



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Newsletter No. 6 – Friday 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

School curriculum and information

Just to remind parents that we have a great deal of information about our curriculum subjects, personal development and useful links on our website. All previous newsletters and diary dates are on there too.

Christmas Tree

Last month, we were asked whether our school would like to take part in an initiative, alongside other schools in the area by Basingstoke & Deane Council. The initiative was to decorate a 'handmade' wooden tree and once decorated, it would be displayed in Festival Place, Basingstoke over the Christmas period.



After the display, the trees will be taken to local carehomes and hospitals to share with residents and patients. Each child in the school drew their own hands and decorated the trees with designs representing the school values around friendship, peace and love. The decorations were positioned around the tree and a beautiful handmade star, made by Judy, one of our school volunteers was placed on the top. If you are doing any Christmas shopping on Saturday 3rd and Saturday 10th December, please take a moment to look out for our tree on the top floor of Festival Place (next to Costa).

Attendance

We strive for over 95.5% school attendance. Last half term, it was close or better for most pupils but lower than in pre-covid years.

Just to give parents a picture of attendance in school at the moment:

Kingfishers Class attendance today is 95.45%

Robins Class attendance today is 100%

Kestrels Class attendance today is 100%

Kites Class attendance today is 100%

Wrens Class attendance today is 93.75%

Our overall attendance for school today is 98.1%

Fostering Hampshire Children

Every 12 hours another Hampshire child comes into care in need of a foster carer. There is a shortage of foster carers in Hampshire so we have been asked to share details on fostering with parents. Please have a look at the website below, if you want to find out more :

www.hants.gov.uk/openyourdoor

Christmas KSI Nativity

We look forward to welcoming our families to the KSI Nativities happening on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th next week.

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 8th December

A reminder for your diary when the whole school dig out their favourite jumpers and raise money for Save the Children. A suggested £1.00 per child will be collected by your child's class teacher.



Love Hope Justice



Mental Health over the Christmas Period

“ Just because it's Christmas, it doesn't mean caring for your mental health has to be put on hold. ”

There is a lot of joy and happiness associated with the festive season, but **among all the fun and festivities, Christmas can be an overwhelming time for some.**

A combination of the shorter days, colder temperatures and the pressures associated with this time of year can impact many people, adults and children alike.

It is so important that during this very busy time, we remember to take time for ourselves when we need to. Looking after ourselves and practising self-care strategies can help us to avoid becoming overwhelmed.

Attached to this newsletter is a daily mindfulness calendar with suggestions of short 5 minutes activities that can be used wherever and whenever they are needed.

In addition to this, please find below some helplines or services that you can use over the festive break should you require any further support. Many of these websites have pages specifically dedicated to supporting your mental health over the Christmas break.

YoungMinds

www.youngminds.org.uk/

Parent's Helpline- 0808 802 5544

NSPCC

www.nspcc.org.uk/

Childline- 0800 1111

Adult concerned about a child 0808 800 5000

SHOUT

www.giveusashout.org/ Or text: 85258

Mind

<https://www.mind.org.uk/>

Mentally Healthy Schools- Anna Freud

<https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/>

BookTrust

Every child in Wrens

Class will be coming

home today with a gift from the BookTrust. You will find top tips for reading with your child and an exciting picture book you'll want to explore over and over again.



Basketball @ Perins School

On the 30th November, Perins School hosted a basketball competition which we took part in. The competition followed a new 3v3 format which involved both teams of three working in half a full sized court with both teams shooting towards the same basket.

Both of our teams played three games each. Games were two minutes with three players on court followed by another two minutes where the other three players in the team were on court. One of our teams came second in their pool having won one of their games, drawn one and conceded one. Our second team came third in their pool.

All of the children demonstrated good sportsmanship and played well as a team. It was a great opportunity for them to put the skills they have learned in their PE sessions into practice and compete in a tournament against other schools in the spirit of friendly competition.



December kindness calendar

Please find attached the December Kindness calendar, which gives some lovely ideas for the whole of December.

Christmas Lunch

This year's whole school Christmas lunch will take place on Friday 9th December. Children may bring something festive to change into before lunch or they can bring a festive hat to wear at the table. If your child does not want a Christmas lunch, please make sure you provide them with a packed lunch on the day.



Please note that due to a change in menu next Friday, the school cooks have decided to swap Friday's normal "fish and chips" to next Thursday instead, with a vegetarian curry as an alternative option. This will only apply to next week's menu.

School Disco

The PCSA have organised for Mark, the 'disco man' to come and entertain the children on Wednesday 14th December. It is always great fun! Tickets are priced at £6.00 each and include a drink, plus a snack – details have already been sent home.

Christmas Post Box

This will be available for children to post any cards during the last week of term. Our Year 6 children will distribute them across the school, so please make sure your child clearly writes who the card is for before they post it in the box! Thank you.

KS2 Carol Service- Tuesday 13th December

Parents are welcome to join our KS2 children at St Mary's Church, Preston Candover at 9.15am for a carol service.

Clubs for Spring term

Thank you to staff and parents who have suggested some new ideas for clubs next term at the school. We are delighted to be sending you details of the following clubs shortly, which will offer something for every year group. The clubs being run by outside providers, will be published very soon.

Teacher-Led Clubs	Country Dancing
	Puzzles & Games
	Netball
SoccerSports	Yr R -2 & KS2 Football
	Yr R - 2 Multi-skills
SportsXtra	KS2 Tag Rugby
	Dance Club

Parent Survey

This time last year we asked parents to complete a survey to gather views on a range of school matters. We are now asking for this to be completed again (details to follow). Thank you for your support.

Best wishes

Mrs Simrit Otway
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

6th & 7th December – KS1 Nativity
8th December – Christmas Jumper Day
9th December – Whole School Christmas Lunch
13th December – KS2 Carol Service @
St Mary's Church
16th December – Last day of term. Bus and pupil
collection at 12 noon
5th & 6th January - Y6 Bikeability

2022/2023 Inset Days

Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Friday 10th March 2023
Friday 21st July 2023

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