



Prior Heath Infant School
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Headteacher: Mrs L. Chivers

9th February 2022

Dear Parents,

This half term has seen a fairly high number of Covid related absences across the school. However, despite the challenges that have been presented to us, the staff (as always) have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the children's learning has not been disrupted and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for the flexibility that they have shown. I am sure that your children are very much looking forward to a chance to recharge next week and I hope that you are all able to enjoy some time for rest and relaxation with your families.

Staffing Update

Mrs Galloway, Cherry class teaching assistant, will be taking up a teaching post at Ravenscote Junior School after the February half term. Fortunately, Mrs Galloway will still be coming into Prior Heath on a Wednesday afternoon to cover release time. We are in the process of recruiting for an experienced teaching assistant and will update you once we have made an appointment. I'm sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Galloway good luck in her new role.

End of half term and INSET Reminder

School finishes at the usual time of 2.50pm on Friday, 11th February and is closed for half term during the week of 14th February. A reminder that **Monday 21st February is an INSET Day** and school will be closed for staff training. School will re-open after half term at 8.40am on Tuesday 22nd February.

During the Summer term, school will also be closed for staff training on the following dates:

Tuesday 19th April 2022
Friday 27th May 2022

In addition, school will also be closed for the early May Bank Holiday which is on **Monday 2nd May 2022**.

Book Week

As you are aware, we are celebrating Book Week during the week of 28th February. This year, our theme is Fairy Tales and we have the following exciting events taking place during the week:

Monday 28th February – live theatre performance

The Hobgoblin Theatre Company will be visiting to perform their play 'The Greatest Fairy Tales Ever Told' to the whole school. We have requested a £3 donation to cover the cost of this event.

Wednesday 2nd March - bedtime story evening

The children are invited back into school on Wednesday 2nd March from 5.15pm to 6.00pm to listen to bedtime stories read to them by their class teacher. The children are asked to wear their pyjamas and bring a soft toy. Each class will share some stories together and enjoy a snack and drink (provided by the school). The children should be dropped off and collected at their classroom door.

Parents are welcome to stay in the hall during the session to peruse the visiting book fair and/or have a tea or coffee, kindly provided by the PTA. Parents should access the hall through the "lettings" door (between the Year R outdoor area and Year 1 classrooms) and must leave the same way to collect their child from their external classroom door at 6pm.

As space in the hall is limited, we would request that, where possible, siblings of Prior Heath children are not brought along if childcare is available at home.

If your child usually attends K Club, they will need to bring their pyjamas and soft toy to school. They will then change during K Club and the staff will take them to their classrooms for the start of the story evening.

Thursday 3rd March – dressing up day

Your child is invited to come into school dressed as their favourite fairy tale character for World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March.

Scholastic Book Fair

The PTA have kindly organised for a book fair to take place during Book Week. Parents and children can visit the book fair after school from Monday to Thursday and it will be located in the music room (next to the school hall). Parents and children can enter the book fair at the end of the school day, via the lettings door. Purchases can be made in the "check out" area that will be set up in the little library next to the music room. The book fair will be open each day between 2.50pm and 3.30pm. We kindly request that parents keep their children with them at all times. The children will be taken to the book fair by their class teacher at some point during the week to show them the books that are on offer. Further details about purchasing the books will follow prior to Book Week. The school will receive a proportion of the sales which will be used to replenish the books in the classroom reading areas.

Comic Relief

This year we will be raising money for Comic Relief on Friday 18th March. We would like to invite the children to come into school dressed in their choice of home clothes, including something red wherever possible, in exchange for a suggested donation of £1. We would also like the children to learn a joke to share with their class! For hygiene reasons, we ask that the children do not wear or bring red noses to school and we kindly ask that you do not send your child into school with coloured hair or wearing face paint. Clothing and footwear should be appropriate for a school day, including for PE where applicable, and must be warm enough for outdoor activities and playtimes.

Multi skills competition

Just before Christmas, Prior Heath participated in a Multiskills festival at Heather Ridge Infant School where we competed against 2 other local infant schools. The children demonstrated speed, agility and balance throughout the 4 activities.

The children also showed many of our school values, including: teamwork, respect and perseverance! We came 3rd in the competition! Well done to everyone who took part!



Parent Interviews – Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th March

As previously advised, the Spring term parent interviews will take place after school on Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th March (later appointments will be available on Wednesday 23rd).

You will be able to book your appointment online using the Parents Evening application within your ParentMail Account or through the ParentMail App which is kindly funded by the PTA. Please note, you will need to be registered on ParentMail to be able to book an appointment – if you haven't yet registered, please contact the school office.

Bookings will be open from 7.00pm on Monday 14th March and you should receive an invitation to book parents' evening which will appear as a notification in your feed or menu. You will then be able to select a date and time that is convenient to you. If you need help you can visit the ParentMail help site: www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/ and click on 'Applications' and then 'Parent Evening Manager.'

Please note that bookings will close on Sunday 20th March. If you are unable to book your parents' evening appointment online, please contact the school office.

Each appointment will be for 10 minutes only, so if you feel that you will need longer, please see the class teacher concerned to make alternative arrangements. Due to the limited number of time slots available, there will be one appointment allocated per child; we are unable to offer multiple appointments. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

School Photographs

Our photographer was in school on Friday 4th February to take individual photographs of the children. If your child has a sibling in school, a sibling photo was also taken in addition to the individual photo.

Earlier this week your child will have taken home an individually named proof card which will provide the information you need to access your child's photo and place an order, if you wish to. Please note that the deadline for orders is Sunday 20th February 2022 and delivery to the school address is free until then. There will be a postage charge for orders received after 20th February.

Adventure Playground/Trim Trail/Climbing Wall/Den Building/Garden & Outdoor Learning Areas

Please may I remind you that we are not insured for children to use the adventure playground, trim trail, climbing wall or den building area unless under school supervision, nor for siblings to use them at any time. Therefore, please would you ensure that the children in your care remain with you at all times and do not use this equipment before or after school.

The Year 2 children take great pride in looking after their garden area outside the Year 2 classrooms. Unfortunately, it has been noticed that, on occasion, younger children have entered this area at school drop off and collection times and have pulled up some of the plants. Please ensure that you do not let the children in your care enter this area at the beginning or end of the school day.

Additionally, the teachers spend valuable time before school setting up the covered outdoor areas ready for the day's learning activities. Please would you ensure that the children in your care do not touch the equipment in any of these areas, particularly during morning drop-off. Thank you for your support.

Lunch Menus

Our caterer, Mrs Fanone, has made a small change to the week 3 lunch menu for the remainder of the Spring term. The Monday vegetarian option for week 3 will now be a Quorn sausage roll instead of cauliflower and broccoli cheese. Copies of the menus are attached.

Twelve15 continue to experience some disruption to supply and delivery which may mean last minute changes to meal options. Where possible, we will notify you of any changes in advance.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break. We look forward to welcoming your children back on Tuesday 22nd February.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "L. Chivers". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mrs L. Chivers
Headteacher

Diary Dates

Monday – Friday	14 th to 18 th February 2022	Half term
Monday	21st February 2022	INSET Day – school closed for staff training
Tuesday	22 nd February 2022	PTA Break the Rules Twosday
Monday to Friday	28 th February to 4 th March	Book Week – Scholastic Book Fair in school 2.50 to 3.30pm Monday to Thursday
Monday	28 th February 2022	Hobgoblin Theatre Company in school
Wednesday	2 nd March 2022	Bedtime story evening 5.15pm to 6.00pm
Thursday	3 rd March 2022	World Book Day – the children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from a fairy tale
Monday	14 th March 2022	Parents' Evening bookings open at 7.00pm on ParentMail
Wednesday & Thursday	23 rd & 24 th March 2022	Parents' Evening – later appointments available on Wednesday 23 rd
Friday	1 st April 2022	End of Spring term at 2.00pm – please note early closure
Tuesday	19th April 2022	INSET Day – school closed for staff training
Wednesday	20 th April 2022	Start of Summer term
Monday	2 nd May 2022	Bank Holiday – school closed
Friday	27th May 2022	INSET Day – school closed for staff training
Monday – Friday	30 th May to 3 rd June 2022	Half term
Friday	8 th July 2022	Sports Morning – 9.30am to approx. 11.00am
Friday	22 nd July 2022	End of summer term at 2.00pm – please note early closure