

# 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 9th December**

**PE - Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6**

Tuesday 10th December

**All children to come to school in school uniform**

Carol Service 6pm at St Chad's Church - we look forward to you joining us

PE - Nursery

**Wednesday 11th December**

**PE - Year 2 and Year 4**

**Stay, Play and Chat Christmas Party 9am –10.30am**

Thursday 12th December

PE - Year 1, Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6

Outdoor Learning Nursery and Reception Class  
**Swimming has now finished for this term.**

Friends of Prees School Disco (please see attached poster for details)

**Friday 13th December**

**PE - Reception, Year 2 and Year 4**

**Outdoor Learning Year 1 and Year 2**

*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) on Outdoor Learning days. Thank you.*

## Diary Dates

**Tuesday 10th December**

**Carol Service – 6 p.m. for families**

Thursday 12th December

Friends of Prees School Disco - Reception, KS1 6pm—7pm,  
KS2 7.15pm—8.30pm

**Monday 16th December**

**Christmas Journey Day with Christingle Service**

Tuesday 17th December

Christmas Lunch and parties - children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper

Nursery Nativity for families – 2 p.m. in the hall

Friends of Prees School Elfridges—Christmas Shopping for the Children—(please see attached poster for details)

**Friday 20th December**

**Break up for Christmas Holiday**

Monday 6th January

Children return to school

## Christmas Hamper Raffle

If you should require any further booklets of raffle tickets—please contact the office. The raffle will be drawn after the Carol Service in the school hall on Tuesday 10th December.



## Friends of Prees School Disco

In the school hall



Thursday 12th December



Reception, KS1 6pm—7pm

KS2 7.15pm—8.30pm

Tickets available from school

Please see attached poster for more details.

# Carol Service

St Chad's

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

6pm



We would really appreciate your support in returning to church for our annual Carol Service. Children need to be in church from 5.45 and should wear school uniform. Children in Cherry class will be forming the nativity, Y6 children will be reading and all children will be singing. It is always a lovely evening and we look forward to seeing you there.

*We hope you will be able to join us for a coffee and mince pie, and the raffle in the school hall after our Carol Service.*

### 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 your child can remain hydrated throughout the day. Thank you.



### Coat and wellies

Can we please ask that during the cold weather your child brings a coat, and wellies (if they do not already have a pair in school) to school each day. We like to take the children out at playtimes whenever the weather allows. Thank you.



### Facebook and Twitter

Our school has a Facebook account - Prees CE Primary School and Nursery.

We also have a twitter account @preeschool. 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.

We use the accounts to share some of the amazing things that the children undertake in school.

### If you are concerned about someone's safety

In an emergency dial 999, but for other calls to the police please ring 101. To report a safeguarding concern by phone ring our **First Point of Contact team** on 0345 678 9044 Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and Friday 9am to 4pm. If you have urgent adult safeguarding concerns outside of these hours, please phone the **Emergency Social Work Duty Team** on 0345 678 9040.

### Important message

'Due to a recent change in policy, sQuid will now be penalising school for the dinner money arrears in each child's dinner money purse. Consequently, ALL dinners must be paid in advance or on the day they are taken.

From Monday 25th November, children will not be able to order a school meal if they are more than one meal in arrears.

If your child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please can you also check your child's account as those ordering toast will be charged 10 p per day.

Please can all parents check their sQuid catering purse as a matter of urgency and clear any arrears and consider putting 'auto top up' in place. Auto top up will automatically top up your child's catering purse if the credit falls below a preset amount.

We appreciate your help with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office, if you have any queries.

### **\*\* Attendance \*\***

There is currently a Government drive to improve attendance in all schools. Our school is no exception. Measures that are currently in place are:

1. The holiday code for attendance has been removed and there is an expectation that headteachers will not authorise holiday requests and any unauthorised requests will be fined.
2. The procedure for the Education Welfare Officer becoming involved with children's attendance has become a much shorter process.

We understand that children do have illnesses but wanted to explain that the Education Welfare Officer linked to our school is monitoring attendance much more closely.

### Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.00 am if your child is unwell and will not be attending that day. If leaving a message, can you please provide the exact reason why your child is absent. If we have not heard from you by 9.30am we will text you and then follow-up with a telephone call if we have still not heard from you by lunchtime.

We shall also be contacting parents of Nursery children who do not attend, for whatever reason, on days that we are expecting them. This is a health and wellbeing safeguarding check.

### MESSAGING

Most communications are 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. Thank you.

### 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.

### 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 are struggling right now, you are 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/](http://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.

### 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/>



## New Technology

With Christmas nearly here and with some children receiving new technology or related games, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls

### Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: look at the PEGI rating of any new games.
- Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check to see if it has any communication elements.
- If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.
- On the device itself, set up applicable controls such as restricting spending limits and managing who they can communicate with. Follow the links below to find out how to set up Parental Controls for some devices here:

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

**PS5:** <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

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

### Tablets/Smart phones

Set up parental controls on the device to prevent purchases, restrict content viewed and adjust privacy settings. Furthermore, remember to check any apps your child requests to check that they are suitable for their age. Follow the links below to find out more:

**iPhones/iPad:** <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/105121>

**Android Device:** <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

### Why is it important?

Parental controls are important to help provide a safer experience for your child by reducing/preventing access to inappropriate content, cyberbullying, communication with strangers and restricting purchases.

### Further information

You can find out more about parental controls here:  
<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parental-controls/>