

PRENTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2018

Issue No. 70



FOND FAREWELLS

As we reach the end of another extremely successful year it is, as always, tinged with sadness. We say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils as they take the next step on their educational journey. Academically they have achieved another excellent set of results in entrance exams to local independent and Catholic schools as well as in the 11+. More recently they have also attained very pleasing results in the SATs we are very proud of them all!

Their departure from school in a "Limo" capped a particularly enjoyable end to term, with the emotional leavers' assembly, the trip to Jungle Parc and the residential stay at Barnstondale amongst their highlights. This is another talented group of children who have the potential to succeed in all they do and to be a great credit both to us and themselves as they continue on to the next stage of their education, we are sure they will make us proud. Good luck to them all; they will be greatly missed at PPS!

STAFF NEWS

This term we bid a fond farewell to three members of staff. Mrs. Foard has been teaching French at PPS for ten years and has done a superb job of enthusing classes whilst maintaining the standards of which we are so proud. Many pupils will have benefited from her teaching when starting a language at secondary school and she will be much missed.

Mrs. Hayes joined PPS seven years ago to support one of our pupils on a one-to-one basis and is leaving the school now he starts the next stage of his education at secondary school. Mrs. Hayes has really allowed the pupil in her charge to flourish and reach his potential in a wide variety of areas and her contribution to his development can't be underestimated! She has also made valuable contributions to the wider school community, as a fully qualified Art teacher, and her departure will leave a large hole to fill!

Mrs. Gallagher joined us twelve months ago and has developed lovely relationships within the school community in that time. She has also done a sterling job of integrating a new ICT curriculum into the school and her Computer Club has been extremely popular. She will also be much missed. I am sure that all members of the school community will join me in wishing them every success in their new ventures and a healthy and happy future. Of course sad endings bring new beginnings and we are very happy to welcome two new members of staff to the school. Mrs. Kate Price will be joining the staff team to replace Mrs. Gallagher. She will be teaching Science throughout Key Stages One and Two together with some Art and History. She is an experienced teacher who has worked in several schools on the Wirral. Mrs. Diane Challinor will also be joining us as our new French teacher. She has lots of experience in local schools as a language teacher and has also worked with SEN children and charities. I am sure everyone will make both new members of staff welcome into the PPS family.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The new term begins on Tuesday 4th September and all children should be in winter uniform, including sensible, flat black shoes and black or navy coats without coloured trim.

Please ensure that all children arrive at school each day in complete uniform, including hats as we aim to maintain high standards.

As increasing amounts of time are now being spent chasing lost clothing, **please also check that all items of uniform are clearly and indelibly named.**



CHARITY

As is tradition, the children took part in our annual sponsored swim this term. All the pupils put a lot of effort into both the swim and the fundraising and we were very proud of them.

The total raised was £1740.00, which we will be sharing between our regular local charities Claire House and Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Our third charity this year will be Ronald McDonald House, each receiving £580.00.

We are very proud of the work PPS does regularly for charity and it is also an important aspect of citizenship as it raises our children's awareness of local and global issues, reminding them how fortunate they are.

P.P.S. PRODUCTIONS

The summer term was again memorable for the quality of entertainment across our productions. Our Foundation Stage put on a play called "There's a Sunflower in my Supper". It was a lovely presentation in which our cow, Daisy, turned her meadow into a much more exciting place for her and her friends to live. The children displayed amazing confidence for such a young age and all enjoyed performing to their audiences.

The Infants play "Tattytogle" told the story of a scarecrow that was far too nice to scare crows! We followed her experiences across a year, through the four seasons and met many of her friends. It was a very polished performance by a talented group and was much enjoyed by all who saw it. At the Gladstone Theatre the performances of all our pupils was superb. We are so proud of our talented children. The production of "The Sound of Music" was the highlight of the evening and was commented on by all as being of such a high standard! The Karate, Dance and Speech and Drama clubs also excelled in their demonstrations and our Year 6 pianists also showed great skill and composure performing beautifully.

Thanks and well done to all staff and pupils!

DROP OFF and PICK UP

Once again we have had complaints from the police and our neighbours on Mount Pleasant due to inconsiderate parking at drop off and pick up times. There are also safety implications to these parking issues, which affect all of our children, including safe crossing areas and the necessity of emergency vehicles to access the road. Therefore we would like to ask all our parents to remember the access requirements of nearby residents and to park respectfully.





Infant Trips



PRE-SCHOOL NEWS BY MRS. ROBERTS

I can't quite believe that we have come to the end of another academic year. It has flown by but that can only suggest that in Pre-School we have had lots and lots of fun. It has been so lovely to get to know each and every one of the members in Pre-School and watch them blossom throughout the year.

We have had another fun packed half term; sports day, summer concert practises and performances, a trip to Church Farm, a Teddy Bears' Picnic as well as lots of learning and getting used to my name change to Mrs Roberts.

The trip to Church Farm was fantastic. The children were so well behaved and got to do lots of fun things. They fed the alpacas and sheep their breakfast, helped the farmer collect eggs from the chicken coop and cuddled the guinea pigs. The day was finished off with a big play in the massive sandpit.

It is always so special to see how much progress has been made at the end of the school year and this year has been no exception. The children have learnt all of the letter sounds, how to write their names, numbers to 10 and beyond, shapes and so much more!

As exciting as it is that we are at the end of the school year, it is also a little sad as we will be saying goodbye to some of our much loved members of Pre-School. Everybody would like to wish Leo, Jack, Toby, Edie and Ella the best of luck in their new schools. They will be really missed but will shine in their new schools I'm sure. Good luck to Liliana, Holly, Arlo, Rio, Isabella, Charlie, Teddy and Olwen next year in KG! Have a lovely summer and I look forward to welcoming the PS1 children back into PS2 in September along with our new children.

KINDERGARTEN'S NEWS BY MISS ORME

It is the end of a very busy year in KG and the children are ready for their long summer break. It is a sad time saying goodbye to the children and families we have got to know so well, but the children are ready for the new challenges of Year One.

I am sure that you will agree at how much the children have grown in confidence and that this was very much in evidence during their performance of this year's summer production, "There's a Sunflower in my Supper". It is amazing how they develop the confidence to stand up in front of their parents, sing songs from memory and remember their lines.

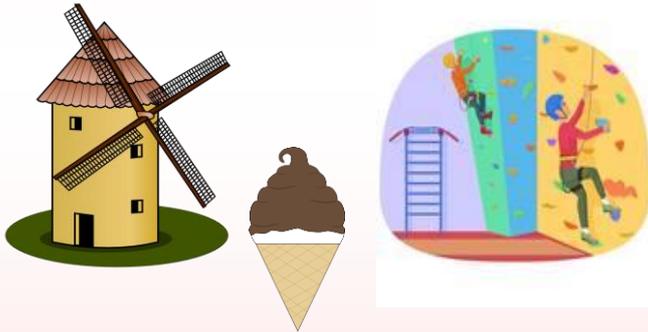
Our topic this term has been journeys and transport. We have read lots of stories about different journeys and looked at fiction and non-fiction books to learn about transport. The children have talked about the journeys they will travel on this summer and the places they will visit. We have looked up the different destinations on the map and made pretend passports.

All the children have continued to make progress with their reading, working hard at home and in school. Thank you so much for giving up time to read with your child at home, it really does make a difference. We have also continued to reinforce the cursive style of writing and the topic journeys has given us the opportunity to write stories about journeys the children have been on and journeys they will be going on this summer.

It was a lovely day for our Summer trip to Church Farm. It was also a very busy day, with lots of fun activities to take part in. We started by going on a tractor ride around the farm, stopping on the way to see a very big pig, feed the sheep and alpaca's and then visit the rabbits and guinea pigs. We also went into the hen coop to collect eggs, played in a very big sandpit and had fun driving around on the small tractors.

It was a very hot day so we didn't eat our lunch outside. In the afternoon we explored the maize and had fun in the outdoor play area. Time seemed to fly and before we knew it, we were heading back to the bus to travel back to school. After all that fun and activity it was nice to have a sit down. Everyone was tired by the time we got back to the bus and some of us even fell asleep.

We hope you have a lovely summer and look forward to seeing you in September.



YEAR 1 SEE THE LANDMARKS OF THE WIRRAL

Year One went on a trip around the Wirral peninsula looking at different landmarks on a beautiful sunny day.

Edward: The first place we went to was Bidston windmill. It was built on top of a hill because it is windier up there. They used to grind wheat into flour there.

Jenny: We visited Birkenhead Park and had our snack there as well as a play on the playground.

Zavier: We found out that Birkenhead Park is famous because some people copied it when they were designing Central Park in New York.

Lara: We had a walk around one of the lakes and we were lucky because we saw a lot of ducks with baby ducklings, geese with baby goslings and moorhens with babies as well! There were three turtles having a sunbathe on a fallen branch which was near the island so we couldn't get close to them. They probably would have got back into the water if we had been closer.

We went to Birkenhead docks where we saw the Mersey ferry, Snowdrop, and Seacombe where we could see the river Mersey and some of the ships and boats on it.

Ruben: We went to Leasowe lighthouse. There is no light at the top now and it is not by the sea anymore!

Emily: We drove to West Kirby and had our lunch near the beach. We could see the three Hilbre islands from there.

Edward: We had to drive past one of the landmarks without stopping because it was getting late. It was called the Mariners' Beacon. We could see the big stone ball at the top of a very tall column.

Avarni: At the end of the day we went to Parkgate and Mrs Dutton bought us all an ice cream. I chose a vanilla one.

YEAR 2 VISIT TO BARNSTONDALE

In 'celebration' of a hard working year and to mark the end of a key stage, Year 2 children went on a trip to Barnstondale. The day involved the children climbing and abseiling, and team-building in the River-crossing and Night-line activities. They also enjoyed playing in the outdoor playground, the ball court and they completed a treasure hunt in the multi-sensory garden. To 'top it all off', they were then invited to watch a group of high school pupils who were on a residential, practise their school performance of 'Matilda'. We all had a wonderful day and the children were a class to be very proud of. Here are some of their highlights!

"I was very proud of myself because I conquered my fear of heights."

Olivia

"When I was abseiling I felt like a superhero flying." **Veer**

"I loved the climbing. I found it quite easy because I have done it before. I had to remember not to swing around when I was abseiling, otherwise I would lose control!" **Emily**

"I was worried at first but I managed to get across the monkey bars."

Fabio

"I had lots and lots of fun. I loved the net swing because I acted like a spider on its web." **Luka**

"When I was on the swing I felt like I would turn into a bird and fly. I also liked the abseiling because I felt like I had wings like a butterfly." **Penny**

"When I was abseiling I was really high but I wasn't frightened. I went faster than Emily!" **George**

"I liked the abseiling because I went very high and when I was at the top I wasn't scared!" **Lucy**

"I loved abseiling best because when I got halfway I was really scared but I didn't give up and I climbed higher and conquered my fears!" **Jacob**

"I liked the tyre swing because I went really high with Olivia and felt like I was flying!" **Summer-Lilly**

"I liked the tyre swing and shared it with Bella. When I went abseiling I said I didn't want to do it but I told myself to keep going and I did it!"

Matilda

"When I went abseiling I felt frightened and I didn't want to go on it. When I climbed high I didn't fall, I could see my friends below so I just went for it." **Bella**

"I liked the monkey bars best because I am strong and I went all the way over and went back again, backwards!" **Thomas Gilbert**

"My favourite part of Barnstondale was abseiling because it was so high and I felt as high as a skyscraper!" **Thomas Barry**

Junior Trips & Events



YEAR 3'S GILLMOSS RECYCLING CENTRE TRIP BY TOM EGERTON

On Wednesday 16th May, Year 3 went on a trip to Gillmoss Recycling Centre. We went on the bus and we drove to Liverpool. Josh and I were excited about going.

About half an hour later we arrived and we went inside. We sat down at four tables and learned that the lady's name was Kirsty. Kirsty talked to us about how important it is to recycle our rubbish and then she taught us a song about the things that you can recycle. We should all try to recycle paper, cardboard, plastic, cans and glass.

We then played on the activities for 10 minutes before we went through the secret doors. We couldn't believe our eyes when we saw a million different machines behind the glass windows. It was very interesting and we got to look through cameras at some of the machines.

Soon it was time to go back to school and we all waved to Kirsty as we passed the recycling centre.

Thank you for another fantastic trip.

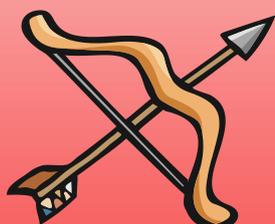
YEAR 6'S BARNSTONDALE TRIP BY GRACE BARRY AND ROBYNNE WOOD

In Year 6 you get an opportunity to go to Barnstondale with the whole class if you want to, but they do try to convince you to go. On the day that we were going, our teacher (Mr Huskisson) told us what activities we were doing at Barnstondale. Barnstondale is an activity centre where you stay and do activities in the day; it is a fun place to be because you can do loads of stuff there.

We went on the 25th of July and we came back the next day at 4.00 pm. When you get there the first thing you do is you get a tour around the place; then we played in a park that was next to our dorm. The park had swings and monkey bars, a slide, a climbing frame and some more.

We had a whole evening of relaxing and then we toasted marshmallows on a campfire and made smores.

The next day, we woke up and went to breakfast. After that we split into groups and half of us went kayaking and the other half went wall climbing/abseiling and did archery. There was also a gift shop that we bought items from! Yay! AFTER THAT FUN ADVENTURE, WE HEADED BACK TO SCHOOL!



HOUSE COMPETITIONS

BY LILY JONES AND HARVEEN DHILLON

House competitions are a big thing here in our school. Everyone gets a chance and all of us have fun. The houses are Scott, Churchill, Livingstone and Hillary.

The first house competition we all participated in was the swimming: excitement filled us all and we all swam our fastest and had fun; waiting for the results was just building everyone's adrenaline. The results were announced the winners were Scott (hip hurrray!).

The next competition was the netball and football, which took place at Bidston Sports Centre; we all had lots of fun and tried our best. The football and netball matches consisted of games that two teams would play against each other and try to win. The results were announced and Scott won.

The last sporting event for the four teams to compete in was Sports Day; this was the most competitive out of them all: every house wanted to win. The running was fantastic and everyone went their fastest. Everyone had three races: a field event, a track event and a fun race. There was also a relay to compete in. In the end the winner was Scott (surprise, surprise!).

The house points are the main event you work up to all year and they mean a lot to us all. Bonuses are given out each week to the houses that haven't lost any house points, if there are any; and guess what- **SCOTT WON!!!**

SPORTS DAY

BY KAITLYN HA & NINA KARYAMPUDI

Sports day was fiercely competed this year. It was a close competition with Scott coming 1st, Hillary coming 2nd and Churchill and Livingstone coming joint 3rd. The field events consisted of High jump, Long jump and Ball throw. High jump was won by Kaitlyn Ha and Phillip Bradwell; Lucy Whisker and Aman Jaffar won the Long jump and Samuel Booth and Eleanor Sutton won the Ball throw. The track events were 600m(Yr5 and Yr6), 400m(Yr4 and Yr3), 80m(Yr6 and Yr5), 60m(Yr3 and Yr4) and finally the form race which was 80m for all years. Samuel Booth won the 600m, Holly Cross won the 400m. Kaitlyn Ha won the Yr6 Form race, Daniyal won the Yr5 form race, Sophie Guttridge won the Yr 4 form race and lastly the Yr3 form race was won by Joshua Reeder. The fastest boy was Tom Guttridge and the fastest girl was Kaitlyn Ha. All the children did fabulously and we are all proud of their hard work. We also had fun races and the most competitive races of all: the mums race and the dads race!

PARENT-TEACHER v PUPIL NETBALL BY LUCY WHISKER, SCARLET CLARKSON & OLIVER ARNOLD

After a long, hot and tiring sports day, the netball team headed inside of The Oval to play a game against the parents and teachers. Unfortunately, we were missing Kaitlyn, one of our best players, as she had hurt her ankle in the sports day.

The game started and we had an audience of parents and children watching and sitting on the sidelines. Within one minute of the game the parents had scored! Sadly they went to score a few more (boo!). BUT THEN OUT OF THE BLUE, WE SCORED! We persevered with the match, but soon it was time for a break, so we took a five minute break and then it was back to work.

We played on with the match, with a few five minute breaks throughout. In the end the parents and teachers won with a devastating score 11-3 (sob!). Although we think it was very unfair as the parents and teachers, and one in particular, mentioning no names (MR.HUSKISSON) played extremely dirty!

Overall the match was so much fun and we all enjoyed it a lot!

YEAR 4

BY GURPRIYA DHILLON & SORAYA LUCES

On the 14th of May Y4 went to Liverpool University for our school geography trip. First, we went into the Roxby Building to do some map activities and we met two geographers called Jenny and Tinho.

The activities we did were: 'Mobbs' Treasure map' (using co-ordinates to find treasure), 'Pin the Landmark on the Map' and identifying the age of Liverpool maps.

It was helpful that there was a good view out of the window!

After the activities we asked Tinho what he was - he was a map librarian!

Jenny took us to the Central Teaching Labs and we had our break there. We had to be super quiet because there was an exam going on!

We then had a talk about coastal erosion and we did an experiment. We were given a box with sand and gravel with some water in it too (representing the beach). We got to choose a coastal defence and then we put the box on rollers and rolled it to make waves. My defence fell and the sand got all wet so it had a little damage.

YEAR 5 COLOMENDY TRIP

BY POPPY TUOHEY & OLIVIA WEIR

From the 9th to the 11th of May, the Year 5 class went to Colomendy. It was great fun which included lots of exciting activities.

The majority of the class's favourite activity was the Giant Zip Wire. Some of the other activities included Aeroball, caving, a camp fire and Scrapheap Challenge.

We also went to the gift shop multiple times with our £5 notes and the shop had a whole series of great toys such as stretchy lizards, teddy bears and bouncy balls. It also sold refreshing drinks and snacks.

Colomendy was a lot of fun and we would love to go again!

KEY STAGE 2's TRIP TO JUNGLE PARC, CROXTETH PARK BY OLIVER ARNOLD, SCARLET CLARKSON & MARLI COETSEE

On Monday 9th of July KS2 went on a trip to Jungle Parc in Liverpool. We left school at 9 o'clock and arrived at 9:45 a.m.

We went on the ropes course in the trees in three different groups. The Year 5s and 6s went first, with four of the Year 6 girls staying behind with the Year 4s, and the four Year 6 boys joined the Year 3s. Then the Year 4s had their turn, and lastly the Year 3s.

There were different levels of the course ranging from green to black. After everyone had a go at the course we went on the playground to burn some energy. Then we had lunch and playtime on a big field.

Then the day came to an end; we walked to the bus and went home. The day was so much fun!

Thanks so much to Raffael's mum and dad for letting us use the ropes course.



More Trips and Events



BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL MATHS' CHALLENGE BY LUKE JONES, YEAR 5

The first thing we did at the Maths' challenge was do a practice test to get us warmed up. After that we did a test where we did a lot of questions in 45 minutes and we completed all but one of the questions. The next test we did was a crossword puzzle but we had to guess a few. Next, we did a test where we had to pass our answers to the other two members of our team. We also did a challenge where we had to run to a teacher and to another group with our answers to the maths' questions. Overall it was a great day and we did very well working as a team.

SCHOOL COUNCIL BY SAM HALL, YEAR 5 SCHOOL COUNCILLOR

The school council is a great way for a child who is not on the school council to make their ideas come true and they can have a better time at PPS school in the playground and in the school. Being on the school council is not hard; in fact it is good fun and all you have to do is take ideas from your class and speak about them in a meeting. This year, the school council has raised money for new playground buddy sashes for our playground buddies. This support system will start in September.

"THE SOUND OF MUSIC" PERFORMANCE AT THE GLADSTONE THEATRE BY GRACE AND TABITHA

The Junior Concert and Prizegiving at the Gladstone Theatre took place on Friday the 6th of June. It was a huge success; it started off with a demonstration by our Karate Club from Years 4, 5 and 6.

Next there was a piano piece: Tabitha (year 6) played 'My Heart Will Go On' from the film 'Titanic'.

After that there were Speech & Drama performances by KG and Years 1 and 2. Lewis (year 6) then performed on the piano playing two French songs; "Sur le Pont" and "Frere Jacques".

Our Dance Club then came on and this was a big, impressive segment of the Gladstone:

Firstly, Years 1 and 2 performed to The Jungle Book and then Years 5 and 6 danced to Ed Sheeran's 'Perfect'.

There was then another short break when piano was played again, Lily (Year 6) playing 'I'm a Believer' from the film Shrek.

The Dance Club then completed their routines with Years 3 and 4 and 'School Of Rock' followed by all the Juniors dancing to 'The Greatest Show'. After the dance had finished, Speech & Drama came back on with presentations by Years 3 and 4.

When all the clubs had finished entertaining the audience, the prize-giving began. It started with the swimming prizes (which took a while), then moved on to the netball, athletics, football and cross country. After all of that, the Year 6's received their prizes achieved throughout the year together with autograph books for the end of the year; they also got a French dictionary as their very own reward.

The prize giving lasted longer than expected, so time was tight; luckily there was a short interval to get changed and have some refreshments.

When The Sound Of Music finally came on the stage, everyone in the audience was looking forward to it. It started off well and carried on that standard until the end. The acting, costumes and singing were all superb. We got the biggest round of applause afterwards!



SATS WEEK BY ELEANOR, YAN XI AND ELOISE

In May 2018, all the Year Sixes did their SATS. THE SATS! The subjects we did in the SATS tests were: Reading Comprehension; Arithmetic; Maths reasoning and GPAS (grammar, punctuation and spelling). We also had two external invigilators, one of whom seemed to be having forty winks half way through the exam: ending this impromptu nap with an unceremonious coughing fit! As the tests were said to be quite difficult, we were well prepared, with plenty of practice papers; but when we actually sat the exams, they weren't as bad as we expected. So Year 5, don't worry about it; it will be fine!
And remember: always keep your eye on the invigilator!



THE SUMMER FAIR BY ELEANOR SUTTON AND MARLI COETSEE

On the 9th June the school had a summer fair in the sunshine, with really fun activities such as:

A multi-coloured bouncy castle that everyone enjoyed; the brutal game of splashing Mr Jones in the face with soaking wet sponges; the challenging coconut shy and the exciting gladiator fights. There was a blazing barbeque with scrumptious hot dogs and burgers, and toy and cake stalls with teachers and parents helping out with running them.

The main event was probably the raffle; there were many hampers as prizes as well as free lessons at clubs like speech and drama and dance.

This year's Summer Fair, in our opinion, was a great success.



OXTON SECRET GARDENS BY LOUIS COUGHLAN, YEAR 5

In May, the school choir sang at the Oxton Secret Gardens event. We sang songs from our junior shows and included songs from 'Joseph' and 'The Sound of Music'. We sang very well, getting lots of very positive comments from members of the public who saw us performing, and afterwards some of us had the lovely cakes at the cake stall.

YEARS 1 & 2'S TRIP TO THE LIVERPOOL PHILHARMONIC HALL

Years One and Two visited the Philharmonic Hall to listen to a story called "Fairy Magic" written by Carrie Burnell. The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic orchestra accompanied the story brilliantly. We listened to some of the music in school so that we could get to know it before we went to hear it played live and watch the instruments being played.

Emily: When we arrived at the hall we saw children from other schools arriving with their teachers. The children from one of the schools had got dressed up as fairies and elves because the story was about fairies.

Harley: We were shown to our seats and waited for it to start. We could see a big screen and there was a picture of a fairy on it at the beginning. There was a loud drum roll and then it began.

Leo: The lady who wrote the story was telling it to us. She was from CBeebies.

Rose: Carrie Burnell, the girl who told the story, only had one arm. She was born like that.

James: Some people were playing the music and then more people joined in. There were lights making shapes around the walls of the hall.

Freddie: I recognised the first music they played. It was from the film, Aladdin and was called "Prince Ali". It is the bit where the monkey turns into an elephant in the film.

Emily: The main character in the story was a little girl who was deaf. She had a magic hairband and when she put it on she could hear everything.

Ruben: The little girl believed in fairies but her brother and sister did not believe in them. She had to try to prove that fairies were real.

Lara: I loved the story, especially the part where they found the fairies and the part where the girl and her brother were having fun. I really liked the music. The drums and the flutes were my favourite instruments.

Robin: We got to learn lots of music to go with the story. I liked the bit when the boy kicked a ball and it hit his sister on the head! He was showing off because he had scored a goal.

Jenny: I liked the story because it had fairies in it. The little girl knew that the woods were magic! We were sitting at the front so we could see some of the instruments really well. We could also watch the big screen to see some of the people who were sitting at the back of the orchestra and their instruments.

Bertie: I liked the music because it was loud. My favourite instrument was the tuba because it was really loud and so big!

Sidney: There were big drums called timpani and they were loud, too!

Charlotte: I was looking for some bongo drums because we have got a little one in school but I couldn't see any. I liked the lights that made patterns round the walls. They were pretty.

Aimee: There were violins and I liked the music they played.

Astrid: I liked the trumpets and they could play loud or soft music.

Libby-Lee: I went with Year Two because we couldn't fit all the Year One children on the minibus. We sat upstairs in the Philharmonic hall and I had fun being in Year Two that day!



Sports and Clubs



ATHLETICS BY SAM BOOTH AND LUCY WHISKER

The ISA North Athletics this year was at Manchester and was very successful with our school getting some great results and qualifying for several finals on the day. The Year 4 girls' team were the best in the North region! Three people got to the ISA Nationals in Birmingham: Sophie Guttridge qualified for the year 4 relay; Kaitlyn Ha qualified for shot put and Holly Cross for the 600 metres. They all did extremely well with Holly Cross getting a gold medal in her race!

In athletics club we have also worked towards our ESAA badges. Kaitlyn, Lucy, Scarlet and Sam Booth all achieved gold in the pentathlon. So overall athletics has been very successful, with a lot of amazing upcoming athletes!

WIRRAL CROSS COUNTRY RELAY RACE AT THE ARNO SAMUEL BOOTH AND LUCY WHISKER.

Our last cross country race was held on Thursday the 26th of April and was a relay race. The cross country team was as follows: Samuel Booth, Phillip Bradwell, Eisha Chahal, Kaitlyn Ha, Holly Cross and Samuel Hall were in the A team; in the B team there was Lucy Whisker, Nina Karyampudi, Scarlet Clarkson, Piyush Pradeep, Oliver Arnold and Oliver Wilson.

To get a medal the A team had to come in the top 6 out of all the A teams, and the B team had to come in the top 3 out of all the B teams. The A team came 7th (1 place away from getting a medal!), and the B team came 4th (1 place away from getting a medal!). But all the runners did really well and tried their hardest; so even though they didn't get a medal they still did their best and that is all we could ask for.

SPEECH AND DRAMA REPORT BY MISS R. HAMER

This term the speech and drama pupils from Kindergarten to Year 4 have been busy preparing scenes based on a 'School Trip' for the annual summer concert. All pupils were creative in devising their drama scenes and poems. The poem KG recited was an original, written with the help of the children. Year 2 successfully acted the poem 'Jungle Song' animating the characters with humorous style. Year 3 and 4's devised comic scenes based on staffing and organisational problems associated with school trips. The scenes were all super and the children worked extremely hard, merging the clever use of staging, costume and props to denote the different areas in which the scenes took place. This was challenging and handled with professionalism and maturity. The children learnt performance skills needed to produce comedy, such as picking up cues, comic timing, use of pause and characterisation. The scenes were well acted, with super representation and animation, which the audience enjoyed.

In the autumn term all speech and drama pupils will be working creatively in producing their own 'Drama Assembly'. Additionally, there will be the opportunity for children in Years 3 and above to partake in the Trinity College London Speech and Drama Examinations. They will be held in St Saviours Parish Hall, Oxtou on Saturday 17th November 2018. The examinations are credited by UCAS, please note speech and drama lessons are not structured around the examinations and there is no pressure to enter, however the opportunity is available for any child wishing to do so. If you are interested in your child taking a speech and drama examination, please email me directly for further details at ruvanne@frsjobs.co.uk or 07901822481.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my pupils for all their hard work this year and I am looking forward to more creative, exciting drama lessons in September 2018. If any new pupils wish to join the fun of Speech and Drama please contact Mrs Slater to reserve your place. All new pupils to Kindergarten are very welcome and there will be a fun free lesson for pupils to try at the start of the autumn term.



DANCE BY MRS. J. MANN

I am so thrilled to be able to end the academic year on such a high note following a wonderful performance at the Gladstone Theatre on Friday. The children behaved impeccably and their performance was absolutely outstanding. Each year the children excel themselves with their dedication to the pieces and this year was no exception. I was so proud of each and every one of them and would like to congratulate you all on what was a truly memorable event. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a special well done to the year 6 pupils. I will be very sorry to say goodbye to such a strong group this year. Not only are they all fabulous dancers, but their behaviour in lessons, plus their constant desire to want to help with extra tasks or go above and beyond has always impressed me. I wish them all the luck in September with secondary school.

Each year I always like to thank the staff for all their support, however this year I feel I owe them more than that. On the run up to the Gladstone I have had constant words of kindness and offers to help in any way possible. This year's Gladstone performance has needed slightly more effort due to the fact I am very close to my due date. So I would like to say thank you to all those who helped organise children, costumes and props backstage to save me running back and forth as much in my current condition. It will not be forgotten and it was very much appreciated.

Dance club will resume in September as normal; letters will go out in the first week back in school. For now, may I wish you all a wonderful Summer break and I look forward to the new school year ahead.

SWIMMING BY KAITLYN HA

Merseyside Games (Gala)

To get to the Merseyside Gala we had to go through area and regional galas. In the Birkenhead Gala we all swam very well but, due to a couple of disqualifications, we just missed out on the title finishing 2nd. That was, however enough to qualify for the Wirral Gala. Again we swam superbly as a team and this time held our nerve to win the gala. Finally it was on to the Merseyside School Games for the final! The team: Oliver, Lewis, Luke, Sam H., Cody, Eisha, Grace, Poppy, Olivia (as reserve) and me, all swam our hearts out and by the end we knew we were in with a chance! We got more and more excited as the organisers announced the results in reverse order and eventually we were announced as the winners – we were all so proud!

Sheffield (Finals) Swimming Gala ESSA

Having finished 2nd in the regional heats at Everton Park last term we were through this gala, the all England national finals. The gala was on Saturday 16th June 2018 at Ponds Forge in Sheffield. First we had the Medley Relay and Lewis started with backstroke; Samuel H. went 2nd to do breaststroke; 3rd was Eisha, freestyle, and finally me, also with freestyle again. We swam very well and made it to the A final ending 5th out of all the small schools in the country. We then moved on to the Freestyle relay with Lewis 1st, Oliver 2nd, Eisha 3rd and me last in the order. We also qualified for the A final and came 6th out of all the schools. Well done everyone, amazing achievement!



COMPUTER CLUB BY SAM BOOTH AND PHILLIP BRADWELL

Computer club has been very good this year; we've learnt how to work Kodu, Scratch and Lego Mindstorms, and on special occasions are allowed to play games!

Computer Club helps us to learn all the different types of tabs. We've learnt about many different programmers; artificial intelligence, which is about new modern day robots and other programmed items that will be coming into our everyday life in the matter of a decade maybe; we also learnt about a website called Thimble, where you can create your own website involving a lot of different co-ordinates! Mrs. Gallagher taught us this all. Many thanks to her, we will miss her.



ROUNDERS AND CRICKET BY OLIVER ARNOLD

Each Monday after school the Cricket & Rounders club went along to Leasowe Recreation Centre. If the weather was good we played rounders outside on the grass. If the weather was not so good, we would go in to the sports hall to practise. The club is taken by Mr. Huskisson.

The main skills we practised were throwing, catching and batting. We used a variety of bats and balls, including the hard balls; they were a bit scary! When we were in the sports hall we learnt the skills that were specific to playing cricket. We learnt to use a cricket bat properly, and to bowl properly. We also learnt some little tricks to help us field well. When we were playing rounders we learnt about the rules and the strategies of the game. You had to whack the ball pretty hard to get a rounder! On Wednesday the 23rd of May, children from the club took part in the Birkenhead School Year 3 & 4 Kwik Cricket Festival. This was a lot of fun and we learnt a lot. For the first part of the afternoon we went round a number of skill exercises, to help us bowl and bat better. Then we played some games against the other schools there. There was also a free BBQ at the end! We had a great time.

MUSIC REPORT BY MRS McDONALD

Everyone has been working incredibly hard this term towards their exams, some in June and others in December. The following children took exams on 18 June:

Louis Coughlan – First Steps
Lewis Foran – Preliminary
Sam Hall – First Steps
Luke Jones – Grade 1
Lily Jones – Grade 2
Tabitha Rushton – Grade 2.

These exams are not easy and require a great deal of practising, theoretical knowledge, Italian vocabulary and aural musicianship tests to achieve good results. The students all received a pass, merit or distinction – well done to all! A recent article in 'Readers Digest' stated that 'there are twenty-one hidden health benefits that people who love music would like to know'. To begin with, listening to your favourite music lowers anxiety by about one third; mood music makes you eat less; inspiring instrumentals improve your mental focus, boosting mental alertness such as Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' (which Tabitha is learning at the present time). Good music 'soothes and relaxes your blood vessels'. It actually causes blood vessels to expand, increasing blood flow and improving cardiovascular health. 'Group singing makes you happy' and provides feelings of unity making you more sociable.

There are so many parts of our lives that are touched by music but none as much as when playing an instrument. We know that playing an instrument may protect brain sharpness later in life. The more time middle-aged and older adults spent playing musical instruments as children, the faster their brains responded to speech sounds during an experiment, according to a study in the 'Journal of Neuroscience'. It has also been found that music classes make children more co-operative. Pre-school children who played instruments, even as a group, were thirty times more likely to help others in subsequent tasks that measured their helpfulness and problem-solving abilities compared to a group of children who simply listened to a story. Music also helps us to get our work done faster. It has been found that the efficiency of surgeons improved when they worked with music and I think it is widely known now that playing an instrument really does vastly improve your child's mental ability.

I hope that many parents will think about improving their children's mental capacity and embark on offering them instrumental lessons. I cannot emphasize enough the evidence that supports this. There will be five or six spaces available next term due to children moving on to their secondary schools. Please let Mrs Slater know as soon as possible if you require lessons for your child. I am only in school on two afternoons each week so lessons are in short supply.

Lessons will begin again on the 4th and 6th of September. I hope you all have a wonderful summer holiday but those taking exams in December please do not forget to keep practising.



PIANO BY LILY JONES

Piano is an optional activity which is taught by Mrs. McDonald. You have a lesson once a week for half an hour and learn how to play and get to play fun pieces. You also have the choice of taking exams, which is open to all. You can take grades for theory as well, but not everyone chooses to do that.

If you are in Year 6 then you can play at the Gladstone theatre and this year we had Tabitha Rushton, "My Heart Will Go On", Nina Karyampudi, "Bah Bah Do Bah", Lewis Foran, "Su Le Pont" and "Frère Jacques" and me, "Shrek I'm A Believer", playing at the theatre.

I have really enjoyed learning the piano at Prenton Prep and hope to keep it up when I move to high school next year

UKULELE CLUB BY MR. P. JOLLIFFE

This term we have enjoyed more songs, activities and games in our Monday morning Ukulele Club. We have been working especially hard on playing together as a group and supporting each other by appreciating each other's different skills and abilities. It has been great to see that the children turn up each week with their instrument and other equipment that they need. Once again, we would like to extend an invitation to children who wish to take up the instrument. We would especially like to welcome registrations from children who will be in Year 2 and Year 3 in September. Anyone who would like further information regarding Ukulele Club should

email: myguitarukulele@gmail.com

You can also register your child for Ukulele Club by visiting www.myguk.co.uk
May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable summer.

PRENTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT BY MR. A. WILSON

What an excellent year this has been, with some major developments and successful occasions. We have run a number of events in the last term including the Summer Fair and the BBQ.

The Summer Fair was a great success with lots of stalls and plenty of sunshine and we raised over £1500.

The end of year BBQ was a great event with the sun lasting all day, we had a new entertainer from Non Stop Kids Entertainment company keeping the children and adults entertained all day!! We made over £150 at the event, so thank you all for your contributions,

From funds raised, this year we have been able to support the acquisition of road safety kits, bee-bots programmable robots and a PA Sound system. On top of this we funded the backdrop for the school play at the Gladstone theatre which is always a great evening and professional performance! and paid 50% towards year 6's Barnstondale trip which is a much anticipated annual event. The PPSPA events could not happen without the support of the committee, helpers and staff. Many thanks also to the people who have kindly made donations to our events. I would like to thank the Parent body, the teachers and children for making this a great year for the PPSPA!!

We have had some willing and much appreciated contributors to the PPSPA over the last few years but are in need of new blood onto the committee and into the leadership roles. We need fresh ideas, a fresh approach and lots of people to contribute a little so we can deliver as a whole. So if you can spare some time / energy to the cause you will be openly welcomed.

This year we say goodbye to two of our most valuable committee members in Mrs. Michelle Booth and Mrs. Caroline Foran, both have served the PPSPA with great passion and enthusiasm towards putting on events so our children and parents can enjoy the yearly calendar of events. We would like to thank them from the bottom of our hearts for their tireless commitment, Many Thanks!! The first committee meeting of the new school year is on Wednesday 12th September, in the school hall at 7:30pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing many new faces!



**All the Staff at PPS would like to wish
you a happy and relaxing summer
holiday and look forward to the new
term which commences on
Tuesday, 4th September 2018**

