



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Newsletter No. 4 – 21st November 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

Anti-bullying Week

This half-term, we took part in our annual Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year is 'Using your power for good'; empowering our pupils 'to do something positive and make a difference'.

The week began with Odd Socks Day on Monday 10th November, where adults and children were encouraged to wear odd socks in order to celebrate what makes us all unique. In assembly, with the support of their Peer Mentors, pupils took part in a great discussion about how using our power for good links well with our school vision - to encourage each other and build each other up. Pupils came up with lots of ideas about how to use their voice in order to encourage others both in school and at home. It was great to see that our pupils could also link this year's theme to some of our leadership habits.

We were very impressed with the creative, eye-catching posters that we received from pupils' home learning and look forward to putting some of them up on display!



Inter Faith Week

This half-term, we celebrated Inter Faith Week in school. Inter Faith Week is a powerful annual initiative aimed at strengthening inter faith relations, bringing different communities together and celebrating the diversity of faith and belief. We used RE lessons during this week to further strengthen our teaching of diversity within and across religions.

Remembrance Service

On Tuesday 11th November at 11am, all the children from Kingfishers class attended the Preston Candover memorial service. It was a time for all the Preston Candover community to reflect together on those who sadly lost their lives to protect us. We all felt that we had a spiritual door moment, honouring others to ensure they are always fondly in our memories. Children spoke confidently and laid a wreath with respect, on behalf of the school.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Thank you to all who contributed to the Poppy Appeal by purchasing poppy merchandise this year. All proceeds raised go to this very worthwhile cause.

Children In Need

On Friday 14th November the whole school joined Joe Wicks for a live "activate" special in support of Children in Need. We all interacted with Joe in a range of active challenges that got us energised for the day.



We are pleased to share that we raised a total of **£81.60** for Children in Need! Thank you once again for your charity support.



Love Hope Justice



LeaderinMe



Basketball at Perins

On Wednesday 12th November, we took children to an after-school basketball competition at Perins. We entered two teams, giving the pupils a chance to put into practice the skills they have been developing in their PE lessons. Eight schools from across East Hampshire took part in the event. The children demonstrated excellent teamwork and synergy throughout four fast-paced games and thoroughly enjoyed an evening of fun, competitive basketball!



Doves Visit to The Meadow

On Thursday 13th November, Doves Class took a trip to our outdoor learning area, The Meadow. We focused on identifying both geographical features of our landscape. We also started our science longitudinal study which is investigating the question 'How do the kinds of minibeasts found in The Meadow vary throughout the seasons?' The children took part in a minibeast hunt to collect their autumn data.



Sparrows class trip to St Mary's Church

As part of our RE learning on the theme of belonging, Sparrows visited the local church to explore some of the special artefacts that help Christians feel they belong to the Christian faith

Inside the church, children spent time looking closely at the beautiful stained-glass windows and were excited to spot scenes from the Nativity story, which we have just started learning about in class. The children also noticed that one of the Bibles in the church was just like the one we use in our classroom! We explored the baptism font and talked about how it is used to welcome new members into the Christian family. The children shared what they already knew about baptism.

Open Mornings

It has been wonderful to meet so many prospective parents at our recent Open Mornings, thank you to all those who attended. Please be reminded that the closing date for applications for Year R is 15th January 2026.

Important Christmas Dates

Please look out for a separate email with this year's important Christmas dates and the Christmas school lunch menu.



Reminders from the Office...

School Gates & Site Entry

A reminder that our school gates do not open until 8:35am and children should not be left unsupervised around the school site prior to this time. If you need to drop your child off before this time, we run our Early Birds club on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8am.

Early Birds & The Nest

We currently run our morning club; 'Early Birds' on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 8am to the start of the school day, and our after school club 'The Nest' Monday to Thursday (3:10-5:00pm). We encourage parents to make use of this provision to ensure that the school is able to continue running it.



Ordering Lunch

We are seeing an increase of children forgetting their lunch or missing their morning registration/lunch ordering. If your child is late to school for unexpected, unavoidable reasons, please ensure that you sign in at the office and order their school lunch (if they are having one). Lunch orders are sent to the kitchen by **9:30am** and we cannot guarantee spares if their order comes in later than this. Any planned absences that will miss morning registration must inform the school office of their dinner choice ahead of time or provide a packed lunch.

Checking children's bags

Please can we ask that you regularly check your child's bag – preferably daily. It is a very busy time of year and there will be regular information going home with your child so please look out for it in their bags.

Diary Dates

Our school diary dates are published on our school website under News & Events: Important Dates. Please do check here for upcoming events happening in and around the school.

Suitable Clothing

Please make sure that all children bring a named coat to school each day. The weather is very changeable and the children should be able to learn and play outside, whatever the weather. Long trousers and tights under skirts are recommended. Please can we also remind you to provide jogging bottoms for outdoor PE where possible.



Leader in Me (7 Habits)

Leadership Awards

Thalia J	Lucia G	Ellie-Rose W
Violet P	Harrison A	Fife E
Hestia G	Tobiloba A	Alfie H
Leo N	Austin H	Caitlin H
Geordie D	Orla 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.



Tobiloba A	Nickoy L	Max B
Rae H	Wilf W	Theo M

Thank you for all your support.

Best wishes,

Mrs Simrit Otway
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

5th November – Swimming lessons start (Kingfisher class, 4 weeks)

9th December – EY/Year 1 Nativity

10th December – PCSA School Disco (Timings to be confirmed)

12th December – Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

16th December – Christmas Carols @ St Marys Church

19th December – Last day of term

15th January 2026 – Deadline for Year R 2026 applications

2025/26 Inset Days

Monday 5th January 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

+1 day TBC

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