



Preston Primary

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Friday 30th April 2010

Dear Parents,

New Foundation / Key Stage 1 Development

We had great excitement on Tuesday when the roof trusses for our new Early Years Development were lifted into place. The children were just amazed by the size of the enormous crane and we took every opportunity to watch as this major milestone in the development project was completed.

Every day now, there is something new to see and with the choosing of flooring, colours and furniture it all seems to be becoming a reality. The completion date is still estimated to be around 8th August. The builders did lose five weeks as a result of bad weather but we are all hopeful that they may be able to make up this time over the next few months. Let's all hope for a good Summer.

The Governing Body have approved the demolition of the single Horsa Hut (currently used by Preston Children's Centre) and the Nursery Unit. The double Horsa Hut is to be refurbished during the Summer Holidays providing two areas of accommodation for the Children's Centre, one for young children aged 18 months to 5 years, the other for Breakfast Club and After School Club. We will also make use of the club room for small group work during the school day. One of the benefits, as well as the additional space, is that the Children's Centre will also have an outdoor play area.
Exciting times!

My thanks go to everyone who is making an effort to park away from the Elmwood entrance to the school grounds. The staff all played their part on Tuesday by parking in Preston Hall Museum Car Park while our own car park was out of action. The short walk was a great way to begin the day and I would welcome your views on introducing a 'Walking Bus' Scheme from the park so that parents can use it as a drop off point for children who would then be led from the park to school by a trained member of staff.

For those children who are keen to cycle to school we have a 'Cycle Contract', which should be signed by parents prior to children bringing their bikes. As part of the new development, we shall be receiving a brand new cycle shed.

Sponsored Walk

Please find attached to the newsletter information regarding a sponsored walk Mrs Thompson is undertaking during this coming Half Term break. She has very kindly offered to raise funds for the PTA, specifically to be used towards purchasing a new reading scheme. Any donations you can make would be very gratefully received. Many thanks.

Tesco Tokens

Sunday 9th May is the last day Tesco are issuing their vouchers and they always run out that last weekend! We currently have over 11000 - a tremendous effort. Please search around at home and send them in as soon as possible. Thank you.

Healthy Fitness Week

The week beginning Monday 14th June, we shall all be focusing on healthy living and fitness. We have lots of activities planned for the children including 'Freddie Fit,' 'Skip to be Fit,' dancing and healthy eating events. It promises to be a really active week. More information will follow closer to the date.

Targets

The children will be bringing home their English and Maths targets this coming Friday. Your help is very much appreciated in helping your child to achieve them.

Curriculum Overview

Attached to the newsletter is our termly curriculum overview. As well as suggestions for supporting your child at home, we have a number of educational visits planned for this term. Staff appreciate parental support on these days, so if anyone is interested could they please contact their child's class teacher directly.

School Allotment

As we move into the warmer weather, classes will once again be visiting our school allotment. As well as tidying up the plot after the winter months we shall be planting the raised beds with vegetables and flowers. Each class has the opportunity to visit the allotment on a rota system. You will receive a letter prior to the visit and parents are always welcome to join us. We have just received the free gardening equipment we ordered through Morrison's token 'Let's Grow' scheme. The equipment which includes a water butt, potato barrel, child size hoe, spade and fork as well as hand trowels and forks will be a useful addition to our stock. Many thanks for your support.

Class Photographs

These take place this year on **Tuesday 22nd June a.m.**

After School Clubs

Our permanent clubs of Table Tennis, Choir, Gymnastics and Chess continue to be very well supported. Due to the overwhelming demand for Gymnastics, we are opening a new club which will run every Friday afternoon from 3 – 4 p.m. Our taster clubs include Mini-Tennis and Sign Language this half term and we intend to bring back the popular 'Street Dance' Club for the second half of the Summer Term. More details to follow.

General Election

The School Hall is being used on Thursday 6th May for the General Election. The school will be open as normal. We will section off part of the School Hall for School Meals and children with packed lunches will eat in their class rooms.

Forthcoming Events

Thursday	29 th April	Bug Ranger visiting Yr. 1 / Yr. 2 Class
Monday	3 rd May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Thursday	6th May	<u>General Election</u>
Sunday	16 th May	Year 6 Leave for their Residential Visit to Dukeshouse Wood, Hexham. 10 a.m. Year 6 return from Dukeshouse Wood
Wednesday	19 th May	All Saints' American Visitors a.m.
Thursday	20 th May	
Saturday	22nd May	<u>PTA Summer Fair</u>
Monday	24 th May	Design & Technology Focus Week
Wednesday	26th May	<u>New Starters Parents Meeting 6.30 p.m.</u>
Friday	28 th May	Year 6 'Making a Mint' Project
Friday	28th May	<u>School closes for Half Term</u>
Monday	7 th June	School reopens
Monday	7 th June	Year 5 Kwik Cricket Day
Wednesday	9 th June	Bug Hunt Preston Park Year 1/ Year 2
Thursday	10 th June	Year 5 Young Enterprise Project
Friday	11 th June	Year 6 Young Enterprise Project
Monday	14th June	<u>Healthy School Focus Week begins</u>
Thursday	17 th June	Green Day – A focus on saving energy
Friday	25 th June	Gifted & Talented Y6 Maths Challenge
Wednesday	30 th June	Y6 Citizenship Day
Friday	2nd July	<u>Sports Day FS / KS1 a.m. KS2 p.m.</u>
Friday	2nd July	<u>Children's Annual Reports sent home</u>
Tuesday	6 th July	Parent Consult. Meeting 3.30–5.30 p.m.
Tuesday	6 th July	Year 6 Cycle Training
Wednesday	7 th July	Year 1 / Year 2 'Saltholme' Visit
Wednesday	7 th July	Parent Consultation Meetings 5 – 7 p.m.
Thursday	8 th July	Year 6 Cycling Training
Friday	9 th July	Gifted & Talented Y6 Maths Challenge
Friday	9 th July	Year 6 Cycling Training
Monday	19 th July	Year 6 Leaver's Concert
Tuesday	20 th July	Y 6 visit to Eggescliffe School all day
Wednesday	21st July	<u>School closes for Summer at 1.30 p.m.</u>
Thursday	22 nd July	Staff Professional Development Day
Friday	23 rd July	Staff Professional Development Day

So, lots of exciting events to look forward to, not least of them being the whole school housed in one building.

Yours sincerely,

Shirley Winters (Mrs)
Head Teacher