



# Half-Termly Newsletter

## Issue 5: May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and successful half term, I hope this newsletter captures the many achievements and special moments our children have experienced. It has truly been a vibrant and productive few weeks, filled with creativity, perseverance, and a strong sense of community that continues to make our school such a positive place to learn and grow.

I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to our Year 6 pupils, who completed their SATs assessments last week. They approached this important milestone with focus, determination, and impressive resilience, demonstrating maturity and a positive attitude throughout. We are immensely proud of each and every one of them, not only for their efforts during the assessments but for the way they have developed into confident, thoughtful, and well-rounded young people.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and for playing such a vital role in our school community. On behalf of all the staff, I wish you a restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 2nd June.

Warmest wishes  
Mrs Oliver

Love  
to  
Learn

Ready  
for  
Work

## Enriching Our Curriculum

**Preston Primary School Choir** performed at the Torbay Music Festival Gala on Sunday 26th April. They demonstrated our School Values superbly, singing and performing beautifully while representing Preston with great pride and excellence. At the Gala, the choir received a cup in recognition of achieving the highest mark across all Junior Choirs at the Festival.

On Wednesday 6th May, the Choir performed at the Bay Brass Concert. Each song was delivered with confidence, enthusiasm, and a genuine sense of joy. It was a wonderful evening of musical celebration, and the audience was thoroughly entertained by the Brass Band. A special mention goes to Arthur Wilmot in Snowy Owls class, who conducted the Brass Band in the final piece, Mamma Mia. Thank you to Bay Brass for organising such a fantastic evening.

**Year 4 Residential** Children in Year 4 had a fantastic time at PGL. They embraced activities such as abseiling, paddleboarding, climbing, problem-solving, and singing together around the campfire. The teamwork and determination shown by all was incredible. We were especially proud to hear that PGL staff commended the children for their outstanding manners and positive attitudes.

**Unit 4 Automotive Workshop** A group of Year 5/6 children had a wonderful day at South Devon College, diving into the world of automobiles. They learnt what it means to work in mechanics, different types of careers they could have in automobiles and the main differences between electric and petrol motors.

**Fire Service Visit for Years 2 & 5** - As part of our 30 Ways to Connect experience Number 15: 'Listen to a Visiting Speaker', children in Year 2 and Year 5 had the exciting opportunity to attend an assembly delivered by the Fire Service. During the assembly, the children learned about the important role of firefighters and how they can help keep themselves safe at home.



This half term has been an especially exciting period for sport in our school. Our ongoing focus on building a strong, inclusive, and competitive sports programme is having a clear impact, with pupils across all year groups taking full advantage of opportunities to get involved, develop their skills, and achieve success. The highlights below showcase the positive influence sport is having within our school community. These events also link closely to our *30 Ways to Connect*, particularly number 12: Represent the School.

## Connect Games Netball Tournament

A team of Year 5/6 girls recently took part in an exciting Connect Games netball tournament competing against teams from Cockington and Eden Park Primary Schools. The event was filled with energy, teamwork, and plenty of smiles as our players enjoyed the opportunity to test their skills in a friendly competitive environment. Across the matches, we experienced a mix of wins and losses, but the real highlight was the fantastic gameplay and the chance for everyone to develop confidence and teamwork on the court.



## Year 5 Cricket Development Day

Our Year 5 children took part in a cricket enrichment recently, which was facilitated by Paignton Cricket Club. They took part in a variety of cricket-based activities, including developing batting and field skills, as well as playing short games. Staff from Paignton Cricket Club were really impressed with the teamwork and skills displayed and they spotted a few children who showed a real talent for the sport!

## Paignton Academy Sports Festivals

This half term Little Owls, Starlings, and Eagles classes have participated in a Sports Festival at Paignton Academy. Starlings and Eagles enjoyed playing cricket against other schools and showed wonderful sportsmanship throughout. Little Owls took part in Bat and Ball activities. The target games were fantastic at developing the children's hand eye co-ordination, and the children enjoyed the experience of working competitively together. Each class embraced each activity with great passion for learning, capturing our School Aim, Love to Learn.



## Football League at Paignton Academy

Well done to our Year 5/6 girls football team who represented the school brilliantly in their final games of the league recently. The girls showed fantastic teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the matches. Although the team lost two games and drew another, they never gave up and continued to encourage one another until the final whistle. The team should be incredibly proud of the effort, resilience and positive attitude they have shown throughout the season.

Well done to our mixed Year 3/4 football team, who recently put in a fantastic performance and have gone from strength to strength throughout the year. The team won 1 game, drew 1 game and narrowly lost 2 games. We are delighted to announce that this team have qualified for Finals Night! Further details regarding the date and venue will be confirmed soon.

## Bradford's Community Cup

Good luck to the Year 3/4 boys for playing in the football tournament on Friday.

# Our Enquiry Subjects

Ready  
for  
Work

Love to  
Learn

## Design and Technology

This half term in Design and Technology, the children have shown fantastic enthusiasm, creativity, and determination in all areas of their learning. They have worked incredibly hard to design, make, and evaluate a range of purposeful products, continually improving their ideas and skills along the way. We have been especially impressed by their excellent teamwork and growing confidence in making.

**Unit 1** have explored the enquiry question: *'How can I join materials together?'*. The children explored different ways of joining materials using glue. They applied their knowledge to create cosy blankets for the home corner that feel soft.

**Unit 2** have explored the enquiry question: *'How can I make a freestanding structure stronger and more stable?'*. The children worked collaboratively to design and build windmills for the Make and Grow club planting areas. They developed their understanding of structure by experimenting with joining techniques such as flanges and braces, helping to strengthen their designs and ensure stability.

**Unit 3** have explored the enquiry question: *'How can I use seasonal foods to make a dish?'*. The children explored the seasonality of ingredients and designed their own delicious rhubarb crumbles. They practised important food preparation skills, including using the bridge hold to chop safely, and are excited to share their finished dishes with their adults.

**Unit 4** have explored the enquiry question: *'How do pulleys help us lift things more easily?'* The children investigated simple mechanisms by creating miniature fairground rides. Working in teams, they designed and built functioning pulley systems, resulting in engaging toys that will be shared with younger children in the KSI Undercroft.

Overall, the children have amazed us with their creativity, resilience, and ability to reflect on and improve their work. We are very proud of their progress this half term!



Be a  
Good  
Citizen

# Our Enquiry Subjects

Ready  
for  
Work

Love to  
Learn

## Computing

Although this has been a shorter half term, our children have still produced some fantastic work in computing across the school. They have shown great enthusiasm and resilience, consistently demonstrating our School Values of **Teamwork** and **Creativity**, alongside our anchors of being **Ready for Work** and showing a **Love to Learn**.

### **Unit 2 – How do you make music with technology?**

In Unit 2, children explored how music can be created and shared digitally. Using **Chrome Music Lab**, they experimented with different sounds, rhythms and patterns to compose their own pieces of music. They enjoyed working collaboratively, evaluating each other's ideas and celebrating the creative possibilities that technology provides when making music.

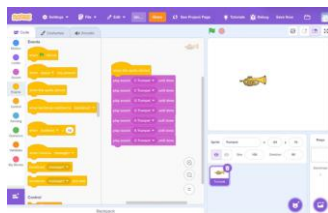
### **Unit 3 – How can I sequence sounds?**

Children deepened their understanding of sequencing by using **Scratch** and block-based coding. They designed and created their own **digital instruments**, carefully programming sequences of sounds to play in different ways. This encouraged logical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity, as well as teamwork when testing and improving their designs.

### **Unit 4 – How are videos edited?**

In Unit 4, children became young filmmakers, using **iMovie** to create and edit their own videos. They learned how to trim clips, add transitions, include sound and bring their ideas together into a finished product. The children showed wonderful imagination and collaboration, taking pride in producing polished final pieces.

Across all year groups, it has been fantastic to see children so engaged and motivated, truly embodying our **Love to Learn** anchor while being **Ready for Work**. We are incredibly proud of their growing confidence and creativity when using technology.



Be a  
Good  
Citizen

5  
Raise money  
for charity

## Supporting our House Charities

### Goodrington House

A huge well done to our Goodrington House Captains who organised a fantastic bake sale in support of Punk Against Poverty, their House charity. Thank you to all the families who kindly brought in such a variety of cakes and to everyone who donated money in exchange for a delicious treat. Thanks to this generous support, the House Captains proudly raised over £100.



### Broadsands House

A tremendous well done to our Broadsands House Captains who organised a range of activities to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. They proudly raised over £130 for this important cause. Thank you to all the families who kindly donated.



These events are a wonderful demonstration of our School Value of **Teamwork**, with the whole school community coming together. They also reflect our School Aim of **Be a Good Citizen**, showing a willingness to help others.

# Our Enquiry Subjects

Ready  
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Love to  
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## Geography

This half term, units have been busy exploring and celebrating our local community as part of their Geography Fieldwork.

Unit 2 visited the shops on Broadpark Road to learn about the human and physical features of our area, showing great **Responsibility** as they carried out their own simple surveys.

Unit 3 walked into Preston to identify key landmarks such as churches and shops, and they confidently created and answered their own survey questions, demonstrating thoughtful **Citizenship** as they learned more about the place they live.

Unit 4 focused on climate change and plastic pollution, producing impressive double-page spreads that reflected both their understanding and their growing sense of **Respect** for the environment. Across the school, pupils have shown curiosity, care, and pride in their learning – a wonderful reflection of our shared values.



## Our Fantastic FOPPS (Friends of Preston Primary School)



### Blinds in the School Hall

Our fantastic FOPPS have generously funded new black out blinds in the school hall. Having new blinds benefits all our children by allowing us to better control light levels during assemblies, performances, and discos.

### Pop Up Café

Thank you to our dedicated FOPPS volunteers for re-opening the Pop-Up café some Fridays after school. They are selling a selection of drinks, ice-lollies, and cakes. Thank you for your support.



### Year 6 SATs Breakfast

Thank you FOPPS for kindly funding the Year 6 SATs breakfast again this year. The children enjoyed eating their sausage and bacon baps together!

### FOPPS Disco

Another huge thank you to FOPPS for organising the school discos on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. This is another example of a '30 Ways to Connect' experience.





## 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 the wonderful achievements. We have some very talented pupils!

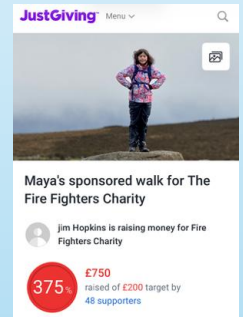
Please email into [admin@preston.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:admin@preston.torbay.sch.uk) with a photo and information, if you are happy to share your child's achievements outside school, and it may feature in our half termly newsletters.

### Maya, Year 6

Maya recently completed a challenge to walk between the fire stations in Torquay, Paignton, and Brixham.

Maya raised £750 (plus Gift Aid) for the Firefighters Charity. We are all very proud of her and her wonderful demonstration of our School Values of Determination and Responsibility.

Well done, Maya!



### Grace, Year 4

Well done to Grace who travelled to Scotland recently to take part in the 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> rounds of the National BMX series. She raced in both the female 10 and mixed 9-12 categories.

Grace finished 12<sup>th</sup> which puts her in qualifying position to represent the country and Team GB at next year's World Championships in France.

An amazing achievement, Grace!

### Alfred, Year 6

Alfred recently competed at his first wheelchair tennis tournament with adults in Taunton. It was his first time playing full length matches so he had to keep his concentration levels high.

He was undefeated and won the Novice competition.

Well done, Alfred, a fantastic achievement.



### Elliot, Year 4

Elliot is celebrating a fantastic football achievement from last weekend when his U9 team became ESF Butlins Champions 2026.

Elliot played an important role throughout the tournament, showing great determination, teamwork, and skill against some of the strongest teams from across the country. His and his teammates' excellent performances helped the team bring the trophy home to Watcombe following a brilliant weekend of football. As a result of their success, the team has now qualified for the ESF26 Grand Finale, the Champion of Champions event, which will take place this June at St George's Park, the home of England's national teams. Congratulations, Elliot!



# Diary Dates

Key dates for Summer 2. All dates are also on the school calendar on our website.

June	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Non-Pupil Day
w/c 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Swimming sessions begin
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Unit 3 Tennis Enrichment
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 4 South Devon College Enrichment (Marine Biology)
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 4 Countdown Cricket
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 small group Swimming Gala
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Civic Award fayre in KS2 playground
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Determination Assembly for the children from Reverend Nathan from St Paul's
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 3 Tennis Enrichment
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Reading Ambassador trips to local preschools
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 9-10:30am	School Nurse Drop-In session in the Pastoral Office
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 small group enrichment to Churston Grammar
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Connect small group Swimming Gala
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Reading Ambassador trips to local preschools
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 4 trip to the Box in Plymouth
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3/4 Girls Football Tournament
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Parliament Trip
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 3 Tennis Enrichment
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 day at Torquay Academy
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Snowy Owls Sports Festival
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	FOPPS Father's Day Shop
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 small group Children's Parliament event
June dates are continued on the next page...	



# Diary Dates

All dates are also on the school calendar on our website [Calendar at Preston Primary School](#)

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Summer Book Quest sign up
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Unit 3 Tennis Enrichment
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June at 2:50pm	Unit 4 Rock Up & Read
Weds 24 <sup>th</sup> -Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June at 2:50pm	Unit 3 Rock Up & Read
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Digital Leaders at South Devon College Student Showcase
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June at 2:50pm	Unit 1 (Foundation Stage) Rock Up & Read
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 4 South Devon College enrichment (eSports)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June at 6pm	Blossoms Summer Concert at Upton Vale Church
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Civic Award Assessment Day
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Unit 3 Beach Trip
<b>July</b>	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July at 2:50pm	Unit 2 Rock Up & Read
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Unit 4 Beach Trip
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Unit 2 Beach Trip
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Unit 3 Art Enrichment
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	FOPPS Summer Fair & Non-Uniform Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole School Sports Day Timings: 9-10:30am - Unit 4 10:30am-12pm - Unit 3 12-12:30pm - Lunch 12:45-2:15pm - Unit 2 2:15-3:15pm - Unit 1 (Foundation Stage) Children in the Nest (Barn Owls, Woodpeckers, Buzzards) will be participating alongside the other Units.

July dates are continued on the next page...



# Diary Dates

All dates are also on the school calendar on our [website Calendar at Preston Primary School](#)

w/c 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Last week of Activity Clubs
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Reserve date for Sports Day (same timings)
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Civic Award Presentation Evening
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July at 2:30pm	Foundation Stage Celebration Show
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July at 2:30pm	Nest (Barn Owls, Woodpeckers, Buzzards) Rock Up & Read
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual Reports emailed to parents
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Unit 3 small group Tennis Enrichment Day at Torquay Tennis Club
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July at 2pm & 6pm	Year 6 Production
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 2 Sleepover
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Unit 1 (Foundation Stage) Beach Trip
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Beach Trip
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> & Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> July	New class transition days
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July at 6pm	Preston Musical Gala & Choir Performance
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Swimming
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Puffins & Penguins Sports Festival
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July at 2:15pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Teachers Rock Charity Event at Exeter Cathedral – small choir group



# 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.

**PRESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Whole School attendance **96%**

Weekly attendance is improving!

This term, Eagles has the highest attendance!

Livermead- 97.2%  
Broadsands-97%  
Goodrington-95.7%  
Meadfoot-94.7%

Did you know....  
Missing just 1 day every 2 weeks equals about 90% attendance!

Talk to our attendance team if you have a problem

Mrs Oliver Mrs Johns

## PRESTON'S HELPFUL HINTS FOR BEING ON TIME

### WHY IS BEING ON TIME FOR SCHOOL IMPORTANT?

Being on time means children can feel settled for their day. They get to experience their teacher's meet and greet which assists a smooth transition into school.



### LAY OUT CLOTHES

Lay out or hang up school uniform the night before. You can also make sure that socks/ tights and underwear are ready so that it makes getting dressed easier.



### PACK YOUR BAG

Packing the school bag the night before helps to keep you organised. Ensure all books, home learning, and essential items are packed and ready to go.

### CHECKLIST

A visual checklist can help children follow the morning routine, create independence, and have a positive, organised start to the day. Ask our Attendance Team if you would like one created for your family.



### FIXED WAKE UP TIME

Setting a consistent wake up time helps to regulate a child's body clock and avoids morning issues. Just try not to hit that snooze button zzz!



### HOW DOES ARRIVING ON TIME HELP?

Arriving late means missing out on critical parts of learning. Some children can often feel self-conscious about entering their classroom late.

Arriving on time to school can help with routines and focus, increasing chances of success and confidence.

### DID YOU KNOW...

Being 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year!

Being 15 minutes late is the same as being absent for 2 weeks of the school year!



### LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Avoiding or limiting distractions like screen time and the TV during the morning routine can help keep focus on getting ready.

Remember: gates open at 8:35 am and lessons start at 8:45 am

## Admissions

We have a few spaces across some of our year groups (Year R, Year 1, Year 5). If you have any friends or relatives who might like to join Preston Primary, please encourage them to contact the school office to request a tour, or visit the Local Authority website for further information: [Changing or moving schools - Torbay Council](#)



# Notice Board

## Preston Primary School



Pre-loved school uniform  
available in the Pastoral office  
every Friday 3-3:15pm.

Just pop in or e mail Lisa Shepherd:  
[lshepherd@preston.torbay.sch.uk](mailto:lshepherd@preston.torbay.sch.uk) to arrange an  
alternative time.

## Torbay School Nursing Team



### School Nursing Service Parent and Carer Drop in

A member of the school nurse team will be  
attending your child's school on:

**Date:** Wednesday 10th June 2026

**Time:** 9 - 10:30am Pastoral Office at Preston Primary

We will be able to offer support and advice for:

- Bowel and bladder
- Diet and nutrition
- Sleep
- Emotional wellbeing
- Behaviour (if there is an associated health need)

**No booking needed,  
just turn up!**

### Contact Us

T: 0300 333 5352 (Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm)

E: [tsdft.0to19torbay@nhs.net](mailto:tsdft.0to19torbay@nhs.net)

A: 0 to 19 Torbay, St. Edmunds, Victoria Park Rd, Torquay TQ1 3QH

W: [torbayfamilyhub.org.uk](http://torbayfamilyhub.org.uk)

Chat via the Torbay Family Hub App



Torbay and South Devon  
NHS Foundation Trust

## SWISCO

Call 01803 207678  
for information

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## Help Torbay's school children cross safely



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