



PRESTON HEDGE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

PHASE 1 NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th November 2023

WELCOME BACK!

Hello and a lovely welcome back to you all, I hope you have had a wonderful half term. The children have settled straight back into school routines and are excited about their new topics. Term 2 is one of my favourite terms as there are so many wonderful events and activities taking place around school during this time. Key dates can be found towards the end of the newsletter. As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to come and speak to me. I am always at my classroom door in the mornings/afterschool, and I will also be at the school gates every Tuesday from 3.10pm.

RECEPTION

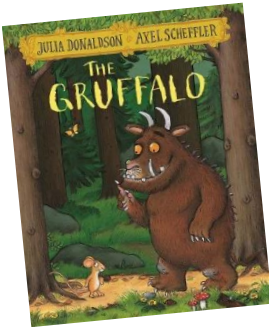
A WALK IN THE WOODS

You may have noticed that our environment has changed over the half term holiday and that our new topic for this term is 'A Walk in the Woods' which links to the books 'The Gruffalo' and 'Stick Man'. The children have already had fun exploring all things woodland both indoors and outdoors. Through this topic we will be exploring seasonal changes as autumn turns to winter, as well as, investigating changing states of matter when we identify the signs of winter and how water turns into ice and how we get snow! We will be exploring our Expressive Arts and Design through our Nativity performance and exploring the world around us by thinking about the different celebrations that people and communities have around the world.





LITERACY



Literacy this term is linked to the story 'The Gruffalo' and 'Stick Man'. The Reception children will sequence key events in a story, read and write simple labels, and begin to describe characters by writing all words in a simple phrase.



We are also very excited to write letters to Santa himself!!

Finally, we have a very exciting trip to the Dergate Theatre to watch Stick Man in December which will be a wonderful experience for all the children and really bring our topic book to life!



MATHS

This term in Maths Reception will look closely at 2D shapes, work on simple addition problems, and compare length using mathematical language.



THE NATIVITY

It's that wonderful time of the year where Reception children take part in our Christmas Nativity we will be singing, dancing and acting our way towards Christmas. There will be two performances on the **1st of December** one at **9.30am** and again at **2.15pm!** Tickets are now available, two per child! Please hand your reply slips directly to your child's class teacher. We can't wait to share the Christmas story with you through our performance!

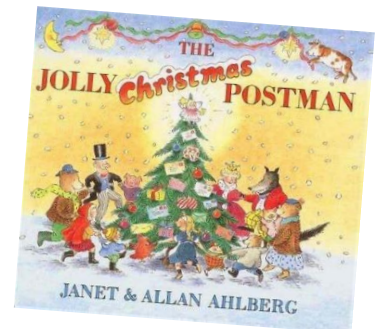
YEAR 1



LITERACY

During our literacy sessions this half term, the children will be looking at character descriptions using the book 'Greta and the Giants' as the stimulus. We will be encouraging the children to use a wide range of descriptive vocabulary

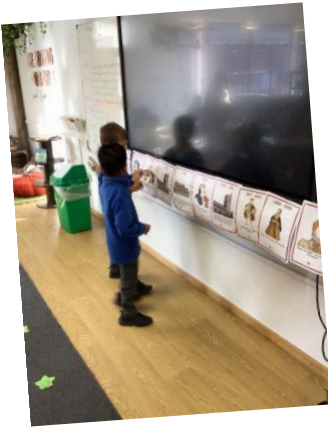
including adjectives, verbs and expanded noun phrases. We will also be looking at using an exclamation mark to make our sentences more exciting. In the last part of the term, we will be looking at letter writing using the book 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' as a stimulus. The children will learn about question sentences and how to use a question mark.



MATHS

This half term, we are focusing on shape and measurement. The children have enjoyed learning to tell the time to o'clock and half past, as well as sequencing a variety of time events. For the rest of the half term we will be looking at 2d shapes and their properties, repeating patterns and measuring length and height.





CURRICULUM

This year, our history curriculum is focusing on key British time periods linked to the Royal Family. This half term, the children will be studying 'The Tudor' time period; focusing on the reign of King Henry VIII and how some of his decisions as King still influence our lives today.



We are continuing to focus on seasonal changes during our weekly science lessons. We have investigated how day length varies across the seasons using our knowledge from last half term. The children will be learning about the differences between deciduous and evergreen trees and seeing if we can identify some of these trees around the school grounds.



In RE, we are planning to have a trip to our local church in Wootton to understand that the church is a place where Christian's worship, pray and celebrate. Towards the end of term, we will be looking at the importance of the Christmas story for Christians and how different people celebrate Christmas.

YEAR 1 CHRISTMAS SERVICE

We would like to invite you to our Christmas Service at St George the Martyr Church, Wotton. on Monday 11th December, at 2pm. The children will be telling the Christmas story accompanied by some traditional Christmas songs.

To support your children, we will be sending home the lyrics for the songs we are learning for our service. Any support with learning these songs at home would be very much appreciated!

DATES AND REMINDERS

Friday 24th November – Final parent readers of 2023!

Friday 30th November – Friends of Preston Hedges wreath making for parents. In the hall from 7pm-9pm, mulled wine and mince pies included!



Friday 1st December – Reception's 'The Nativity' performance. There will be 2 performances, one at 9.30am and a second at 2.15pm.

Thursday 7th December – Christmas jumper day. The children can wear Christmas jumpers in exchange for a donation to our Christmas raffle.

Thursday 7th December – Reception visit to The Derngate to see Stick Man

Friday 8th December: Santa's Workshop

Monday 11th December – Year 1 Christmas Service at St George the Martyr Church, Wootton, at 2pm.

Thursday 14th December: A festive day! We have our ABM Christmas lunches, the reindeer are visiting in the afternoon, and we would like to invite you all in for Christmas crafts from 2.15pm. Children are welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers again!

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEKEND!

Mrs Chapman