

Prendergast C. P. School

Newsletter

Friday 26th April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Safeguarding

At Prendergast we follow Welsh Government and Pembrokeshire County Council Guidance Documents and Policies to support the practices at our school. Please be advised that we conduct a Fire Safety drill termly and a Lockdown drill annually.

An increasing number of our children are bringing their mobile phones and SMART watches into our setting. Please be aware that all children's mobile phones are required to be switched off and placed in the school office for the duration of the school day. SMART watches are only to be used for the purpose of telling the time, therefore notifications need to be disabled and not to be used for recording and/or receiving communications. We do not accept any responsibility for the loss or damage to these items. Valuable items should not be brought to school.

Positive Behaviour

Ready, Respectful, Safe

In September 2022 we introduced:

Prendergast's YOYO-B (You Own Your Own Behaviour) Action Alphabet

it was reviewed and updated with our children in July 2023, and it is used consistently across our school. A poster showing our practices is now also visible on the school's perimeter fence for all parents/carers/visitors to see. Other posters are also displayed across school, in classes and on the yard for our children. Our focus is for our children to take responsibility for their behaviour and to develop their social and emotional skills with support from their peers and adults in the setting.



Ready, Respectful, Safe



Prendergast's YOYO-B Action Alphabet

- You Own Your Own Behaviour!

Ready

- *We are listening to the person who is meant to be speaking
- *We have everything ready to help us learn

Respectful

- *We respect everyone and everything
- *We follow instructions first time

Safe

- *We keep our hands, feet, objects and unkind words to ourselves
- *We move sensibly, safely and quietly



When we are being Ready, Respectful and Safe, we can earn Dojos!



Believe and Achieve

Action A

- Spoiling others' games or learning
- Refusing to 'Own your own behaviour'
- Interrupting
- Not following instructions

Consequence
Lose 5 minutes of morning play

Action B

- Crude actions (name calling or rough play)
- Disrespecting staff
- Disrespecting property

Consequence
Lose 10 minutes of morning play

Action C

- Using bad language towards another person or refusing to do as asked by staff

Consequence
Lose morning play - sent to other Year teacher. Dot for each incident.

Action D

- Threatening behaviour
- Taking people's belongings

Consequence
Lose morning play for 3 days - sent to Deputy Head Teacher. 2 dots for each incident.

Action E

- Use of physical behaviour such as hitting, hitting or hurting.

Consequence
Lose morning play for 3 days - sent to Deputy Head Teacher - Phone call home. 2 dots for each incident.

Action F

For receiving Action C, D or E repeatedly.

Consequence

Report Card issued - Typed daily by teacher, pupil and Head Teacher.

Sent to Head Teacher - phone call home and meeting with parents. Dots as appropriate.

Teaching and Learning

Across school, our curriculum design for the New Curriculum for Wales is evolving and learning concepts are being taught in each class, and we hope that you will join us on Tuesday June 4th for our next Curriculum Information Event for Parents/Carers. More details to follow.

Last week a Local Authority Visit took place to monitor our self-evaluation practices regarding the Asymmetric Week and Attendance.

Currently, our whole school attendance from September 2023 to 17th April 2024 is 91.73%, when the target for all schools in Wales is 95%, so we will continue to work with our families to improve attendance of our learners.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Ready, Respectful, Safe



Thank you for completing the survey about the Asymmetric Week at the end of last term, as we gathered 62 responses. A reminder that the model is practised by 9 out of 11 of the schools within the Haverfordwest Cluster and 27 schools in Pembrokeshire follow this model.

Responses were varied and included:

- 1) *The asymmetric week is far better in motivating the children to attend school and improve their learning.*
- 2) *I love the asymmetric week! It allows me to spend extra time with my child and allows her time to access extra-curricular activities on that afternoon without having another late finish!!*
- 3) *I like the early finish on a Friday as it allows my children to attend sports lessons which we'd struggle to fit in after a usual school finish time. It also allows us to do family activities such as playing board games or bike rides which are difficult to do in between finishing school at a normal time and preparing tea. The children love knowing it's only a short day on a Friday, and I find it easier to get them to go in knowing it's only going to be a couple of hours in school.*

Other examples of responses included:

- 1) *According to the children they do not learn anything on a Friday -*

Answer: Curriculum time is met fully within the current model, and Friday afternoons is free childcare, which is supervised by teaching assistants and Designated Safeguarding Persons are Ms. John and/or Mrs Humphreys.

- 2) *The asymmetric model makes life more difficult for working parents. The children do not want to stay at school on Friday afternoon and resent being there with no purpose. My child described it as boring, after the clubs were discontinued. The current system of weekly forms to arrange places seems excessive.*

Childcare is provided by school until 3 p.m. on Fridays, and Cubs Cwtch, (External provider) continues this provision until 6 p.m. to support families. School childcare activities mirror the activities that are provided by Hope Mathias and her staff at Cubs Cwtch. The initial booking system for childcare supported staffing requirements, however this has now been amended to half termly booking and will be monitored.

- 3) *The children need maximum learning time.*

Answer: Statutory Curriculum Time - Reception – Year 2 = 21 Hours and

Year 3 - 6 = 23.5 Hours, which is met fully with the school's curriculum timetable.



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Family and Community Engagement

Following on from last year's SSCE Cymru's Bronze Award I am pleased to share that we have recently been awarded the Silver Award for our work with the children of Service Families where Mr Hill is our Service Families' Lead, and we will continue to improve our systems that we have in place.

As a result of the awards, we have been able to access grants to develop our activities for families, therefore we will keep you updated of plans for our double decker bus, as an additional learning space, and the community garden, which will soon have a polytunnel to support our Bocs Bwyd Initiative and curriculum activities.

We are delighted to welcome *The Springboard Family Learning Programme*, which is active in many schools in Pembrokeshire, and we wish to encourage families to attend taster sessions with us on Tuesdays from 9 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 3 p.m. after the launch sessions on Tuesday 7th and 14th May. Tutors from Springboard, Laura and Sarah will be joining teachers and pupils on Monday to share further information about the initiative as we wish it to be successful for our families.

A big thank you to our Friends of Prendergast PTA, who meet regularly to organise fundraising and family activities, and who recently held a successful car boot sale on Sunday 14th April. This group welcomes everyone and values new ideas for events.

The Big Bocs Bwyd and Preloved@Prendergast is now open on Tuesday afternoons from 2 – 4 p.m. and Friday mornings from 8.30 – 9.30 a.m., so call in to see Mrs. Claire Edwards.

Our Parent and Toddler Group on Wednesdays from 9.15 – 10.45 a.m. is going strong and welcomes all families and is hosted by Claire Morgans and Kim Thicker.

We are grateful to the many parents for their support when assisting educational visits with our classes, and we wish this practice to develop further. Please call in to collect a volunteer form, which will require a DBS check.

Extra-curricular activities

At present we are only able to offer free extra-curricular activities to children in Year 4, 5 and 6 on Wednesdays from 8th May to 5th June and ask that you complete the booking form to ensure that we have all the names of children before the 1st session and commit to the 4 available weeks to support our safeguarding practices.



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Communications

Please note that our school office is manned from 8.30 – 4 p.m. daily.

It is vitally important to keep school updated of contact details and family circumstances therefore remember to report **all** absences from school at admin.prendergast@pembrokeshire.gov.uk or 01437 771580, as the school has an answerphone if Mrs. McCarthy and Miss Warlow are unable to take your call.

We continue to use Eduspot as a messaging service, which records all messages sent to families and staff also use Class Dojo to share information about classes and school. Please note that staff report all verbal and written communications with parents on our internal system to support our record keeping practices.

Lost Property

All lost property has been relocated within school to enable children to access throughout the day. Please make sure all items of clothing are labelled.

Parent Governor Role

We have a vacancy for the role as parent governor following Mr Chris Absalom's term of office coming to an end. We are grateful to the contribution of Mr. Absalom and thank him for being a supportive governor at our school for many years. The role requires the successful candidate to attend a termly meeting of the Full Governing Body and further details about the role are available at: [Mandatory training for school governors and clerks: guidance | GOV.WALES](#) Application forms will be shared to all parents/carers from Governors' Support Services at Pembrokeshire County Council at a later date.

School Closure Days

This term we have the two remaining INSET Days on Monday 3rd June and Friday 19th July, when the school will be closed to all pupils.

All INSET Days for 2024/2025 will be confirmed at the earliest possible time, however the first ones are Monday 2nd and Monday 16th September 2024.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend,

Ms. John
Headteacher



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Calendar dates below:

Monday 8 th April	INSET School is closed to pupils.
Tuesday 9 th April	Summer Term - School reopens to all pupils.
Wednesday 10 th April	Parent & Toddler Group 9:15am to 10:45am. Weekly until Wednesday 17 th July
Wednesday 10 th April	Friends of Prendergast PTA Meeting 2pm. All welcome
Wednesday 10 th & Thursday 11 th April	Year 5/6 Classes visits to Picton Castle
Sunday 14 th April	Friends of Prendergast PTA Car Boot Sale 9 a.m.– 12 p.m.
Monday 15 th April	Inquiry Launch Day – Children invited to dress as an Egyptian
Tuesday 16 th April	Bocs Bwyd and Preloved@Prendergast open 2 – 4pm
Wednesday 17 th April	Meeting for Year 6 Parents at 3:30pm re Celtic Camping
Wednesday 17 th April	Year 6 P.E. Transition Activity at HHVC School
Thursday 18 th April	Year 4 First Experience Music Activity - PBuzzes
Friday 19 th April	Local Authority Visit
Monday 22 nd April	Swimming Sessions for Year 3 Classes
Monday 22 nd April	Q & A Session for Year 6 with staff from HHVC School
Wednesday 24 th April	Reception Classes Educational Visit to Dinosaur Park
Wednesday 24 th April	Dosbarth Marloes Visit to Haverfordwest Library a.m.
Friday 26 th April	Purple Up Day! All children invited to wear something purple to support Month of the Military Child. Services Families invited to family event from 1:30pm. Visit to VC Gallery for Years 5 & 6 Little Troopers a.m.
Friday 26 th April	Bocs Bwyd open from 8:30am to 9:30am
Monday 29 th April	Ti'r Coed Workshop with Year 4 Classes.
Monday 29 th April	Springboard Family Learning Assembly for staff and children



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Wednesday 1 st May	Year 3 Beach Clean at Newgale, parent volunteers welcome
Tuesday 7 th to Tuesday 21 st May	Assessment Weeks
Tuesday 7 th May	Dosbarth Saundersfoot Educational Visit to Maritime Museum, Pembroke Dock
Wednesday 8 th May	Dosbarth Marloes Educational Visit to Maritime Museum, Pembroke Dock
Wednesday 8 th May	Educational Welfare Officer Visit a.m.
Wednesdays 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd May, 5 th June	Extra-Curricular Activities for Year 4, 5 and 6 – 3:20pm to 4:15pm
Monday 13 th May Friday 17 th May	Year 5 Taith Project
Monday 13 th May	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Gala Practice p.m.
Tuesday 14 th May	Dig for Victory Garden Visit at St Ishmaels with Learner Voice Groups and Mrs Edwards
Wednesday 15 th May	Friends of Prendergast PTA Meeting at 2pm. All welcome
Wednesday 15 th May	Team Wales Visit at Prendergast p.m.
Thursday 16 th May	Year 4 Visit to Swansea Egyptian Centre – to be confirmed
Monday 20 th May	Year 2 Visit to Torch Theatre
Monday 20 th May	Year 3 & 4 Swimming Gala p.m. Parent/Carers welcome.
Tuesday 21 st May	Girls Cricket Festival
Wednesday 22 nd May	SSCE Cymru Filming Day a.m.
Friday 24 th May	End of half term.
Monday 27 th May – Friday 1 st June	Maldwyn 2024 Urdd Gobaith Cymru Spring Half Term Holiday.
Monday 3 rd June	INSET- School closed to all children.
Tuesday 4 th June	Parent Information Event – The Curriculum For Wales at Prendergast . All welcome 3.30 - 4.30 p.m.



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Thursday 6 th June	Mixed Cricket Festival at Haverfordwest Cricket Club
Monday 10 th June	Health and Wellbeing Week
Monday 10 th June	Sports' Day Practices – P.E. clothes needed
Tuesday 11 th June	Sports Day for Nursery and Reception - 9.30 a.m. Sports Day for Years 1, 2 and 3 - 1.00 p.m.
Wednesday 12 th June	Sports Day for Years 4, 5 and 6 – 9.30 a.m.
Thursday 13 th June	STEM Activity for Y5/6 Classes
Monday 17 th June	Year 5/6 Swimming Gala Practice p.m.
Tuesday 18 th June	Year 4 Presentation for Parents/Carers at 6:30pm
Monday 24 th June	Armed Forces Day
Monday 24 th June	Swimming Gala for Year 5 and 6 in afternoon. Parents welcome
Wednesday 26 th June	School Transition Day (New Classes for September 2024)
Wednesday 26 th and Thursday 27 th June	Year 6 Transition Days at Haverfordwest High VC School.
Monday 1 st – Thursday 4 th July	Year 6 Residential Visit to Celtic Camping.
Tuesday 2 nd July	Pembrokeshire Schools Cricket Final
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 5 Transition Activity at HHVC School a.m.
Thursday 11 th July	Prenderbury Festival. All families welcome
Tuesday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Event for Year 6 Families 6 p.m.
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Red Carpet Event at end of school day
Thursday 18 th July	Last day of the academic year for children.
Friday 19 th July	INSET for School Staff. School holidays start for all children.
Monday 2 nd September	Directed INSET Day – School closed to all pupils.
Tuesday 3 rd September	School reopens for all pupils.



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