

PRENTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018

Issue No. 69



Wow! What a busy term this has been with Open Day closely followed by Inspection and a myriad of lovely events taking place. We are already looking forward to a fun-packed Summer Term. I'm sure that everyone, pupils parents and staff alike, will enjoy a well-deserved break after all their hard work.

Our pupils continue to astound us with their talents and we have achieved yet more fantastic successes outside of the classroom this term. Sport has, once again, figured highly this term and we are very pleased with our teams' performances. In Swimming five of our team were selected to represent the North of England team at the ISA National Finals. We were so proud when they returned from the Olympic Pool with EIGHT medals – an amazing achievement. Our netball and football teams also did us proud in their various tournaments with the netballers winning the Chadwick Cup and finishing fourth in the North of England High 5s tournament. Our Year 3 and 4 water polo team also performed excellently to finish fourth in the ISA North of England competition! Cross country has blossomed this year and we were very proud to have four runners qualify for the ISA National finals with one finishing as regional champion! Congratulations to all pupils who have represented school at any of the various activities, you are a credit to us! Our juniors performed the Easter Story as part of our Easter Service at St. Saviour's Church. It was a lovely performance with the choir beautifully supporting their clear narrative. All the hard work of the Junior staff was well worth it and we thank them for their efforts.

PPS IN THE COMMUNITY

This term has been another successful one with regards to fundraising. The PPS community have again supported a variety of worthy causes.

First up was our charity chomp, the children really enjoyed their hot dog and fruit lunch and we raised £218.00 which was donated to UNICEF.

We also had a collection during our annual Easter Service at St. Saviour's Church and raised £140.00 which has been donated to Barnardos.

Thank you once again to all members of the school community who donate so generously to ensure we are able to help a variety of charitable causes.

The sweet stall organised by one of our Year 6 pupils also raised a pleasing £62.70 for The Wirral Dyslexia Association and it is always especially pleasing to see pupils thinking about those less fortunate than themselves and arranging these events themselves!

The Summer Term will, as always, include the sponsored swim for Years 1-6. The children always participate in this with great enthusiasm and I am sure that you will all support them in their efforts.

The money raised will, once again, benefit worthy charities which will be discussed by staff prior to the start of term.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We return to school on Tuesday 17th April and children should wear the summer uniform. Dresses and straw boaters, white socks and navy or red sandals for the girls. Black shoes are also acceptable but please avoid slip on or high heels for safety reasons, Short sleeve shirts and grey shorts are optional for the boys.

Remember for the girls the summer dress should be purchased from John Lewis rather than our usual suppliers, Cain of Heswall.



OTHER NEWS

Once again our Easter Eggstravaganza was a great success. It was lovely to see so many members of the school community browsing the children's art work. Well done to all the pupils as their contributions were again of a superb standard.

Remember that our KG, Infant and Years 3&4 football and netball clubs continue into the Summer Term. However the Years 5&6 football and netball clubs have now finished until the Autumn Term. We are looking forward to the Cricket / Rounders club as well as Athletics during the summer months. Both of these clubs are very popular and are now full.



THE SCHOOL COUNCIL by AVA GATHERCOLE, YEAR 6:

The school council meetings are held in the Year 5 class room and share everyone's ideas from our classes' suggestion boxes. The meetings are held by Mrs Hughes, the Year 5 teacher. After the meeting, the school council member for each class will come back with the chosen ideas and ask the children which idea they want.

The School Council can also decide which charities we support following various fundraising events. In addition members can also suggest other events or activities that may benefit the school or pupils. Not every suggestion is approved!

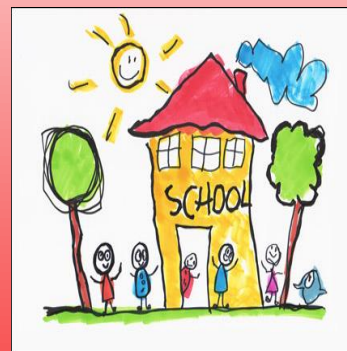
The School Council is a relatively new concept at PPS and we are still exploring ideas and things to do. We greatly value the input from Mrs Hughes: her advice and support.

We hope we make a difference to the school!

PICK UP AND DROP OFF TIMES:

It is concerning that we are receiving an increasing number of complaints from our parents and neighbours about inconsiderate and dangerous parking on Mount Pleasant. Please bear in mind the access rights of nearby residents. **It is also especially important for the safety of all of our children that emergency vehicles are able to pass along the road if necessary.**

Please think about this when parking and show due consideration and respect to members of the public.



Merci

THANK YOU

Gracias



Infant News



PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

We have had a really exciting and fun filled half term. The children have achieved so much in such a short space of time. Our topic this half term has been 'Spring'. They have enjoyed learning what the different signs of spring are including; buds and blossom starting to grow on the trees, daffodils growing, warmer days and lots of baby animals being born. A particular highlight was our trip to Birkenhead Park. We had a wonderful time and tried very hard to see as many signs of spring as possible on a very cold and wintery day. We managed to see daffodils, buds growing on trees and flowers starting to grow. The children loved looking at the ducks, geese and swans and thought that it was very funny when two very friendly and inquisitive squirrels came very close to us to say hello! As a treat for being so well behaved, the children played on the park before we went back to school.

We have continued to learn a new sound each week and will continue to do so when we return after our Easter holidays, although there are not many left now to learn. I will continue to display which new sound we will be learning and then which sounds we will be revisiting on the Parents' Display Board in Pre-School.

We look forward to welcoming Olivia, Martha, Eydie and Harley to Pre-School after our Easter break. Our final term will be just as fun as the others with an exciting trip to The Blue Planet planned which will support our topic work of 'Under the Sea', the FS summer concert and hopefully lots of warm, sunny days where we can enjoy our glorious garden.



YEAR 1 & 2 VISIT TO THE POTTING SHED

Lara: The lady who helped us was called Mrs Jeanette Hatter. She came to school to work with Year One and Two in the art room.

Charlotte: We all had to draw a picture about things that remind us of Spring.

Leo: Jeanette said it had to be a big picture otherwise it would be too hard to paint.

Harley: She helped us to choose which parts of our pictures were the best.

Robin: The teachers had to stick some magic paper onto clean, white tiles and then we could draw the best bits of our pictures on the red

Libby-Lee: We had to go over our pictures twice. First we used an ordinary pencil.

Avarni: Then we had to go over it all again with a coloured pencil.

Jenny: We could see where we had gone over the pencil lines when we used the colour.

Aimee: Jeanette said that if the pictures hadn't come through to the tiles properly they would go over them again for us.

Edward: When we went to The Potting Shed there was another lady to help us as well. Her name was Sarah. Sarah had had to take all our tiles home with her to go over the pictures again with a dark pencil.

James: It had taken Sarah a long time to go over them all because it was difficult. She said it made a horrible noise which was like chalk scraping on a blackboard!

Emily: All the tiles were out on a long table and we had to find our own and sit by it. Jeanette showed us a tile with three stripes of the same red colour on it.

Sidney: The top stripe was really pale and streaky and had only been painted once. The middle stripe was better because it had been painted twice. The stripe at the bottom of the tile was the best of all. It was really bright and beautiful and had been painted three times.

Freddie: Jeanette told us that the paint dries really quickly and that we must remember to do three coats of paint so that the colours would not be too pale.

Bertie: There was a tile to show us all the colours of the paints. Each colour had had a number on it and we had to look for the numbers we wanted on the little paint pots.

Freddie: Near the end when we had painted three times for each colour, Jeanette brought out the black paint so that we could use a small amount or go over the lines.

Rose: After we had finished Jeanette said she was going to put them in her special oven, called a kiln. A kiln gets very hot indeed and makes the paint colours go really bright and shiny.

Ruben: Then we had to clean the table and wash our hands. Jeanette brought us all a packet of Hula Hoops and a drink of squash.

We worked really hard to produce something we can keep forever to remind us of our time in Key Stage 1. We hope you enjoyed looking at our tiles at the Easter Eggstravaganza and voting for your favourites.

KINDERGARTEN'S NEWS

This half-term, the children in KG have very much enjoyed learning about animals. It has been a fun topic, finding out about the different types of animals, painting animal prints and, following our trip to Chester Zoo, writing about our favourite zoo animals. We have read lots of stories about different types of animals and even started writing our own stories. In maths we have been learning to add up and subtract using the small animals and beginning to learn to tell the time. We will carry on with this in the new term and also continue to learn about doubling, halving and sharing.

Trip to Chester Zoo

We had such a fun day on our trip to Chester Zoo. It was cold, but that didn't matter, because we were all wrapped up so well, with our warm coats, hats, scarves and gloves. We were introduced to lots of different types of animals from all around the world and we made sure that everyone saw their favourite zoo animal, which they would be able to write about, back at school. You can see our writing in our writing books, with the photographs taken of us with our favourite animals.

Visit to Woodchurch Library

We had lots of fun on our visit to Woodchurch Library. We always enjoy ourselves when we go there. We listened to stories and sang songs and then each of us picked a library book to bring back to school. Details of our next Library trip will follow in the new term calendar.

Next Term

Our topic will be "Minibeasts". We will be learning about a variety of different minibeasts, including caterpillars and butterflies, spiders, ladybirds, tadpoles and frogs. In the classroom we will have a butterfly farm, in which we will watch as caterpillars develop into beautiful butterflies and we will go on a minibeast hunt to see a variety of minibeasts in their natural habitats.

In order to promote the independence of the children and prepare them for the transition to Year One, I would be grateful if you could allow them to come into the classroom on their own, unpack their bags and hang up their coats in the cloakroom. However I am, as always, still available if you need to speak to me about any matters, in the morning. (Miss Orme)



YEAR 2 TRIP TO THE POTTING SHED

Year 2 enjoyed a trip to 'The Potting Shed' this term to produce an "eggcellent" piece of 'spring-themed' pottery for the Easter Extravaganza. All artists had a fabulous time and were delighted with their finished product. Here are snippets of individual recounts to give you some insight into their special day. My favourite part of the potting shed was decorating my tile. Everyone's tile was beautiful. I won first place in the Easter Extravaganza. **Matilda** I painted an Easter basket and Easter eggs. We had to paint three layers to make sure it was a dark enough colour. **Summer** When I painted my tile it was great fun. While I painted my tile I sang Madonna's song. Fabio and Olivia laughed because, thought I was funny. **Lucy** We had to finish our tiles so that they could be entered into the Easter Extravaganza. I won second place in the Easter competition. **Thomas B** On the minibus I was very, very, very excited. Our tile went to the Easter extravaganza. Matilda won first place, Thomas won second place and Veer won third place. It was a lot of fun! **Emily**

We had a great time creating our spring tile. I painted a bunny and a gigantic Easter egg and some blossom and birds in the sky. **Bella**

I painted a bee and a rabbit and a basket with eggs. We had to make sure we used three layers of paint. **Thomas G**

In the potting shed we did art. After that we had a snack. Mrs Beecroft read us a story. **George** In the past I went to the potting shed. I painted an Easter bunny. I got there on the minibus. **Luka**

We all painted an Easter tile. I painted a lovely basket with eggs. It was so much fun! **Penny**

Mr Robinson took us there on the minibus. My favourite part was the painting but I did like the snack and story too. **Fabio**

I loved the potting shed because of all of the art. It was hard work but I still had lots of fun. **Olivia**

It was loads of fun. I had a snack of crisps and water. I painted a sheep, a rabbit and a butterfly. I came in third place. **Veer**

I painted a tile with lots of beautiful colours. It was a tile all about spring. **Jacob**



Junior News



YEAR THREE NEWS:

Pizza Express in Heswall by Tom

We all arrived at the restaurant and took our coats off, then sat down. We met James the chef who told us some facts about pizza. Did you know that the first pizza was made in Egypt not Italy like everyone thinks?

Next we washed our hands and put on aprons. Then James gave us some dough and showed us how to roll it out to make the pizza base. Next we spread the tomato sauce on the base and sprinkled some cheese on. When everyone had finished, James put them all in an oven to cook them. While the pizzas were cooking, we all did some activities. When our pizzas were ready, we all had a slice and then put the rest in a box to take home.

I had a great time at Pizza Express. It was good learning facts about pizzas and I enjoyed having the rest of the pizza for my tea.

Chester Roman Trip by Josh

On Wednesday 31st January, Year 3 went to The Grosvenor Museum in Chester. We have been learning about The Romans in history and Chester was founded by The Romans who called it Deva. In the first room, we had to find answers to questions about The Romans. In the next room, we learned about Roman games and mosaics. We also looked at artefacts from Roman times.

Next, we met a gladiator and we dressed as Roman soldiers. We marched through Chester to the amphitheatre which is where they used to watch entertainment. We learnt how to use shields and swords and how to play dead to defeat the enemy. They used to fight animals in the amphitheatre such as oxen with 8000 people watching.

We had a lovely trip and we learnt a lot about The Romans and how they defeated The Celts.

Y4 THEATRE TRIP TO SEE 'AWFUL AUNTIE' BY JEEVAN AND ALFIE

We went to see 'Awful Auntie' at the Floral Pavilion on the 21st March. 'Awful Auntie' is one of the books written by David Walliams and her real name was Aunt Alberta. Awful Auntie in the show was actually a man! Aunt Alberta murdered the family members of a girl named Lady Stella Saxby. Stella encountered a spirit called Soot (who was actually her uncle) and became friends. Stella and Soot decided to take revenge on Aunt Alberta. The show was sad but also funny. It was very funny when Stella and the ghost, Soot, tricked Aunt Alberta by putting ants in her pants! The seats in the theatre were very comfy and it was a really good show. It was very, very funny!

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS:

Swimming by Lily and Harveen, Year 6

On Tuesday 30th January 2018 the Juniors took part in their Inter-House Swimming Gala. There are four houses (Churchill, Hillary, Livingstone and Scott).

All of the four teams competed using a variety of strokes: backstroke, front-crawl, butterfly and breaststroke; we also did some fun races, two relays and form races. Year 3 and 4 went against each other in the in the races and Year 5 and 6 did the same. The fun races were: The Woggle Race, The Blowing Race and The Ball Race.

The relays were the last event; Scott won both of the relays. All people who took part in the winning team got a nice gold medal as did everyone who was the fastest out of their group. After a great swimming competition the house that won overall was.....SCOTT!!! Well done to everyone who took part, and a big well done to Scott. 😊 😊 😊

Netball by Scarlet, Lucy and Eisha, Year 6

This year in the inter-house netball each house played all the others. The matches were very close and everyone enjoyed competing!

The inter-house competition was a great way for everybody to have a go at netball and maybe try something new.

The final result was: 4th Churchill, 3rd Livingstone, 2nd Hillary and 1st Scott. Everyone did really well, but...WELL DONE SCOTT!

Football by Oliver, Sam and Phillip, Year 6

This year the Inter-House Football was a great event. On Friday 16th of March, all the houses (Churchill, Hillary, Livingstone and Scott) went down to Bidston Leisure Centre to play a big football tournament. It was a great afternoon with lots of people trying hard and determined to win! The final results were: 4th place Hillary, 3rd place Livingstone, 2nd place Churchill and in 1st place winners of the tournament, were Scott, who won all their games, which they did with great team spirit and good sportsmanship.

Well done to all the teams as the competition was played with great spirit and teamwork and good respect for all the other teams.



YEAR SIX BIKEABILITY BY LILY AND ROBYNNE

On Wednesday 24th January and Wednesday the 31st January 2018 Year Six had two sessions of Bikeability; it was really fun! We had to bring our bikes from home, and at about 9:30 we started our session by being put into 3 groups. We then brought our bikes through from the front garden to the playground and did the M-check.

The M-check is how you check your bike. First you start on your back wheel and check the spokes and the tyres; then you would check the seat, then the pedals, then the brakes and finally the front wheel: just the same as your back one.

Then we did some exercises to see if we could ride a bike, for safety, and to pass Level One: if you didn't, you wouldn't go onto the road! Fortunately everyone passed Level One. Then after Break we went on the road doing and learning some other tricks for the road that you could do when you are on your bike. You learnt things that you need to know on the road like: u-turns, where you stay on the road and when you go into primary position, rather than secondary.

We also learnt quite a lot about where you should be when you're going past a car: you should be nearly in the other lane.

On the second session we started going up hills after doing the M-check; we had to 'snake', which is when you follow people about a bike length behind them. We also had to do quite a lot of freewheeling, which is when you are not pedalling, but you are still moving. That was the end of our fun lessons on the road, we all really enjoyed them and we all passed Level Two.

YEAR 5 FUN!

Visit from the Author, Sue Hoffman by Daniyal

We recently had a visit from an Author called Sue Hoffman who has had her book "High King" published. She gave us tips on how to write a fairy tale. However, she began the lesson reading her own extended version of Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

She then gave us little fairy tale vocabulary cards to sort into different categories (setting, items, magical characters, good and bad characters). We then began our own fairy tales which are on display in the Year 5 classroom.

I thought it was a wonderful experience.

Years 5 and 6 visit to see the R.L.P.O by Poppy

We went to hear the R.L.P.O play in March. The concert hall was big and the orchestra very colourful and loud. The orchestra wore different coloured tops to represent the different sections of the orchestra. Alastair Malloy, the presenter, was fun and child friendly but sometimes he talked a bit too much! The conductor, Michael Seal, was also funny but he could be serious when conducting. The music was all very good but I felt one piece, Boombax was too loud at times.

My favourite piece was The Incredibles theme music by Giacchino. I also liked Finlandia by Sibelius and the Empress of the Pagodas by Ravel. It sounded haunting. In the middle of the concert, we sang a song called The Witch which was originally a poem but had been changed to a song by one of the orchestra members.

I thought the whole thing was very good and would give it 5/5 stars!

Class trip to Rydal Penhros School, Colwyn Bay by Louis

On 25th January, Year 5 went to the Rydal Penhros school in Colwyn Bay in Wales. It was so much fun and our first lesson was with the drama teacher called Miss Earle. She taught us drama for one hour and we looked at a scene from the book 'Great Expectations' by Charles Dickens. After that, we went to meet Mr Williams and he taught us three songs he had written to do with our drama session.

After lunch, we had some more drama and put it together with the music and performed a short play for their Year 6 class. It was a fantastic day and a great way for us to learn about a book by Charles Dickens as we are studying the Victorians at the moment.

We were given a goodie bag at the end and we each got a map of the school, a pencil case and a pen. P.S. The school also invited our Year 5 and 6 classes to enter their Art Exhibition, all entries are on display at the school on Saturday 21st April from 9am to 12 noon. All families are welcome to attend.

Other Events



EASTER SERVICE BY LUCY AND SCARLET, YEAR 6

On 26th of March the Juniors of Prenton Prep School performed an Easter Service at St Saviour's Church attended by Years 1 and two as well as parents. It commenced when our Head Girl and Head Boy, welcomed everyone and introduced our first hymn: There Is a Green Hill Far Away. Next was a reading about the king of the Jews [Jesus]. Years 5 and 6 sang 'In the Bleak Midwinter/Silent Night', with beautiful harmonies from each group. Next came the preparation for The Last Supper, and Year 4's version of the well-known hymn 'The Lord of the Dance'. More of Year 6 then went up to the pulpit and told everyone about The Last Supper and The Garden of Gethsemane. Next up was Year 6 with their fabulous song that they wrote themselves! The lyrics were written by: Ava, Eleanor, Yan xi, Lily, Grace and Harveen; the dance moves were choreographed by: Lucy, Scarlet, Nina, Ava and Marli. The song was about The Garden of Gethsemane; it was BRILLIANT!!!

Further Year 6 readings from the pulpit followed about Jesus on trial, and when he was crucified; then Year 5 played 'Hot Cross Buns' on the recorder and recited a poem called 'The Nail'. Then we talked about when Jesus rose again after dying on the cross before Year 3 did a small play based on 'The Selfish Giant'. The play consisted of narrators and actors; it was splendid! We then sang the hymn 'Lay My White Cloak' based on the story. We finished with the hymn: 'At the Name of Jesus' before Reverend Allan then said some prayers. While the hymn 'At the Name of Jesus' was being sung, there was a collection made for the 'Banardos' charity.

THE EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA BY ELOISE AND MARLI, YEAR 6

We held an Easter Extravaganza; this is an Easter celebration that PPS holds each year. This year, it happened on Friday 16th March. It consists of a competition, a chocolate tombola and a raffle.

Each year group made 'eggcellent' models. Year 1 and 2 painstakingly decorated tiles during a visit to The Potting Shed in Hoylake, Year 3 decorated eggs and egg holders in the style of Faberge, Year 4 made 2D 'eggstravagant' egg baskets using motifs based on their hands. Year 5 made WW2 Remembrance scenarios using painted eggs nestled within a box which resembled a small battlefield. They were decorated with poppies, white ribbons and lots of care. They provided a more serious aspect to the flamboyance of the other eggs. Year 6 decorated splendid bird houses using many different materials. Many art lessons and much hard work were spent designing and creating these works of art!

The parents then anonymously voted for their favourite piece in each class. Next, Mr Jones announced the winners. Winners included: Harveen Dhillon for her henna-inspired design with complementary bling! The prizes were: Easter eggs!

Before this judging took place, we walked around the school, buying chocolate and goods.

We enjoyed our last Easter Eggstravaganza!



JUNIOR CHEF DAY BY NINA & GRACE, YEAR 6

Junior Chef Day this year was held on 28th March 2018. All the classes took part in making a delicious dish.

On Junior Chef Day, professional chefs people come into school and help us make a dish: usually a dessert. We go into the hall and are given aprons and a hat with our name on it. Then we have a mini competition where we have a cup of juice and we drink it as fast as we can, and then put it upside down on our heads as a warm up; then we get to the making!

We talk about safety and about the dish we're making. The chefs gave out the ingredients; then they show us how to make it step by step. Once we have finished the dish we take it home to eat. **Yum!**

This year we made crepes aux fruits (pancakes with a fruity filling), and it was thoroughly enjoyable and delicious! The chefs were kind people and helped us make our dishes a great success.

We learnt a lot and are looking forward to high school, where no doubt, we will be able to learn even more about cooking.

Meanwhile, future generations can enjoy Junior Chef Day at Prenton Prep!

WORLD BOOK DAY BY ELOISE AND MARLI, YEAR 6

On the 1st of March, we had our World Book Day. The Infants were allowed to dress up as book characters.

We had an exciting World Book Day. The Juniors had to bring in a book and perform a presentation on said book. Unfortunately, a few people missed out on seeing the 'performances of a lifetime'.

The librarians also held a 'design your own' bookmark competition. The librarians had a hard time choosing the top 3, as all the bookmarks were amazing!

Some highlights of the day were: In Year 4 they read the World's Worst Children by David Walliams.

In Year 5 they wrote stories which we are looking forward to read; they will be very interesting.

Year 6 did the book presentations. We saw a lot of brilliant presentations, on books that some of us are starting to read.....SHADOWHUNTERS!!!

At the end of the day, Prenton Prep had an awesome day!

THE POETRY COMPETITION BY NINA & GRACE, YEAR 6

All the classes (from KG- Year 6) took part in the poetry competition which was held on Tuesday 27th March. In the poetry competition, KG are given a short poem to learn, while all the other classes choose their own poem. Once the pupils have chosen their poem and learnt it off by heart, they stand up in front of their class (and their form teacher: SCARY!) and perform their poem. The teachers are looking for mind-blowing performances with:

- Knowing the poem off by heart
- No stumbling
- Expression
- Loud, clear voices
- Actions

After they recite their poem, they wait for the teacher(s) to decide on who gets through to the finals; the top 3 people in each class get through to the final, where they will compete against the top 3 in every other class, but there is a first in each class.

The juniors and infants don't compete against each other.

All of the contestants in the final do their best and the judges (the teachers) decide who wins. There is a single 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each class as well as top three placings in the Infants, Lower Juniors and Upper Juniors.

All the judges keep an open mind and wish luck to all our contestants.



SCIENCE WEEK BY ELEANOR, YEAR 6

Science in Prenton Prep is a big part of our school life, so every year children present Science projects for our Science Week. Classes from Pre-school - Year five have an option of whether to do it or not, whereas for Year six, it's compulsory!

There is always a big range of topics chosen for presentations. Really important as well is how well we present and explain our projects, and how well we can answer questions about them. Children who do well in their classes come up in a special Science Assembly, where they explain / demonstrate their projects, and receive a prize. The best projects are put on display for our Open Day.

These were our winners this year:

Year Six: Lily - 'rainbow in a jar'; Robynne - bouncy eggs, Bob and Jeff!

Year Five: Fatima - 'slime' creation; Samuel - setting hand sanitizer on fire!

Year Four: Holly - solar panel presentation; Gurpriya - 'Rainbow' experiment.

Year Three: Maya - Rocks & Fossils; Rhys - photosynthesis.

Year Two: Lucy - 'Eggs' experiment; Penny - Lava Lamp presentation.

Year One: Bertie - Volcano presentation; Emily - rocket (it really shot up into the air!)

KG: Oliver - Sharks presentation; Iliam - The Solar System.

Pre-School: Arlo - lava lamp in action; Isabella - a flower growing in an Easter garden.

Well done to everybody who took part. The standard was very high again this year!



Sports and Clubs

FOOTBALL REPORT BY OLIVER, PHILLIP, SAM AND LEWIS, YEAR 6

Every Monday after school, the football team head down to Leasowe Leisure Centre. The team start practising all our basic skills and then we move it into a football match. In the match we are not allowed to kick the ball over head height, and by that we mean over the referee's head. Also before the match we have a penalty competition.

The first match we had against another school was against Abbeygate Junior School on Monday 22nd of January. Sadly we lost, but played really well. Next we had The ISA North of England Tournament at St James' School in Grimsby on Friday 2nd of February. The team left early in the morning and drove to the train station where we got the train to Grimsby. When we arrived, lots of schools were there and we were determined to beat them all. We battled very hard and just missed out on the knockout stages. After an amazing time we headed back home. What a day!

On Monday 12th of March at our normal training session, Avalon School came to Leasowe Leisure Centre to play a mini tournament with our football team. This was a spectacular afternoon and everyone had a great time.

On the 15th of March The Christopher Turner Tournament took place at The Oval. Prenton Preparatory School host this every year and every year it is better than ever. This year we placed 4th in our group in a very challenging tournament.

ISA Year U9 North of England Football by Oliver and Cody, Year 4

On 14th March some of our Year 3 and 4 footballers went to Queen Ethelburga's school, in York, for the I.S.A under 9 North of England football tournament.

We lost our first 3 matches but won the other 4 which enabled us to compete for the Bowl trophy which we won! We all had a brilliant day, everyone played really well and were very proud to bring a trophy back to school.

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT BY SAM, YEAR 6

This year Cross Country, from Year 4 to Year 6, has been a great success with some great results. Lots of people signed up to have a go at running the long course around Arrowe Park, or the Higher Bebington course. Everyone competed to the best of their ability and Holly in Year 4 came 1st in all her races!

In February some of the cross country team went to Rochdale to compete in the North of England ISA event, where they ran a course 1800m long! If you got in the top ten you went through to the national event to compete for the North of England. It was very icy on the day, so everyone did really well to compete in the horrible weather!

All our runners ran superbly but special mentions go to Holly, our North of England Champion in the Year 4 Girls, and Sophie, Tom and Sam who all managed top ten finishes in their respective races to qualify for the National Finals!

This is the most runners that Prenton Prep have ever had qualify for the national finals and, along with our Wirral Athletics Club trophies in the autumn term shows how strong the sport is and how it is growing at the school. Unfortunately, the ISA nationals were cancelled twice because of the snowy weather so the qualifiers did not get a chance to compete.

KARATE CLUB REPORT BY LEWIS, YEAR 6

Karate this term continues to thrive on a Wednesday at 15:30 to 17:00. Both infants and juniors enjoy learning this martial art and we are now practising to achieve the next grade belt. Personally, I am going for my purple belt, which comes after the green belt.

We are all working really hard by exercising and practising our current skills and are learning new moves.

Year 6 are learning Sifa, which is a combination of complex leg and arm movements that require lots of concentration.

Year 5 are learning Geka Sidi Nee which is one stage below Sifa.

Year 4 are now learning Geka Sidi Itch, which is nearly the same as Geka Sidi Nee, but is less complicated.

Year 3 (who join in the infants group) are learning Sand An Gee number 2. This is similar to the first Sand An Gee.

Our teachers are called Sensi Paul, Sensi Mike and Sensi Emily.

Sensi means a Karate coach in Japanese.

On the 3rd of March 2018 some of the students showcased their skills and karate movements during the Open Morning at school.

The karate club is great fun, as it not only teaches us karate but we also keep really fit, improve our coordination, learn self-discipline and work together. We would like this club to get bigger and have new members. So come and join us!



NETBALL REPORT BY LILY AND ROBYNNE, YEAR 6

Netball Club is a sport that Years 3 and 4 do in the playground on a Tuesday evening, while Years 5 and 6 go to Bidston Sports Centre. We also go to matches all over: the most recent being a tournament at Birkenhead School.

At netball club every week, Year 5 and 6 have training drills and play matches and other games, like making all the bottles fall over, Pac-man and Shark Attack.

In Prenton Prep we normally have an A team and a B team. For 'High Five' netball tournaments we have an A, B and C team; we go to 'High Five' tournaments every year; we also have our own tournament every year called The Chadwick Cup. This year a team dropped out and both our A and B team went and played. Our A team won this tournament, which was amazing.

Our coaches are Mrs. Taylor (the Year 3 teacher) and Dr. Pemberton (the year 4 teacher). They help us so much and give us advice and more tricks to make our netball better.

Now on to more matches: There was the Birkenhead School Netball Festival; this was more of a 'friendly' tournament, in which we won all of our matches. We also have had the ISA North Small Schools High Five tournament, in which we came fourth. We were also going to go to the Ellesmere College tournament, but that was unfortunately cancelled. We also had Birkenhead School fixtures, both home and away, and one away against Abbeygate College, which we won. That is all the fun matches that we have played this term.

SWIMMING REPORTS

On the 19th of January our swimming team went to Forest School's swimming gala. After we had got changed and done our warm-up it was time for the races to begin! It was backstroke first and then went on to breaststroke and then freestyle. As a conclusion, it was time for the relays!

All of the children did really well and tried their hardest: that's all that matters! PPS came 2nd overall.

On the 9th of March our relay team (Oliver, Lewis, Samuel H, Eisha and Kaitlyn) headed up to Liverpool to swim in the ESSA Regional Relay Swimming Team.

After our warm up it was time for our racing freestyle relay. We just missed out on winning finishing second. Our next race was the Medley Relay Race. Again we came second and it were extremely close to winning; Chetwynde Primary School beat us once again.

In both races we were very proud as we have qualified for the English Schools' finals, which are in Sheffield on the 16th June 2018.

ISA NATIONAL SWIMMING FINALS

This term five members of our swimming team went down to London to swim in the ISA National Finals at The Olympic Pool on Sunday 21st January 2018. They had all qualified for this prestigious event through the North of England event in the Autumn term.

They all performed excellently and we were very proud to come home with 5 golds, two silvers and one bronze medal together with a fourth place finish. This is a fantastic achievement at National level!

Well done to all of our Swimmers!

We are now looking forward to the Birkenhead and Wirral Galas which take place next term. We are the defending champions in both and are hoping for more success.

By EISHA AND KAITLYN, YEAR 6



UKULELE LESSONS WITH MR JOLIFFE

This term our Ukulele Club has grown yet again! Our small but enthusiastic group of ukulele players meet each Monday morning, before school at 8:20am. Throughout the Spring Term we have been learning a range of songs, some of which we all enjoyed performing at the musical afternoon on Monday 26th March. There are still some places available and should your child be interested in learning how to play the ukulele, please contact us either via email: myguitarukulele@gmail.com or through our website which you can access at www.myguk.co.uk

INDIVIDUAL MUSIC LESSONS WITH MRS MCDONALD

It has been an exciting term preparing for the Music Afternoon Concert and forthcoming examinations. Every child taking piano lessons with me decided to play between two and four pieces of music and gave splendid performances for a very attentive, appreciative audience. It is a totally different experience for young children to perform in front of a large audience as opposed to playing with the teacher in a lesson or even an examination with one examiner. Playing an instrument like the piano requires a good memory, the ability to read quickly, powerful concentration and confidence. Each experience a child has of this kind prepares them for life – public speaking, drama and response under pressure to name but a few – giving them the overall capability to perform both for themselves and others. Lewis Foran, Sophie Guttridge and Nithin Karyampudi took Victoria College Examinations in December. Lewis and Sophie received a merit in their First Steps and Nithin gained an excellent Pass for his Grade 1. Tabitha Rushton also took her Grade 1 ABRSM Theory Examination in November and received an outstanding Distinction. Congratulations to all these children for their hard work!

The remainder of this term will be dedicated to learning new techniques, note recognition for sight reading, new repertoire and examination preparation for the June exams. There will be a few places available for September as my wonderful year 6 children leave to go to their next schools. If you wish your son/daughter to have private piano or electronic keyboard lessons, please contact Mrs Slater and put their names on the waiting list to avoid disappointment in September. Piano lessons begin again after Easter on Tuesday 22 April.



SPEECH & DRAMA BY MISS COTTIER

This term all our speech and drama pupils from Kindergarten to Year 6 have been exploring the skills needed for devising and script writing, as the speech and drama students have co-written original scenes which were performed in the Speech and Drama assembly held on Wednesday 7th February 2018. The Children were given the stimulus 'Hopes and Dreams', which lead to them performing an array texts, this included poetry as well as the children writing their own creative scenes. Many of their scenes were inspired by classic fairy tales. The children cleverly used montage, the realism of Year 3 and 4s 'Sleep over scene' juxtaposed with several adaptations and continuations of famous, fantasy stories acted out by Year 6. This worked very well and was very entertaining to watch.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 had fun performing these comic scenes in the school's Open Day. The scene were hilarious, well-acted and very convincing, the children performed very professionally, especially as two cast members were absent due to illness, however the children adapted with maturity. Next term the speech and drama groups will be working on performing exciting scenes for the Summer concert. If any new pupils wish to join the fun of speech and drama please contact Mrs Slater or Miss Cottier directly on 07901822481.



MUSIC AFTERNOON BY AVA AND TABITHA, YEAR 6

This year the Music afternoon was held on Monday 26th of March and lots of parents were treated to a delightful demonstration by some of the children at PPS playing musical instruments or singing. Many of the children take music lessons within school, but some of them continue to learn outside of school.

During the course of the Music Afternoon we heard:

- ~ Piano
- ~ Cornet
- ~ Recorder
- ~ Ocarina
- ~ Ukulele
- ~ Guitar
- ~ Violin
- ~ Singing
- ~ a Duet

All of the parents watching our Music Afternoon enjoyed watching the performances and commented on the array of musical talent.

DANCE REPORT BY MRS. MANN

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a fantastic term we have had in Dance Club this year. The children have all worked incredibly hard and are very excited to showcase their dances at the Gladstone Theatre in July.

The children have been patient and understanding towards the fact that with any performance, plenty of planning and preparation is needed in advance. Although we still have time before July, our pieces have already been chosen, and the teaching of the choreography has begun.

The children performed tremendously at the school's open day and were a credit to one another.

I'd like to say thank you to Eisha Chahal, Poppy Tuohey, Emma Haugh Parsons, Sophie Guttridge, Matilda Weir and Charlotte Newstone for their dance captain duties this term.

I'd also like to congratulate the following pupils on becoming our new dance captains for next half-term: Nina Karyampudi, Harveen Dhillon, Maya Jaffar, Olivia Clark, Summer Harrison and Lara Sibal.

I hope the summer term continues to be a fantastic term for Dance Club. We have lots of exciting things approaching, including new show choreography, costume preparations, the end of term Dance Awards and of course the Gladstone Performance. Dance lessons will commence back on the week of the 23rd April.



PPSPA REPORT BY MR. ALAN WILSON, CHAIRPERSON

This year is off to a great start thanks to some fantastic events that have taken place over the last few months the Open Day and The Easter Eggstravaganza!! I'd like to thank everyone who supported the events and helping us to raise over £425.00 net profit. All the money that has been raised has had a positive impact on school life with the addition and use of brand new WIFI network for use across the year groups. We are looking at ways to further enhance the use of these new facilities and looking to invest in many other future projects. We are open to ideas as to how we can improve the school so please let us know.

We have already launched the 'Prenton Prep School Parents Association' Facebook page. This is a page for all parents to learn about events for parents and the activity of the parents association going forward. I encourage you to join and learn about all the exciting activities we have planned. Please click on the link <https://www.facebook.com/Prentonpreppa/> Two other Key events in the school calendar are the School Disco and the fabulous "Summer Fair". Check your email and school posters for dates and times.

Our finale is the "Summer BBQ" where we can relax in the sun, listen to music and celebrate the past year's achievements.

The association is always looking for parents to join the committee and keep the momentum of the good work it does rolling so please come along to the next Parents Association meeting on Wednesday 18th April at 7.30pm.

All the Staff at PPS would like to wish you a wonderful and enjoyable Spring break and look forward to the new term which commences on Tuesday, 17th April 2018

