



Half-Termly Newsletter

Issue 6: July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another busy and successful school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and partnership. It has been a joy to watch your children grow in confidence, character, and knowledge over the past year. From exciting trips and school events to everyday achievements, the children's enthusiasm and resilience have truly shone through and have made us all incredibly proud. I am especially grateful to our dedicated staff and to you, our parents and carers, for working together to provide a nurturing and inspiring environment for every child.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer break, and we look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 3rd September for another exciting year of learning.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs Oliver

Love to
Learn

Enriching Our Curriculum

Love to
Learn

Unit 2: Year 2 children had a splendid sleepover in the school hall. They ate hotdogs, toasted marshmallows and popcorn on the campfire, and played out late with their friends.

Mr Atherton, a percussionist from the Plymouth City Brass Band, visited Unit 2 children with an exciting array of percussion instruments, giving the children a hands-on opportunity to explore the world of rhythm and sound. The children were captivated as they listened to the different tones each instrument made. This was a great enrichment to their music enquiry this half term.

Unit 3 children were treated to a fascinating assembly and workshop led by Rich from Taleblazers, who brought the world of geology to life. Our visitor shared his experiences as a Geologist and took us on a journey through the extraordinary geology of Torbay, helping the children to understand our local landscape.

Unit 4: Year 5 had a wonderful secondary school taster day at Torquay Academy. The pupils took part in a variety of engaging workshops, including high-energy PE sessions, exciting hands-on science experiments, and some baking. A group of Year 5 children also visited Churston Grammar. It is important for our children to attend these secondary taster days to ease anxiety, build confidence, and help them familiarise themselves with a new environment.

Four children in Year 5, Ruby, Poppy, Trixie, and Iris, took part in Torbay Children's Parliament at Torquay Town Hall. The girls had to present in front of a judging panel which consisted of the Director of Corporate Services and three Councillors from Torbay Council. The judges felt that our team's presentation was clear and presented very well.



Music Long Enquiry

This half term the children have been fully immersed in our Music long enquiries. Across the school children have been thinking like Musicians by developing the inter-related dimensions of Music: pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, and notation. They have learnt to play a musical instrument as part of an ensemble, learning to listen to each other and play together.

Each Unit has explored a different enquiry question to guide their learning.

Unit 2 – How do you play a glockenspiel?

Unit 3 – How do you play a ukulele?

Unit 4 – How do you play a recorder?

Throughout the enquiry the children have performed and recorded their music making enabling them to listen critically and improve on their own playing.



Be Good
Citizens

Building strong links with school and the local community

Ready
for Work

One of our school priorities this year has been to increase pupil leadership. We are incredibly proud of how our Year 6 House Captains have taken on the responsibility of being fantastic role models, showcasing our school values and school aims, and celebrating achievements across the school. As part of our school aim, 'Be Good Citizens,' each House has represented a local charity. House Captains working with their Houses, planned and led a superb fundraising event which included a pre-loved book sale, a bake sale, an unwanted gift sale and a tabletop games event.

This half term the House Captains invited their charities back into school to share the success of their fundraising event and present their donations. In total our four Houses have raised a fabulous £393! Each charity representative, expressed their heartfelt thanks to each House and the wider school community, praising the incredible generosity and thoughtfulness that made donations possible. These House assemblies were a wonderful reminder of how, when we come together with kindness and purpose, we can make a real difference to our community.

Well done to all our Fantastic House Captains for all your hard work and dedication this year. It has been wonderful to see your leadership skills develop and flourish.



I have enjoyed raising money for Rowcroft Hospice. I have showed responsibility as a House Captain.

As a House Captain, I have enjoyed being a role model to all the younger children.

I have really enjoyed helping The Salvation Army charity. I liked organising the games event.

I loved raising money for Torbay Mencap. I have developed my leadership skills as a House Captain.

Goodbye and Good Luck!

As the school year draws to a close, we say a heartfelt goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 children. It has been a joy to watch them grow, learn, and thrive during their time at Preston. They leave us with many fond memories, and we are incredibly proud of all they have achieved. As the children step into this exciting new chapter at secondary school, we are sure they will take with them the confidence, kindness, and resilience they've shown at Preston. Remember, you will always be part of our school family, and we'll be cheering you on every step of the way!

Goodbye and good luck – the future is yours!

Year 6 Residential

The Year 6 children attended a residential at 'Inspiring Learning' in Bideford this half term. The children had a fantastic time participating in activities such as high ropes, mountain boarding, archery, and the popular water assault course. The children all showed astounding determination and respect as they pushed themselves and supported each other when trying new activities. The instructors were impressed by all the children and commented on how polite and respectful the children were.



Year 6 Production

The Year 6 children showed incredible determination and creativity, whilst performing their production of 'Shakespeare Rocks'. The children worked tirelessly to learn their lines and lyrics to the songs both in school and at home. The children worked together to stage a brilliant production that had the audience laughing lots!

Year 6 Beach Trip

The Year 6 children visited Preston Beach this week as an end of year treat. They spent the afternoon building sandcastles, playing games, and sharing time with friends. It was a perfect way to celebrate the end of their primary school journey and make some unforgettable memories together.

Year 6 Civic Award Celebration

Last week some children were presented with their Torbay and Devon Civic Award certificates at St Cuthbert Mayne School. The children have worked very hard to complete the sections of the award including active citizenship in school and the local community, an active and non-active hobby, and a pledge to the planet. The children have clearly demonstrated their school values of Respect and Independence and demonstrated our school aim of 'Be a Good Citizen.'



Celebrating a Year of Sporting Success and Active Adventures

What a fantastic year it's been for sport and physical activity at our school!

From thrilling matches to woodland adventures, every child has had the chance to get moving, try something new, and grow in confidence and skill. At Preston, we believe that physical activity is about so much more than just keeping fit. It helps children develop confidence, build friendships, and learn important life skills like teamwork, communication, and perseverance. Whether it's through sport, play, or outdoor exploration, being active supports both physical and mental wellbeing—and it's a whole lot of fun too!

Making a Splash

Swimming lessons have been a highlight for many pupils this year, helping them grow in confidence, develop essential life skills, and enjoy being active in the water. It's always a joy to see our fabulous school pool being used by every child, from our youngest learners to our oldest swimmers. A standout moment was hosting the Connect Games Swimming Gala—an energetic and uplifting event that celebrated progress, perseverance, and plenty of poolside fun!



Sports Festivals

This year, every class had the exciting opportunity to take part in a Sports Festival hosted by Paignton Academy. These events gave children the chance to explore new activities, develop their skills, and most importantly—have fun! With a strong focus on participation and enjoyment, the festivals encouraged pupils to step outside their comfort zones and celebrate being active together. They were a wonderful reminder that sport is for everyone, regardless of ability or experience.



Team Spirit and Competition

It's been fantastic to see so many children proudly representing our school across a range of sporting events this year—including rugby, netball, swimming, football, archery, and cricket. Our teams have shown incredible commitment and enthusiasm, taking part in a variety of exciting matches and tournaments. With teamwork, determination, and plenty of support from the sidelines, our players have truly embodied the values of pride, perseverance, and sportsmanship.



Celebrating a Year of Sporting Success and Active Adventures

After School Sports Activity Clubs

Our after-school sports clubs have gone from strength to strength this year, offering more variety and opportunities than ever before. With growing interest and enthusiasm from pupils across all year groups, we've expanded our programme to include a wide range of activities such as multi-sports, netball, tag rugby, and football. These clubs have provided a fantastic space for children to stay active, build confidence, and develop new skills in a fun and supportive environment. It's been wonderful to see so many pupils getting involved, trying something new, and enjoying the benefits of regular physical activity beyond the school day.



Active Lunchtimes

Our fantastic Playleaders have helped make breaktimes more active and inclusive, leading games and encouraging others to join in. The KS1 and Foundation children have enjoyed using the undercroft space and the organised activities on the playground. Whilst KS2 have enjoyed lunchtimes in the Woodland Camp this half term offering a different kind of movement—climbing, exploring, and imaginative play in the great outdoors. Thank you to the Play Leaders who give up their lunchtime to help others.



We're incredibly proud of every pupil who took part, gave it their best, or encouraged a friend along the way. Here's to another year of movement, growth, and joyful activity!

FOPPS (Friends of Preston Primary School)

Summer Fair – A huge thank you to FOPPS for organising our popular summer fair. There was a lot of support from our families and the local community and there was a lovely atmosphere in the sunshine!

Pop-up Café – Thank you for selling refreshments from our café on Sports Day. Your presence on this fun filled day was much appreciated by our families.





Pupil Achievements



Celebrating children's personal successes and achievements is important to us at Preston as we know it helps build character, such as building self-esteem and confidence. Well done to these children for your wonderful achievements. We have some very talented pupils!

Arlo, Year 5



Arlo was recently awarded Manager's Player for the season. His coach mentioned what a talented footballer Arlo is and how it's been wonderful to see him develop as a player. What a wonderful achievement, well done Arlo!

Nate, Year 6



Nate has been playing water polo for 4 years and currently represents Paignton in South West tournaments, normally for the under 13s. Recently, Nate played for the under 15s against Plymouth. He was the only primary aged player in the pool, playing against much bigger and stronger opponents. Nate did amazingly well scoring 3 goals for his team. We are really proud of his hard work, well done, Nate!

Frankie, Year 4

Frankie recently competed in the Devon floor & vault competition, where he placed 1st for vault, 2nd for floor, and his team won gold!

Frankie was very excited as one of the judges at the competition was the Olympic gymnast, Abi Martin. Frankie has worked very hard for this competition and dedicates a lot of time and effort for gymnastics. Well done, Frankie!



Mikey, Year 2

We are very proud of Mikey for joining Torquay Firefighters on a charity walk recently. Mikey found out about the event on Facebook and really wanted to be a part of it. Well done, Mikey, for helping to raise money for Torquay Fire Station and the Torbay RNLI.



Kia, Year 3

Kia's football team recently won the UK's biggest football festival at Butlins and qualified to play in the final at St George's Park, the English FA's National Football Centre. This is a wonderful achievement. Well done, Kia!



Jacob, Year 5

Jacob was recently awarded the Sponsor's Player of the Season award. The coach praised Jacob for his determination and resilience during the last season, and for being a polite, kind, and well-respected member of the team with an exciting season ahead. Well done, Jacob!





Notice Board

Attendance

Regular attendance is key to your child's success. Pupils who attend school consistently achieve better academically, develop better social skills, and build a strong foundation for future learning. Frequent absences can lead to gaps in your child's knowledge.

At Preston, our goal is to ensure every pupil benefits from consistent classroom instruction and participation in school activities. We will monitor attendance patterns, work with parents to address barriers, and celebrate high attendance.

Together, we can create an environment where every pupil thrives.

Attendance Ladder



Uniform Expectation

At Preston Primary School, we encourage the children to always take pride in wearing their school uniform. We find it gives the children a sense of belonging and unites us all behind a common identity. As you think about purchasing new school uniform over the summer holidays, please click on the link below which will send you directly to our uniform page on our website.

<https://www.preston.torbay.sch.uk/parents-carers/uniform>

Please note that we do not permit:

- Jewellery except for one pair of studs
- Make-up including nail varnish/ polish
- Tattoos (including the transfer type)
- High or narrow heeled shoes
- Unconventional or dramatic hairstyles - added hair colours must be natural and subtle.
- Skirts and dresses that are significantly above the knee
- Elaborate hair accessories

Maria, Lollipop Lady, Retiring

Our lovely Lollipop Lady, Maria, will be retiring at the end of this term. We will be sad to see Maria go, and are very grateful for her service, and we wish her well in her retirement. Maria will join us in our last assembly of the year so the children can say a big thank you and goodbye.

Summer Clear Out!

Breakfast and After School Club would be delighted to receive donations of the following:

- Board games in very good condition
- New colouring in books and pencil crayons
- Outdoor games
- Small world character figures

Thank you for your continued support.



Diary Dates

Key dates for Autumn 1 2025. All dates are also on the school calendar on our website:

[Calendar at Preston Primary School](#)

September	
Wednesday 3 rd September	Children start school FOPPS Tea and Tissues in the hall for new Foundation Stage parents
Monday 8 th – Thursday 11 th September	Bikeability Level 2 Year 5
Monday 15 th September	Bikeability Level 1 Year 3
Tuesday 16 th September	Unit 2 Parent Information Meeting in the Hall 2.45pm
Wednesday 17 th September	Unit 4 Parent Information Meeting in the Hall 2.45pm
Thursday 18 th September	Unit 3 Parent Information Meeting in the Hall 2.45pm
Monday 22 nd September	Tempest Photography in school for individual pupil photos and sibling photos
Monday 29 th September	Harvest Assembly for children by Reverend Nathan Kiyaga
Monday 29 th September	Year 1 transition parent workshop in the Hall 5.00pm
Tuesday 30 th September	School tour for prospective Foundation Stage parents 9.30am
Tuesday 30 th September	KS2 English parent workshop in the Hall 5.00pm
October	
Thursday 2 nd October	M & M Productions of The Wizard of Oz
Thursday 2 nd October	Foundation Stage parent phonics workshop 2.30pm
Thursday 9 th October	School tours for prospective Foundation Stage parents 9.30am and 3.30pm
Monday 13 th October	Puffins and Penguins parents evening 3.30 – 6.00pm
Tuesday 14 th October	Puffins and Penguins parents evening 3.30–6.00pm
Wednesday 15 th October	KS1 English parent workshop in the Hall 5.00pm
Wednesday 15 th October	School tour for prospective Foundation Stage parents 9.30am
Monday 20 th October	Unit 2 Parent Book Look 2.45pm
Tuesday 21 st October	Unit 3 Parent Book Look 2.45pm
Tuesday 21 st October	School tour for prospective Foundation Stage parents 9.30am
Wednesday 22 nd October	Unit 4 Parent Book Look 2.45pm
Thursday 23 rd October	FOPPS disco and Non-Uniform Day
Friday 24 th October	Non-Pupil Day (no children in school)
HALF TERM	