



**Preston C of E Primary School**  
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Headteacher Mrs Claire Hodgson BA (Hons)



## Newsletter Spring 01 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of all everyone at Preston C of E Primary School, may I wish you all a Happy New Year! I hope you and your families enjoyed a wonderful Christmas break together. Thank you for all of the lovely cards and gifts at Christmas time; your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated as always.

We are all looking forward to an exciting year ahead and the diary is already filling up with lots of activities and events for the children. We have Year 3 and 4's performances this term and we are very excited to be welcoming the Bishop of Bath and Wells into school at the end of the month.

We are also looking forward to World Book Day later in the term which celebrates the children's love of reading. We all know that children's reading is key to their success in learning and we thank you for promoting this at home.

This term, we have some staff changes. We welcome Ms Ward who joins us as Class Teacher for Hornbeam in Year 5, and we say goodbye to Miss Kerrigan, who has been part of our SEN Learning Support Assistant team.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself if there are any issues which you need to discuss regarding your child's education or wellbeing.

We look forward to working with you again this year.

With very best wishes,

Mrs C Hodgson,  
Head Teacher.

### Christmas Activities

We finished last term with our wonderful Carol Services at St James' Church, followed by a visit from Father Christmas and presents for every class.



### Safeguarding— Managing Screen Time and Tech Dependency

Christmas often brings new gadgets, but too much screen time can harm children's development. Research shows it can affect their language and communication skills, reduce curiosity, and lead to inattention or behaviour problems. It can be hard for parents to know if children are spending too much time on devices or even becoming addicted to the internet or social media. As technology plays a bigger role in our lives, it's important to ask: do we know how to spot and support children with these challenges?

Here's how you can help:

- **Set limits:** Have screen-free times, like during meals or before bed.
- **Encourage other activities:** Get children outside, reading, or exploring hobbies.
- **Stay involved:** Watch and talk about what they're doing online.

**Be a role model:** Show balanced tech use yourself.

If you're worried about your child's screen use, talk with them and seek advice if needed from organisations such as [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com) and [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org). Together, we can help children build healthy habits with technology.

### End of term Awards

Well done to Ruby-Rae (Year 1 ) and Tyler (Year 4) who won our Shining Stars awards (awarded for acts of kindness) and William (Year 6) who won our 100% Attendance award at the end of term.



### After School Clubs

Please note that after school clubs start next week (commencing 13th January). We will try our utmost to accommodate any club applications where we can. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.



### Panto Visit

A huge 'thank you' to our PTA for funding a trip to see the 'Jack and the Beanstalk' Pantomime at Westlands Entertainment Venue before Christmas. The children were all beautifully behaved; we even had a message from a member of the public

who enjoyed the pantomime more because of the lovely atmosphere with our children there!



# Gift Amnesty Day



**FRIDAY 10. JANUARY 2025**

**At the drop off by the bike shed**



**We would love any new unloved gifts you may have received please.**

**Your unwanted gifts will keep giving by helping us raise money for our school at our future fundraising events.**

**Gifts such as new unopen toys and books, toiletries and gifts sets, bottles, vouchers, well in date chocolates etc.**



*Your donations are vital for our fundraising .  
We wouldn't be able to do it without you.  
Thank you very much for your help!  
Your PTA*

## Spring Term Dates



Friday 20th December	-	Last Day of Term—Non-uniform Day
<b>Monday 23rd December—</b>		
<b>Friday 3rd January 2025</b>	-	<b>Christmas Holidays</b>
<b>Monday 6th January</b>	-	<b>Teacher Training Day (School Closed)</b>
Tuesday 7th January	-	First Day of Term
Wednesday 8th January	-	Year 4 India Workshop
Friday 10th January	-	PTA Gift Amnesty (more details to follow)
Monday 13th January	-	Year 4 Swimming (7 x Sessions)
Monday 13th January	-	<b>**Clubs Start This Week**</b>
Friday 17th January	-	Reception Tea Party with Mrs Hodgson (selected pupils)
Monday 20th January	-	Sycamore Class to Nothe Fort
Wednesday 22nd January	-	Mulberry Class to Nothe Fort
Thursday 23rd January	-	Basketball Tournament (venue tbc)
Monday 27th January	-	Badminton Tournament (venue tbc)
Thursday 30th January	-	Rabbi Visit (Year 5 & 6) - part of R.E. enrichment
Thursday 30th January	-	Whole School Visit from Bishop Michael (Bishop of Bath & Wells)
Monday 3rd February	-	Cross Country—Yeovil Showground (4pm—5pm)
Monday 3rd—Friday 7th Feb	-	Children’s Mental Health Week
Tuesday 4th February	-	Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop
Thursday 6th February	-	Basketball Tournament (venue tbc)
Tuesday 11th February	-	Year 3 Play to Parents (pm—more details to follow)
Tuesday 11th February	-	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14th February	-	Year 3 Play to Parents (pm—more details to follow)
<b>Monday 17th—</b>		
<b>Friday 21st February</b>	-	<b>Half Term</b>
Friday 28th February	-	PTA School Discos (*please note date change—details to follow in January)
Monday 3rd March	-	Cross Country—Aldon Hill, Yeovil (4pm—5pm)
Wednesday 5th March	-	Year 4 Trip to Glastonbury Abbey
Thursday 6th March	-	World Book Day (dress up as your favourite book character)
Friday 7th March	-	World Prayer Day
Monday 10th March	-	Year 3 Swimming (7 x sessions)
Wednesday 12th March	-	Science Fair (School Hall)
Thursday 13th March	-	Year 5 Victorian Workshop
Friday 21st March	-	Year 3 Tea Party with Mrs Hodgson (selected pupils)
Monday 24th March	-	Cross Country—Mudford Recreation Ground, Yeovil (4pm—5pm)
Monday 31st March	-	Parent Evening
Tuesday 1st April	-	Parent Evening
Tuesday 1st April	-	Year 4 Play to Parents (more details to follow)
Wednesday 2nd April	-	Year 4 Play to Parents (more details to follow)
Friday 4th April	-	Last Day of Term (non-uniform)
<b>Monday 7th April</b>		
<b>—Thursday 17th April</b>	-	<b>Easter Holidays</b>
<b>Friday 18th April</b>	-	<b>Good Friday (Bank Holiday—no school)</b>
<b>Monday 21st April</b>	-	<b>Bank Holiday (no school)</b>
<b>Tuesday 22nd April</b>	-	<b>Teacher Training Day (no school)</b>
Wednesday 23rd April	-	First Day of Term

