



Preston Primary

Unit 1 Puffins and Penguins Newsletter

Thursday 23rd October 2025



Love to
Learn

Be a Good
Citizen

Ready for
Work

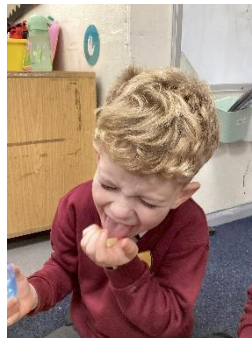


Thank you

We cannot believe that we have already reached the end of the first half-term in Foundation Stage! The children have settled so well into school life learning new routines and becoming familiar with their new environment. Thank you to all of the parents and carers for your support in your child's learning and for making your child's start in school so successful.

Curriculum – Science – Understanding the World

Our curriculum helps children to explore and understand the world around them. We have recently been learning about our five senses: taste, touch, smell, sight, and hearing. The children have enjoyed a variety of activities exploring their senses. Some of their favourite activities were tasting lemon, guessing the hidden objects from the sound they make, smelling different objects hiding in a box, and reaching into a feely bag to explore different textures.



The senses



Hearing



Sight



Smell



Taste



Touch

Here is a link to a song the children have enjoyed. <https://youtu.be/KVymeq5NSTI?si=8vZ2r8h4xBjiliw5>

There is also an activity on Seesaw for you to try at home during half term using your senses.

Literacy – The Little Red Hen

At Preston Primary we foster a love of reading. We have been re-telling the story of 'The Little Red Hen' – the children have loved joining in with the actions and the repeated phrases. The children have used their knowledge of the phonic sounds to start writing key words from the story, e.g. hen, cat, red, dog. The 'Little Red Hen' also inspired the children to bake their own 'bread'. However, unlike the lazy dog, sleepy cat, and noisy duck, they helped one another to make the bread.

We used the vocabulary: dough, knead, rise, roll, and mix. We learnt that yeast is the special ingredient which helps the bread to rise. The children enjoyed using the timers to measure how long we had to wait for the dough to rise. We hope you enjoyed sharing your bread at home.



PE

In PE the children have enjoyed working cooperatively with a partner taking turns and sharing equipment. They enjoyed rolling and bouncing the balls. These are some of the main objectives:

Social – To talk with a partner to decide which hoops to score in.

Emotional – To try hard to beat my score

Thinking – To choose my own way to travel and to understand how to score.

Puffins and Penguins look forward to PE lessons each week. The children always demonstrate good listening and follow instructions. Well done everyone.



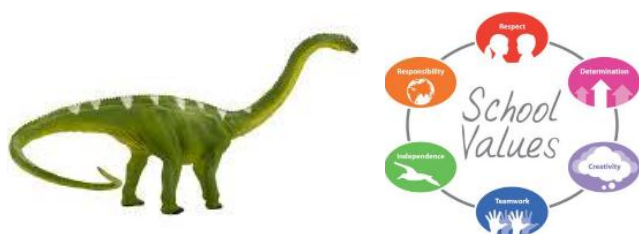
School Value - Respect

The long term legacy of Preston Primary School will be the personal values that our pupils take to Secondary School and beyond. Passing exams is important in life but needs to be complimented by a set of personal values that enable one to flourish in the workplace, in the community and in the family. At Preston, we have six values - one for each half term within the year.

This half-term we focused on the value of **Respect**. This links in well with being in a new class and ascertaining class rules. In Foundation Stage, we learn our school values in dinosaur form! Each dinosaur has a special name, and we talk about how we can demonstrate that particular value in our learning and everyday life.

Here is the school value of Respect in dinosaur form.

I am Respectosaur. I am always in the right place at the right time doing the right thing. I always use kind words and have kind hands, I am great at sharing. I show respect by being polite and using my manners. When it is time to listen, I always look at the person talking.



Maths Workshop for Parents and Carers



Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to invite you and your child to our Maths Workshop, which is being held on Wednesday 19th November 5pm-6pm. We will talk about how maths is taught in Foundation then you will go to the classroom to try some activities with your child.

If your child is unable to attend, please feel free to come along by yourself.

To book a space, please complete the short questionnaire by following the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/Awdfey4Rqy>

We look forward to seeing you there.

Celebrations and Festivals – Diwali

After half term we will be learning about different festivals and celebrations. This gives children a respect and understanding of different cultures and traditions. However, this week it was Diwali, so we started our celebrations.

The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps'. It is celebrated by Hindu people across the world. Diwali is also celebrated in Sikhism and Jainism.

Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' because houses, shops, and public places are decorated with small lamps called 'diyas'. We used salt dough to make our own diya pots and painted them in bright colours. We also decorated the classroom with lights and other decorations.

Rangoli is a popular Diwali tradition. Beautiful patterns are made using bright colours. People draw Rangoli on the floor by the entrance of their homes to welcome the gods and bring good luck. We created our own Rangoli patterns using chalk.

Here are some video links that we shared in class. Your child might like to watch them with you at home as well.

[Why is it important to respect other religions? - BBC Bitesize](#)

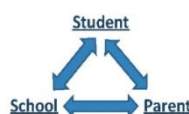
[Diwali - CBeebies - BBC](#)

[My First Festivals: Diwali - CBeebies - BBC](#)



Parent meetings

Thank you very much for taking the time to chat with us about your child's learning in your recent parent meeting. At Preston we believe that children make the most progress when school, the child and parents work together. It was wonderful to discuss your child's progress and talk about how they have settled in school.



Trips

Over the year we try to provide a broad range of opportunities for the children to visit different places. This includes trips to the local area and further afield. When we visit the local area, we either walk or use the school minibus.

In December we will be visiting:

- St Pauls Church to look at features of the church and find out why Christmas is important to Christians.
- Preston Community Pre-School to watch their Nativity.

These trips will be free of charge, and we will be using the school minibus or walking.

We would also like to give you advance notice that we will be arranging a trip to the Theatre Royal Plymouth to watch a live show. We hope to secure a date in March 2026. There will be a cost to this trip, and we anticipate it will be between £17 - £19. The payment could be due sometime in January. We wanted to let you know now so you have chance to manage finances. Going to the theatre will be a new experience for many children and it is always a fun day out.

New Parent Tours for 2026 Intake

Our school tours are filling up fast and everyone has been very impressed by the learning atmosphere. If you know of a child who is due to start school in September 2026, please let their family know about our upcoming tour dates:

Wednesday 5th November at 9.30am and 3.30pm

Wednesday 12th November at 9.30am

Wednesday 26th November at 9.30am and 3.30pm

Home Learning for children and parents

- Enjoy the story on Seesaw 'The Tiger who came to Tea' read by Mrs Bastin
- Respond to the attendance link for the Maths Workshop on 19th November
- Watch and join in with the review sounds video
- Watch additional RWI speed sound videos for sounds children are not confident with.
- Explore your five senses and try the activities on Seesaw.

Important Dates for your Diary

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October – Half Term

Monday 3rd November – Children return to school

Tuesday 4th November – Flu Vaccinations in school

Tuesday 4th November – FOPPS AGM in school 6pm – all welcome

Wednesday 19th November – Foundation Maths Workshop 5-6pm

Wednesday 3rd December – Foundation Visit St Paul's Church

Monday 8th December – Christmas jumper swap

SAVE THE DATE - Tuesday 9th December – Foundation Nativity at 9.30am in the school hall

Wednesday 10th December – visit Preston Community Pre School to watch their Nativity

Friday 12th December – FOPPS Christmas Event and non-uniform day

Monday 15th December – Foundation Rock Up and Read – more details to follow

Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Lunch in School

Thursday 18th December – Christmas parties in school - more details to follow

Friday 19th December – Last day of term

Kind Regards Mrs Bastin, Mrs Blatchford and the Foundation Stage Team

Please share this poster with anyone that has a child starting school in September 2026.

Thank you.

School Tours



Do you have a child due to start school in September 2026?

We invite you to visit our school.
We have tours on the following dates:



Tuesday 30th September at 9.30am **FULLY BOOKED**

Thursday 9th October at 9.30am and 3.30pm **FULLY BOOKED**

Wednesday 15th October at 9.30am **FULLY BOOKED**

Tuesday 21st October at 9.30am **FULLY BOOKED**

Wednesday 5th November at 9.30am and 3.30pm

Tuesday 18th November at 9.30am

Wednesday 26th November at 9.30am and 3.30pm



Contact the school office to book a place
01803 607075 or admin@preston.torbay.sch.uk