

Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - April 28th 2015

Welcome to new children

We would like to welcome Josh Orton and Adam Grieve and their families to our school. Both boys started Year 4 this term. They have settled quickly and we hope that they are very happy at our school.

School lunches

Last half term, our School Council met with Catering Services and discussed what they liked about school meals, and suggested meals that they would like to see on the menu. As a result of this, Catering Services are changing the menu for the week May 18th and the menu will be a complete week of our childrens' choices. If this week is successful, it will be planned into our school meals each term. Well done to our School Council, and thanks to our school kitchen staff: Karen, Lillian and Sarah for listening to our children, and for their willingness to tailor the menus to our children in school. As well as the childrens' choice week, please note that the new Summer term school lunch menu starts on May 11th. A hard copy of Week 1, 2 and 3 have been sent home with the children, or are available as a download from the website.

Scholastic Books

Please can you send any orders into school for Scholastic Book orders by 7th May thanks - either cash or cheques made payable to school.

Class assemblies

In the Summer term, each class does a class assembly on the topic that they have been learning about for parents and families. Please find below, a list of dates for each class assembly. Please note, the assemblies all start at 9.15am:

Wed 6th May - Year 3

Wed 20th May - Year 4

Wed 3rd June - Year 5

Wed 10th June - Year 2

Wed 17th June - Reception

Wed 24th June - Year 6

Wed 1st July - Year 1

Morrisons vouchers

A BIG thank you to all of our families for collecting so many Morrisons vouchers. As a result of your support, we have managed to order a wide range of baking and cooking resources for school. As part of the new curriculum, Design and Technology, of which food technology is an element, is covered by all classes. These resources are a great help to us. Thank you again for your support.

Sainsbury's vouchers

Mrs Udberg has asked if parents could please keep sending into school any Sainsbury's vouchers that they might have. The closing date we believe is mid-May, and these vouchers enable us to get some new sports and PE equipment. Thanks for your ongoing support.

Mr Jamison is Steelman !

On July 18th Mr Jamison will be competing in the Cleveland Steelman triathlon to raise money for Maggie's. This is a half ironman event and will see him taking part in a 1.2 mile open water swim in Ellerton lake in Richmond, North Yorkshire, after coming out of the lake he will be jumping on his bike to race 58 miles on a hilly route through Catterick, Northallerton and Brompton and finally jumping from his bike to finish off by running a 13.1 mile half marathon off road run. As you can see this is quite a challenge ! Please if you would like to sponsor Mr Jamison, you can find his Just Giving page at the following link: <https://www.justgiving.com/steelman-jamison/>

Maggie's fundraising

We would like to say a tremendous thank you to all of our families for their fantastic effort and support since September in helping to break our target of £5000 for Maggie's North East. We will be having a non-uniform day towards the end of term and Mr Jamison's Steelman Challenge will be our very last official fundraising for Maggie's. We have been overwhelmed by the support our families have shown. Currently, our total is £5,531.13 for Maggie's, which is fantastic. We will update families once we have had these two events. Thank you everybody once again.

Homework in Year 5

Year 5 have been studying Anglo Saxons and we have been really impressed with the range of creative homework projects that have been brought into school by the children this week. Pictured here is Holly, who made this fantastic trebuchet with her Dad. This was a weapon used in Anglo Saxon times, and they made it with wood. Thank you to all of our children in Year 5 for their imaginative projects and their families for their support in making them. A full gallery of pictures may be seen on the website.



Balance bikes

Kian, our Bike It Officer has offered us two sessions for Reception class this term, where the children will be taught how to use balance bikes. This will be a great opportunity for the children. Dates will be confirmed nearer the time.

Class organisation for September

Parents will be informed of the organisation of classes and teaching staff for September after May half term. A transition day for the children, when they move up to meet their new teacher is planned for Monday 6th July (pm).

Summer term - a look at the childrens' books

Over the last few years we have invited parents into the classroom for an open afternoon where it has been possible to look at the childrens' books. Last year, due to the numbers of parents who attended, it became very busy and hot in several of the classrooms. For

this reason, this year we would like to invite parents and families into school on Thursday 9th July from 1pm until 3.15pm. During this time, you will be able to collect your child from their classroom and take them into the hall, where you will be able to have a cup of coffee and spend time looking at your child's books with them. We hope that this will relieve the squash in the classrooms but still enable parents to share the work that the children are proud of.

Reception class for September

If your child has a place at our school for September, later this week you will be receiving the information about the arrangements for starting school (dates for the parents information evening and new starter sessions for the children in school.) On our list there are many familiar names ! It is so lovely to see how many younger brother and sisters there are starting with us in September. It only seems like five minutes since their older brothers and sisters were starting school.

Writing competition winner !

Last term the children right across school wrote a creative piece of writing about a secret garden. Mrs Blackett sent off several entries for a writing competition, and we are thrilled to be informed last week that there were over 500 entries and Leon Bell from Year 5 has won FIRST place !! Leon wins a kindle for himself, and this will be presented in assembly this week to him. Very well done Leon ! There will also be a couple of highly commended certificates awarded to other children in school. Thanks to Mrs Blackett for entering the children into the competition.

Amazing manners

We have had four different visitors in school since the start of term, that have commented on the childrens' fantastic behaviour and excellent manners across school. We always tell the children what visitors say about them, and we were extremely proud that they have received so many compliments in such a short space of time.

Dates for your diary

Thurs 30th April - Robinwood meeting for parents of Year 4 children

Mon 4th May - Bank holiday

Mon 11th May - Key Stage 2 SATs week starts, Year 6

Wed 13th May - Year 4 rugby festival, Kingston Park

Thurs 14th May - Year 2 at Safetyworks, Newcastle

Fri 15th May - Year 6 at Safetyworks, Newcastle

Mon 18th May - Childrens' choice menu all week

Mon 18th May - Tennis competition, Year 4 (8 children)

Mon 18th May - Safety talk: dangers of public transport, Year 6

Wed 20th May - Year 4 class assembly

Wed 20th May - Year 6 road safety talk

Wed 20th May - Tennis competition, Year 3 (8 children)

Fri 22nd May - Islamophobia workshops in Year 5 & 6

Fri 22nd May - Break up for May half term

Mon 1st June - children return to school

Advanced notice - Sports Day is Wednesday 10th June (1pm start), with a back up day of Wednesday 17th June if the weather is bad.

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, April 28th 2015