

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter - September 4th 2014



Welcome

We hope that you have all enjoyed a lovely Summer holiday. We are sure you are all pleased that children are back to school ! We are delighted to see them all; the children have returned to school smartly, ready for the new term and have settled back into school life very well.

A special welcome to all of the new Reception children to our school, as well as the three new children we have admitted this term to our school: Emma Middleton (Y4) and Jonathan and Hollie Mills (Y1). We hope that your children will be very happy at our school.

We would also like to welcome Mrs Monaghan to Year 3 while Miss Minto is absent, and Mrs Robinson, who has been appointed as a permanent Teaching Assistant and will be working mornings in school.

Parent helpers in school

If you are interested and keen to volunteer in school and do not have a current DBS (CRB) for our school, please see Mrs Boyd in the school office. We wondered in particular if there are any Year 1 parents who would be interested in completing an enhanced disclosure for our school, as we have no adults cleared to help with Year 1 for if they go on trips etc.

If you already have a CRB for school and are on our list currently, we are busy drawing up timetables for the new school year. We are looking for parents from all classes that would be interested in listening to children read or help generally in the classroom (regular help) or help on visits or trips (incidental infrequent help) please complete the form below if you are interested. Please note, we can only take names of parents who already have DBS (CRB) clearance. We would be grateful if any interested parents to return the form to school by Thursday 11th September. This will allow us to finalise the timetable of helpers for the beginning of week 3. Please note, that if you would like to sign up as a volunteer to listen to children read, Mrs Blackett will be holding a short meeting (to be confirmed) ahead of starting in school in order to explain about Reading at our school. Many thanks for your support.

Clubs this half term

Please find attached a letter and form for this half term's after school clubs. Clubs will start the week beginning September 15th. Please return the forms no later than Tuesday 9th September to the school office.

Universal Free School Meals for Key Stage 1 children

North Tyneside has put in place a process where all families with children in Key Stage 1 need to register for the Universal Infant Free School Meal.

We have been asked to re-distribute the registration forms (for Key Stage 1 parents) because not all parents have submitted them. If you have not yet registered, Mrs Royle will be sending the form to you again, and we would be grateful if you could return them to school as soon as possible, thank you.

Healthy tuck shop – Fridays

For new parents to school, each Friday morning the children are able to bring 50p (maximum) to spend at our healthy tuck shop just before playtime.

In July, Melanie Sanderson, who has shopped for our healthy tuck shop and ran it for the last 5 years, 'retired' from the role, when Megan left Year 6 to go to High School. We are currently looking for someone who would perhaps volunteer to take on the role. If you would be able to shop for the tuck shop items and volunteer up to an hour (10.30-11.00) on a Friday morning, we would be extremely grateful. If you are interested, please contact the school office, thank you. We will need to wait until we have someone to cover, and a text will be sent out to let parents know when tuck shop will re-start.

PE kits in school

Each class has two PE lessons a week and children will need their full PE kits for these days. We would be grateful if children could have their PE kits in school all week. If they bring their PE bag into school on a Monday, leave it on their peg all week and take it home on a Friday, this gives us a greater flexibility if timetables change. Thank you for your support with this matter. Please note that Year 4 are going swimming on a Tuesday afternoon this term, and this will be one of their PE lessons.

Wasps nest

Unfortunately there is a wasp nest in the planter in front of the bike racks. Mr Conaty has placed cones around the planter and we have informed the council and are waiting for them to come and deal with the nest. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you could keep away from that area. Many thanks.

School meals

If your child is in Key Stage 2 and they stay for school lunch, please remember that lunches are £2.06 per day, £10.30 per week.

Admissions for September 2015

If your child is due to start our school or transfer to a new school (High School) in September 2015, you can apply for their place from Friday 12th September. It is quick and simple to apply online at www.northtyneside.gov.uk/schooladmission. Your application needs to be submitted by Friday 31st October for High School applications, and by Thursday 15th January 2015 for Primary School applications.

This applies to children who currently attend Preston Grange Pre-School Nursery, there will be no forms or information given out from the Nursery, parents need to apply online for a school place.

Peer massage project in school

We are lucky in school in that at the end of this month we are taking part in a new project: Child 2 Child Peer Massage. It is a simple initiative where each class will be trained in a series of short routines that can be given on the hand or the back and head (child to child). The students choose, daily, whether they wish to take part in the massage. This project is delivered in many schools, and the massage help to keep children calm, positive, focused and motivated.

There will be a letter detailing the project in full shortly. We would also like to invite parents to a short session with Lynn Munro who will be working with staff and children in school. She will be running an after school session to demonstrate the work she will be doing with the children. The session is on September 23rd at 3.30pm, please come along, all are welcome.

Authorised Absences

As mentioned in the summer term, we are starting the new term using our authorised absence slips. These will be given when you request to take your child out of school during the school day for any reason. The school office will sign your child out of school, give you an authorized absence 'pass' and on returning your child back to school, collect the authorised slip from you.

Newsletters

Each fortnight there will be a school newsletter on a Tuesday. The school office sends out a text to parents when a newsletter is uploaded. This newsletter is being sent out to parents as a paper copy. However all future newsletters will be uploaded to our school website www.prestongrangeprimary.co.uk and can be downloaded from there. If you wish to receive a paper copy instead, please inform the school office, thank you.

Tracey Taylor, 4th September 2014

Parent helpers - reply slip

I have a current CRB for Preston Grange	yes / no (please circle)
I am able to help on a regular basis	yes / no (please circle)
I would like to listen to children read	yes / no (please circle)
I can't help on a regular basis but would be prepared to help on trips/visits	yes / no (please circle)
I would be able to be a swimming helper with Year 4 on a Tuesday (10.40 - 12.00)	yes / no (please circle)
I could regularly volunteer on the following day and time of the week (please state day and if morning or afternoon in each case thanks)	

Name..... Child's name.....

Signed.....

Please note, we will confirm with parents when we have drawn up timetables. Reading helpers will be invited to a meeting with Mrs Blackett. Many thanks for your support.