



# Preston Candover CE Primary School

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## Newsletter No. 15 – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

### Goldmark for Sport achieved again!

We are really proud to share with you that our school has been awarded the School Games Gold Mark award for the 8th consecutive year.



The school is assessed against robust criteria for us to be awarded at this level.

This award recognises and celebrates our commitment as a school to providing high-quality sports and physical activity opportunities, inclusive sports opportunities, and a strong culture of participation and achievement for all children. We participate in at an inter-school level in a number of sports as well as having a strong physical education curriculum.

A huge well done and thank you to Mrs Cooke for her fantastic efforts in leading PE at Preston Candover.

### Smartphones

At Preston Candover we have never allowed our pupils to bring or use phones in school. Many other schools in the Basingstoke area are now moving towards this and you may have seen this featured on the news recently.

Did you know:

- 51% of UK 11-13 year olds have seen pornography, mostly unintentionally ([evidence](#))
- 73% of parents say excessive smartphone-use is a source of family conflict ([evidence](#))
- Among children aged 8-17 who are bullied, eight in ten experience it through a device ([evidence](#))

I know from my discussions with parents that some of you are increasingly in favour of a smartphone free childhood for as long as possible.



This national movement is aimed at tackling the problem that smartphones are creating for our children. The aim is to change the current culture of “everybody has a phone so my child needs one”, thereby protecting them from the serious challenges and safeguarding issues that smartphones present.

We know the peer pressure around buying your child a smartphone. Schools want to help parents and children by (a) helping to spread the word about Smartphone Free Childhood, and (b) changing school rules to make it easier to resist the peer pressure of buying your child a phone.

We would encourage parents at our school to attend one of the webinars below, irrespective of your child’s age, to find out more about the impact of Smartphones.

Wednesday June 25th at 7:30 pm

Tuesday July 8th at 6:00 pm

Wednesday July 16th at 7:30 pm

Each session is the same. Maximum of 1 hour.

Please see attached information regarding the webinars. Parents can register via the link and by scanning the QR code (see separate attachment).

Love Hope Justice

## Take One Picture Exhibition/Open Morning

We are very excited to be sharing an exhibition of our National Gallery, Take One Picture art exhibition with parents.



Please see below under 'Dates for your Diary' our timings for Take One Picture/ Open Morning on 8<sup>th</sup> July. It is an opportunity for your child to show you their artwork and a short tour.

An important reminder that, as always, we do not allow mobile phones to be used on our site and photography or video is not permitted at any time. So please kindly keep your phone on silent mode and out of sight.

## Sports Day A message from Mrs Cooke:

Our annual sports day took part on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, which all the children had been looking forward to. This event is a special event in our school calendar, celebrating sport and physical activity whilst also promoting physical activity, sportsmanship and healthy competition. EY and KS1 joined together for some traditional fun races - the sprint, egg and spoon and a mini obstacle race followed by a house point relay. KS2 took part in a Quad Kids format, where the children rotated around 4 different stations- the discus, javelin, standing long jump and shotput before ending with the sprint and house point relay. The children really entered into the spirit of the event, demonstrating the values of teamwork, determination, and resilience as well as supporting each other's efforts.



Some reflections from the children really sum up the spirit of the occasion:

*I loved sports day. I felt really happy because it wasn't just fun for me it was fun for everyone and it made everyone happy.*

*Wilf, Year 1*

*I loved it because everyone was included and it was something everyone could enjoy.*

*Tobi, Year 1*

*I really loved it because all the races were fun ones and we all got to have fun together.*

*Alex, Year 2*

*It was fun running and racing with my friends. It didn't matter if I came first or last because it was all about having fun and I had a lot of fun.*

*Savanna, Year 2*

*The Sports Day this year was a great experience. There were lots of activities that everybody was a part of and it was a fun competition.*

*Florence, Year 4*

*Even if sport it not our strong subject it doesn't matter as sports day brings us all together to have fun.*

*Eloise, Year 5*

*It was really fun and so nice to be together as a school family celebrating sport.*

*Annie, Year 6*

*It was so nice that as Year 6s we were given the responsibility of helping out and supporting the KS1 event too as well as taking part and enjoying our own events.*

*Olivia, Year 6*

All the team points from the events will be added up and the house cup awarded before the end of term.



## Year 6 visit to The Grange Festival

We took some of our pupils to experience and listen to a wonderful Jazz performance last week. What a wonderful opportunity!

*I think the Jazz Orchestra was absolutely phenomenal and the way they played their music was just incredible.*

*I think the people who played the solos were very courageous and they played very well. The way all the sound came together as just brilliant. It was like poetry in motion.*

*Jonty*

*It was amazing to hear all the different instruments come together to make the most amazing sound.*

*Freddy F*

## Sports Xtra

Please see the below link to register for holiday activities, as seen in a previous email.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities/holidayactivities/register>

## Reminders from the Office...

### Attendance

It is the last half term of the year so good attendance is still important as the children will be applying what they have been taught and learned with independence. Our teachers and support staff are busy with various events, training as well as assessing outcomes and report writing.

### Ethos and collective worship

Throughout the year we have carefully woven in leadership habits and Christian values into our provision. Please have a look at our website for more information about our themes:

<https://www.prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk/page/?title=Christian+Ethos&pid=237>

The themes for our collective worships this term have been centred around journeys, hopes for the future and moving on. The children have very much been enjoying the drama in the Open the Book collective worships and absolutely love singing our school Build up song!

### Warm Weather – Hats and Water Bottles

As we are now in a period of very warm weather it is vital that the children are sent to school with sun hats and water bottles (containing water only, no juice or fizzy drinks) to help keep them cool and hydrated. Please also remember to support your child to apply sun cream as necessary before school.



### Reading Record books

Please can parents make sure that children bring their reading record books in to school every day. Please also continue to listen to your child read at home.

### Library Books

Please can we ask parents and children to have a good look at home for any library books that have been forgotten about in the bookcase or under the bed! We are already thinking about getting the library ready for next year and would appreciate having any outstanding books returned. Thank you for your support with this.



### Stubbington Payments Year 4 & 5

A reminder to parents of Year 4 & 5 that the final instalment of Stubbington payments will be due in July. Please make sure that you are up to date with payments. Payments can be made via Scopay under Trips and Visits.

Please see attached a flyer for a Stubbington open day in July.

### Festival of Colour Return Tickets

A reminder that if you are interested in taking part in this year's Summer Colour Run, please complete and return your tickets to the school office as soon as possible. The Festival of Colour is taking place on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

### Leader in Me (7 Habits) Leadership Awards

Charlie E	Esme T	Eloise P	★
Jack W	Apryl W	James P	★
Clemmie C	Tobi A	Lily F	★
Persephone L			

### 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.

Elsie B	Austin H	Ottilie A	★
Lara AS	Florence L	Cressida G	★
Rae H			★

Best wishes,

Mrs Simrit Otway  
Headteacher

### Dates for your Diary

25<sup>th</sup> June – Sparrows Celebration of Learning

26<sup>th</sup> June – Robins Class trip

Sparrows Class trip

25<sup>th</sup> June – Smartphone Free Childhood Papaya Workshop (+ more dates above)

1<sup>st</sup> July – Quad Kids Athletics @ Eggars

8<sup>th</sup> July – Open Morning/Take One Picture Exhibition

Kingfishers & Robins – 9.15 – 10.15am

Woodpeckers & Sparrows – 10.30 -11.30am

9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> July – New Year R Stay and Play session

12<sup>th</sup> July – PCSA Colour Run

14<sup>th</sup> July – Class changeover day

18<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers assembly

21<sup>st</sup> July – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

22<sup>nd</sup> July – INSET DAY

### 2024/25 Inset Days

Tuesday 22nd July 2025

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