



OCTOBER 2024 - NEWSLETTER 2

25th October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems only a short while ago that we returned to school in September and yet here we are already at the half term break! As usual, the start of the school year has been a busy one but the children are now settled into their new routines, their attitudes to learning are positive and they are engaged in their learning. Please do sign up for the Parent Consultation evenings next half term when teachers will be able to update you on your individual child's progress and next steps in learning.

School Grounds Day – Thank You

Thank you to all those parents and grandparents who very kindly helped on School Grounds Morning. It was amazing how much we achieved in one morning.



School Library – Thank You

A big thank you to Mrs George (Mum to Alby in Y1) for volunteering and working wonders in our school library.

If anyone else would like to volunteer in our school library please contact Mr Hill at office@epinf.co.uk.

Reminder: Junior School Transfer/ Reception 2025



All Year 2 children will by now have received their Junior School transfer instructions via WeDuc. Please note that the **deadline for applications is 15th January 2025**.

For those of you who have younger children due to start school in September 2024 please make sure that you apply for your place by the closing date of **15th January 2025**. These deadlines are extremely important and we have had parents in the past miss out on places as their paperwork was not submitted on time.

Armistice Day 11th November - Poppies for Sale

The school will be selling Poppies via the school office from **Tuesday 5th November** for a donation. The children will be able to wear Poppies in school up to and including Monday 11th November. We will not be selling other products such as wristbands and pencils and we ask that children do not bring these into school if you have purchased them elsewhere. Thank you in anticipation of your support for this very worthwhile charity.



Children are invited to wear their uniforms from clubs such as Cubs, Beavers, Rainbows and Brownies on Remembrance Day, Monday 11th November.

Odd Socks Day: Tuesday 12th November



As part of our Anti-Bullying week focus we will be inviting children to come in to school on Tuesday 12th November in uniform but wearing odd socks. These can be ones already in your drawer or more decorated versions. This supports our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (P.S.H.E) curriculum learning in valuing ourselves and celebrating diversity.

Children in Need: Friday 15th November

This year we will again be supporting Children in Need, culminating in a **non-uniform day (in return for a donation) on Friday 15th November.**



Parent Consultation Evenings: Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st November

Parent Consultations will be held online on the above dates and are available to book online.

In line with other schools, parent consultations are a short 10-minute appointment to inform you about your child's current progress and attainment. We understand that sometimes parents have issues they would like to discuss which may take more time than this, and so in these instances we would ask you to contact the class teacher to make an appointment for a face-to-face meeting outside of these times.

Teachers are happy to talk with parents at any point during the school year, you do not need to wait for consultation evenings to discuss concerns. Your child's work is available for you to look at following their year group assemblies, but again, if you wish to look at this at a time other than this, then please speak to your child's class teacher.

Due to teacher availability, Kestrels have a parent consultation on Monday 18th November to replace Thursday 21st, and Robins have one on Thursday 28th November to replace Thursday 21st November.

Reminder: Passing messages to school staff in the morning



With the classroom doors opening at 8.50am and registers being taken at 8.55am the teachers and support staff do not have time to talk with parents on the door in the morning. The support staff are there to support specific children with entering the classrooms so please could we politely remind you to pass any important messages through the main office (secretary@epinf.co.uk) or contact the teachers through the year group email.

Teachers are available to talk at the end of the school day or you can email them to make an appointment if you wish to spend longer talking with them. Thank you in advance for your support.

Amazon Wishlists

Some of you will be aware that the school has Amazon wishlists for resources that we would like but simply cannot afford to purchase. From time-to-time parents, carers and grandparents very kindly donate resources from the lists to the school. If this is something that you or a family member would like to do then please follow the links below. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

YR: <https://amzn.eu/c9PRB7D>

Y1: <https://amzn.eu/7dRC9r0>

Y2: <https://amzn.eu/gaJyTNP>

Forest & Beach School: <https://amzn.eu/iE3PotR>

Spotlight on Safeguarding: Children's Safeguarding Policy

Did you know that we have a children's version of our safeguarding policy?

We do not just have a safeguarding policy for staff but also one for children. It helps the pupils in our school know how they can keep themselves safe.

It covers:

- How they can tell if adults in school should be in school;
- What things may worry them;
- What to do if something worries them.



In our PSHE curriculum we teach children about trusted adults, who they can talk to if they have any worries. We teach children how to build relationships, what caring friendships are and how to recognise if they are feeling unsafe and what to do if they do not feel safe. We also talk about safety online and what to do if someone online makes them feel unsafe.

Children in Years 1 and 2 are also aware of ChildLine and how the NSPCC are there to help anyone who may need help.

You can find out more information about safeguarding on our website [here](#)

We have attached a copy of the children's safeguarding policy for you to this newsletter.

Miss Moulson

Governors Corner

As a co-opted governor at East Preston Infant school, we are volunteers ensuring that your children are provided the best opportunities in their early years of education. This journey may have difficult times and this is why we strive to provide the best structure and staff to enable the early years to be enjoyable, safe and provide a good grounding. It is important that parents utilise the high standard of skills that our staff possess and who are able to offer assistance and advice when needed.

Maintaining the buildings and infrastructure is increasingly difficult and any offers of skilled assistance from parents is always welcome. I should also mention that families who may be liable for benefits or assistance can assist us greatly by claiming 'Pupil Premium' as this initiates a good and deserved financial payment to the school, as well as any necessary assistance to the individual child. Please speak to the school who can advise you on how to submit any relevant claims.

Lastly, one of my responsibilities is monitoring our attendance policies. We all understand the outrageous price increase in school holiday bookings, the special occasions and of course the occasional difficulty in getting them in, although hopefully that is much later in their school career. It is important that you initiate early and honest discussions with the attendance lead Miss Philippa Moulson (Deputy Head). Unfortunately, our hands are now firmly tied by government and legal directives but the school will advise you on the best course of action or likely outcomes.

Steve Burt
Co-opted Governor

Communication

We appreciate that it can sometimes be confusing knowing the best way to communicate with us and how you can expect us to communicate with you and so we hope that the following helps to provide some clarification:



- **WeDuc:** This is the main method of communication from the office.

It enables us to send out both short message reminders, as well as attachments such as newsletters, flyers and important updates, which need to be shared with the whole school. **You do not need to log in to access a message as it arrives in your email box** – in this way we are able to ensure that all families receive important information. We are also able to view which families have received messages.

You can pay for a trip, FEPIS disco ticket etc... as well as complete consent/permission forms which the school may send out for example relating to a sporting event or a survey.

If you have installed the WeDuc app, messages will also appear within this; however, you will still receive an email in your mail box.

- **Year group emails:** These are for you to contact your child's teacher to pass on messages, information or request meetings. These are checked by the teachers in the year group from Monday to Friday.

yearr@epinf.co.uk
year1@epinf.co.uk
year2@epinf.co.uk

- **Marvellous Me:** This app is used by teachers to give virtual badges, stickers and awards to children and to share your child's achievements with you.

You will need to have signed up to the app in order to receive these, however once this is done you will be sent a notification if your child has been given an award. Within this app, there is also a communication facility, which teachers sometimes use to send short messages out to their year group or individual class. Again, you will receive a notification via the app if a message has been sent to you. **The school will have given you a joining code for this.**

- **Google Classroom:** Google classroom is the tool through which home learning is shared.

Teachers upload homework and home learning letters onto this each week and children can upload work back for the teacher to see. You will receive a notification when a new home learning letter is uploaded. Teachers do not send out messages via google classroom. **You need to log in to this website/app every week in order to see the home learning and to access the home learning letters. The school will have given you a log in and a class code.**

- **Tapestry (YR only):**

Tapestry is a secure online Learning Journal to record photos, observations and comments, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, to build up a record of your child's experiences during their time with us.

Dates for your Diary

Attached are some dates for you to note on your calendar, please check each newsletter for any updates or amendments.

As this will be the last newsletter before half term, I would like to wish you all a great half term break! Please remember that there is an INSET day Monday 4th November and so the children return to school on Tuesday 5th November. See you then!

Claire New

Claire New (Mrs)
Headteacher





Diary Dates

Monday 4th November	-	INSET DAY - School closed to pupils
Tuesday 5 th November	-	Term restarts for pupils
Thursday 7 th November	-	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 12 th November	-	Open Morning for 2025/26 intake 9-30am – 11.30am
		Odd Socks Day
Wednesday 13 th November	-	Y1 Stay & Play Maths
Thursday 14 th November	-	Y1 Stay & Play Maths
Friday 15 th November	-	Children in Need Non uniform day
		FEPS Firework Event 5pm – 7pm
Monday 18 th November	-	Kestrels only Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6pm
Tuesday 19 th November	-	YR Stay & Play Maths
		3.30pm – 6pm – Parent Consultations
Wednesday 20 th November	-	3.30pm – 6pm – Parent Consultations
Thursday 21 st November	-	YR Stay & Play Maths
		3.30pm – 6pm – Parent Consultations
Friday 22 nd November	-	Hewson Enterprise visit Y1
Tuesday 10 th December	-	9.30am – Y2 Christmas Performance
		2pm – YR/Y1 Christmas Performance
Wednesday 11 th December	-	9.30am – YR/Y1 Christmas Performance
		2pm – Y2 Christmas Performance
Thursday 12 th December	-	9.30am – YR/Y1 Christmas Performance
Friday 13 th December	-	Christmas Jumper day
Monday 16 th December	-	9.00am – 10.00am Open Morning for current families
Thursday 19 th December	-	Christmas lunch
		pm year group parties
Friday 20 th December	-	Pantomime – Cinderella – Whole school
		School finishes at 3.15pm
Monday 6th January	-	INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 7th January	-	INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Wednesday 8 th January	-	Term restarts for pupils
Tuesday 14 th January	-	Open Morning for 2025/26 intake 9-30am – 11.30am



Monday 2nd September 2024
Monday 4th November 2024
Monday 6th January 2025
Tuesday 7th January 2025
Monday 24th February 2025