

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 7th April

PE - No PE lessons for this week only

Easter Service at St Chad's Church 2pm — Everyone welcome

Tuesday 8th April

PE - Nursery, Reception, Year 3

Year 1 and Year 2 Educational Visit to Chirk Castle

Wednesday 9th April

PE - Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6

Stay, Play and Chat 9am - 10.30am in the Hall

Thursday 10th April

PE - Year 1 and Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4

Outdoor Learning Nursery and Reception Class

Friday 11th April

PE - Reception, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.

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.



Holiday Club



Holiday club will run again during the Easter holidays on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th April and Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th April for children aged 3 - 11 years.

Cost £12 per day from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Children will need to bring a packed lunch and a water bottle.

Bookings should be made on ParentPay. Parents/Carers using the Childcare Scheme/ Vouchers should book by emailing knight.j@prees.shropshire.sch.uk

Blue Tokens in Tesco

From the first week in April we are collecting blue tokens in Tesco at Whitchurch and Market Drayton stores to provide playground equipment to give opportunities for the children to develop their social and physical skills, and to aid their health and wellbeing. Your support when shopping in Tesco would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

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.

Any queries please contact Mrs Powell.

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>

Facebook

Our school has a Facebook account - Prees CE Primary School and Nursery We use the account to share some of the amazing things that the children undertake in school. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 7th April	Easter Journey Day
	Easter Service at St Chad's Church at 2pm
Tuesday 8th April	Year 1 and Year 2 Educational Visit to Chirk Castle
Wednesday 9th April	Play, Stay and Chat 9am - 10.30am (in the hall)
Friday 11th April	Break up for Easter holidays
Saturday 12th April	Shrewsbury Half Marathon
Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April and Tuesday 22nd April - Thursday 24th April	Holiday Club
Monday 28th April	Children return to school - Summer Term begins
Wednesday 30th April	Play, Stay and Chat 9am - 10.30am (in the hall)
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday - children not in school
Tuesday 6th May	Children return to school
Wednesday 7th May	Play, Stay and Chat 9am - 10.30am (in the hall)
	Early Help Coffee and Chat 12pm - 3pm

**** MESSAGING ****

Most communications are sent by email or text via ParentPay. Please make sure that you have registered via the details sent home to ensure you receive notifications, letters and news.

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.

Child Absence

Please telephone school (01948 840209) by 9.00am 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 9.15am we will telephone you and follow-up with a text message. If we have still not heard from you by 10.30am we will telephone and text again as this is then a safeguarding concern.

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.

Thank you for your 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/>



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.

***** Water Bottles, Sun Hats and Sunscreen *****

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 remain hydrated throughout the day. In this warmer weather can children please bring a sun hat to school and can you please apply sunscreen to your child before they come to school in the morning. Thank you.

Social Media Concerns

Most social media apps have a minimum age rating of 13+. Whilst there are benefits, this article discusses some of the potential risks of using social media.

Risks of Social Media

Inappropriate content – social media may expose children to content that is not appropriate for their age, including sexually explicit content or content that promotes harmful behaviours such as self-harm.

Cyberbullying – this can take many forms, including sending nasty or hurtful messages, leaving unkind comments, sharing photographs of somebody else without their permission or impersonating somebody with a fake account.

Excessive Screentime/Addiction – too much time online can affect mental health and disrupt sleep patterns.

Contact from strangers – there is a risk of stranger contact, which can lead to an increased risk of grooming.

Challenges - children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse what they see online. Whilst some challenges are fun and provide no risk, there will be challenges online that are risky/dangerous.

Sharing too much information – children may share personal information e.g. their phone number, school name or inappropriate photos of themselves.

Algorithms – algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms to keep us engaged on the platform. This can lead to 'echo chambers' where users are only seeing content that relates to their opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint. It can also lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.

How can I help make it a safer environment?

Check the age rating of each app and restrict access until they reach that age.

Set up age-appropriate parental controls, for example set content restrictions and screen time limits.

Chat to your child about what they are doing online, including who they are following and interacting with online.

Restrict devices in their bedrooms.

Show your child how to use any reporting and blocking tools.

Further information

You can find out more from the following:

<https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/social-media-smarts.html>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/social-media/#Talkingaboutcyberbullying>

Screentime

Screentime is classed as any time spent in front of a screen, so it includes everything from watching tv to completing homework on a laptop. Whilst there is no recommended screentime (except for under two, which is zero), it is important that we find a balance.

Screentime can obviously be beneficial, both for educational and entertainment purposes important to be aware of the risks, such as:

*Eye strain.

*Disrupted sleep.

*Less time for other activities and being outdoors.

*Affects our attention span.

Further information

Childnet discuss what is screentime and how much screen time is enough in this useful article:

<https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/screen-time-boundaries-parents/>