



PRESTON HEDGE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

14th September 2018

www.prestonhedges.northants-sch.uk

GOLDEN TIES 2018



A huge congratulations to our golden tie children for 2018-19 who received their ties this morning in a special assembly.

Well done children!



National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

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Registration number 08282041 England & Wales

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON – MONDAY 1ST
OCTOBER 2.00PM



We will be holding our annual Coffee Afternoon in support of Macmillian Cancer Support on Monday 1st of October at 2pm. You're invited to come and have a cup of tea and a slice of cake. It's a great opportunity to support an amazing charity and get to know other parents. Pre-school aged children are very welcome.

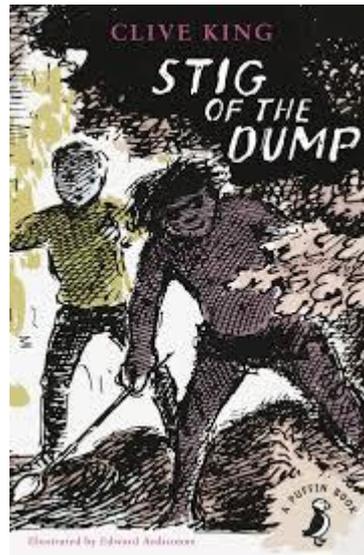
Any donation of cakes will be gratefully received.

CLUBS AT PRESTON HEDGE'S

We have now updated the timetable for clubs that are available before and after school and this can be found at:

<http://www.prestonhedges.northants.sch.uk/parents/clubs/>

CLASSIC TEXTS YEARS 4-6



Our children in Years 4-6 will be coming home with a reading journal and a classic text to read for homework this week. Each year group will be reading the following text:

Year 4 Stig of the dump
Year 5 Friend or Foe
Year 6 Carries War

Parents in Years 4-6 should have received an e-mail about our Classic Texts today.

HOMework STARTS TODAY FOR YEARS 2-6

Sorry children! Homework will begin today for years 2-6. Homework is always issued on a Friday and is always available via the school website at

<http://www.prestonhedges.northants.sch.uk/homework/>

CURRICULUM & LEARNING IN TERM 1

Year 6 Taking to the stage in MK and working with a Graffiti Artist

This term, Year Six will be studying William Shakespeare as part of our curriculum topic. We shall be learning about his life and how his plays and sonnets have influence our modern lives. This will work in conjunction with Leigh Wolmarans who will be visiting the school and running a number of workshops for the children from the 24th September.

In addition to this, we have a fantastic opportunity during this curriculum topic to perform A Midsummer Night's Dream on Stage at the Venue Theatre with the Shakespeare Schools Festival. The children have already had the opportunity to audition for roles and eagerly await the first rehearsal.

This term, Year Six will also take part in a Graffiti workshop on the 12th October. The children will learn about the graffiti style of art and explore the conflicting viewpoints of art versus vandalism. Year Six will work together to create their own graffiti art to display around the school.





In our PE sessions this term we will be learning how to bust some moves, having some expert street dance lessons from Mrs Spence. We will build towards choreographing our own dance performance to show our peers at the end of the term.

Year 5 Going to Stratford Upon Avon



This term, Year Five are exploring the life and works of the famous playwright and poet, William Shakespeare. During this exciting curriculum area of study, the children will be visiting Shakespeare's town of origin, Stratford-Upon-Avon, where they will be participating in a drama workshop led by professional actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company. In addition to this, the cohort will embark upon a tour of Shakespeare's birthplace. Furthermore, there will be a celebration day at school, during which the children will perform one of Shakespeare's plays and enjoy their own 16th century style banquet. A separate letter will be e-mailed about all of this.

Within other subjects, the cohort will be experimenting with Pointillism inspired art and creating their own masterpieces. The children will research Georges Seurat and Paul Signac's artistic works, before they apply distinct dots of colour in patterns on canvases - using a variety of materials and application techniques.



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In P.E the unit focus will be Zumba (during indoor sessions) and invasion games outside. As part of our new innovative ICT curriculum, the children will be refining their ICT skills and their awareness of online and computer safety. Throughout the year, during ICT sessions, the cohort will also edit photos, build computer games and create podcast audio.

The Geographical focus for this term will be the investigation of oceans and rivers within the United Kingdom.

Year 4 – Ancient Greek Assemblies ahead and Mandarin via Beijing!

Thursday 15th November – 9.05am 4C Class Assembly

Friday 16th November – 9.05am 4P Class Assembly

Year Four will be exploring the wonderful world of Ancient Greece for their first curriculum topic. As part of their learning, they will be investigating all aspects of life in Ancient Greece using a variety of artefacts and sources. Whilst learning about Greek traditions, the children will create beautiful, clay artwork using the colours of the Greek flag during an Art Celebration Day. In addition to this, we will be hosting a second Celebration Day where the children will be invited to come dressed in traditional Greek costumes and will immerse themselves in the culture and customs of Ancient Greece. As part of their PE Curriculum, we will become Olympians for the day (Marathon excluded!) Finally, to conclude the topic, Year 4 will take to the stage in their class assemblies to share what they have learnt about this phenomenal period in time. All dates will follow soon.

In other areas of their curriculum, Year 4 have some fantastic opportunities this half term. Firstly, to further develop their language skills, Year 4 are excited to start Mandarin lessons this term, via Skype, with a teacher who is based in Beijing.

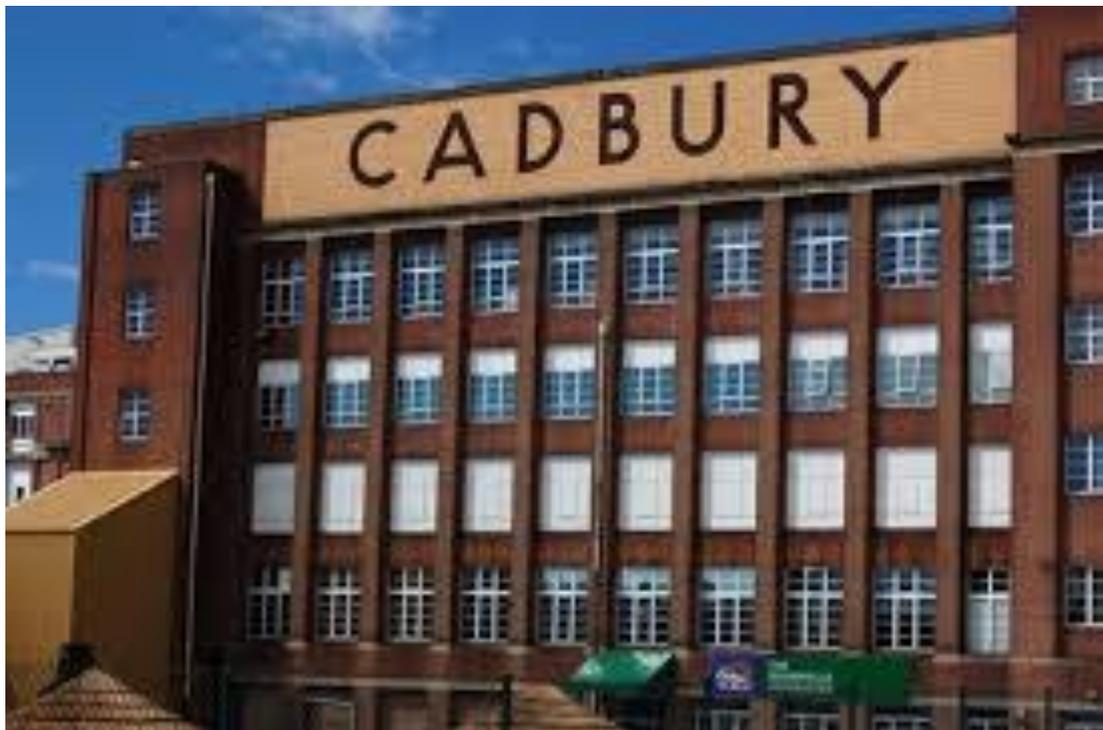
As autumn begins to emerge in nature, we will take our learning outside through the media of photography to produce some magical canvases based on the work of Andy Goldsworthy. Lastly, our whole school value this term will be Caring and as part of this, Year 4 will



host their own Bake Off to help provide the tasty treats on sale to raise money for MacMillan.

Finally, on a Friday afternoon we will all be learning the Violin!

Year 3 – Visiting Cadbury’s World as they learn all about Chocolate



We are delighted with how the children have settled into their Year 3 classes.

During this term, we intend to take the children on a journey to discover how chocolate is made. To make this learning a memorable experience we have planned a visit to Cadbury’s World in Birmingham. Here the children will gain an insight into how chocolate is made from harvesting the cocoa bean, to making the chocolate bars they know.



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Keeping in line with our fun and creative curriculum, your child will design and create their own mini box of chocolates.

Weekly dance sessions are currently taking place on Tuesday mornings with our specialist dance teacher. Additionally, weather permitting, outdoor PE for 3P will be on a Thursday and for 3DL will be on a Friday. It would be very helpful if your child could have their PE kit in school on these days.

ICT this term is all about 'Powerful Passwords'. In this unit, children will explore why people use passwords, learn the benefits of using passwords and discover strategies for creating and keeping strong passwords.

Our Art this term is inspired by the painter Gustav Klimt and his techniques using gold paint.

Year 2 – Stepping back in time to Pudding Lane



We have been really impressed with how the children have settled into the new routines in Year 2 and we are excited for the year ahead. This term the children will be finding out all about The Great Fire of London for their first curriculum topic.

We will become bakers, making our own bread and of course tasting it after. Fingers crossed we remember to turn the ovens off at the end. However, the fire-brigade is on stand by and may pay us a visit to check other safety measures and tell us all about what their role entails.

As part of our learning the children will create fantastic fire artwork and lovely lanterns to reflect the events that happened in 1666. In



addition, on Friday 5th October the children will take part in a celebration day when 'One Day Creative' visit for a drama workshop.

The children will be further immersed in the story and can even dress up for the occasion. More details to follow soon.

As part of our PE curriculum the children will take part in a range of exciting activities which build on their skills from Year 1 and lead up to game situations later in the year. Our PE days this term are a Tuesday and Thursday. This is subject to change so please ensure they have their PE kit in school at all times.

The first spelling list has already been given out and the children will continue to have a spelling test every Monday. This will also be the day that they are given their new spelling words to practise over the following week. The children will be given high frequency words to learn first, followed by words which have a specific rule and common exception words. We encourage you to have fun learning them at home and would love to hear about the creative ways you are doing so!

Many of the children are telling us that they are excited to be receiving homework this year. This will be set on a Friday and expected back in by Wednesday the following week. One week it will have a Maths focus and the alternate week could be English, SPAG or even topic! Homework is based on learning from that week and should take the children no longer than 30 minutes. We encourage the children to come and talk to us before the due date if they have any problems or concerns.

At the end of the day, the children will continue to have a story (minus the slippers this year!) We will explore a range of authors and have already started to read books by Roald Dahl. As we progress through Year 2 we will focus more on chapter books that will be read over the week / term.



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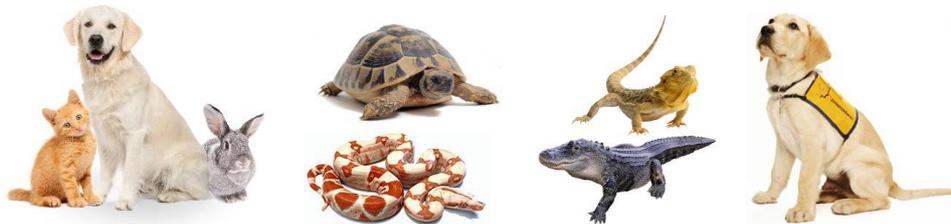
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During the first week of term we created a class charter based on our school values. All the children were able to think of ways we could show our values both inside and outside of the classroom. In Year 2, the children are rewarded with smiley faces for showing they are using their values and they receive a badge for different stages of achievement.

We are looking forward to meeting you at our Welcome to Year group meeting on morning of the 19th September where we will share the new expectations and routines of Year 2. This year the children will be introduced to SPAG lessons, details of which we will cover at the meeting. We also look forward to seeing many of you at our first Parent Readers session on Friday 21st September at 2:45pm.

Year 1 – Learning all about ‘Pets’



It has been wonderful to see how well our children have settled into year 1 and we are already very excited about our first topic, ‘Pets’. During this term the children will be learning all about the different animals we keep as pets and how to care for them. We are very excited to invite the children’s pets into school as part of our ‘Bring your Pets to School’ week and we will be sending a letter with further information closer to the time.

The children will also explore how our pets are different to wild animals living around the world and we will be getting creative and we even have a surprise visitor coming into school....Snap! Snap!

As part of our ICT curriculum the children will be learning to access different websites and all about how the can keep safe online.

Our morning in year 1 starts with our phonics and handwriting session. These sessions will build on the sounds previously learnt in reception and learn new sounds that they will then apply in their learning.



Each morning the children will also take part in an English and Maths lesson.

Each of our Maths lessons will develop key skills in number, calculation, shape and space, measures and handling data. During our English lessons the children will have the opportunity to explore a range of fiction texts.

They will consolidate their knowledge of how to structure a sentence and use their reception song to build on their prior learning. We will add to our song as the year and our writing progresses.

We are currently singing:
Capital Letters, Capital Letters
Finger Space, Finger Space
Don't Forget Your Full Stop, Don't Forget Your Full Stop
...and your adjectives, and your adjectives!

The Big Outdoors!!

We can't wait to explore our outdoor area and as the season changes to autumn, the children will explore natural materials and use them to create 3D artwork. 1D will be on a Wednesday and 1S on a Thursday.

Please ensure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear in school on these days.

A reminder that children need to have suitable PE kits, and that earrings must be removed for all PE activities. As we hope to make the most of what remains of the good weather, please ensure that your child has their PE kit in at all times, and ensure that they have their water bottle and inhalers (if required) in too!

Outdoor PE sessions will be weather permitting and therefore may be subject to change.

1D Tuesday outdoor/Thursday indoor

1S Wednesday outdoor/Friday indoor



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Year R – Welcome to Reception!

We are delighted with how well our lovely children have settled into their new school routines, hope they are not too tired after pick up!

Our theme for this term is Transport. We will have a special celebration day on the 28th September where the children are invited to bring a method of transport into school e.g. bike, scooter and any helmets and safety equipment they use. They will explore on the playground where we will have a road way course set up to demonstrate road safety.



Our Big Outdoor sessions will start week beginning 15th October. RP on the 15th and RJ on the 16th. Please can you ensure your named all in one waterproof suit and wellington boots are in school for this week. They will be kept in the outdoor classroom and sent home at the end of term for a wash. During these sessions we will explore our natural environment, linking with the understanding of the world area of our curriculum. Some of the activities will include, making bird feeders, mini beast dens and at the end of the year toasting marshmallows on our fire!

You are invited to a phonics workshop on the 3rd of October at 9:00am or 2:45pm where we will demonstrate how phonics is taught in school. At the end of this week the children will be bringing home their first reading book, how exciting!

Our PE sessions will start the week beginning the 8th of October, RP 11th and RJ 12th. Please ensure their named PE kit is in school at all times. We are looking forward to an amazing half term!



The next newsletter will have information about English, Maths, Science & SPAG.

DIARY DATES:

Monday 17th September – 9am – Year 5 Parents' Welcome to Year Group Meeting.

Tuesday 18th September – 9am – Year 6 Parents' Welcome to Year Group Meeting

Wednesday 19th September – 9am – Year 2 Parents' Welcome to Year Group Meeting

Friday 21st September – 2.45pm – Year 1 & 2 Friday Family Reading Starts

Monday 24th September – Shakespeare Week all year groups

Tuesday 25th September – 9am – Year 1 Parents' Welcome to Year Group Meeting

Tuesday 25th September – Year 5 Shakespearian Celebration Day

Wednesday 26th September – 9am – Year 3 Parents' Welcome to Year Group Meeting

Thursday 27th September – 9am – Year 4 Parents' Welcome to Year Group Meeting

Friday 28th September – Year R Transport Celebration Day

We update all our dates online on a Friday. You can find them alongside our term dates for this and next academic year here:

<http://www.prestonhedges.northants.sch.uk/wp-admin/post.php?post=109&action=edit>



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