



PRESTON PRESS

Spring Newsletter 2—February 2025



Message from Mrs Hodgson:

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Although this has been a short half term, we have had a very busy time since the Christmas break with trips, visits, sporting events and other lovely activities. Life is never dull and the children inspire us daily to plan new events that make learning come alive. I hope you enjoy reading about the children's experiences and achievements.

We were honoured to welcome Bishop Michael (The Bishop of Bath and Wells) into school to meet with pupils and see how our Christian Distinctiveness is woven into all aspects of school life.

Our next half term proves to be just as eventful and we are looking forward to welcoming you into school, whether for parents' evenings, family learning or play performances.

I wish you all an enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing the children after the break.

Kind regards

Claire Hodgson,
Headteacher.

Wells Cathedral Concert



A huge well done to everybody who performed in the Supersize Polyphony 2 concert at Wells Cathedral on Friday 7th February. The children made mastering Grade 8 classical pieces of music look effortless and they were even lucky enough to perform a song written by a Hollywood composer especially for the occasion! Thank you also to everyone who came to watch and support.

Bishop Visit

Bishop Michael Beasley's visit to our school was a truly memorable event. He engaged with students and staff, sharing stories and prayers. He enjoyed a tour of the school as well as tea and cake whilst answering questions from the children. Bishop Michael was presented with a beautiful image of our school, painted by Mia in Year 2.



Pictured: Millie, Clara, Bishop Michael, Pippa, Harry & Tilla.

Reception Tea Party

From left to right: Harry, Mia, Dexter, Freya, Mrs Hodgson, Elliott & Vennela



Safeguarding

Thank you to everyone who has helped in our attempts to maintain safety around our roads and car park at key times of the school day.

We have been made aware that some people consider the raised part of the road outside of the school gates to be a pedestrian crossing. Please be aware this is not the case and cars have priority over pedestrians. Thank you.



Reception



Chinese New Year

The children in Reception had a fabulous week celebrating Chinese New Year. We learnt about which animals are symbols of Chinese New Year and the children also wrote about them in their English lesson. We enjoyed a variety of arts and crafts and decorated the entrance to our school with Chinese lanterns, snakes and garlands. On the Friday, the Reception children paraded through the school underneath a large Chinese Dragon, shaking their homemade pasta shakers. All of the other classes loved seeing them through their windows!



Year 1

Weights & Sequencing

In maths, the children have been comparing objects, using the scales to find the heaviest and lightest items and then



sequencing a group of objects according to their mass. We have had a lot of fun working with our friends and successfully completing the tasks.



MBE Visit

A big thank you to Mr Conway for visiting us and sharing his incredible story! He received a MBE in 2018 for his outstanding 43-year commitment to his company. We loved hearing about his experience at Buckingham Palace and seeing the photos of him with Princess Anne. It was truly inspiring!

Year 2

Great Fire of London

Year 2 had a visit from Sam from the Museum Service. She talked to us about The Great Fire of London to consolidate our classroom learning. We had a go at writing with quills, like Samuel Pepys, putting out a "fire" using water in fabric buckets, and dressing up like people of the time. We had a lovely time.



World Religion Day

On Sunday 19th January, it was World Religion Day. Cedar Class chose to lead their child led worship about religions and what they all have in common. We introduced some of the world's religions and told a story about children who have different faiths but still work together.



Year 3



Rock Bottom!

Year 3 have been working incredibly hard rehearsing for their play, *Rock Bottom!* The children have done a fantastic job learning their lines and songs, showing great enthusiasm and dedication. A huge thank you to all the parents for their support in providing costumes—we truly appreciate it!



Science

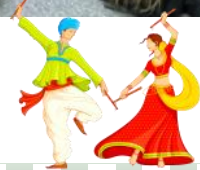
Year 3 have been learning all about plants in our science lessons. We had great fun conducting an experiment to observe how water is transported through plants using food colouring. It was amazing to see how the coloured water moved through the stems and into the petals!



India Workshop

In the Year 4 Indian workshop, students explored the rich tapestry of India's culture and traditions. They participated in engaging activities like learning traditional dances, creating colourful rangoli art, and playing instruments. The classroom buzzed with excitement as children immersed themselves in the vibrant sights and sounds of India. Guided by an enthusiastic teacher, the workshop provided a fun and educational experience, leaving lasting memories of cultural discovery for all who attended.

Year 4



Year 5



Judaism Visitor

Year 5 recently welcomed Stewart, a member of the Exeter Hebrew Congregation, to come and give a talk on Judaism. As this is our current topic in R.E., it was a wonderful opportunity for the children to gain a more in-depth insight into the values and traditions of the religion, as well as giving them a chance to ask lots of questions too. We all learnt a lot from the session and Stewart ended his talk with a harrowing reminder of the dire consequences of antisemitism, and the importance of mutual respect and inclusion.



Year 6



Nothe Fort Trip

Year 6 braved the cold to visit Nothe Fort in January. The children took on the role of evacuees and had a great time learning about rationing, what life was like at home and the experience of being in an Anderson shelter during an air raid. It was great to see everyone asking so many questions and taking an interest in the part our local area played within WWII.



Safer Internet Day

This February, we celebrated Safer Internet Day, focusing on this year's theme: Scams. Our Digital Leaders led an assembly to highlight different types of scams and how to stay safe online. Throughout the day, some classes took part in a BBC Live Lesson, others explored digital footprints and some played games to create strong passwords. It was a great opportunity to learn how to protect ourselves online and use the internet safely every day!



Languages Club

As part of Languages Club, Amelia and Lily lead a session and taught the other club members how to say basic greetings in Polish, with a bit of help from Adam! They also very kindly brought the other children in some Polish sweets to try which the children took home to share with their families.



Cross Country Race

This half term has seen more success in the cross-country races. Children in KS2 have tested their stamina, shown strength, determination and sportsmanship to complete the races and cheer on their teammates.



Reminders

The deadline for booking your child's **school lunches** (for when we return after half term) is Monday 17th February at 9pm.

The PTA **School Discos** are being held on Friday 28th February in the school hall. If you would like your child to attend the disco, please pay for your child's tickets via the link below:

<https://forms.gle/tQAU1A6xgsFLSuVUA>

Timings:

Reception: 2.30pm - 3.10pm

Years 1 & 2: 3.20pm - 4.15pm

Years 3 & 4: 4.30pm - 5.45pm

Years 5 & 6: 6.00pm - 7.15pm

All children in Reception, Year 1 & 2 can wear non-uniform to school on the day of the discos (including those children NOT attending the discos). Pupils in Years 3 - 6 will need to wear uniform to school on this day.



Handball Tournament

Year 6 took part in an exciting handball festival at Westfield. They were taught the basics before participating in games at the end of the session. It was great to see so many people wanting to try this interesting sport.



Diary Dates



Monday 17th—

Friday 21st February

Tuesday 25th February

Friday 28th February

Monday 3rd March

Monday 3rd March

Wednesday 5th March

Wednesday 5th March

Thursday 6th March

Thursday 6th March

Friday 7th March

Monday 10th March

Monday 10th March

Wednesday 12th March

Thursday 13th March

Thursday 13th March

Thursday 13th March

Thursday 13th March

Thursday 20th March

Friday 21st March

Monday 24th March

Tuesday 25th March

Wednesday 26th March

Wednesday 26th March

Thursday 27th March

Thursday 27th March

Monday 31st March

Tuesday 1st April

Tuesday 1st April

Wednesday 2nd April

Thursday 3rd April

Friday 4th April

Monday 7th

—Thursday 17th April

Friday 18th April

Monday 21st April

Tuesday 22nd April

Wednesday 23rd April

Monday 5th May

- **Half Term**
- Heights and Weights (Year 6 & Reception)
- PTA School Discos (*please note date change)
- World Book Day Assemblies
- Cross Country—Aldon Hill, Yeovil (4pm—5pm)
- Year 4 Trip to Glastonbury Abbey
- Book Fair (open to parents 3.20pm—4pm)
- World Book Day (dress up as your favourite book character or in pyjamas)
- Book Fair (open to parents 3.20pm—4pm)
- World Prayer Day
- Rev Keen Assemblies
- Year 3 Swimming (7 x sessions)
- Science Fair (School Hall) - no hot school lunches
- Year 5 Victorian Workshop
- Year 1 Trip to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm
- Step into the NHS Day —Key Stage 2
- Year 6 SATS & Kilve Residential Talk (3.30pm—4pm approximately)
- Year 6 Trip to Perrott Hill to watch Treasure Island
- Year 3 Tea Party with Mrs Hodgson (selected pupils)
- Cross Country—Mudford Recreation Ground, Yeovil (4pm—5pm)
- Year 3 Trip to Dorset Museum
- Reception Trip to Gore Farm
- SCARF Workshops (Health & Wellbeing as part of PSHE)
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- Mother's Day Assembly for Reception
- Parent Evening
- Parent Evening
- Year 4 Play to Parents
- Year 4 Play to Parents
- Easter Assemblies (including Key Stage 1 for parents - 2.30pm)
- Last Day of Term (non-uniform day)

- **Easter Holidays (School Closed)**
- **Good Friday (Bank Holiday—School Closed)**
- **Bank Holiday (School Closed)**
- **Teacher Training Day (School Closed)**
- Back to School
- **Bank Holiday (School Closed)**



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Headteacher Mrs Claire Hodgson BA (Hons)

Children
are
A
★ gift
FROM THE
Lord;
THEY are
A
reward
from Him.
PSALMS 127:3