



Friday 18th December 2020

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

We have reached the last day of our first term back and we can't put into words how proud we are of all of our children. From the moment they stepped through the gates in September, they have adapted quickly to new routines and just got on with it! The children gave the staff confidence to push ahead with learning; they were strong and ready. But we do appreciate that while the children have been brilliant, much of their strength would have come from your reassurance that school was where they needed to be.

From all of our staff members and governors, thank you for your continued support - especially during these difficult times. Thank you for nourishing your children to face change with a smile. Thank you for your words of kindness and appreciation. Thank you for supporting each other with patience and consideration. We really have seen what a true team is capable of; we have all worked together and given the children the best possible start to the school year. Let's do it all again in January!

You may have noticed that our website has changed. Most of the information has now transitioned. Whilst this is happening, we have chosen to write this newsletter in the 'old' format. Unfortunately, we cannot share photographs as easily this way!

Risk assessment Spring 21

Our risk assessment stands without many changes as we cannot predict what the spring will bring. The main points for you to continue to note are:

- Staggered start/end times will continue.
- Drop off/pick up points will continue as normal.
- Visitors/families should wear a mask when on the school site.
- Y1 to Y6 should be dropped off at the gates in the morning. N and R children can be walked to their doors.
- It is preferred for ONE adult to drop off/pick up and for parents to leave our site as soon as possible. Maintain social distancing at all times.
- Class bubbles will continue. Lunchtimes will remain the same.
- Packed lunches - we would prefer disposable bags if possible.
- Handwashing/sanitising will continue to be a priority in school.

Headteacher - Mr S.George

PRESCOT COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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- No assemblies or gatherings of large groups.
- Strict monitoring of COVID confirmed or suspected cases amongst staff or children will continue. Please continue to work with us and inform us of any symptoms as soon as possible. Any children who are unwell or showing symptoms in school will be isolated and parents/carers will be asked to collect asap.
- Visitors to the main office will be restricted and parents/carers are encouraged to communicate via phone or email.
- Our Arbor App now makes booking and paying for additional items and lunches easier; we are now a cashless school.
- School will communicate via email, Twitter, the new Parentapp or Google Classroom. We are now running a paperless office.

During the autumn term, we have had to close only two class bubbles. We are constantly monitoring and reviewing what we do in order to keep everyone safe. Thank you for working with us.

Reporting a COVID case

You will have recently been sent an email with information on how to report a positive COVID case over the Christmas period. This has also been posted on the school app and Twitter. Please read and follow guidance should you need it.

Please download!

We have reached almost 90% of families with our new Arbor payments and bookings app. Thank you to those who are using it, we are sure it has made your life easier!

If you don't think you will need it, can we assure you that eventually you will. Please use the Christmas break to download the Arbor app and register; please check your emails as a link has been sent to you.

Since half term, we have also relaunched our school app. This gives you all of the latest information and notifications on your phone. It's quick and easy and will be your go-to for news updates, letters etc. Please also download this over the holidays. Again, you will have received an email containing a link to download this Connect ParentApp.

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Farewells

It is hard to say goodbye to members of staff who have made a great impact on the lives of our PCP children.

In November, Mrs Rusk left us to start a new adventure with the NHS. Over many years, she had worked all across school, supporting children in overcoming hurdles with her blend of expertise and unique humour. We have also shared in the journeys of her daughters and it felt like saying goodbye to one of the family.

Today, we will say goodbye to Mrs Jones, another staff member who has had a great impact on children from Y1 to Y6 across 22 years with us. Mrs Jones also gave us the pleasure of teaching her two daughters and - again - we will be so sad to see her quiet dedication and positivity leave us. We know that you will join us in wishing them the very best of luck as they move on to life after PCP.

Christmas, 2020-style

We said to ourselves that the children must still have a terrific Christmas in school but we didn't quite realise how much fun a socially distanced Christmas could be!

Our PCP Wonderland has been a huge success; we have received so many lovely comments that have made us smile each day. We must say a huge thank you to:

- Rainford's Christmas Trees
- Roby Road Dental Practice
- Prescot Rotary Club
- Glenys Hurst-Robson
- Nijman/Zeetank International Logistic group
- Daisy's Grandad for the reindeers
- Owen's Aunty for the wooden trees and wreath
- Lots of children for lights, baubles and other decorations.

Whilst this was originally in place of our usual festivities, we all loved it so much to make it an annual event! Maybe next year, we can have some additional helpers to set it all up!

Christmas Hampers

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For two weeks in December, we watched as the staffroom filled up with food, treats, toys and books. You have been so generous! We were able to create some wonderful hampers that have been shared with families within the school community. Thank you.

Talent Show and Nativity Movies

It wouldn't be Christmas without them! Filming for these events began with anticipation and brought back some of the usual Christmas excitement, along with some new adventures including mini Santas in front of the green screen, sheep running wild on the field, Michael Jackson, Freddie Mercury AND Madonna all in school on the same day. The children and staff took it all in their stride and produced some amazing videos that can be watched many times over - the beauty of a digital performance! The events were topped off with a Talent Show Results Zoom and a PCP Oscars Zoom which gave credit to the outstanding performances that we had seen.

Well done to Y3BD and Y6W for winning this year's Talent Show and to everyone who was involved in making this special time of year happen.

Links were sent via email to the nativity movies and the winning Talent Show videos can be found here:

Y3BD: <https://youtu.be/nILO-G3Od5o>

Y6W: <https://youtu.be/krmq8VQd9JY?list=TLPQMTgxMjJwMjJy7cABt0HZZg>

And so we say goodbye to 2020. Enjoy your Christmas break safely and happily. Take pleasure in the little things and in thoughts of family near or far.

From all of TEAMPCP, we wish you a very merry Christmas and a brighter 2021.

Kindest regards,

Mr George and Mrs Seddon

Headteacher - Mr S.George

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