

Preston Grange Primary School

Newsletter – June 16th 2022



Preston Grange Has Got Talent

Last Friday saw each class hold the first round of our annual talent show. We were amazed at the range of talent that our children revealed, and we are very proud of them for performing in front of all of their friends in class. It takes a great amount of confidence and courage to stand up and perform, and we are proud of each and every one of the children who entered the competition!

The winners from the classes are as follows:

Rec- Bella

Y1- Jessica and Amber

Y2- Encanto group (Poppy, Robyn, Valeana, Nuhaa, Neve, Chloe B, Willow, Thea, Chloe G)

Y3- Oscar

Y4- Josie

Y5- Owen

Y6- Martha

The winners will now perform in the final on Friday 1st July in the afternoon, and families of the children in the final will be invited into school to watch the performances. We wish everyone taking part good luck!



Robinwood

On Friday this week, parents of Year 4 children will receive a letter explaining the arrangements for the day that the children leave for Robinwood, which will include information about the departure time, where to drop off your child's suitcase and other last minute information about the day the children leave. Please check that your child brings home this letter, and should you not receive it, then please contact the school office.

Medication for Robinwood

A reminder to our Year 4 parents regarding any medication for the residential: **12 noon on Monday 20th June is the last possible time to send medication into the school office.** There are procedures internally that staff are required to do in liaison with the local authority, and we require two days for this to happen. PLEASE NOTE: if any medication is handed in to the school office after this time it will not be accepted. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Term dates

We have received a few queries from parents about when term dates start and end. Although North Tyneside Local Authority release a template of term dates each year, our school does not necessarily have to follow these dates. We are a Foundation School, not a Local Authority school and it is the decision of individual schools as to whether they adopt or amend these dates. Please do not refer to North Tyneside's school term dates online, but instead refer to our school website where our school term dates may be found for this academic year and 2022-23. Please note the day of the week that term ends in Summer and Autumn this year in particular.

Times Table statutory check

On Monday 20th June, Year 4 will sit the statutory Times Table test that Year 4 children nationally must sit. We would be grateful if parents could check Google Classroom for times table homework tasks as preparation for the test on the Monday, thank you.



Parents appointments

Usually we hold an open afternoon in Summer term, for parents to look at children's books and speak to staff. This year we have changed this slightly; we will be having an afternoon and evening of short 5 minute face-to-face parent appointments instead. On Wednesday 13th July, after the annual reports to parents have been sent home, appointments will be held between 1pm-5pm.

A text will be sent out to inform parents when the system goes live for booking the appointments on Monday 4th July. We really look forward to the opportunity of meeting parents face to face, after a very long time.

Breakfast Club from September

As you are aware, the cost of gas and electricity has risen significantly, and unfortunately this has also affected our school and has had implications for our budget. As from this month, costs for gas and electricity for school have risen to around £53,000 which is more than double the cost we have paid over recent years.

The Staffing & Finance Committee of Governors and I have worked hard to balance the budget this year, and we have tried our hardest not to put additional costs onto families, whilst also trying to ensure that staffing isn't affected in school - which in turn ultimately affects the children, who are our priority.

For this reason, breakfast club will see a small increase from September to £1.50 per day to £2. Since numbers have risen quite dramatically in the mornings since last September, I have also had to direct an additional member of staff into breakfast club on some days. For both of these reasons, we are in a difficult position but have worked to try and make the increase as small as we can possibly make it. Thank you for your understanding.

Leave of absence

If you wish to take your child out of school for any reason in school term time, you are required to complete a leave of absence request form, which are available at the school office. Please note that any request for leave of absence must be made in advance of any leave of absence being taken.

Year 6 end of term arrangements

We are currently finalising some exciting plans for the end of term for our Year 6 class so that they have a fantastic end to their time at primary school. Once the plans are finalised, they will be shared with the children and parents informed shortly after that!



Farewell

We are very proud, yet really sad that Mr Young will be moving on from our school to a promoted post as a Mental Health Support Lead in another local school. His last day at our school will be Friday 24th June. Mr Young is an amazing person and a much valued member of staff for the 11 years that he has worked at our school. We would like to wish him all the best in the next step in his career and thank him massively for everything he has done for the children at our school over the years.

Dates for your diary

Thurs 16/6 - Year 5 Challenge Day @JSCHS

Fri 17/6 - Year 6 H4H basketball team to Newcastle Eagles Arena (all day)

Mon 20/6. - Year 4 statutory Times Table Test

Mon 20/6 - School Diversity Week begins

Wed 22/6 - Fri 24/6 - Year 4 children at Robinwood, Alston

Thurs 23/6 - No Running Club (staff at Robinwood residential)

Thurs 23/6 - Y5/6 rounders @JSCHS (after school)

Fri 24/6 - Mr Young's last day at school

Mon 27/6 - Singing with Redesdale 'Bring Me Sunshine' (pm)

Wed 29/6 - Donna Cheshire in school working with the children (Silk Painting)

Wed 29/6 - Girls Football Team @JSCHS (after school)

Fri 1/7 - PG Has Talent Final (pm)

Mon 4/7 - STEM festival for Year 5 at St Jame's Park (all day)

Wed 6/7 - Road Safety practical session for Year 6 before transition to High School

Thurs 7/7 - SPORTS DAY (pm)

Fri 8/7 - Annual reports to parents

Mon 11/7 - **Last week for clubs**

Wed 13/7 - Parents appointments (see above)

Mon 18/7 - Year 4 Bikeability Level 1

Tues 19/7 - Transition morning all classes move up to next class

Thurs 21/7 - BREAK UP FOR SUMMER

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, June 16th 2022