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.

PREES SCHOOL NEWS

Monday 27th November	**PE - Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4**
	** There is no Afterschool Football Club**
Tuesday 28th November	PE - Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 5
Wednesday 29th November	**Individual School Photographs—all Children to wear school uniform. Years 1 and 5 to bring PE kits with them**
	No Pens Day—See attached leaflet for more details
	PE - Year 4 and Year 6
	Piano Lessons
	Christmas Choir for Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 until 4pm
Thursday 30th November	Advent Journey Day for whole school—**all Children to wear school uniform**
	** There is no Afterschool Netball Club**
Friday 1st December	**Non-Uniform Day—please bring a donation for the Hamper Raffle**
	Pantomime in the Hall for all the children
	PE - Reception

Holiday Club
**The next holiday clubs will take place on
Thursday 21st December, Friday 22nd December and Wednesday 3rd January.
Bookings are now available on sQuid and the cut off date is midnight on
Thursday 14th December.
Parents/Carers using the Childcare Scheme/Vouchers, should book by emailing
knight.j@prees.shropshire.sch.uk
Thank you.**

*** School Admissions Dates ***
**Applications for Reception School Places
Children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 can start primary school from September 2024
Applications must be made online by the 15th January 2024.
To apply please visit: http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions
click on: Apply to start or transfer school.
If you have any queries or would like support with your application please contact Mrs Powell.**

Christmas Choir Performance
**You are invited to join our wonderful Choir for their Christmas Performance
13th December 2023
4pm—4.30pm
in the School Hall**

100% Attendance
Thank you and well done to so many of our children who yet again had 100%

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.

Dates for your Diary

29.11.23	**Individual Class Photographs**
	No Pens Day (please see below for more information)
30.11.23	**Advent Journey Day for the whole school**
01.12.23	**Pantomime in school for all the children**
14.12.23	**Christmas Lunch – children welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper**
	School Disco - more details will follow shortly
15.12.23	**School Choir visiting Elmhurst Nursing Home**
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)**

Thank you to Prees Medical Fund Trustees for their very kind donation of £880 which will be used to support our children attending various events throughout the course of next year. We are extremely grateful for their support.

No Pens Day - **Wednesday 29th November 2023**

Please see the attached leaflet for more details about the day. Please note we do not require a donation.

Individual Photographs

Wednesday 29th November 2023

Parents and Carers are invited to bring pre-school siblings to school at 8.30am if you would like a family photograph of your children.

All children in school will have an individual photograph taken and with siblings during the course of the morning.

All children are to wear school uniform. Any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Christmas Hamper

We are delighted to announce that we will be running our ever-popular Hamper Raffle again this Christmas.

There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 1st December.

We would be very grateful if parents/carers would donate an item per child, that would be suitable to go into the hampers.

Thank you

Young Voices

If anyone would still like to purchase tickets for Young Voices please visit:

https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/yv24-tickets

Parents and Carers who have already purchased through the school are seated in Block 111, Rows S and T should you wish to try and sit near them.

Support for parent carers of children with SEND

Shropshire's Local Offer

Having access to good quality information to help you understand the world of SEND is important when making decisions about your child's life. This is where websites such as the Shropshire's SEND Local Offer can help you.

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/

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

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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

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sQuid - our online payment system in school

sQuid is an online payment system that can be used to make a variety of school payments. Parents/ carers can use sQuid to pay for school payments such as: Dinner Money top ups, Toast, School Trips, Breakfast Club, Wrap Around Club and Swimming etc.

Children in Reception Class, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. If you have mislaid your sQuid code please contact the office.

Enable Auto top up on your Catering purse, so your child never runs out of funds.

To enable Auto top up you will first need to make a payment and store your payment card. After you have stored your payment card, select the tick box to enable Auto top up and select the amount that you would like to add when the balance falls below a certain level, from each of the drop down boxes. Simply untick the box to disable Auto top up, and when you have updated your Auto top up preferences, please click the 'Save' button.

Remember to top up before 21:00 so that funds are ready to be used from 06:00 the following day. Any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you.

<u>Walking Bus</u>
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.

<u>Primary School Application for September 2024</u>

Children can start school in reception at the beginning of the academic year following their fourth birthday.

Therefore, children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 can start primary school from September 2024.

Applications should be made online. See the attached guidance to help you make your application. If you have any queries or encounter any difficulties completing your application, please contact the School Admissions Team by email - school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk.

Please note that the online facility is open from 2 November 2023. **You must apply by 15 January 2024.** If there is a reason why your application is late i.e. due to a house move, please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk to advise.

Applications received after 15 January, without exceptional reasons, are considered late. Late applications won't be processed until all the applications received on time have been allocated. This may result in your child not being offered a school place at you preferred school.

Shropshire Local Authority residents should use the Shropshire online portal to make their application for any English state infant or primary school. If the school you wish to apply to isn't there, please email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk with the name of the school, and we will get it added

• If you wish to apply for a neighbouring Welsh authority primary school, you should apply directly to either Powys or Wrexham authorities

If you want to apply for a Shropshire school but do not reside in the Shropshire Council authority area, please refer to our who to apply to page. Telford local authority residents must apply via Telford and Wrekin Council not Shropshire Council.

• Applicants from either overseas, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland can use the Shropshire Council website to make an application for a Shropshire school.

If an application is made through this portal from a resident in another English authority other than Shropshire it will be discarded.

Before making an application

Ensure you read the Guide to Education in Shropshire This guide provides all the correct information to help you make your application.

• Note the importance of naming more than one school on your application, particularly when not applying for your catchment area school.

Ensure that you're happy with the application before you submit it. The online portal doesn't allow you to change your application once it's been submitted and downloaded by the Admissions Team. If you do need to amend your application after you have submitted it, you must email: school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk

WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to use WhatsApp.

You may have noticed that WhatsApp have added an editing feature so you can change messages that you have sent for up to 15 minutes afterwards. Childnet have published a blog outlining what you should be aware about with this new feature:

https://www.childnet.com/blog/find-out-whatsapps-new-features-and-how-it-can-impact-online-safety/

Tik Tok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok.

TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. Some of the videos on TikTok may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child. If your child is using TikTok then make sure the appropriate security/privacy settings are on.

Account set up

By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private at the start and we would recommend keeping it as this. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available (such as switching off comments and switching on restricted mode) here: https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings

As always, it is important that when setting up an account on TikTok, your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age. For example, Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15 and they do not receive push notifications from 9pm. In addition, advertisements are tailored to the user's age.

Family Pairing

This allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode (limit the appearance of content that may not be appropriate) and screen time management. You can find out more here: https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/

Inappropriate content, themes and challenges on TikTok

Whilst against TikTok's guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous. If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing.

Blocking and Reporting

Ensure your child knows how to use the safety features available to them, including how to report comments, direct messages and another user. You can find out more here: https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem

Further information

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok