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## PRESTON HEDGE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

### PHASE 3 NEWSLETTER

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March

#### HELLO FROM MRS HONEYWOOD

Spring is upon us; not a moment too soon! I don't know about you, but the lighter mornings and evenings, bursts of warm, bright sun and the occasional daffodil are just some of the small things that I love about this time of year. Having said that, this week's chilly snap has certainly postponed that Springtime feel and I'm sure you'll join me in welcoming back the warmer weather soon! There is no doubt that the children in Phase Three have had a real 'spring' in their step so far this term! As always, our ethos of fun, creativity and achievement has bounced from wall to wall and it's been a delight to hear about all the fantastic things each year group have been up to.

World Book Day is always an annual treat here at PHPS and this year was no exception. What a variety of book characters we had! The hall was bursting with colour as we held our whole-school assembly due to the wonderful costumes donned by children and staff.

It is safe to say that this event was hugely enjoyed by everyone; thank you for your support with this!

We've also been lucky enough to have many visitors in to talk to us about important aspects of our personal development. Most recently, representatives from Network Rail and the Air Ambulance have been to school to share important messages about safety. Vicky, from the air ambulance, talked to the children about The Crew, a free children's club that they may wish to join. If you'd like to find out more, please visit

<https://theairambulance.org.uk/childrens-air-ambulance/the-crew/>

## YEAR 4

In Maths, Year 4 have been focusing back on measure. They have been recapping their units of measure and knowledge on time and applying those to word problems and reasoning questions. Towards the end of the term, we will be recapping and extending our knowledge on shape and statistics through weekly practise, reasoning questions and bookwork. The children continue to do their multiplication practise as well as arithmetic and reasoning each week to push their maths further.

In English, Year 4 have been focusing on writing a biography. The children have picked out language features as well as structural features of a biography to help them identify what they need to include in their writing. The topic they have been focusing on is 'Tutankhamun' because this links to their current History topic of 'Ancient Egypt'. Later in the term, the children's writing will start to theme around our new class reader book 'Treasure Island'.

Our current curriculum topic is 'Ancient Egypt'. The children are learning all about Ancient Egypt as a civilisation. They will focus their knowledge on the key figures, time periods, traditions and food that was eaten in Ancient Egypt. They will be exploring where the country is located, what time period it happened in, what was happening around the world at the same time and the key figures (Pharaohs) that lived during Ancient Egypt. To add to our wider curriculum, we have been exploring music through learning a song called 'Lean On Me' and will be using instruments alongside this.

Within Science, the children have been continuing their focus on the topic of 'Animals Including Humans' which they started last term. They have been learning about the digestive system, teeth, food chains and different food groups. They will be exploring how all these topics relate to different animals, including humans. They have also experimented the effect of liquids on the decay on our teeth using eggs to replicate the teeth.

Within PE, 4H will be attending their weekly swimming sessions where they will be exposed to expert coaching from professional swimming coaches to improve their knowledge and skills on the sport. Alongside this, 4C will be developing their PE skills back at school by learning new skills relating to Hockey as a sport. They will also be improving their gymnastics skills as they add to the skills that they learnt last term. In addition, they will also have a tag rugby session to extend their knowledge across different sports.

In RE, we are looking at Christianity and Hinduism and understanding the meanings behind different beliefs and practices. The children will be completing a range of practical activities as well as research-based activities to help them learn more about the religions. The children use different skills within these lessons including: drama, research and art which incorporates skills from other areas of the curriculum into their RE sessions.

In DT, the children are focusing on a cooking topic this term. They will be designing and making their own biscuits - including discussions around budgeting. They have budgeted their ingredients list, selected design toppings for their biscuit and designed the shape they would like it to be. Finally, they will be creating their biscuit towards the end of term.



## YEAR 5

Year 5 have had a fabulous start to term 4! The children loved dressing up in their world book day costumes and had a great day creating story books for the year 2 children, which they read to them in the afternoon! We also shared the World book day shoe boxes that you have created at home; these were amazing!!

Our history unit this term is 'World at War' where our focus is World War II and the impact it has had. The children enjoyed exploring a range of primary resources, such as artifacts, replicas and audio recordings which supported their learning about the key events and lives impacted by the war. Year 5 have applied their learning to design and create propaganda posters. Our 'World at War' topic has links to both our literacy and DT lessons. In literacy our reading book focus is 'The Silver Donkey' which we have used as a stimulus for writing a flashback. In DT we are going to be creating soft toys for evacuee children, this topic links nicely again with our history topic, comparing different toys from World War II and modern day. The children will be using a range of sewing skills, stitches, embroidery and different fabrics to create their soft toys from the design brief they have made.

In science this term we are learning about Earth and Space, we have already looked at the different stages of the moon's appearance and we are excited to keep exploring the different planets and gravity on Earth and beyond.



In music we have begun studying the famous pop song ‘The Fresh Prince of Bel Air’, the children are really enjoying this so far and love to sing the song within lessons as well as looking at the history behind this song. We will be looking at the pitch and tempo of this song and also the instruments involved, including vocals which the children will have the chance to perform to each other.

In PE with our sports coaches, the children are focusing on a range of different sports including tag rugby, hockey and dance which the children are enjoying so far. In dance the children are building a range of skills to enable them to create a dance sequence by the end of the term. During tag rugby and hockey, the children are building on their teamwork and game playing skills; understanding how to play a sport in part of a team and working together to support one another.

This term’s focus in mathematics is shape and measure where the children are deepening their understanding of these topics, while applying their knowledge to a range of different questions within arithmetic, reasoning and bookwork.



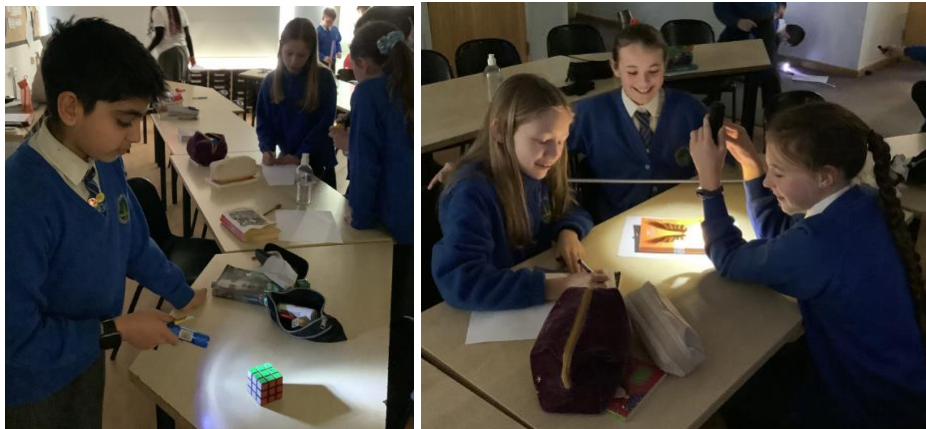
## YEAR 6

We’ve been so busy this term! In Maths, we have been revising key arithmetic knowledge and applying this to reasoning challenges. In English, we have continued to have a big focus on Reading Comprehension, thinking about key skills required to answer a range of question types and strategies to help us work on pace and stamina.

In History, we have been exploring the Peace Protests that began from the Vietnam War. We have looked at who was involved, what impact they had, and how this changed views of a generation. We have linked our learning to our British Values and have also talked about how understanding equality and peace have helped us to recognise the reasons why Protected Characteristics are in place.

In PE, our children have been developing skills in Dance and Tag Rugby. It's been wonderful to see the children demonstrate collaborative working skills whilst also developing their gameplay.

We've had lots of fun celebrating Science Week too! Lots of fun, practical activities have taken place which always prove to be a hit with the children. A particular highlight has been exploring static electricity with balloons, salt, pepper and (of course) our hair! We were able to make predictions based on the variables we were changing and discussed how close we were to the actual results when concluding our findings.



### DATES AND REMINDERS

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March-Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – TT Rockstars Battle

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Worldly Wise Week

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Y3/4 Hockey Event

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March & Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' Evening

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Rocksteady Concert 1pm

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – termly reports for parents & end of term  
Dare to be Different day – FOPH event

Thank you for your continued support here at Preston Hedge's

Mrs Honeywood