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## Preston Hedge's Primary School

### Phase 3 Newsletter

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024



Welcome back! I hope everyone has had a lovely summer and managed to make the most of our wonderful British weather! It's been great to see the children again and they have all settled in brilliantly! If you need to see me about anything, my door is always open. It has been lovely to see the children getting back into the swing of things, embracing their new year groups, teachers and topics.

Year group meetings have been held this week and last, however if you did miss these meetings, the PowerPoint slides will be sent out to all parents shortly. If you do have any queries or questions regarding the school year, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

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 Welcome Mornings.



## Year 5



This term in English, the children will be focusing on 'narrative settings with a tonal shift.' To do this, they will be exploring and using descriptive language (including expanded noun phrases, similes and metaphors). In addition, they will be trying to engage the reader by using exciting openers, conjunctions and adding relative clauses. They will use a range of sources, but their final 'big write' will be inspired by the class read, 'Clockwork'.

Following on from their narrative, they will then focus on a non—fiction text type, a diary. Again, using Clockwork as their inspiration, they will write diary entries from multiple perspectives. During this unit, they will develop their skills around sentence structures and the use of informal language.

Maths this term is based on number, place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). The structure of lessons in Year 5 remains the same as previous years, with an arithmetic session, strand learning, reasoning and bookwork throughout the week.

The Science topic for this term and next is, Materials and their Properties. The children will complete a range experiments to explore, compare and classify materials based on their properties. They will also build on their knowledge of states of matter (solids, liquids and gases) to separate materials and look at reversible and irreversible changes. In addition, they will explore what different materials are used for and why.

Our first Geography unit of the year is 'Seven Natural Wonders' which is a fascinating topic and allows the children to build their knowledge of locational geography whilst finding out new and interesting facts about the wonders. The unit also expands their knowledge on areas including: biomes (which they explored in Year 4) and rocks and tectonic plates (which they look at in Year 3). Whilst we are unable to visit the wonders in person, we hope to bring the topic to life with the use of VR headsets, practical activities (including making model Canyons with clay), art and debates.

As always, we have weekly lessons in PE, (with a focus on football and athletics), RE (Christianity and Sikhism), RPSHE (which covers topics such as: wellbeing,

citizenship, online safety and economics). During Music, they are exploring music and composing their own to portray mood. Computing this term is based around systems, learning how these work on computers and in day-to-day objects (such as traffic lights). In art, the children are focusing on perspective using a range of different isometric paper to draw 2D and 3D shapes, developing this into drawings of buildings.

## Year 6



Our curriculum topic this year half term is Vietnam. Within this topic, we will be exploring Vietnam's unique landscape, famous rivers and bustling cities as well as comparing the lives of those living in rural and urban areas to our own. We will also delve deeper into other geographical aspects of this country like its bordering countries, surrounding bodies of water and other significant cultural factors such as cuisine and religion. This geographical knowledge will provide us with the come key contextual knowledge for our next curriculum topic: The Vietnam War.

In Maths, we have been securing our understanding of number and calculation. As always, we have a been sharpening our arithmetic skills through weekly sessions and regular arithmetic-based assessments. We will also be using these key mathematical principles and apply them to reasoning challenges.

'Earthfall' has been our focus text in English so far this term, which the children have absolutely loved. They have been plunging into the text at any given opportunity and this has resulted in some fantastic dystopian writing for our unit on Setting Descriptions. It has been a real pleasure to read them! Our weekly comprehension and reading analysis lessons have continued alongside this as we continue to expose the children to a range of differing literature and text types.

In Science, children have been discovering the components of the human body in our Animals Including Humans unit, in particular the cardiovascular and digestive systems. Children will be exploring the make-up of blood, and we will be giving them an opportunity to create a model of this. Additionally, they will be exploring how our lifestyle choices can impact our body and the ways in which this could occur.

In RE, we are studying Christianity, in particular, looking at the Lord's Prayer and how, why and when it is most commonly used. In PE, the children are learning the principles of attacking and defending in football, as well as channelling their inner athletes in athletics. Our computing topic this half term is Variables in Games. Here, the children will be able to design, write and debug programmes, and use logical reasoning to explain and use simple algorithms. In RPSHE, children will be learning about self-respect, celebrating differences, privacy & human rights.

In Art this term, Year 6 students will work through a journey of self-exploration through art, reflecting on their identity—who they are now and who they aspire to become as they grow. Each student will select an artistic movement as inspiration, delving into its unique style and techniques. Through weekly lessons, they will develop their own artistic expression, comparing their personal approach with the techniques of their chosen movement. This process will help them gain a deeper understanding of how art can reflect individuality and growth.

In Music, Year 6 are looking at decoding musical notation, exploring musical patterns and composing our own pieces to perform and evaluate.

### **Additional Information & Key Dates**

#### PE Days

Year 5 – Monday

Year 6 – Wednesday

PE kit –Children to come into school in their kit on their PE day. Navy polo, navy jacket or school jumper, blue shorts

No logos or football clothing

For lunch time sports clubs children change into their PE kit just before the club starts and they can then stay in it for the afternoon. Therefore, it may be worth having two of everything (it doesn't have to be Preston logo)

No earrings or jewellery

Long hair tied up

#### Upcoming Dates

Maths Workshop – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October (6.30pm)

Phonics Workshop – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October (6.30pm)