

# 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 8th January	PE - Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6
Tuesday 9th January	PE - Nursery, Reception Class and Year 1
Wednesday 10th January	Swimming Year 3 PE - Year 2 and Year 5
Thursday 11th January	Swimming Year 4 and Year 5 PE - Year 1 and Year 6 Outdoor Learning Nursery and Reception Class
Friday 12th January	PE - Reception Class 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 and a waterproof coat). 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 next Monday, 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 via the school office or email: [learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk)

### Swimming Sessions Year 3, 4 and 5

Swimming sessions during the Spring Term will commence on Wednesday 10th January for children in Silver Birch Class (Year 3) and Thursday 11th January for children in Maple Class and Oak Class (Years 4 and 5). Your child brought a letter last week with details. Consent slips must be returned by Monday please. Payment is made on sQuid please.



Thank you.

### Walking Bus

Good news, we now have 2 volunteers for our walking bus who are willing to help walk with the children starting from the Fire Station and picking up at certain points along the way to school. However, we do still need more volunteers. 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 can you please let Mrs Powell, Learning

Mentor know the days you are free to volunteer at:  
[learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk)

Thank you.



### Dates for your Diary

Monday 5th February	Young Voices
Wednesday 7th February	Parent Consultations
Thursday 8th February	Parent Consultations
Friday 9th February	Chinese New Year activities Break up for Half Term
Monday 12th February— Friday 16th February	Half Term children not in school
Friday 23rd February	Journey's Journey Day
Monday 26th February	Bikeability Year 6
Friday 1st March	Years 3 and 4 Educational Visit
Wednesday 6th March	Years 5 and 6 Educational Visit
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Wednesday 20th March	Easter Service at St Chad's Church at 2pm.
Friday 22nd March	Break up for Easter Holidays

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.

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.

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

### Child absence

Can you please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.30am if your child is unwell and will not be attending school. If leaving a message, can you please provide the exact reason why your child is absent. Thank you.

### Stay and Play at Prees C.E. Primary School

We are planning on restarting our Play and Stay sessions for parents/carers and their pre-school age children. We would like to ask if anyone interested in joining us have a preference to the day the session is held. Can you please contact Mrs Powell at: [learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk](mailto:learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk) or telephone the office and ask to speak with her. Thank you.



### MESSAGING

Most communications are now being sent by email or text 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.

### Water Bottles

Please can children bring a water bottle, labelled with their name to school each day. If your child is bringing juice to drink with their lunch can they also bring a bottle with water in so that they can stay hydrated throughout the day. Thank you.



### Homework on Seesaw

Your child's homework is accessed via our online Seesaw program. Spellings and homework are set on Seesaw each week. If your child is just starting at our school they will bring login details home during their first week. Any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

### SCHOOL DINNERS

Hot school meals are available daily at a cost of £2.35 (£1.65 for Nursery children) and payable via sQuid. Please ensure that your sQuid catering purses are kept in credit as far as possible. Children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 are entitled to free meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme.

*Your child may be entitled to free school meals if you are in receipt of certain benefits. Please visit the site below to check if you are eligible to apply.*

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

### 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.

### Twitter

Our school has a twitter account @preeschool. 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 huge difference.

### **\*\*School Uniform\*\***

We will be working closely with families to ensure a strict uniform code is adhered to by everyone.

Our school uniform is as follows:

Grey trousers or skirt/pinafore

White polo shirt / blouse or shirt

Navy blue jumper or cardigan (with or without the school logo on it)

Black shoes for boys and girls **\*\* (no sandals or trainers) \*\***

Light blue and white checked dress

**\*\* Plain stud earrings and /or a watch can be worn, no other jewellery please. \*\***

For PE:

Navy blue shorts/skort or navy/black jogging bottoms (no logo/slogan)

Plain red, blue or yellow T-shirt (with or without the school logo on it)

Plain navy/black sweatshirt or track suit top (no logo/slogan)

Pumps for indoor PE for all children

Trainers for outdoor PE for all children

Spare socks

**\*\* Your child will need to remove their earrings for swimming lessons and either remove them or put tape over them for PE please. \*\***

Can we please ask that you do not send your child in different coloured jogging bottoms and sweat-shirt/track suit top other than navy or black and that they do not have any writing, slogans, logos etc on them. If you do not have a plain navy or black sweatshirt, we are more than happy for your child to wear their navy school jumper/cardigan on top of their yellow, red or blue t-shirt for PE.

If your child should forget to come dressed in their PE kit we do have kits in school that your child can borrow to allow them to take part in the PE lesson.

Thank you for your support.

### **\*\* School Transport \*\***

Your child may be eligible for school transport if they are in Reception Class to Year 6 and fulfil certain criteria. Applications can be submitted online at:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-transport/available-support/>

Scroll down and click on Primary.

### **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.

### **Water Bottles**

Please can children bring a water bottle, labelled with their name to school each day. If your child is bringing juice to drink with their lunch can they also bring a bottle with water in so that they can stay hydrated throughout the day. Thank you.



## The SEND Local Offer

Lots of information and support for children and young people with SEND and their families, including:

- Education
- Health and wellbeing
- Family support
- Social care
- Preparing for adulthood
- Early help
- Things to do
- Education, health and care plan (EHCP)
- Travel and transport
- Financial support

local.offer@shropshire.gov.uk 0345 678 9063  
www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/

If you need help accessing the Local Offer please speak to your school or local library.



## 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](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-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/>



## 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](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk)

spa dental  
Whitchurch

## NHS children's appointments

- ◆ General dentistry
- ◆ Oral health education
- ◆ Saturday opening
- ◆ After-school appointments



Scan & Book your Appointment Here

Corser House, 17 Green End,  
Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 1AD

[www.spadental.co.uk/contact](http://www.spadental.co.uk/contact)

## 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  
family  
Information Service

Info, advice and support,  
for families in Shropshire

Find us on:

