

*Prendergast C. P. School*

# Newsletter

## Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

*Ready Respectful Safe*

Last week it was wonderful to see the children engage enthusiastically in the School Eisteddfod for St. David's Day, World Book Day and the Daily Mile Initiative and to see the many competition entries for the Urdd Competitions, which will be announced tomorrow, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

We are already at Week 24 of Week 39 in the academic year and we have a wide variety of teaching and learning activities and educational experiences planned for all our pupils and we are very grateful for the support from our many families and the wider school community.

### Safeguarding

At Prendergast School we have five senior members of staff who make up the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Ms. John, Mrs. Humphreys, Mrs. Gwilt, Ms. Harte and Mrs. Corby. and all have completed leadership courses in safeguarding to ensure that each are able to be the Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP) to support the day to day management of the school.

*Safeguarding is Everyone's Business, and the Childcare Assessment Team at Pembrokeshire County Council can be reached at 01437 776444 and Out of Hours 0300 123 5519*

Currently, we have 451 pupils on roll and most weeks we have new pupils (and families) joining our inclusive school and every effort is made to ensure that everyone is welcomed, and the school's values and ethos are shared.

Recently, our school site has had an act of vandalism carried out, which is now in the hands of the police, as the trespassers were recorded on our CCTV System. In addition to this there have been 2 near misses in the school car park, which were again recorded by CCTV and concerned parents. Thankfully on these



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occasions they did not result in injury to any child/adult, however they were preventable. It is regrettable that I must again remind all drivers to please use the designated parking bays, adhere to the 5 m.p.h. speed limit, keep the pedestrian crossings clear, avoid double parking and exercise caution when using the school site. Last week the bus used for swimming lessons was unable to leave the school site due to cars obstructing the road, which also limited safe access for pedestrians.

A polite reminder to please report all concerns/queries/sharing of information/absences/change of circumstances to the school office at [admin.prendergast@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:admin.prendergast@pembrokeshire.gov.uk) and/or 01437 771580 (answerphone is available), which Mrs. McCarthy and Miss Warlow will address.

• *Regular absence/lateness are reported to the Education Welfare Officer, Natalie Hobbs who will contact families directly to support both families and the school's practices.*

This half term a practice of lockdown procedures will be carried out in addition to the termly fire drill. Both health and safety practices will be reported to the Full Governing Body and Local Authority. The Welsh Government Guidance recommends an annual practice of lockdown procedures, and it is a statutory requirement to carry out fire drills termly. In the event of the school having to carry out a real event lockdown or incident all parents will be notified by text message.

Concerningly, we are receiving an increasing number of notifications from parents concerned about messaging via social media sites including whatsapp groups and we are aware that a few of our older pupils are using inappropriate language and unkind comments in these messages, therefore please be advised to access parental controls on children's devices and report any incidents of bullying to the headteacher/deputy headteacher. We can assist with the setting up of parental controls and we have spoken to all pupils about the safe use of digital devices during last month's Internet Safety Day, when our Digital Champions led a whole school assembly showcasing our Digital Code, which we expect all pupils at Prendergast to follow.

The wearing of school uniform is strongly recommended to support all pupils at Prendergast and the school foyer has many items available for families to use along with details of suppliers of school uniform. Our year 6 pupils have received their leavers' hoodies which clearly identifies them as the older role models at



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school and non-school uniform is encouraged on themed days e.g. World Book Day and when pupils are celebrating their birthdays.

### Asymmetric Week

The results of our annual survey to parents have been analysed and the majority of respondents support the asymmetric week, which is also followed by an additional 25 schools in Pembrokeshire. At Prendergast the statutory curriculum time is completed from Monday to lunchtime on Friday and childcare is provided on Friday afternoons for families who require support.

We received a number of anonymous comments from parents including:  
*'I do not like the fact the children lose an afternoon of schooling each week whilst still having inset days. This academic year has seen 4 inset days in the first term. It does seem quite contradictory when the school push the importance of being in school.'*

All schools in Wales have been granted 6 INSET Days in recent years to allow for the introduction of the New Curriculum for Wales and ALN (Additional Learning Needs) Reform and the INSET dates at Prendergast for this academic year 2024/25 have been organised to support both priorities in the School Development Plan, and the Haverfordwest Schools' Cluster Plan. Attendance is both a national and local priority and it is a focus in this year's SDP as we still have several pupils who are regularly absent or late for school, which is also a safeguarding concern.

INSET dates and information for 2024-2025:

1	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	School Development Plan 2024-2025
2	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Good to Excellent Teaching
3	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Cluster - Read Write Inc Phonics
4	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Self-evaluation
5	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Cluster - National Curriculum 3-16
6	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Twilights in lieu of 21 <sup>st</sup> July completed during Autumn Term

### School Choir

Ms. Worgan and the school's ever-growing choir are busy rehearsing for this year's Local Urdd Eisteddfod which will take place on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March at



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Letterston Hall and you can still see the children's Welsh music lip-sync competition entry for Welsh Music Day (WITHIN the SHWMAE SIR BENFRO LINK-below)

<https://www.facebook.com/shwmae/videos/1859350817933716>

We hope that our choir and recitation groups will progress to the County Competition on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April and then onto the National Urdd Competition at Margam Park during the half- term holiday in May.

### School Events

In recent weeks we have welcomed families to our Curriculum Information and Languages Connect Us Event, and Springboard Family Learning Activities, and to all primary schools in the Haverfordwest Cluster to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Cross Country Competition, which was a great success and organised by Mr. Jenkins. This term, we have also entered teams in the Urdd Football and Rugby Competitions and our pupils are demonstrating great sportsmanship skills and are looking forward to hosting fixtures with local schools soon and preparing for sports days and festivals.

Next week we have meetings with teachers and parents planned and class teachers will share the appointment link for meetings to be arranged with individual teachers therefore please make every effort to attend to discuss pupil progress.

After next week's meetings with parents our Literacy Leaders, Ms. Harte and Miss Esteban will hold reading workshops for parents to support the teaching of phonics through the Read Write Inc. Programme, [Parent guide to Read Write Inc. Phonics - Oxford Owl](#).

Please complete the attached survey and let us know if you are able to attend a session.

<https://tinyurl.com/4buu5nw7>

Thank you for your continued support,

£ John

Ms. John  
Headteacher



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Calendar Dates for Autumn Term 2024:

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	INSET – School Closed
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Bronze Ambassador Conference
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET – School Closed
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual Pupil Photographs 3:30pm to 4:30pm Meet the Teacher Event
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Vet to visit Year 1 Bring your pet to school day for Year 1 Year 6 to visit Haverfordwest County Football Ground/Players
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Prendergardd F@CE Event with volunteers
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Banner Making Workshop for Year 2
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Macmillan Coffee Morning between 8am and 9.30am and 12.30pm to 1.30pm
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Car Boot Sale
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Springboard Activity
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Year 6 Eco Warriors to visit Pennar School
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Friends of Prendergast Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Springboard Activity
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Meeting for Parents/Carers of Year 4 -Llangrannog Visit – 3:30pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Springboard Activity
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Diwrnod Shwmae Day – children are invited to wear red/white/green to school on this day
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Friends of Prendergast Meeting - 2pm to 2:45pm
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Lantern Making Workshop
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Urdd Rugby Tournament
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Reception to visit Scolton Manor Woods
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October to Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Springboard Activity
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Urdd Tag Rugby Mixed and Girls' Tournament @ Crymych RFC
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Open Evening @ Haverfordwest High VC School for Years 5 & 6 – 4:30pm to 6:00pm
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Lantern Parade
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October to 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Half Term - School closed
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Druidston Darwin Science Trip
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 Broad Haven Darwin Project
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week – Theme 'Choose Respect'
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Service for Year 5 parents and MoD Service Families @ 2pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA - Friends of Prendergast Meeting – All welcome @ 2pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	INSET – School Closed
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 First Aid Training



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Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 visit to Haverfordwest Library
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Birds of Prey in Reception Classes
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fayre
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Haverfordwest Banner Parade
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 2 Christmas Show – 6pm
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 6 Eco Warriors to Bluestone
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Nursery Performance – 9:30am to 10:30am
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Year 2 Christmas Show – 1:30pm to 2:30pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Dinner & Sparkle Day
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Playdate for January 2025 Intake
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir Singing at Haverfordwest Tesco Store - 1pm
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December to 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 visit to Urdd Cardiff
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	INSET – School Closed (Instead of 28/04/2025)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Concert for Acorns – 10am to 11am at St Davids Church Prendergast
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Concert for Years 1 and 2 – 10am to 11am at St Davids Church Prendergast
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Disco
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Years 3 & 4 Carol Concert at St David’s Church 10am to 11am
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 to 6 Visit to Palace Cinema
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Years 5 & 6 Carol Concert at St David’s Church 10am to 11am
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Tesco Haverfordwest
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day. Last day of term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	Christmas break – School Closed
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	All pupils return to school
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January to Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Kerbcraft for Year 1
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	EFL Football Competition
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Cookery Session Demonstration with Healthaspire
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Friends of Prendergast PTA Meeting @ 2pm. All welcome.
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole School Non-Uniform Day/Cake Sale – Raising funds to develop our Acorns’ Outdoor Area
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	EFL Football Competition in Swansea
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Sandy Haven (Year 2 Mrs Davies) visit to Carew Castle
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Bags2School donations bags to be returned to school
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Cookery Session Demonstration by Healthaspire
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Curriculum Event for Parents and Carers & Languages Connect Us Event 3.30pm to 5pm
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Barafundle (Year 2 Mr Jenkins) visit to Carew Castle
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Inter-House Cross Country Competition for Years 3 to 6
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Springboard – Cooking Together Year 1 & 2. Booking required



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Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Cookery Session Demonstration by Healthaspire
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Urdd Football – Year 5 & 6 Girls Urdd Football – Year 5 & 6 Mixed
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Cluster Primaries' Cross Country Competition Years 3 to 6
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Springboard – Cooking Together Year 3 & 4. Booking required
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Cookery Session Demonstration by Healthaspire
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Springboard – Cooking Together Year 5 & 6. Booking required
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Springboard – Superstar Snackers Nursery & Reception. Booking required
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Cookery Session Demonstration by Healthaspire
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Year 4 Llangrannog Visit
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term – School Closed
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	School Eisteddfod
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Food Story at Withybush Showground for Year 5
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day & Bedtime Stories Event
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March to Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 visit Withybush Woods
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Prendergast's Got Talent 2025
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception visit Llys Y Fran
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Dwr Cymru Workshop for Year 5
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Eisteddfod
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Pembrokeshire National Park River Trip Dosbarth Amroth
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Pembrokeshire National Park River Trip Dosbarth Dale
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Pond Dipping for PS3 Children
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Dragons' Den – Year 6
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Careers Fair –Year 6
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Super Hero Training Day – Reception Classes
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Break – School Closed
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Urdd 50/50 Cricket Match for Year 3 & 4 @ Neyland Cricket Club
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5/6 Practice for Swimming Gala
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5/6 Swimming Gala
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 3 & 4 Practice for Swimming Gala
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Darwin Science Pond Dipping – Year 5 & 6
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Darwin Science Pond Dipping - Infants
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Gala
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Darwin Science Pond Dipping – Years 1 & 2
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	INSET – School Closed



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Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Transition Days to Haverfordwest High VC School
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Visit to Celtic Camping
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Prenderbury Festival
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of academic year
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET Day - School Closed – Summer Holiday begins



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