

Dear Parents/Carers

We demonstrate our Values of *Trust, Respect, Honesty, Kindness, Friendship and Generosity* at Prees C.E. Primary School and Nursery in all that we strive to achieve each day.

Harvest

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our harvest service. As always we are so proud of all our children. The food donations were amazing, these have been taken to Whitchurch Foodbank. The collection raised £95.19 for the Farm Crisis Network and donations from refreshments raised £60.74 for Macmillan Cancer Charity. Thank you all so very much.

Monday 9th October

PE Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4

Tuesday 10th October

PE— Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 5
Guitar Lessons

Wednesday 11th October

PE - Year 4 and Year 6
Piano Lessons

Thursday 12th October

Swimming for children in Year 2 and Year 6
PE - Year 1
Orienteering event for children in Years 3,4 and 5—a separate letter has been sent out about this event.
Outdoor Learning Reception

Friday 13th October

PE - Reception and Year 3
Outdoor Learning Year 1

Please can children come to school in their PE kit on PE days and bring a spare pair of socks to change into as the grass can be wet. Can children come to school in Outdoor Learning clothes (a long sleeved top, long trousers, wellies—if your child does not already have wellies in school can they please bring a pair into school on the day they have outdoor learning and a waterproof coat). Thank you.

At Prees C.E. Primary School, we continually focus on the importance of attendance and punctuality to ensure that your child has the best possible start in life. Attendance has a direct link to attainment; there is clear evidence that poor attendance has a very negative impact on children's learning and progress at school. If a child is not in school regularly, they are not fully accessing the curriculum and learning opportunities available to them. Children are required to attend school for 190 days each year. There are 175 days for holidays and other activities. We expect attendance rates to be 96% and above.

Attending school every day equates to 100% attendance.

Attendance during 1 year	Days lost	This equates to
95% attendance	9 days	nearly 2 weeks
90% attendance	19 days	nearly 4 weeks
85% attendance	29 days	nearly 6 week
80% attendance	38 days	nearly 8 weeks
75% attendance	48 days	nearly 10 weeks
70% attendance	57 days	nearly 11.5 weeks
65% attendance	67 days	nearly 13.5 weeks

We believe that 'Every Minute Counts! When a child arrives late at school, they miss teacher instructions and lesson time; and their learning begins to suffer. Children also feel embarrassed at having to enter the classroom late. This can seriously disadvantage children and disrupt the learning of others. Please help your children to be punctual. Thank you.

***** School Admissions Dates *****

Applications for Secondary School Places

5th September 2023 — 31st October 2023 (final day for application)

To apply please visit: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

click on: Apply to start or transfer school

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact school, we are happy to help.



100% Attendance

Thank you and well done to so many of our children who again had 100% attendance last week.



Walking Bus

We are looking to get our Walking Bus up and running again and we need your help. Are there any volunteers who would be willing to help walk with the children starting from the Fire Station and picking up at certain points along the way to School? Please can you let anyone know who does not receive the newsletter and you feel may like to join the walking bus as a volunteer. If you are able to support us please email Mrs Powell at learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk letting her know the day/days you are available to volunteer. Thank you.



Breakfast Club and Wrap Around Club

We have a daily Breakfast Club (during term time) from 8am. Breakfast is supplied and the children are taken to join their classes at 8.40am. The cost for the daily session is £4 payable via sQuid. If you are able, we ask that your book in advance but the club is also available on an ad hoc basis to suit your needs.

Wrap Around Club (during term time) runs from 3.10pm—6pm daily. The cost is £4 per hourly session, payable via sQuid. A light snack can be provided if your child is staying after 5.10pm for an additional cost of £1, you need to let us know in advance if you would like this please. Again, if you are able, we ask you to book in advance but the club is also available on an ad hoc basis to suit your needs.

Both clubs are for children aged 3 years and above. Vouchers can be used to pay for Breakfast and/or Wrap Around Club.

Thank you.



Holiday Club

Holiday club will run again on Friday 27th October and during October half term—Monday 30th October to Thursday 2nd November. Further details will follow shortly.



Parents' Consultations

Your child has brought a letter home about our Parent/Carer Consultations on the 25th and 26th October. Can you please return the slip indicating your choice of day and times by Thursday 12th October. Thank you.

Vaping

Can we please ask that parents/carers or friends and family collecting children at the end of the day do not vape on school grounds.

Thank you.

Coat and Water Bottle

Can we please ask that your child brings a coat and water bottle, labelled with their name, to school each day please.



Easy Fundraising

During these uncertain times we are looking for different ways to raise funds for school. We have registered for the Easy Fundraising scheme and would really appreciate your support with this. The scheme is very easy and free to use—if you buy any items on-line then please register with the easy fundraising website:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Once registered with the site when you buy on line, please log in and see if the retailer you are purchasing from is registered with easy fundraising—if they are then log into the retailer's website via easy fundraising identifying Prees School as your chosen beneficiary and make your purchase—a percentage of the purchase price will be donated to school.

Please support us with this if you can, as it is a very easy way to raise funds for our school and does not cost you anything.

Thank you to everyone who has already registered.

Free School Meals

Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you are in receipt of certain benefits.

Children in Nursery to Year 6 may be eligible

Please visit the site below to check if you are eligible to apply.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Thank you.

Child absence

Can you please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.30am if your child is unwell. If leaving a message, can you please provide the exact reason why your child is absent.

Thank you.

Data Collection Forms

Can we please remind you to return your Data Collection form to ensure we have the most current contact details for you and your family. Any queries please contact the office.

Thank you.

MESSAGING

Most communications are now being sent by email via sQuid. Please make sure that we have the most up to date contact information for you. Please let us know of any changes to your key details.

As a matter of routine, any injury above the neck means that a text is sent home as well as the 'bump note'. All other minor accidents will be recorded and a note sent home with your child. If anything is considered more serious than a minor injury we will always telephone you.

Parking around the Cenotaph

Out of courtesy to our neighbours, can we ask that you do not park in front of gateways around the Cenotaph or block the access for emergency vehicles, and are mindful that children are walking in this area with their parents/carers.

We as a school and our community are genuinely concerned that children and parents/carers lives are being put at risk when they are walking, having collected their child/ren from school.

We appreciate that parking is difficult around our school but there is a car park half way up Church Street behind the Baptist Church.

Thank you for your support.

Twitter

Our school has a twitter account @preesschool. We use the account to share some of the amazing things that the children undertake in school. The account is private, but if you would like to follow our account then please request this and as long as we are sure who you are then your request will be accepted.



Reading Books and Reading Records

[Can your child please bring their reading book and reading record to school each day so that we can record when they are reading in school.](#)

[Thank you for listening to your child read at home, it is making a big difference.](#)

Worrying About Money

Worrying about Money? Please use the link below to find guidance and advice regarding money worries that may be affecting you and your family:

<https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/shropshire>

Leaflets are also available from: <https://www.foodaidnetwork.org.uk/cash-first-leaflets>

Shropshire Larder - a resource for people in Shropshire

The Shropshire Larder is a community information resource, bringing together the support available in Shropshire for people on low incomes.

Take a look at their website for further information on the following:

- How to access emergency food
- Where to access low cost or free food in Shropshire
- Advice on eating well on a budget
- Where to get local help with money issues

<https://www.shropshirelarder.org.uk/>



Cost of Living Support

Increases in the cost of food, fuel and utilities will continue to affect most households across Shropshire this year. If you find yourself worried about money or you're struggling right now, you're not alone. But don't wait to get help. Shropshire Council and many support organisations are seeing rises in the number of people seeking help, and as winter approaches you may see more delays in getting responses.

The good news is that there's help available.

The website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/ was created in partnership with trusted community organisations to help you find the help you need, whether it's to get through a short-term crisis or to find more long-term support.




Parenting Helpline

Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. Shropshire Council's Parenting Team is here to support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.

Do you have any questions around child development and parenting?

Why not call our Parenting Helpline where one of our trained Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen? Call 01743 250950 - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 12.30pm.

If you would like to find out about other services the Parenting Team offers please email: Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk


Service provided by  No child should feel alone  Proud to be part of  Emotional Health and Wellbeing

BEAM DROP-INS ARE HELD:



Monday	Sundome Youth Centre, 218 Sundome Road, Shrewsbury SY1 4RG	Open: 12pm Close: 4pm
Tuesdays	9 Market Square, Wellington, Telford TF1 1BP	Open: 10am Close: 6pm
Thursdays	9 Market Square, Wellington, Telford TF1 1BP	Open: 10am Close: 4pm
Saturdays	9 Market Square, Wellington, Telford TF1 1BP	Open: 10am Close: 2pm

PLEASE NOTE: no sessions will be started during the last hour of our drop-ins. This means we cannot accept anyone into the service after 5pm on Tuesday & Thursdays

Shropshirebeam@childrenssociety.org.uk

 Shropshire Telford and Wrekin

Emotional wellbeing drop-in for children and young people under 25.

service provided by  No child should feel alone  Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Dates for your Diary

25.10.23	Parent/Carer Consultations
26.10.23	Parents/Carer Consultations
27.10.23	PD Day – children not in school (however Holiday Club will be available)
27.10.23 – 03.11.23	Half Term – children not in school (however Holiday Club Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs)
31.10.23 – 02.11.23	Holiday Club Mon, Tues, Wed and Thurs
06.11.23	Half Term Begins – children back to school
08.11.23	Mastering Number Workshop for Year 1 parents
30.11.23	Advent Journey Day for the whole school
01.12.23	Pantomime at school for the children
14.12.23	Christmas Lunch – children welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper
18.12.23	Carol Service in Church at 6pm
20.12.23	Last day of the Autumn Term – children break up
21.12.23 – 22.12.23	Holiday Club (Thurs and Fri)
03.01.24	PD Day – children not in school (however Holiday Club will be available)
04.01.24	Spring Term Begins – children back to school

Does your child play games online?

We have outlined some points that you may wish to consider to try and create a safer experience for your child.

Have you set up parental controls?

As well as setting up appropriate parental controls through the game's setting, ensure you have set them up on the console/device your child is playing on. For example, many consoles allow you to restrict the games accessed by age.

Chatting to strangers

Some games will allow communication, for example (FIFA and Fortnite). Depending on the game, this may be via the in-game text chat, direct messages or talking through headphones. Some games do offer the ability to switch communication off or restrict bad language so make sure settings appropriate to your child are set up for each of the games they play.

It can be difficult to moderate online chat so ensure your child knows how to block and report other players who make them feel uncomfortable and that they know to talk to you or a trusted adult if they have any concerns. It can also be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they would not if they were face to face with each other. Talk to your child about how they are speaking to others online and encourage them to talk to people online with respect, like they would if they were face-to-face.

Is the game age appropriate?

Before buying the game, check that your child is old enough to play it. All games will either have a PEGI rating or be rated by the App Store /Google Play. UK Safer Internet Centre have published a blog, which shares tips on what to do if your child asks about playing a new game:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/help-my-child-wants-to-play-games-that-are-too-old-for-them-2>

In app purchases

In addition to the above, you should be aware of in app purchases as lots of games include the option to purchase additional items/subscriptions so ensure you do not have payment cards saved or set up restrictions/pin code to approve.

Further information

The NSPCC provide further guidance and support regarding this topic:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>