



Preshute Newsletter

A Warm Welcome Back From Our New Head Of School

It gives me great pleasure to write to you as the new Interim Head of School here at Preshute. Preshute is a very special place and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children this week and share in their excitement as they start their new topics this term.

Those of you who attended the Parents Forum back in July, when Mr Baker and I spoke about the curriculum, will understand that I am extremely passionate about the curriculum and enjoy engaging children in their learning through experiential learning. Each topic will be launched in an exciting and engaging way that hooks the children into their topic. It will also have an over-arching big question which the children will be answering during the topic. Topics will then 'land' near the end of the term allowing children to share what they have learnt. There will be opportunities for parents to share in some of these landings.

I know that the school has seen many changes since February and I hope that my regular presence at Preshute will allow the school greater stability and the opportunity to continue the good work Mr Baker has started. Our dedicated staff are committed and passionate to move the school forward, and I am looking forward to being part of such a great team. There is much to celebrate across the school and we look forward to sharing the successes with you and to really embrace the school's ethos of Live Life, Love Learning.

We have already got off to an exciting and busy start to the term with lots of exciting launches including Year 1 discovering what they think could be a

dinosaur egg and claw on the school field....as well as a mysterious box that shudders and growls! This was aimed to support Year 1 and 2 with their launch, but has escalated into engaging the whole school into wondering what is in the box! Luckily there is nothing too scary!

The Year 6 children have also been 'evacuated' to launch their topic about how Marlborough was affected by World War 2. Meanwhile, Year 5 have been playing Victorian games to launch their topic about which period in time they would have preferred to experience childhood in.

The school has also purchased new and more up to date iPads, which teachers had training on during one of the INSET days before the half term break.

These will enable us to us to teach the computing curriculum more effectively as well as use IT across the curriculum to support learning. We are currently waiting for the protective covers to arrive which should hopefully be here next week.

The 'Grand Gestures' team have also been hard at work over the half term holiday. They (along with volunteers from Brewin Dolphin) have been very busy around the school, giving both the hall and the toilets a makeover. Thank you to everyone for their involvement and hard work. We really appreciate all your support in improving the school environment.

To close, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the numerous parents/carers who have made me feel so welcome this week, your well-wishes and positive comments have been greatly appreciated. I am looking forward to working closely with you in the future.

Best wishes,
Mrs Claire Hann-Perkins

What's Inside

- A Warm Welcome Back From Our New Head Of School

Page 2

- Celebration Assembly Book
- Diary Dates
- Job Changes
- Fire Safety Awareness
- Children in Need

Page 3

- PPSA
- Grand Gestures Plus
- Volunteering in School

Celebration Assembly Book

These are the children who have been entered in the book following the last celebration assembly (Friday 18th Oct):

Year 6: Beatrix & Nataliya - for being great role models in the class.

Year 5: Mylo - for working hard in English and writing a great 'persuasive' letter that was also very informative.
Harriet K - for always working hard and making the right choices.

Year 4: Zoe - for demonstrating a fantastic attitude in her learning and trying her hardest at all times.

James - for a fantastic attitude to his learning, and maintaining his focus in Maths when working alone.

Year 3: Harriet H - for always being enthusiastic and helpful in class.

Finn - for always being kind, considerate and working hard.

Year 2: Henry - for improving his handwriting beautifully!

Lochie - for being a super listener and engaged learner.

Year 1: Louis - for having a really positive attitude towards his learning.

Franklin - for making super connections in his learning, at school and at home.

Reception: Atticus - for fantastic effort in phonics!

Oliver - for fantastic effort with his reading!

Well done to them all!

Diary Dates

Monday 11th Nov 2-3pm - Open Afternoon for parents of new Reception pupils - for Sept 2020 intake. Short presentation at 2pm.

Weds 13th Nov 3.10pm - Plans on view for new playground equipment for Manton 'Rec' in Outside classroom.

Weds 13th Nov 6-7pm - Plans on view for new playground equipment as above in Class 3 - parents and local residents.

Weds 13th Nov 6.15- 7.15pm - Parents Forum in school hall.

Thurs 21st Nov - Y3 Trip to Avebury.

Friday 22nd Nov - Class 1 Assembly to parents @ 9.15am followed by open classroom.

Job Changes

Some of you may have noticed some subtle job changes at school since September. Sallie Keen is now working a day and a half in Reception class, instead of working in the Office, and Rachel Eke is now working in the office for one day a week, and continues working as a TA for one day a week, in Class 4.

Fire Safety Awareness

Classes R, 2 and 5 had some fabulous sessions with Debbie from the fire service yesterday. They learnt some important fire safety messages, such as keeping safe around matches, getting out safely, and calling 999 in an emergency. Class R enjoyed dressing up and acting out being fire fighters who were called to help at lots of different emergencies. They were all reminded that we should check smoke alarms regularly at home- please check yours!



Children in Need

Next Friday (15th) is 'Children in Need' day. This will be a non-uniform day in school - preferably wear something spotty like Pudsey, but anything will do! Unfortunately, due to stock issues, we will not be selling any merchandise in school this year, but donations in the morning will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

PPSA

Firstly a massive thank you to everyone that got behind the non-uniform day, cake sale and uniform reclaim on Friday 18th October. Your support found us raising a whopping £356.14! Thank you so much to everyone that volunteered, baked, donated and supported on the day!

Other PPSA updates and news:

1. PPSA School Disco - Friday November 15th, Infants 5.30-6.30pm, Juniors 6.45-7.45pm. Tickets on sale now via ParentMail until 5pm on Thurs. Cash on door after that. As you know, the disco coincides with Children in Need - we will therefore be offering the children a chance to have their face painted anything Pudsey (or just sparkly!). **If you do not wish for your child to have face paints at the disco or they have any allergies please let us know when you drop them off....**

2. Blitzen's Baubles Colouring competition, deadline Friday November 15th. Lovely to see so many entries! If you are not planning on entering the competition, please bring your blank baubles back into school and post in the tall post box in the reception area so we can reuse them. All entries to be submitted in the same post box by the 15th. Please make sure baubles are clearly marked with the child's name and year group and have the £1 entry fee stuck to the back. We will use the baubles to decorate the Fayre and hope to return them to you so you can use them on your tree at home!

3. PPSA Christmas Fayre - Saturday November 23rd, 3-6pm. Plans are well underway to organise this year's Christmas Fayre and we need YOUR support! An email via class reps and FB post will shortly follow, highlighting how you can all get involved and help. We need volunteers, donations and supplies so look out for the email and get involved! We really can't run the fayre without your help, so please, please get involved and help to make the Fayre a success! To get involved with the PPSA, come and speak to us or email

preshuteppsa@gmail.com

Lydia & Rachel - PPSA Co-Chairs

Grand Gestures Plus (our new name)

I shall be in School this weekend : Saturday and Sunday. 10-12 midday. Do join me if you can. Old clothes and a broom or leaf blower for outside. Old clothes and a dust sheet for inside work, please. Many thanks to EVERYONE who has helped take a pride in our School so far.

A great team! 🙌👏😊

Sue Elks plus trusty clipboard😊

Volunteering in School

We are always delighted to have parent/grandparent helpers in school. Some of you have recently enquired about volunteering in school, and we thought it useful to explain our 'volunteer recruitment procedure', which reflects our obligations and best practice for the safeguarding of children. **DBS checks** For all volunteers planning to help out with our pupils in school - eg with reading or times tables - we will ask you to provide original identification and address documentation so that we can carry out a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. In certain circumstances - typically where you have lived or worked overseas in the past 5 years - we will require you to obtain a certificate of good conduct from the relevant authorities in that other country.

References Additionally, since 2018 - to reflect changes in child safeguarding legislation and good practice - we also require all new volunteers to complete an application form which includes, among other things, details of two referees that we may contact. **Initial briefing with DSL/DDSL** You will then also need to attend a 'briefing' conducted by our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Claire Hann-Perkins or one of our Deputy DSLs (Mary Mundy/Neil Baker) covering in broad terms safeguarding responsibilities at Preshute and what to do if you have a concern about a child. We will also provide you with certain school policies to familiarise yourself with. The exception to the above checks/briefing is where you help out only rarely - for example on a school trip or occasionally walking children down to the church - where you are supervised by a member of staff at all times. We hope that the above processes do not deter you from putting your name forward for volunteering; rather we hope that you will see the processes as our commitment to keeping our pupils safe.

Training Shortly we hope to be conducting detailed training which outlines the themes behind the government's main statutory guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education" and the processes we follow. We expect all volunteers to attend this training (if you have not already done so) if they volunteer in school on a regular basis. The training will be repeated at intervals throughout the year to ensure that all volunteers are able to attend, and as new volunteers and staff come on board. If you have any questions about becoming a volunteer or the volunteer process, please speak to Mrs Claire Hann Perkins, Mrs Mary Mundy or any of the office staff who will be able to answer your questions.