriching opportunities.

I will share the feedback and parental views with you in due course. Thank you for your continued support.

Updated Forest School dates for remaining classes

Please find dates below for whole class Forest School. Please note, all children will need a coat and wellies:

18th June - Year 6

25th June - Year 4

2nd July - Year 5

9th July - Year 3

16th July - Year 1

Staff Retirement

At the end of this academic year, we will be saying farewell to two amazing and long-serving members of staff, Miss Wright and Miss Minto, who are both retiring after many years of dedicated service to our school. Miss Minto started at our school in September 1998, and Miss Wright began teaching here in November 1994.

Between them, they have contributed 60 years of commitment, care and professionalism to generations of children and families at our school. We are incredibly grateful for everything they have done for our school community and they will be a HUGE miss.

There will be opportunities later in the term to celebrate their careers and recognise the significant contributions they have made to our school. For now, I am sure you will join me in wishing them both every happiness as they prepare for an exciting new chapter.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher
15th June 2026



Dates for your diary

Tues 16th June – Year 1 trip to Centre for Life (all day)
Tues 16th June - Year 6 Picture Play (see above)
Tues 16th June – Nursery Stay & Play (1:30–2:30pm)
Wed 17th June – Hoops 4 Health Year 6 tournament @ Vertu Motors Arena (all day)
Thurs 18th June – Year 6 Cricket, Tynemouth Cricket Club
Fri 19th June - Sports Day 1.15pm start
Mon 22nd June – School Diversity Week
Tues 23rd June – Girls Football Fixtures
Wed 24th June – Year 4 whole class Thrive
Wed 24th June - back up Sports Day 1.15pm start
Thurs 25th June – Year 5 whole class Thrive
Fri 26th June – Teacher Training Day
Mon 29th June - Year 6 wear leavers hoodies
Tues 30th June – Nursery Stay & Play (1:30–2:30pm)
Tues 30th June - Parent appointments PM
Fri 3rd July – Transition Move-Up Morning (9:00–11:45am)
Tues 7th July – Nursery News Parent Meeting (9:00–10:00am)
Wed 8th – Fri 10th July – Year 4 residential at Ford Castle
Thurs 9th July – Peter Higgins (Connect MH Team) on yard before school
Fri 10th July - Year 4 back from Ford Castle
Fri 10th July - annual reports sent home to families
Mon 13th July - Year 6 leavers assembly 2.30pm
Tues 14th July - Year 6 leavers disco
Fri 17th July - BREAK UP FOR SUMMER!

NB. Children return to school on Wed 2nd September