

Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - January 24th 2017

Show Racism the Red Card

Show Racism the Red Card

Last week we had the charity Show Racism the Red Card come into school to deliver workshops with our Year 5 and 6 children. The children enjoyed working with Gary Bennett, ex Sunderland player and Andre Bennett, his son, ex Middlesbrough player. The children took part in a football session, and some interactive workshops which covered the subject of racism. The CEO from Show Racism the Red Card also attended, along with another member of the team, Justine.

All of our visitors commented on the children's mature attitudes in discussing the subject and we were incredibly proud of them. As part of our work in school, we teach the value of tolerance: of race, religion, culture etc. We also teach the children that 'everyone different, everyone equal' through our Personal Social and Castles curriculum. The SRtRC team said that our children were willing to ask questions and showed a great deal of maturity in their responses. We are extremely proud of them all, well done Year 5 and 6! Please see our school Twitter account for photos from the day.

Readathon

We are having a sponsored reading/listening event from 27th February - 5th March. The event is being organised with Theresa McDonald, an Usborne Books Independent Organiser. The idea is that the children will read or listen to reading every day and collect sponsorship money for new books for school. Usborne will also donate more money so the school will get even more books for **free**!



How can you help? It's easy!

Encourage your child to **read or listen to reading every day**. You can read to them. They can read to someone else or read on their own.

Talk to your child about what they are reading. Ask friends and family to sponsor your child. Usborne will add up to another 60% of the total sponsorship raised. So for example, if we raise £600, Usborne will give us another £360 making the total £960!!!

Important dates:

27 February Assembly - The children will hear all about the Sponsored Reading and Listening events.

27 February - 5 March - Encourage your child to read or listen to reading every day. Help your child collect sponsorship money from friends and family.

8 March - Deadline to send the listening log, sponsorship form and sponsorship money to school.

Please support our sponsored reading event so that your child has more books to read, share and enjoy. After the event has finished, there will be an assembly to award participation certificates and achievement awards for the child in each year group that read the most during the event. We will also announce how many books we received. Thank you for helping us to make this a great event!

Parents evenings

Please note, there has been an amendment to the dates for parents evenings, due to Year 2 attending the North Tyneside Dance Festival, which takes place on Monday 6th March. The dates are now: Wednesday 8th March and Tuesday 14th March. Appointment letters will be sent out nearer the end of half term.

Year 2 - Dance Festival

On Monday 6th March, Year 2 will be dancing in the North Tyneside Dance Festival, as previously mentioned in the newsletter. Adam Pilkington, specialist PE teacher from John Spence has choreographed the dance for the children. It is looking great so far - please see Twitter for a snippet of the routine.

We participate in this festival every year, but due to the event taking place after school on an evening, we ask that if your child cannot attend, you let us know. This is because we really need to know numbers, and know who will and won't be there, in case the dance routine needs amended in any way. A letter will be sent home from Miss Knowles, and we would be really grateful for an indication of whether your child will be attending or not. Many thanks for your support.

The children have spoken and we listened!



Every month Mr Burgess meets with our School Councillors, who are representatives from each class in school. They requested that the current airline trays on which the children get their school dinner, were replaced by 'real plates and bowls'.

The children considered the risks and health & safety issues from having younger children carrying trays, but are happy that the new plates and bowls are safe for our children to use (they look like china, but are weighty melamine). The matter was discussed in assembly with the whole school, as the children's opinions really matter. They have decided that they would like to see these in place as soon as possible. Well done to the School Council for suggesting this in the first place; we have listened to their opinion and will be ordering the new lunchtime trays, plates and bowls!

Advanced notice

The Friends of Preston Grange have kindly organised a Valentine disco for the children on Thursday 16th February. Key Stage 1 disco will run from 2.30 until 3.30pm, and the Key Stage 2 disco until run from 3.30 until 4.30pm. More details to follow.

Communication from school

We currently communicate with our school community via the following ways:

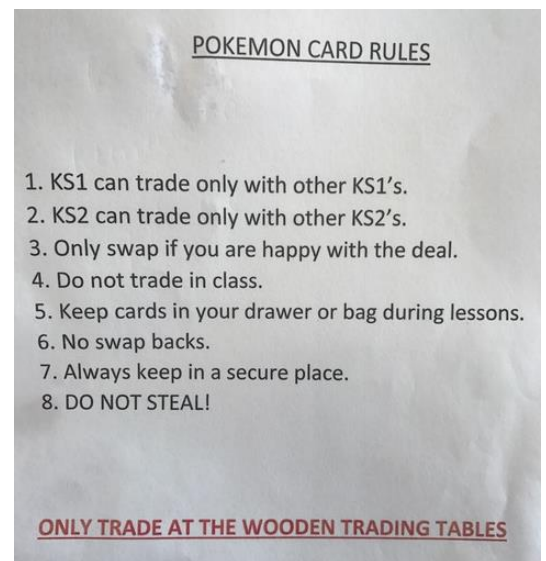
- Texts to parents
- Online newsletters to parents - please visit www.prestongrange.primary.co.uk
- Paper copies of newsletters
- Twitter - please see @pg_primary or the bottom left hand window on the school website
- Stories & news on the school website - www.prestongrange.primary.co.uk

We are aware that as we use Twitter to send a continuous stream of news out from school, that consequently, there are fewer news stories on the website. We will continue to try to support both of these news feeds, and will be asking families which they use the most in the near future. We really would like to gauge how many of our families are accessing which form of news feed, so that we can review what we do. Please note that you do not need a Twitter account to be able to view the latest tweets from school. Please see the bottom left hand window on the website.

Pokemon and Match Attax cards

Some of our Year 6 children asked if Pokemon cards and Match Attax cards could be reinstated at school. We had asked that the children did not bring them before Christmas, due to several issues on the yard with them. We have never had to stop the cards in school before this.

The Year 6's were told that if they could come up with the rules so that everyone could play harmoniously with the cards, then of course they could be reinstated. For parents information, here are the rules they came up with. They have shared these with each class, and we are very proud of them for sorting this out themselves. Well done Harry, Sam and Josh in Year 6. They even arranged for the office to type the rules up for them and have them displayed around school!



Dates for your diaries

- Thurs 2nd Feb - football team to JSCHS 3.30pm
- Tues 7th Feb - Safer internet day
- Tues 7th Feb - career speed dating Y5 & 6 (pm)
- Thurs 9th Feb - Hoops 4 Health at Lakeside - Year 5
- Tues 14th Feb - Year 1 multi-skills JSCHS
- Wed 15th Feb - Year 2 multi-skills JSCHS
- Thurs 16th Feb - Valentine discos (pm)
- Fri 17th Feb - RNLI water safety presentation
- Fri 17th Feb - Break up for half term

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, January 24th 2017