

## Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

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## Newsletter No. 2 – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

#### **Harvest**

This half-term, we were joined for collective worship by Revd' Leon on behalf of the Winchester Beacon (formally known as Winchester Night Shelter). It is a charity that we continue to support and they have been supporting people experiencing homelessness for over thirty years. They provide ongoing advice and guidance to help residents find longer term solutions. A huge thank you for the generous contributions that you and your children have donated.





#### Friday ice lolly sale

Thank you to our PCSA parents for organising these sales after school – a school fundraising grand total of £140.60 has been raised.

#### **Open Morning**

It was lovely to meet prospective parents join us for a morning at the school. A number of our Year 6 children showed them around the school grounds and answered lots of questions. We have another open morning next month on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November between 10.45am and 11.45am.

#### Messages for teachers

Please may we ask that you write in your child's red home-school communication book or give them a note to hand to their teacher at **morning registration** time. For example, if there is a change of collection arrangement especially for the end of the same day. The school office often receives about ten emails a day from parents for changes to the end of day collections. Sometimes this is very late in the afternoon for play date changes etc.

Understandably, teachers are focussed on teaching the children at this time and therefore not looking at their emails. It isn't always possible for the office staff to always leave the phoneline and other tasks to hand deliver messages around the school. Therefore, unless it is an absolute emergency, please do try to use the communication books or send in a note for your child's teacher directly. Please also ensure that your child knows of any change of collection arrangement when they come to school. Your support with this will help to support a calmer and less busy afternoon and end of day.

### Love Hope Justice















#### **Booksale**

Last Friday we held a used book sale after school, which was extremely popular and it was fantastic to see so many keen pupils wanting to buy books. A grand total of £92.30 was made and this will go towards purchasing more books for our school library.

#### **Attendance**

I am sure that you will understand that the Government's priority is to ensure children's consistent attendance at school, following Covid-19. Our school attendance has historically been very good however Covid impacted our school attendance last year. Leave of Absence requests for anything other than exceptional circumstances will be unauthorised. For unauthorised absences, families can be liable for penalties from Hampshire County Council. Please see the school's attendance policy on the school website for more information.

#### **School Dinner Menus**

Please find attached the new school dinner menus, which will start after October half term. These are also available on the school website. Any child on a special diet will receive their menu choices in due course. We have also been advised that there will be an increase to the cost of a school dinner - this will take effect from Monday 31st October and will be priced at £2.80 per meal.

#### Parking at beginning and end of day

Please may we ask that you park somewhere safe when you drop your children off at school in the morning and end of day. There are a number of residential roads near to the school, where parents can safely park. We also ask that you make sure the school crossing patrol is used with your children to cross the road safely.

#### Macmillan Coffee Morning and tuck shop





Thank you to everyone who joined us for our recent Macmillan coffee morning event. It was great to have a chat over tea and cake with you. The sum of £186.85 was raised for the appeal. Thank you for your generosity and to those parents who kindly donated cakes and biscuits for the sale – the children enjoyed some delicious bakes that our kitchen cooks had made for this great cause.







#### **Author Visit**

Pupils in Key Stage one had a visit from one of the country's top children's authors, Lu Fraser, who spent the morning reading one of her wonderful books and answering lots of questions.

Lu was absolutely inspirational and her visit fired up the children to create some superb, creative writing afterwards. We hope to have Lu visit the school again for "World Book Day" in March.





















#### Year I/2 Church Visit

Our RE topic is 'belonging'. As part of our RE learning, Kites and Kestrels visited St Mary's Church. Revd' Chattell spoke to the children about what the church is used for and how Christians feel a sense of belonging within the church.

The children then explored to identify and draw features found inside a church including the pulpit, altar, font, lectern, organ and cross.

We also looked at the external architecture of the church to see what features we could find. The children were fascinated by the height of the tower!





#### **Costume Requests**

Wrens class are currently asking for donations to stock up their dressing up box. They have a number of dresses, but they would benefit from some other costumes – the more imaginative, the better. Many thanks.

#### **After School Clubs**

As well as our teacher-led after-school clubs next term (Netball and Young Voices) – Dance Club has been extremely popular this term and details have been sent out to you about the club running throughout next term, up until Christmas. Please make sure you apply for your child if they are interested.

Details have also been sent out today regarding two football clubs, aimed at Years I-6. They are being run by Soccer School UK and again, start after half-term.



Please advise us if you have recently moved house or any contact details have changed for your child. It is important that we have at least two prime telephone numbers on file for your child and that they are current.

## **Breakfast Club Vacancy – Are you interested?**

We are looking for someone to help run our morning breakfast club (alongside a member of staff) for two/three mornings per week for approximately one hour. This will be a paid position and if you are interested and would like to hear more about what this position will involve, please contact the school office.

#### **Governor News**

The governors have had a busy start to the Autumn term. We attended the Hampshire Local Authority led whole staff Safeguarding training on the first day of term. Safeguarding is a vital part of the role of a governor. It was lovely to see all the staff back after the summer break and welcome new members to the team. There was such an enthusiastic and happy buzz in the room, that the safeguarding trainer remarked that it was a 'wonderful place to be.'

Governors have been back into school for visits. One visit included attending the first school Council Meeting of the new academic year. The governor noted that there was a great deal of excitement among the newly elected councillors. Each class elected two pupils to represent them. (Wren's pupils will be joining later, when they have had a chance to settle into school life.) There are currently eight pupils, four girls and four boys. The council met in the outside classroom on a sunny morning and was guided by Mrs Otway.

Mrs Otway asked the councillors the question 'What do you think is the role of a School Council?' The pupils responded with 'to improve the school', 'to help other to be happy in school', 'to do little things to make school a better place.' Mrs Otway explained that they had been elected by their class peers, a democratic procedure, part of British Values and it is a responsible role. She asked them what skills they felt they needed to be a good School Councillor? The pupils replies included: 'being helpful', 'being kind', 'to help people believe in themselves', 'to be supportive', 'respectful', 'live the school values', looking out for others' and 'being a good listener'.

The Council discussed charitable causes the school could support this year, the outside environment and the Leader in Me 7 Habits that are being embedded. We look forward to seeing the School Council















develop together over the year and seeing their impact on the school.

We've attended Open Mornings recently, welcoming prospective parents to school. These parents were shown the school premises by our current year 6 pupils, who took great pride in escorting their guests around. The parents remarked afterwards on their amazement at how confident, independent and articulate the pupils were and how proud they were of their school.

We've returned to our duties with the first Full Governing Body meeting and Curriculum and Standards Committee with other meetings to be carried out throughout this term.

Thank you to those parents who have expressed an interest in joining the Governing Body as parent governors. We are currently in the process of recruitment and look forward to welcoming new governors soon. Recently a governor visited school and introduced herself to some of you on the playground at the end of the day. Please look out for us as we attend school events throughout the year – please do come and say hello to us.

#### Welcome back to Fergus Ro.

A very warm welcome back to Fergus in year 4. Your incredible courage and positive attitude are an example to us all. A massive well done for sustaining a love of learning during these challenging months through tough treatment that most adults would find challenging. We are so delighted to have you back with us at school!

# Building Learning Power (BLP) Awards for demonstrating Resilience, Reflectiveness, Resourcefulness and Teamwork in learning.



Elodie SB	Walter F	Savanna C
Alex M	Ayan R	Joseph W
Sophie W	Maddie CN	Daisy G
Carter G	Lily J	Sophie L
Matilda M	Violet S	Azalea N
Jocelyn R	Sofia SS	Sophie CN
Kit G		

#### 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.





We look forward to seeing you at the parents consultations next week.

Best wishes

Mrs Simrit Otway Headteacher

#### **Dates for your Diary**

2022/2023 Inset Days Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

A list of 2022-23 Hampshire school dates, including half term holidays, Christmas and Easter, can be found on the school website as well as on the Hampshire website













