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 15th January	**PE - Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6**
Tuesday 16th January	PE - Nursery, Reception Class and Year 1
Wednesday 17th January	**Swimming Year 3**
	PE - Year 2 and Year 5
Thursday 18th January	Swimming Year 4 and Year 5
	PE - Year 1 and Year 6
	Outdoor Learning Nursery and Reception Class
Friday 19th 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.

Stay, Play and Chat at Prees C.E. Primary School

We are planning to restart our Stay, Play and Chat sessions for parents/carers/grandparents 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 each week during term time. Please contact Mrs Powell at: learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk or telephone the office and ask to speak with her.

Walking Bus

Great news, we now have 4 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 day you are free to volunteer at: learningmentor@prees.shropshire.sch.uk
Thank you.

Holiday Club

Holiday club will run again on Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th February.
Further details will follow shortly.

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.

Board Games

If anyone has any good condition board games (snakes and ladders, chess, draughts, scrabble, monopoly, backgammon etc) they would like to donate to school we would love to give them a new home.
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.

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 incident note. All other minor accidents will be recorded and an incident sent home with your child. If anything is considered more serious than a minor injury we will always telephone you.

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.

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.

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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.

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/

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

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

WhatsApp

You must be at least 16 years old to register for and use WhatsApp. WhatsApp is a free messaging app that allows you to send messages, voice notes, photos and videos.

What should I be aware of?

Group chats: <u>One of the key features is the group chat function. Everybody in the group, even if they are not one of your child's phone contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat.</u> In settings, you can change who can add your child to groups. You can leave a group chat at any point so talk to your child and encourage them to leave any chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Location sharing: you can share your location on WhatsApp. Talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use but also the potential danger of sharing their location, for example with strangers.

Blocking/Reporting: Show your child how to block and report other users or inappropriate content. You can find out how to do it based on your child's device here: https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/

Further information

NSPCC provide further advice and tips to help keep your child safe:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/

New devices

If your child has a new device, have you set up parental controls?

Consoles

All consoles offer parental controls such as limiting the time spent on the device or restricting who your child can communicate with. Find out the specific settings below:

PlayStation: https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/psn-safety-parents-guide/

Xbox: https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub

Nintendo Switch: https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Hardware/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-Parental-Controls-1183145.html

Mobiles/Tablets

You can set up parental controls and restrictions on most mobile devices, which can limit what your child can access. Additionally, make sure appropriate settings are applied on the apps your child is using.

Apple devices: https://www.apple.com/uk/families/

Android devices: https://families.google/familylink/

Further information

Internet Matters provide a checklist here:

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe

LEGO Fortnite – PEGI 7

Lego Fortnite is free to play (in game purchases are available though). The game has been rated as PEGI 7, meaning that the content is suitable for children over the age of 7. However, you should be aware that this game can be played with up to seven people (or solo). Lego Fortnite is only accessible on Fortnite, so you must download the main game. When setting up an account, if your child is under the age of 13, then they will be given a 'cabined account,' therefore certain features will be disabled (such as communicating with other players) unless you override them.

Please ensure you set the parental controls as appropriate for your child, we also recommend setting the appropriate settings on the console itself.

There are two worlds available - Survival or Sandbox, you can find out more about each world here so you can decide which would be best for your child: https://www.lego.com/en-gb/themes/fortnite/lego-fortnite-parents-guide