



# Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

Telephone: 01256 389278

Email: [admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk)

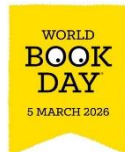
Headteacher: Mrs. Simrit Otway

## Newsletter No. 8 – 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents and carers,

### World Book Day

A reminder that we have World Book Day coming up very soon (5<sup>th</sup> March)! A separate letter has been sent out from Mrs Cooke with more information about this event, as well as the Roving Bookshop.



### Well done Robins Class!

Well done to Robins class for having the highest attendance in the last half term!

Robins	97.52%
Sparrows	97.37%
Kingfishers	96.18%
Doves	94.94%

### Attendance Guidelines – Penalty Notice

As per guidance from the Department for Education, Penalty Notices can be issued for unauthorised absence. In Hampshire, Penalty Notices are issued when a pupil has had 10 or more half-day sessions (equivalent to five school days) of unauthorised absence, in the last 10 school week period, which may span different terms or school years.

For this reason, Leave of Absence forms must be filled in and returned to the school office for any scheduled absence. These forms must be returned no later than 10 working days in advance of the absence (emergency situations will be assessed on a case by case basis). Please be aware that any leave of absence forms not handed in with enough time for the school to review may be classed as unauthorised for this reason. Any forms returned retrospectively will be unauthorised. Hampshire guidance on Attendance and penalty notices can be found [here](#).

We understand that emergency appointments are sometimes unavoidable in school time. However, we are seeing an increasing number of absences taken at

the beginning and end of the day for routine check-ups. These should be booked after school or in the school holidays. Thank you to those that routinely attach their appointment letters and hand in their absence forms in good time.

### School drop-off and pick up

Please can parents and carers be reminded that, if you are arriving late (after 8.45am) you need to accompany your child to the school office.

### Parking and driving

We are still having instances of cars being parked by the railings which causes the buses to be parked far away or at the school entrance. Please do not park in the bus stop area.

A local resident has mentioned that some drivers have turned around in the road during school drop off children, causing a queue of traffic. Please drive with care and consideration for residents, children and other drivers.

### The Road Safety Team - Seat belts

The Road Safety Team are responsible for educating young people and their families on the importance of keeping safe when travelling in a vehicle. Part of this education includes ensuring young people are travelling with correct restraints. Are you aware that 37% of children are in the wrong type of seat for their age and/or height? The Road Safety Team would like to share this leaflet with you to ensure you know how to always keep your child(ren) safe, in the correct restraint.

There are also hints and tips about choosing the right seat, transporting other people's children and how to fit different types of car seat. To read this informative leaflet, please visit [this link](#).

### Cross Country

On Wednesday 4th February, 18 children from Years 3 to 6 represented our school at an after-school cross country event at Perins. The event was open to all schools across East Hampshire,



## Love Hope Justice

Encourage each other and build each other up (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

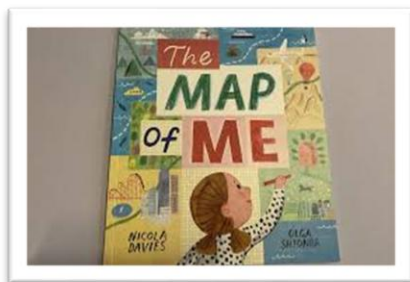


with 13 schools and 168 children taking part, making it a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to challenge themselves and compete alongside others. For the top 12 boys and girls in Years 5 and 6 this event leads into the county final and we are incredibly proud to share that, for the fourth consecutive year, children from our school have qualified to represent East Hampshire at this event, which will take place on 3rd March at Down Grange. This event truly showcased our school vision and values in action and it was a joy to see our children really enjoying the event and demonstrating great resilience, perseverance and sportsmanship. They supported and built each other up with encouragement and positive attitudes, living out our values of love and hope through their support and care for one another, and justice through fairness, respect and encouragement for children from other schools as well.



### Sparrows – ‘The Map of Me’

On Friday 6th February Sparrows class joined a live webinar with author Nicola Davies. In this she introduced the children to her recently published book 'The Map of Me' which was a lovely story about moving home, making connections, and mapping a better world. During the event the children joined in with an activity to create their own maps and we have some great ideas for using this book further in our learning over the summer term.



### The Nest

We run our after school club, ‘The Nest’, Monday to Thursday from 3:10-4.10pm, 4.10-5.00pm, or for the entire session with the option of snacks in the second half. If you are new to this provision and are interested in signing your child up, we kindly ask that you complete a short E-form (available on our school website under Extended Day Care or through the link below) to register your interest. You will then be added to the Scopay page to be able to make bookings. [The Nest E-Booking Form](#)

### Showcase of Learning

We were delighted to welcome all parents to our ‘all classes’ Showcase of Learning last month. Thank you for coming along to see your child's work, we hope you enjoyed the experience.

### Parents Evening

Thank you for attending the parent consultations before half term. We had excellent attendance and we hope you enjoyed finding out about your child's progress and learning.

### Outdoor buildings redecoration

We like to look after our school and take pride in having a great environment in which to work and learn. Please be aware that we are having some redecoration and external work around the school over the next half term. You will notice some additional vehicles parked at the top car park during this period. The school day is running as normal.

### Leader in Me (7 Habits)

#### Leadership Awards

Gray H	Ottillie A	Violet S
Sophie L	Eloise T	Theo S-B
Tobiloba A	Caitlin H	Finn H
Charlotte H	Poppy D	Tabitha L
Harry V	Jack D	Ellie-Rose W
Harrison A	Minnie G	Mariam B
Thalia J	Cody A	Penelope M
Ayda H	Molly D	Alex M
Anna L	Jocelyn R	Huxley H
James De W	Nathan P	Joseph W
Isla H	Max W	Fife E
Emily W	Wilf W	Billy M
Henry P	Ronnie B	Lily F
Zahra B	Melanie W	Orla B
Persephone L	Ella E	George W
Elodie S-B		



### Living the Values Awards

Children who have been recognised for living the school values of Love, Hope and Justice by demonstrating virtues such as respect, service, compassion, kindness, courage, and fairness.

Sara S	Max B	Florence L
Cressida G	Theo M	Joseph W
Nickoy L	Molly D	Gabriel R
Evelina Z	Camille P	Kit G
Malachy J	Fife E	Rae Hawke
Adam B	Evah P-P	Nancy B
Violet P	Sophie R	Verity A



Best wishes,

Mrs Simrit Otway  
Headteacher

**Dates for your Diary**

**25<sup>th</sup> February - Year 5/6 Dodgeball @ Eggars School  
(4.00-5.00pm, max 10 attendees)**

**5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day**

**w/c 9<sup>th</sup> March – STEM week**

**20<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day (Comic Relief)**

**24<sup>th</sup> March – Roving Bookshop visit**

**2025/26 Inset Days**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026**

**+1 day TBC**

*A list of 2025-26 Hampshire and school dates,  
including holidays can be found on the school  
website.*