

Unit 4 Autumn 1 Newsletter 2026

School Values and Assemblies:

This half term, in our Values Assemblies and PSHE lessons, we are learning about the value of Respect. Respect for others helps build the warm, welcoming, and calm atmosphere in our school, while also helping us to develop as good citizens for the future in all aspects of our lives. This is linked to our British Value of mutual respect, where we are respectful of everyone's differences. This year, children will also take part in our Personal Development Class Assemblies, where they will learn about key religious and cultural events, as well as important commemorative days. This half term, children will learn about Yom Kippur, European Day of Languages, World Mental Health Day and Black History Month. These experiences help to broaden children's understanding of the world around them and support them in becoming well-rounded citizens who value and respect everybody.



Literacy:

In Literacy this half term, we will be exploring 'Inside the Villains' by Clotilde Perrin. Children will write first-person character descriptions from the perspective of a villain, while developing their use of ambitious vocabulary and expanded noun phrases. In our second sequence, we will study the poem 'The Sea' by James Reeves, where we will continue to develop our understanding of effective vocabulary choices while also exploring the use of personification.



Enquiry Subjects:

This half term, children will study Geography, Design Technology, and Computing. Each subject is taught weekly and is designed around an enquiry question that pupils will be able to answer by the end of their learning. In **Geography**, children will investigate the question, 'How are the physical features of North and South America similar or different?' They will develop their knowledge of both continents, exploring their locations, biomes and key physical features. In **Design Technology**, pupils will explore the question, 'How can we use strengthening and joining techniques to build a strong, stiff and stable bridge?' They will learn about different bridge structures and investigate how techniques such as cross-bracing and triangulation can be used to create load-bearing bridges. In **Computing**, children will answer the question, 'How are spreadsheets used to analyse data?' They will collect and organise data using Excel, learning how to format tables and use formulas to analyse information efficiently.

MATHS
NO PROBLEM!

Maths:

This half term, all children will learn about place value. Year 5 will learn about place value and addition and subtraction for numbers up to 1 million. Year 6 will learn about place value, and they will explore questions related to the four operations for numbers up to 10 million.

Reading:

In Reading this half term, children will continue to develop their comprehension skills through a range of engaging texts. They will explore the picture book FarTHER, using retrieval and inference skills to find evidence, explain their thinking, and draw conclusions from the text. Children will also study a riddle poem, where they will use clues within the poem to infer and identify the animal being described. We encourage all children to read daily at home for at least 15 minutes and to quiz regularly on Accelerated Reader (AR) books. Children earn points for completed quizzes and work towards their individual half-term target, with certificates awarded to those who achieve their goal. Please continue to support your child by listening to them read, discussing what they have read and sharing books together, as these conversations help to develop both comprehension skills and a lifelong love of reading.



PE:

This half term we will be learning about Yoga and Tag Rugby. Please come to school wearing our described PE kit and school jumper or cardigan.

Our PE days are:

- Hawks: Monday & Thursday
- Eagles: Tuesday & Wednesday
- Kestrels: Monday & Friday.

Home Learning:

To support your child's learning at home we request that you:

- Read for 15 minutes a day
- Practise times tables on Times Tables Rockstars
- Practise weekly spellings
- Enquiry Project: A poster on the physical features in North and South America (geography) or build a bridge using recyclable materials from home (DT).



Contact Us:

Please continue to contact the school office by email admin@preston.torbay.sch.uk or phone 01803 607075 with any questions or queries. There is also lots of useful information, as well as event dates and term dates, on our school website [https:// www.preston.torbay.sch.uk/](https://www.preston.torbay.sch.uk/)



Key Dates:

Key dates as follows:

- **Tuesday 8th September** – SEND/Pastoral drop ins for parents at the pastoral office 9-10am
- **Tuesday 15th September** – School Council Hustings in Class,
- **Tuesday 15th September** – Unit 4 Parent Information Meetings in the hall 2.45pm
- **Friday 18th September** – Flu immunisations
- **Monday 21st September** – Activity clubs start week commencing
- **21st – 23rd September** – Bikeability (pupils attending already informed)
- **Thursday 24th September** – M&M Productions show for pupils in school
- **Monday 28th September** – Individual pupil photos by Tempest Photography
- **Monday 28th September** – Harvest Assembly by Reverend Nathann Kiyaga
- **Tuesday 29th September** – KS2 Maths Parent Workshop 5-6pm
- **Thursday 1st October** – Kestrels sports festival at Paignton Academy – Tag Rugby
- **Thursday 8th October** – SEND/Pastoral drop ins for parents at the pastoral office 2-3pm
- **Wednesday 21st October** – Unit 4 parent book look 2.45pm
- **Thursday 22nd October** – Non-school uniform day and FOPPS disco.
- **Thursday 22nd October** – KS2 author visit Luke Marchant in school.
- **Friday 23rd October** – Non-Pupil INSET Day
- **Week Commencing Monday 26th October** – Half Term Break
- **Monday 2nd November** – First day of Autumn 2