

Prescot Primary School and Nursery

AUTUMN TERM 1

Newsletter



WELCOME

What a fantastic start to the new school year! It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school after the summer holidays and to see our children return so happy, enthusiastic and ready for another exciting year of learning. We have loved hearing all about their summer adventures and finding out what they have been getting up to, as well as extending a particularly warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined our school community.

Our new Nursery and Reception children have made a fantastic start and have settled so well into school life. It has been lovely to see their confidence grow as they become familiar with their new surroundings, routines and the wider school community. Across school, our children have also been getting to know their new teachers and classes, and our new teachers have fitted into school life so naturally that it feels as though they have always been part of our team! We have also been delighted to see our children looking so smart in their school uniforms. Thank you to families for your continued support with our uniform expectations. We are particularly pleased to see more children following our no jewellery rule and wearing either their school PE kit or a plain white top and joggers on PE days. This is something we will continue to focus on, and where necessary, we will contact families directly to support everyone in meeting our school uniform expectations.

There is such a positive energy around school already, and we could not have wished for a better start to the new academic year. What an amazing beginning to another year of learning, growing and making memories together!

Team PCP

NEWS SPOTLIGHT

Our new school office is nearly complete and we are sure you will agree it looks great. It has helped to ensure our front of house is secure and created additional spaces to meet with children and families. Another bonus of being in The Rowan Learning Trust!

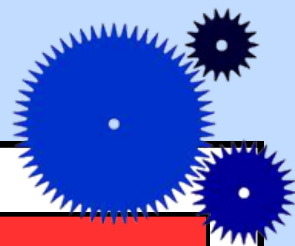
ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Our whole-school attendance is currently 95.1%, an impressive 2.4 percentage points higher than this time last year! This is a brilliant improvement and shows the positive impact of everyone working together to make every school day count.



Our new Attendance Cogs have been a big hit, with children eager to earn the Golden Cog! Our Year 6 Botheredness Leads have been doing a fantastic job awarding these every Friday and each class is becoming familiar with their weeily percentages.





SEND

During this half term, our SEND team has been focusing on helping children feel safe, settled, included and ready to learn. We know that starting a new school year, in a new classroom with new adults, can be very overwhelming, so staff have been taking extra time to build strong, positive relationships with the children in their class.

To help support your child at home, please continue to refer to the new class social story that was sent via email before we broke up for the summer holidays.

The Hive is now in full flow and is available for all children to use when needed. This area is structured around the four areas of SEND: Communication & Interaction, Social, Emotional & Mental Health, Cognition and Learning, and Sensory and Physical. This ensures that activities are accessible to all children and support them in making progress across these areas.

Please follow the link below to access the October half-term countdown, which will help to support children with the change in routine.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SGJ-JeW-ZfhhhAylqal7is_1fPfpNdIW/view?usp=drivesdk

BC/ASC UPDATE

A warm welcome back to all our Breakfast Club and After School families, and a special welcome to all our new starters! We have had a half term full of fun activities, games, crafts and opportunities to make new friends and memories.

We apologise for the Arbor problems you may have experienced at the start of term. Please contact us on admin@prescotprimary.org.uk with any booking enquiries and we'll be happy to help.

We still have places available, collect an BC/ASC Request form from the office and arrange an induction meeting. Remember, book your sessions a week in advance – Thursday to Thursday – windows close at 5pm.

EYFS UPDATE

Our EYFS Stay and Play sessions were a wonderful opportunity for families to come into school and see our provision in action. We were delighted that so many families were able to join us, and we are sure you will agree that our children demonstrated just how independent they are becoming and how many exciting learning opportunities they have available to them each and every day.

Our first Open Night of the year was also a very busy and successful evening, and it was lovely to welcome so many prospective families into school. If you know someone who is considering Prescott Primary School for their child, please share the dates of our upcoming **Open Nights** and get them to email to book a place:

Tuesday 17th November 2026, 4.00-5.00pm

Wednesday 6th January 2027, 4.00-5.00pm

We currently have a small number of Nursery places available for a January start. If you are interested, please get in touch with our Admissions Team as soon as possible at

admissions@prescotprimary.org.uk. We would love to welcome more families into our school community!

CURRICULUM



What a fantastic start to the year!

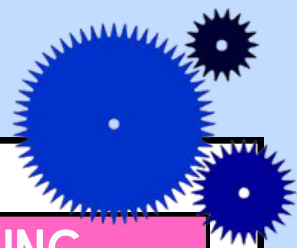
Our children have been busy exploring exciting history projects, from significant people and prehistoric Britain to the Shang Dynasty and the transatlantic slave trade. We've loved seeing our young historians gaining new skills while investigating the past!



Handwriting continues to be a big focus across school, with children working hard to improve their letter formation, joins and presentation. We are already seeing some lovely improvements! A huge well done to our September Handwriters of the Month winners – keep up the fantastic work!

Finally, our Times Tables Superstars in Years 4–6 have been working hard on their daily TT Rockstars Soundchecks to improve speed and accuracy. Don't forget to check those heat maps! They show which times tables your child needs to practise. Just a few minutes at home makes a big difference.





READING UPDATE

It's been a busy start to our reading year at PCP. The library has had a bit of a revamp to make it an even more welcoming shared space for all our readers. We will continue our Accelerated Reading journey this year, helping our children to pick appropriate and challenging reading material from our ever-growing selection. Thank you all again for your book donations.

Our children can also check out the selection of books dedicated to celebrating Black History Month, widening their experience of other people's history and contribution to society.

We don't have any Word Millionaires to report yet, but watch this space.

PRESCOT PILOTS



Our before and after-school clubs got off to a great start! Next half term's clubs are now available to book through Arbor.

Our children have already proudly represented the school at a range of sporting events, including cross-country and football tournaments. A special congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 dodgeball team, who won their tournament after finishing runners-up last year! Dodgeball club will be available for children in Years 3 to 6 on Friday mornings next half term. Spaces fill up quickly, so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment.

Next half term, we will also be holding our annual Elf Run to raise money for our chosen local charity, Willowbrook Hospice. More details, including the date, will follow soon.



RIGHTS TO RESPECTING SCHOOL

We have now completed our pupil elections for our Rights Respecting Changemakers 26/27! Miss Watts and Miss Davis have been meeting regularly with our newly elected representatives, who have been organised into four committees:

- Inclusion & Attendance
- Health & Safety
- Enrichment & Wellbeing
- Teaching & Learning.

Each committee will work together to listen to pupil voice, share ideas and identify achievable changes that will make a positive difference to everyone in our school community. We are excited to see our Changemakers putting children's rights into action and making their voices count!

FAMILY SUPPORT

In school we have our own CARE team, a group of staff each offering different skills and expertise. We are always on hand to children and their families, to help and sign post where we can:

Mrs George - Designated Safeguarding Lead and SENDCo

Mrs Collis & Mrs Davies - SEND Team

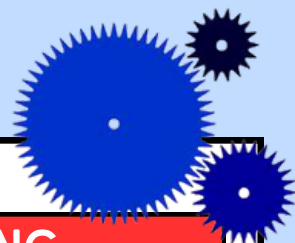
Mrs Collis - Team Around the Child Lead, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Learning Mentor

Mr McDowell - Family Support Practitioner

Mrs Cunningham - SEND and Inclusion support

Catch us on the gate each day or email us on admin@prescotprimary.org.uk





OPAL

Outdoor Play and Learning is in Full Swing! OPAL has really taken off this half term, and it has been wonderful to see the children embracing the opportunities it offers. There has been so much creativity, imagination, collaboration and, most importantly, FUN! We are already seeing the children making the most of their outdoor spaces in new and exciting ways, and this is only the beginning. We still have lots of ideas for developing our OPAL provision further, and we are excited to see where the children's imaginations take us next!

On the KS1 playground, the children have been busy making music with old pots and pans, creating their own wonderful sounds and rhythms. Small-world play has been a big hit, with dolls, animals and cars inspiring all sorts of imaginative stories and role play. The children have also been developing their gross motor skills, balance and coordination by pushing and pulling one another in suitcases! Our makeshift stage has provided plenty of entertainment, with children taking to the stage in an amazing array of fancy dress costumes to perform, entertain and make their friends laugh. It has been lovely to watch their confidence, creativity and teamwork flourish.

On the KS2 playground, the fun has been just as enthusiastic! The children have enjoyed exploring small-world toys, playing games, riding scooters and experimenting with music. They have been inventing their own games, working together, sharing ideas and finding new ways to use the resources available to them. OPAL encourages children to take the lead in their play, solve problems, negotiate with their friends and develop independence – all while enjoying the freedom of being outdoors.

A little reminder for families!

As the weather gets colder and wetter, all children must have a pair of wellies in school if they wish to play on the grass during the winter months. They will also need a warm, waterproof winter coat so that they can enjoy outdoor play whatever the weather. We want everyone to be able to make the most of OPAL throughout the year!

Can you help us grow our OPAL provision?

We would be very grateful for donations of clean, safe items in good condition, including:

- Small-world toys – animals, cars, trains and dinosaurs etc.
- Dolls, Barbies, prams, suitcases and bags.
- Scooters, ride-on toys and wobble cars.
- Old pots, pans, metal utensils and wooden spoons.
- Fancy dress, hats, scarves, fabric and old curtains.
- Buckets, spades, trowels and gardening tools.
- Chunky chalks, old paintbrushes, rollers and buckets.

Even the simplest household items can inspire wonderful play! Thank you for helping us create an outdoor environment where children can explore, imagine, collaborate and develop their independence. We can't wait to see what comes next!

FUNDRAISING

Our Spooky Welly Walk was so much fun and raised vital funds to help us develop our Therapy Hut and purchase another shed. Our third "Love it for longer" clothes swap shed will be placed at the front of school and will contain other preloved items e.g. Christmas jumpers, good quality coats, wellies, weekend clothes, card games and Connect 4 etc. If you are having a clear out please save these items ready to fill our new shed.

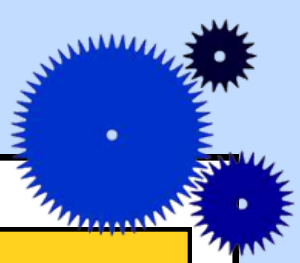
Remember to help yourself at anytime to the preloved uniform - just open the shed if they are closed.

SAFEGUARDING

We are pleased to have extended our team of trained Mental Health First Aiders in school, strengthening the support available to help our children understand, manage and regulate their emotions.

We also came together to recognise Children's Mental Health Week, taking time to explore the importance of recognising and naming our feelings, talking openly about our emotions and knowing who we can turn to when we need help. We want every child to feel safe, listened to and supported, recognising that positive mental health and emotional wellbeing are essential foundations for happy, successful learning.





INFO FOR FAMILIES - LEARN ACTIVE



Weekend and school holiday sessions across Knowsley.

Small, supportive groups of 12 children with 3 members of staff (1:4 ratio).

Fun activities including sports, arts and crafts, sensory play, games and social activities. Opportunities to build friendships, confidence, independence and social skills

A welcoming and inclusive environment where children can have fun, feel supported and thrive!

How can families apply?

- Knowsley Council has recently published an announcement about our new provision, including information on how parents can register: <https://www.knowsleynews.co.uk/register-now-for-enjoyable-engaging-and-inclusive-short-breaks-provision-in-knowsley/>
- Direct link to the Short Breaks application portal: <https://lcscport.knowsley.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>
- Families can also contact Knowsley's Short Breaks Support Officer on 0151 443 4072 or 07775 014914 for support with the application process.

ENRICHMENT

The Moon on a Stick – Celebrating Culture in Knowsley!

We were incredibly proud to take a group of our Year 5 children to the Shakespeare North Playhouse to be part of the launch of Knowsley's exciting new Cultural Education Strategy, 'The Moon on a Stick'. Our children worked alongside local poet Dr Ashleigh Nugent, rehearsing and performing a fantastic rap poem as part of the celebrations.

Even more importantly, our children had the opportunity to share their own ideas and help shape the strategy, ensuring that young people's voices are at the heart of future cultural opportunities across Knowsley.

Inspired by this experience, we have already booked a series of exciting theatre workshops for children across our school. As one of Shakespeare North Playhouse's 'doorstep schools', we are eager to strengthen our links with the theatre and open even more doors to the wonderful arts, culture and creative experiences available right here on our doorstep. What a brilliant way to empower our children and broaden their horizons!

DATES & REMINDERS

• **NEW SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS - SEE SEPARATE EMAIL!**

- Read independently for at least 20 minutes each night.
- Charge iPad nightly and bring it to school each day.
- Wear school PE kit only on PE days or a plain white t-shirt and leggings/joggers.
- Don't forget to book any BC/ASC & Busy Bee places for after half term.

RETURN TO SCHOOL – Monday 2nd November

Next EYFS Open Night – Tuesday 17th November
4–5pm

PCP & Glenbuck Christmas Markets –
Wednesday 9th December





PCP Autumn Art Competition 2026

We are excited to announce our PCP Autumn Art Competition!

We are looking for some pieces of brilliant artwork that capture the season of autumn.

What do you need to do?

- Create a piece of artwork showcasing the season of autumn.
- You can use any materials/concepts that you want.
- Digi art is allowed and can be submitted via the PCP Art Google Classroom.
- Any physical pieces of artwork can be given to your class teacher.

We will be choosing 4 winners:

- EYFS Winner
- KS1 Winner
- LKS2 Winner
- UKS2 Winner

You have the rest of this half term and the October break to create your piece of artwork.

Deadline: Monday 2nd November



PCP ART Google Classroom Code:
4k5zfzu

Participation is optional.
However, we would love to see as many pieces as possible.

