



PRESTON HEDGE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

PHASE 3 NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th September

HELLO FROM MRS HONEYWOOD

Welcome back! We are fully back into the swing of things here at Preston Hedge's. I hope that you all had a wonderful summer break with your loved ones and are feeling invigorated for the term ahead. So many children have enjoyed sharing special stories of their summer holiday and I can tell many of them have made some very special memories with you!

We've been so busy already, launching our topics, introducing the children to new curriculum areas and testing out the amazing clubs that we have on offer.

The children have thrown themselves into all aspects of learning and many children in Y3 + 4 have shown that they like to further their learning with additional work taking place at home too!

As always with the first newsletter, the entries below will inform you of what children will get up to this term as well as remind you of key messages from your year group.

YEAR 3

In Maths, Year 3 have been focusing back on number. They have been recapping their knowledge of place value, comparing and ordering numbers and number sequences. Towards the end of the term, we will be recapping and extending our knowledge on calculation 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 3 have been focusing on writing a descriptive setting based on their class read "The Enchanted Wood". The children have picked out language features as well as structural features of a descriptive setting to help them identify what they need to include in their writing. Later in the term, the children's writing will be focused around them writing an autobiography based on their own experiences.

Our current curriculum topic is 'Beyond the River'. The children are learning all about Rivers; where they are and how they are formed. They will focus their knowledge on key rivers in the UK, key rivers around the world, rivers in our local area and how rivers are formed. To add to our wider curriculum, we have been working on body percussion in music – the children have really enjoyed learning a new skill and applying it.

Within Science, the children have been focusing on the topic 'Rocks'. They have been learning about different types of rocks, how fossils are formed and where you find the different types of rocks. They will be exploring how rocks are formed, where you find them, why/how they are different and how they can turn into fossils. They will be experimenting with rocks by conducting a jam jar experiment to investigate the changes that can occur to soil.

Within PE, Year 3 will be developing their PE skills by learning the skills associated to athletics and football. They will then be given the chance to apply them to a competitive situation if they wish to attend the Year 3/4 football training sessions to trial for the school football team.

In RE, we are looking at Christianity and Islam 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 Art, the children are focusing on landscapes as a topic for this term. They will be sketching and drawing different landscapes, researching different artist's work and replicating it. They will be learning different sketching techniques and using different mediums to create the landscapes.

In Music, Year 3 are learning about body percussion. They are exploring how they can use their bodies and voices to create sounds that replicate objects or pictures. By the end of the term, they will be using body percussion to plot the musical journey of a river.



YEAR 4

In Maths, the children have revised number. Exploring place value, comparing numbers and ordering them have been the focus areas but children have also excelled with partitioning and representing numbers in different ways. We will

now be moving onto calculations where we revise methods previously used and apply these to more complex numbers.

In English, we have been writing setting descriptions based on scenes from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. The children have absolutely loved this unit! We've really enjoyed using writing tools that build tension, whilst also applying grammar skills learnt during our SPaG sessions. The ideas that the children have come up with have blown us away and we cannot wait to read the final versions! Our non-fiction unit, biographies, will also be based on Harry Potter – perhaps you and your child can guess who we will be basing our writing on?

Our current curriculum area is 'Metropolis' where we have explored cities inside and outside of Europe. We have explored London and the famous landmarks in it, including the districts. We've since explored beautiful Bern in Switzerland, which the children loved. Our map-reading skills have developed tremendously during this unit too and we look forward to applying our geographic knowledge to Washington DC in the USA!

'Sound' has been an interesting topic in Science so far this term. Making links between this and our Music lessons, we've been able to understand pitch: how different pitches are made, how they travel to our ear and whether we can see patterns with properties of items that create certain pitches.

PE has been super busy for both classes – swimming and football/athletics have kept our heart rates up and our resilience strong! Children have shown their values amazingly well in these areas: cooperation, resilience and caring are particular values that have been displayed so well!

In Art, we have been focusing on observational drawings, using pencil to create shade and tone, displaying light and dark and applying certain mark-making skills to create depth to our artwork. Following the ideas of experts and exploring their journey to observational drawing has been really interesting.

Our RE focus for this term is Christianity. In this area, we have been learning about different denominations within the Christian religion. To deepen our knowledge, we've looked at similarities and differences between the places of worship and those that attend them. It's been a busy term, but we are having a blast!



DATES AND REMINDERS

Reading workshop – Tuesday 26th September

SPaG workshop – Tuesday 3rd October 6:30pm

Maths workshop – Tuesday 8th October 6:30pm

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

Mrs Honeywood