



# Preston Primary

Laurel Road, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees, TS16 0BE

Telephone: 01642 784735 Fax: 01642 789312

Head Teacher: Mrs Shirley Winters

Email: [shirley.winters@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:shirley.winters@stockton.gov.uk)

---

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010

Dear Parents,

## **Sporting Achievements**

The children have been involved in many events ranging from Basketball, Hockey and Cross Country to Wake Up & Shake Up dance routines. On all occasions they have represented the school well and also picked up a number of 'Fair Play' Awards. Towards the end of February, Bethany Turner took part in the regional finals of the Cross Country event and, along with the other representatives from Eaglescliffe, her team came first overall.

Four of our Year 6 girls made it through to the finals of the Stockton Swimming Festival and once again represented the school very well in competition against many larger primary schools.

## **Crossing Patrol Person**

We are asking for your help in finding a Crossing Patrol Person to oversee the Yarm Road crossing from 8.25 – 9.05 a.m. each morning. The Local Authority recognised the need for a supervised crossing place to see children from Clifton Avenue, Ashville Avenue and Teesbank across the road. If you do know of anyone who may be interested, could you please ask them to contact the School Office on 01642 784735. The school is committed to safer recruitment practice and pre-employment checks will be undertaken before any appointment is confirmed. This post is subject to enhanced criminal records bureau disclosure.

## **Learning Questionnaire**

Many thanks to everyone who completed our Learning Questionnaire which we circulated during the Parent Consultation meetings. We had a response from 79 people, the best to date and attached to the newsletter you will find the results. It is extremely pleasing that most responses fell within the 'Strongly Agree' and 'Agree' categories but, there are areas we shall be looking into, including making sure our children (age appropriate) know how to stay safe when using the Internet. The Governors are keen to establish a 'Safeguarding Group' made up of Parents, Staff and Governors who will consider this along with other safety issues. If you would be interested in being part of this group could you please inform Mrs Matthews in the School Office.

Many thanks for the many positive comments your support is very much appreciated.

## **Attendance**

Could I please remind everyone that it is very important to inform the School Office if your child is not going to be in school. We are now required to give reasons for each absence so it is really helpful if illness can be reported before 9.30 a.m. on the first day of the absence and medical appointments notified in advance, where possible.

We have always achieved better than the Local Authority and National attendance figures but recently our figures have dipped. Much of this is due to holidays taken in term time. Our Attendance Officer, Mrs Judith Gray, has asked me to circulate to parents the attached 'Attendance Matters' sheet which gives an indication of the impact on your child's education of absence from school.

The children may have told you about a new project aimed at getting everyone into school on time. It is called 'Beat the Bell.' Some children have really risen to the challenge and are receiving recognition for this each week in our Celebration Assembly.

## **Reporting on Racist Incidents and Exclusions**

Parents will be aware that every year the Local Authority requests from us a record of any Racist Incidents and Exclusions from school. I'm pleased to inform you that there have been no Racist Incidents or Exclusions during the last year.

We believe that our concise rules and high expectations, in terms of behaviour, are responsible for this, with children clearly understanding and showing respect for everyone within our school community. Our Golden Rules are often shared with the pupils during assembly and in class discussions. Visitors often comment on the polite, caring, thoughtful children they meet at Preston Primary.

## **Easter**

The children have been involved in designing their own Easter Cards this week and Miss Galloway will be performing the very difficult job of picking a winner from each class. The PTA is providing the prizes including a Cadbury's Crème Egg for every child in the school.

School closes on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April at normal time for the Easter break and reopens on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April. Dinner money for that week will be £9 per child. The cost for the half term will be £52.20 and for the full term it will be £111.60 per child. These figures take into account the May Bank Holiday and the two Professional Development Days at the end of term. Mrs Matthews has requested that anyone whose children would like to change from packed lunch to school meals or vice versa, should please let her know before the beginning of the new term.

Please note Year 6 SAT's take place during the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> May and Year 2 assessments will be taking place throughout May.

I wish you a very enjoyable Easter break.

Yours sincerely,

Shirley Winters (Mrs)  
Head Teacher