



Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

Telephone: 01256 389278

Email: admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Simrit Otway



Newsletter No. 6 – 6th December 2024

Dear Parents and carers,
We have had some wonderful things happening in school which we are pleased to share with you.

Kingfishers Celebration of Learning 15th November

On Friday 15th November 2024 Kingfisher class led a celebration of learning all about e-safety and digital health. The children created their own activity stations: A Graffiti wall, smart bookmarks, e- safety quiz, appropriate phone messages, guess the logo, would you rather?, scavenger hunt, guess the image with an e-safety message, match the age rating, 'sometimes, never always' and 'agree and disagree' statements. Mrs Meier was really impressed with the creative ways that the class shared important online safety messages. We also thoroughly enjoyed hearing the children's song and rap to share even more information. We had some lovely feedback from the parents, who expressed how confident, inspiring and informative the children were.

Year 6 Bikeability 25th/26th November

On Monday 25 November, Year 6 were lucky enough to experience two days of Bikeability with the amazing instructors, Neil and Danny.

"We went out to the road and learnt lots of interesting things like how to safely cross a junction, how to do a U-turn in the road, and how to signal with our hands to show where we are turning. There were also some children who learned to ride their bikes on the playground in only two days who are really proud of themselves. We had the most amazing time and were sad when it finished. Mrs Meier said that the bikeability instructors were impressed with our cycling skills but most importantly how polite and welcoming we were. Mrs Meier was incredibly proud of how well we supported and encouraged each other."

By Leila and Clemmie (Year 6)



Open The Book

We were delighted to welcome a team from 'Open the Book' into school this half-term. Open the Book is an exciting storytelling project where Bible stories are shared with children in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable. This half-term, pupils enjoyed watching the Christmas Story being brought to life with drama and songs, as part of our collective worship. We look forward to the next visit from the team in the new year.



Roving Bookshop Thursday 5th December

Last week we had a special visit by The Roving Bookshop - the children loved browsing through the high quality range of texts on Thursday. We hope everyone enjoys reading the books they picked out!



Love Hope Justice



Woodpeckers Visit to St Marys 4th December

Last Wednesday, Woodpeckers class took a trip to the church of St. Mary's to look for signs of Advent. This is the period of time where the Christian Church is 'waiting' to celebrate the birth of Jesus; a topic that the class have been exploring as part of our RE learning. Reverend Thacker spoke to us about the different parts of the church such as the Alter, font and pulpit and we discussed what the purpose of these pieces were; some of us had a go at using them ourselves! We spotted the 5 Advent candles on display at the front and learnt that an additional candle is lit each Sunday of Advent in the lead up to Christmas, with the final candle lit on Christmas day. We learned that some Christians use the period of Advent to reflect on one's own spirituality and relationship with God. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about this important part of the Christian calendar first hand and we are grateful to St. Mary's for allowing us to visit.

Events coing up:

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – 12th December

Please see attached the menu for this years Christmas Lunch. If your child would like a Christmas lunch, please make sure there is enough funds on your child's Sco-pay account to cover this at £3.20 ph. Alternatively, your child can, of course, bring a packed lunch. The Christmas Lunch is always a wonderful festive occasion, which is enjoyed by everyone.



If your child would like to wear their favourite festive jumper over their uniform, a suggested £1.00 per child will be collected by your child's class teacher during registration. All money raised will be donated to 'Save the Children'.

Carol Service KS2 – 17th December

On Tuesday 17th December KS2 (Woodpeckers, Robins, Kingfishers) will be performing carols at our village church. Afterwards, parents are invited to come back to the school for tea and coffee and the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets from the PCSA before the disco.

School Disco and Hamper Raffle – 17th December

This year's disco will be taking place after school on Tuesday 17th

December and will be run by members of the PCSA. KS1 disco will be 3:10-4:10pm and KS2 disco will be 4:30-5:30pm. Letters have gone out regarding ticket price and collection information.



Winchester Beacon Thank You

Please see attached a thank you letter from the Winchester Beacon for everyones generosity for this years Harvest Donations.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

This year, you helped to raise £147.44 through your generous donations for the Poppy Appeal. Thank you!



Primary Careers Fair

Thank you so much to the parents that have been in touch already. We are so lucky to have such an interesting and talented parent body. We would love you to come and share your jobs and career journeys with the children. It will be so helpful to them to learn about as many different pathways open to them as possible. Please come and inspire the next generation!

Please contact the office if you would like to come and share on Friday 24th January, 10.30-11.30am.

Reminders from the Office...

Water bottles

We have had a number of children requesting drinking water cups from the office. We would like to remind all parents that children should be supplied with a clearly named water bottle to allow them to keep hydrated during the day.

Early Birds and The Nest Spring Term

As we start to approach the last few weeks of term we would like to remind parents to think about booking requirements for next term as we encourage booking *half termly*. Sign up e-forms will need to be completed and processed *before* Christmas Break to enable booking for the New Year. Online booking closes *4 days* before a session and same day bookings come with an added cost and will need to be made via the school office.

Please do make use of our morning session. Provision can only be offered if it is financially sustainable and we may need to reassess this service if not enough bookings are made.

[E-form for applications to EARLY BIRDS](#)

[E-Form application to THE NEST](#)

Absence Forms

We are seeing an increasing number of absences without the supplied absence request form supplied. We remind all parents that an absence request form must be filled in and given to the school office for approval from Mrs Otway no less than 7 days in advance.

Voluntary Contributions

Thank you to everyone who has contributed a donation towards their child for this school year. We encourage everyone to consider donating as this will cover various educational enrichment opportunities throughout the year.

Leader In Me (7 Habits) Leadership Awards

Rocco R	Esme T	Tobiloba A
Mavis W	Arlowe G	Clemmie C
Jonty A	Anna L	Ayda H
Gigi N	Kit G	Eloise T
Billy M	Jack W	Savanna C



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.



Persephone L	Ellie-Rose W	Phoebe S
Feranmi E	Matilda S	Elsie B
Charlotte H	Ella H	

With best wishes,

Mrs Simrit Otway
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

11th December – EY/Yr1 Nativity
12th December – Christmas Lunch
12th December – Christmas Jumper Day
16th December – Yr R Height and Weight Check
17th December – Carol Service Year 2-6
17th December – School Disco
17th December – Christmas Hamper Raffle Draw
20th December – Last day of term, lunchtime finish

20th December to 5th January – Christmas Holidays

2024/25 Inset Days

Monday 6th January 2025
Tuesday 22nd July 2025
+1 day TBC

A list of 2024-25 Hampshire school dates, including holidays can be found on the school website.