



Preston Primary

Unit 1 Puffins and Penguins Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026



Love to
Learn

Be a Good
Citizen

Ready for
Work



Collaboration



Communication



Creativity



Critical Thinking

Welcome

It has been a wonderful couple of weeks, and we are thoroughly enjoying getting to know the children. Starting school is a very important moment for you and your child and it has been a delight welcoming you to Preston Primary.

We are incredibly proud of how the children are settling. They have enjoyed exploring their new learning environment and they have been busy learning new routines and developing new friendships.

We are looking forward to working alongside you all this year. We will produce a newsletter to keep you informed of your child's learning and our exciting curriculum.



Our Curriculum



We are incredibly proud of the curriculum we create for children.

This half term our learning enquiry is '**Marvellous Me**'. We will be supporting the children to answer the following questions:

1. Who am I? What makes me unique and special?
2. In what ways are we the same and different?
3. What are our School Values, class rules, and routines?
4. How can we help to keep ourselves and others safe?

Please also support your child at home to answer these questions. We are keen to share your child's learning with you and we appreciate your support.



Seesaw



We hope you are enjoying Seesaw, we find this an incredibly effective form of communication.

We will continue to use Seesaw to post images and information about your child's learning. We will sometimes assign activities on a Friday for your child to complete. These are short, fun activities often linked to phonics and maths. The activities will link to our learning in school to help your child revisit key knowledge and skills. We encourage you to engage with these as much as possible.

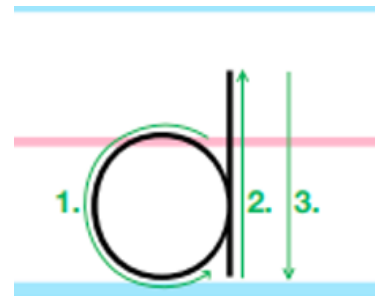
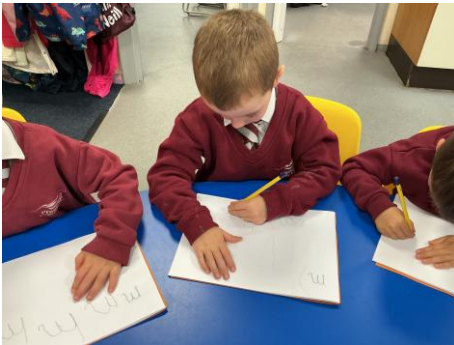
Reading for pleasure is a whole school priority and we love to share our passion for books. To support this, every Friday we will post a video of ourselves reading a story for your child and the family to enjoy. You do not need to complete any activities, just enjoy the stories. If you have any queries regarding Seesaw, please contact us.



Phonics – Read Write Inc

Read Write Inc (RWInc) is the phonic programme we use in school. Your child's reading journey is exciting, fascinating, and fun. At this stage we do not learn the letter names, we learn the sounds of the letters. This week we started learning the phonics sounds 'm', 'a', 's', 'd' and 't'. As well as learning the sounds we have started to assist the children with their letter formation. When the children write letters it is important that they start in the correct place and travel in the correct direction.

We will assign a link to the pure sounds that they are learning on Seesaw.



As part of RWInc, the children are learning to orally blend sounds in cvc (consonant, vowel, consonant) words. You can do this at home using pictures or real objects. Ask your child, 'Please could you get me the b-a-g' and give your child chance to jump in and blend the sounds to make the word bag. Do this for simple words like hat, dog, bin, mug, leg. We will assign an oral blending video on Seesaw for your child to join in with.

Phonic Information Session – Thursday 30th September at 2.30pm

On **Thursday 30th September at 2.30pm** we will be holding a phonic information session in the school hall for all parents and carers. We will explain how your child learns to read in school and how you can help at home. We will talk about the importance of reading and phonics and how your child will progress through the Read Write Inc programme. We hope as many people as possible can join us. The session will finish by 3.15pm so you can collect your child as normal.

Special Boxes

Please continue to send in 'special boxes' for the children. Every child will have a turn to share their special items with their friends. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn more about one another and make connections. It also gives them an opportunity to talk in front of the class and present, which is an important skill. It can take quite a while to get through all the boxes as we want to make sure each child is given quality time to talk and share. Thank you for your support.



Woodland Camp

The children had lots of fun exploring the Woodland Camp this week. They first learnt how to put on their mud suit and then had a tour around the camp with some time to explore. We talked about how to keep themselves and others safe. The children were very excited and cannot wait to visit again next week.



New routines

As the children have settled so well, we have introduced new routines into their school day.

Visual timetable



In each class, we have a visual timetable so that they can see what the plan for the day is. This helps them to develop a sense of time and also increase familiarity and belonging.

Special Person



We have also introduced the 'Special Person' of the day. In Foundation Stage, we support children to understand that they are all special in their own way. We take it in turns to celebrate one 'Special Person' each day. This role involves wearing a special badge, being the line leader, as well as other special jobs throughout the day. We take the time to talk about why this particular child is special to us.

Self-registration

Each child places a photo of themselves onto our self-registration chart which is made of 'five frames'. This helps to build a sense of belonging, independence, and familiarity. This also links to our mathematics curriculum as it is a quick visual way to see 'how many' children are in class. If the five frame is full they know this is five without counting. We will share more about our maths curriculum in the coming weeks.

Invitation to a child led tour

The children would like to invite parents and carers into the classroom **on Thursday 8th October at 2.50pm**. The children will give you a tour of the classrooms and talk to you about their starting school experiences. If parents and carers are not able to attend it can be whoever is collecting that day. We ask that there are no more than two adults per child for the tour due to limited space. If you have any further questions, please come and speak to us.

School Library

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum, and we aim to create a 'reading for pleasure' culture.

The children have enjoyed visiting our school library. They enjoyed looking at the different books and we started talking about the difference between fiction and non-fiction.

Visiting the library is a chance for the children to independently choose a book to share at home with you.

We are not expecting the children to read these books themselves, they are to share with a grown up for pleasure.

We plan to visit the library every Monday so please ensure they bring their book in their book bag every Monday. Please be aware that this is flexible and that sometimes an unavoidable event might prevent us from being able to access the library that day. If this should ever happen, we will change our books at the earliest opportunity. Therefore, it might be a good idea to keep their library book inside their book bag every day.

Please encourage your child to look after their library book. Can we ask that water bottles are not carried in children's book bags as sometimes they leak. Thank you.



Home Learning

- Enjoy the story on Seesaw read by Mrs Fox.
- Watch and join in with the oral blending activity on Seesaw.
- Continue to create a box of special items to share with your friends if you haven't done this already.

Important Dates

- **Monday 28th September** – Tempest Photography individual and family photos. Children's individual photos and siblings (that are in school) photos will be taken during the school day. You are welcome to bring other siblings from outside school from 8am to have a photo together before school starts.
- **Wednesday 30th September 2.30pm** – Parent Phonic Information Session in the school hall
- **Thursday 8th October** - SEND/Pastoral drop in for parents – 2pm – 3pm in the pastoral office.
- **Thursday 8th October** – Child Led Tour in Puffins and Penguins 2.50pm
- **Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October** - Puffins and Penguins Parents Evening. More details to follow
- **Thursday 22nd October** - Non uniform day and disco during school day
- **Friday 23rd October** – Non Pupil day – staff training only
- **Monday 26th October – Friday 1st November** – Half Term – School Closed
- **Monday 2nd November** – Children return to school

From Mrs Bastin, Mrs Fox and the Foundation Stage Team