Unit 3 Autumn 2 Newsletter 2026

School Values and Assemblies:

This half term, in our Values Assemblies and PSHE lessons, we are learning about the value of Responsibility. We take responsibility for the way we treat other people, for doing our learning and for looking after our things. Alongside this, children will learn about the British Value of Individual Liberty, understanding that while we have the freedom to make our own choices, we also have a responsibility to use that freedom wisely and consider the impact of our actions on others. 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 Bonfire Night, Diwali, Anti Bullying Week, International day of people with Disabilities, and Hanukkah. 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 instructions and narrative story writing. Children will recap the fundamental skills of writing including what makes a sentence, word classes, and using description effectively to build a picture in the reader's mind. We will be looking at 'Outdoor Wonderland' by Josie Jeffery and 'The Snowman' by Michael Morpurgo. Children will write a set of instructions, focusing on sequencing sentences and choosing effective verbs in the style of Outdoor Wonderland. Children will then write a short adventure story about the Snowman and James.



Enquiry Subjects:

This half term children will study History, Art, and Music. Each subject will be taught once a week and will work towards the children being able to answer an enquiry question in each subject through the careful sequencing of small steps of learning. In **History**, children will be answering the question 'What was Torbay like in the Stone Age?'. They will enjoy a trip to Kents Cavern to support them in this learning, and we will discuss the many ways historians today can learn about the Stone Age. In **Art**, children will be answering the question 'How can I create a portrait using colour and shape to depict my mood?'. They will learn about the art of Pablo Picasso and experiment with different drawing techniques. In **Music**, children will be answering the question 'How do you convey feelings in Music?'. Children will experiment with glockenspiels and singing to convey emotions.

MATHS NO PROBLEM!

Maths:

Maths is taught in separate year groups so your child may move classrooms and teachers for this lesson. In Year 3 children will learn to add 3-digit numbers with and without renaming, using the formal or 'column' method. We will then move on to subtraction including renaming in the ones and tens. In Year 4, children will be subtracting from 4-digit numbers with renaming in the ones, tens, and hundreds. All children will continue to develop their journalling skills through targeted practice. Please continue to support your children in developing fluency in number bonds within 100 and with times tables up to 12x12.

Reading:

In school, we encourage all children to read daily. They take quizzes on Accelerated Reader (AR) about the books they have read and earn points for this. Children are also expected to log on to AR at home to quiz on the books they read at home. At the end of the half term, we will be giving certificates to every child who reaches their own individual target for points earned. To support passion and progression, we expect children to read daily at home for at least 15 minutes. Please support and encourage your child in this by listening to them read aloud often and talking about what they have read to help develop comprehension skills and develop an inquisitive nature about books. It is also beneficial for children to hear you read aloud to them regularly to help develop and maintain a love for reading. Modelling your own love of reading can really help your child's reading progress.

PE:

This half term we will be developing our Gymnastics and Netball skills. Gymnastics will be indoors and Netball will be outside. Please pack a coat!

Our PE days are:

- Sparrows: Tuesday and Thursday.
- Starlings: Monday and Wednesday.
- Swifts: Tuesday and Wednesday.

Home Learning:

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

- Read for 15 minutes a day and quiz on AR.
- Practise times tables on Times Tables Rockstars **daily**
- Practise spellings
- Enquiry Project: As part of our history learning, we would like children to create a project about the Stone Age. They can have fun researching the topic using local museums (e.g. Newton Abbot, Torquay), reading books, or researching online. They can present their learning in a way of their choosing. They might make a PowerPoint presentation to show the class, create a poster, or write a story.

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/

Key Dates:

Tuesday 3rd November – Tag Rugby Development session.

Monday 9th November – Swifts and Sparrows Kents Cavern trip.

Tuesday 10th November – Starlings Kents Cavern trip.

Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th November – Parents evenings in the school hall.

Wednesday 11th November – Unit 4 present a Remembrance Assembly to the rest of the school with a visitor from the Royal British Legion.

Friday 13th November – Children in Need day.

Monday 16th November – Anti Bullying Week.

Monday 16th November – Year 3/4 Football Match

Monday 16th November – FOPPS AGM at 7pm in the School Hall.

Tuesday 17th November – Choir performing at Blossoms Winter Concert.

Friday 20th November – Choir performing at Plymouth Festival of Music.

Friday 20th November (evening) – Choir (small group) performing at Exeter Cathedral for Teachers Rock Rise Up event

Thursday 26th November – Athletics (small group) enrichment trip.

Wednesday 2nd December – Eco Committee Christmas jumper swap.

Thursday 3rd December – SEND/Pastoral Drop In for parents 2-3pm.

Friday 4th December – Christmas fair, choir performance, Santa's grotto, and non-uniform day.

Sunday 6th December – Choir performance at The Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal Service

Monday 7th December – Advent Assembly for the children from Reverend Nathan Kiyaga.

Thursday 10th December – FOPPs Elfridges Christmas shop in the hall.

Sunday 13th December – Choir performance at Karing Charity Concert.

Monday 14th December – Unit 3 Carol service at St Pauls Church, 6pm.

Wednesday 16th December – Whole school Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day.

Wednesday 16th December – Unit 3 Rock Up and Read in classrooms at 2:50pm.

Friday 18th December – Last day of term and Unit 3 Christmas parties.

Tuesday 5th January 2027 – First day of Spring term and first day back for all children.