

Preston Grange Primary School



Newsletter - January 26th 2016

Dates for statutory assessments (SATs)

Please find below the dates, which have just been released by the Government for the SATs (Key Stage 2) and Phonics test for Year 1 children. Additional to these dates, please note that Year 2 also do SATs, and although the dates do not show on the tables below, we also request that children in this year group are not removed from school in term time, either in the run up to, or during the months of May and June, when the Key Stage 1 SATs will take place:

2016 to 2017 academic year

Date	Activity
Week commencing 8 May 2017	Key stage 2 tests week.
Week commencing 12 June 2017	Phonics screening check week.

2017 to 2018 academic year

Date	Activity
Week commencing 14 May 2018	Key stage 2 tests week.
Weeks commencing 4 June and 11 June 2018	Key stage 2 science sampling test period.
Week commencing 11 June 2018	Phonics screening check week.

2018 to 2019 academic year

Date	Activity
Week commencing 13 May 2019	Key stage 2 tests week.
Week commencing 10 June 2019	Phonics screening check week.

SATs meetings for parents of Year 2 and Year 6 children

Further to the information on the previous newsletter, we will be holding two SATs meetings on Monday 22nd February immediately after school at 3.35pm. The Year 2 meeting will be held in the Year 2 classroom, and the Year 6 meeting will take place in the Year 6 classroom. At this meeting, we will explain the changes to the SATs for both year groups this year, and also explain how you may best support your children at home and how we are preparing the children in school for the assessments. We hope as many of you as possible are able to attend.

Ice Packs

We have in school a supply of ice packs, which are dark blue in colour. We give these to the children if necessary when they have been first aided after a bump. We would be grateful if parents could check at home and see if any children have accidentally brought one home from school, as before Christmas we had over 20 in school. There are now only 7 in the medical fridge, and we have searched high and low for them in school. If you do find an ice pack at home, we would be grateful if you would send them into the school office. Thank you.

Update on Nursery

As you will be aware, we are opening a teacher led school based Nursery in September this year. We are now completely full for 2016-17, as all places have been allocated, and we even have a reserve list. We are however still taking application forms for September 2017, January 2017, September 2018, January 2018 and beyond. If you know anyone in our catchment area, please let them know that we are still taking applications.

We are in the process of going to advert for the new 0.5 Nursery teacher post, and hope to appoint the teacher at the end of February, although they won't start until September.

There are some alterations to do internally in order to get ready for the movement of classes to make room for Nursery in September. These are all planned and work starts this week to convert the internal quad into an outdoor space for the new Year 1 classroom (current ICT suite.)

Thank you

Thank you to all of our Reception parents for signing up to, and using the new online system of Learning Journeys called Tapestry. Mrs Davidson and Mrs Spowart have informed me that they have already done several assessments on the children, and are pleased that parents are contributing to the children's learning journeys. Many thanks, they look good so far, and are a lovely record of how the children are developing!

World Book Day

On Thursday 3rd March it is World Book Day, and we would very much like the children to come into school dressed as their favourite book characters. Mrs Blackett is planning some exciting book based activities for the children to enjoy on the day.

Dates for your diaries

Mon 25th Jan - Year 6 SAT practice week

Tues 2nd Feb - Year 1 Multi-skills at JSCHS (am)

Wed 3rd Feb - Hoops 4 Health tournament (Year 5) at The Lakeside, Killingworth

Thurs 4th Feb - Year 2 Multi-skills at JSCHS (am)

Fri 5th Feb - Greek visitor (storyteller) in Year 4 (am)

Mon 8th Feb - Reception Chinese New Year topic day

Mon 8th Feb - parents evening (3.35pm - 6.15pm)

Wed 10th Feb - Year 5 at Maths event (JSCHS)

Thurs 11th Feb - Year 4 at Quiksticks festival (pm) at The Parks

Thurs 11th Feb - Valentine's Discos (info to follow)

Fri 12th Feb - break up for half term

Mon 22nd Feb - children return to school

Mon 29th Feb - Year 2 at Dance Festival rehearsal (The Parks) pm

Tues 1st March - Dance Festival evening performance Year 2 (time tbc)

Tracey Taylor, Headteacher, January 22nd 2016