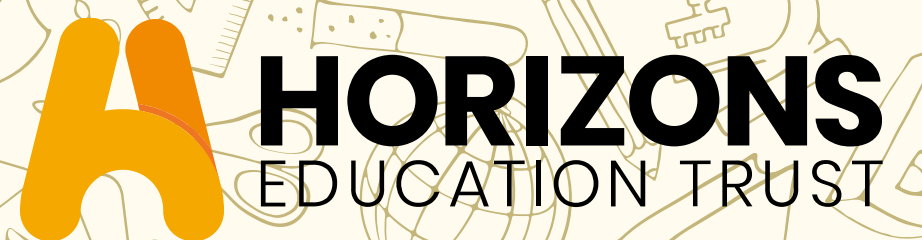


PRESTLEY POST

Summer Term 2 - 20.07.2026



Prestley Wood Academy



EDUCATE EMPOWER ENRICH ENJOY

A message from Caroline

Leo's Funzone

Welcome to our Newsletter for the Summer 2 Term

Dear Prestley families,

My daughter recently became a teenager and, as is family tradition, we measured her height against the kitchen wall. Between the latest growth spurt and the increasingly persuasive arguments about why she should stay up later, I was reminded that children have an extraordinary way of changing while we're busy looking elsewhere. Looking at the pencil marks from previous years, I suddenly realised that the tiny person I first met is now eye to eye with me!

It made me reflect on why the end of a school year feels so important. Schools are a little like those marks on a kitchen wall. When we see our pupils every day, it can be easy to miss the small changes happening in front of us. But when we stop and compare where they are now with where they were last September, the progress is astounding. They have worked so hard to develop their learning, confidence, communication, independence, resilience and readiness to embrace new experiences- it is such a joy to witness.

This last half term has again been full of memorable moments. We celebrated the Olympic values during a fantastic Sports Day, explored the wonders of space in the Science Sensory Dome during Lunar Day, and some of our pupils enjoyed their very first Duke of Edinburgh camp out. Thank you also to the families who joined our online safeguarding workshop, which was delivered in response to parent feedback and requests.

The future is equally exciting. In 26-27, we will welcome around 35 new pupils as Prestley Wood continues to grow, expanding into previously unused areas of the school. Our oldest pupils will move into Key Stage 4, bringing opportunities for accreditation pathways, increased work-related learning, community experiences and college link days as we continue preparing them for adulthood.

Finally as always I would like to thank you all on behalf of our staff team, such a wonderful group of supportive kind and thoughtful families we are all privileged to work with in our school community.

I wish you all a happy, restful summer and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Caroline

Apple and Pear class embarked on a joint community visit to Leo's Funzone at One Leisure. The focus of the trip was physical and personal development as the pupil's navigated a more challenging soft play course and gained experience of interacting appropriately with members of the community, as well as each other. Both classes were fantastic representatives of the school, with Pear class showing extra care for the toddlers who were sharing the space with us and Apple class showing increased confidence and independence as they explored an unfamiliar location with their trusted adults nearby. Well done all.



<https://www.prestleywood.org.uk/>

Lunar Learning Day



This half term, we have celebrated Lunar Learning Day with a visit from an inflatable science dome! Each class has taken part in an immersive experience under a virtual starry sky, learning about the wonders of the solar system, viewing stars and constellations, and listening to stories about the sky as part of “Our World” learning. The children also enjoyed sharing their Lunar activities with their families in our open classroom event, where they explored various moon crafts, experiments and experiences.



Mini Olympics - Sports Day 2026



Our Mini Olympics Sports Day was a fantastic celebration, bringing the whole school together for a morning of physical fun and achievement.

Children took part in activities across the Run, Jump and Balance, Aim and Score, and Skills Zones, with everyone included and enjoying success. Throughout the day, pupils showed the Olympic values of Friendship, Respect, and Excellence.

Each class nominated three children who were recognised with certificates and medals, and in the afternoon families joined us to share in the excitement. A huge thank you to everyone who made it such a memorable day!



Police Community Support



This half term, we were delighted to welcome two local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) to KS3. Pupils learned about the important role they play in helping to keep people safe and supporting the local community. The visit provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to ask questions, build confidence, and develop positive relationships with community services in a friendly and supportive environment.



Healthy School Award



Our school gained Healthy School status by reviewing our pupils' health and wellbeing needs, setting clear priorities, and implementing targeted actions across areas such as healthy eating, physical activity and emotional wellbeing. We involved pupils and staff throughout the process and monitored the impact of our work to ensure improvements were sustained. Meeting these criteria enabled us to achieve Healthy School accreditation.



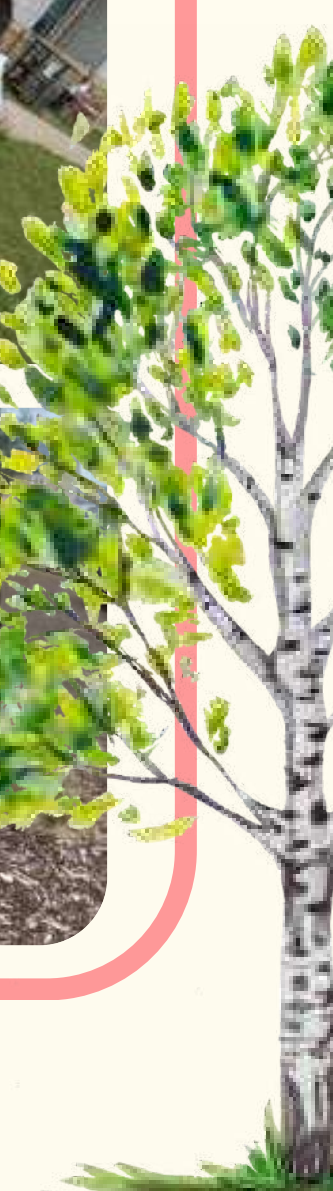
<https://www.prestleywood.org.uk/>

Forest School



Our Forest School sessions have been full of teamwork and environmental care this term. The children have helped to grow our developing forest by planting and watering donated trees, ensuring they have the best start possible.

They have also taken part in litter picking activities around the school grounds and local community, helping to keep our outdoor spaces clean and safe for everyone. We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, responsibility, and commitment to looking after the environment.



Eco Committee

Online Safety Workshop



We are delighted to introduce our new Eco-Committee, whose members were selected through pupil applications, nominations, volunteering, and teacher recommendations. Some pupils were also chosen to support their SEMH development, helping them build confidence, responsibility, and teamwork.

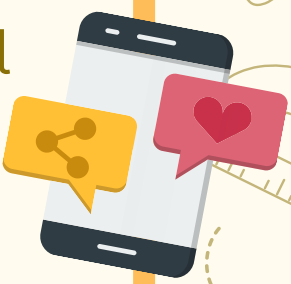
The committee has already made a fantastic start by leading our Bag2School collection, helping us collect an amazing 258kg of donations for sustainable reuse. Thank you to everyone who contributed towards this fundraiser.

We look forward to seeing the positive impact our Eco-Committee will make across the school this year!

On 12th June, we hosted our first Parents' Online Safety Afternoon. Families learned about popular apps and online risks, including cyberbullying, misinformation and online scams. We also shared practical tips on using privacy settings, parental controls and reporting tools to help keep children safe online.

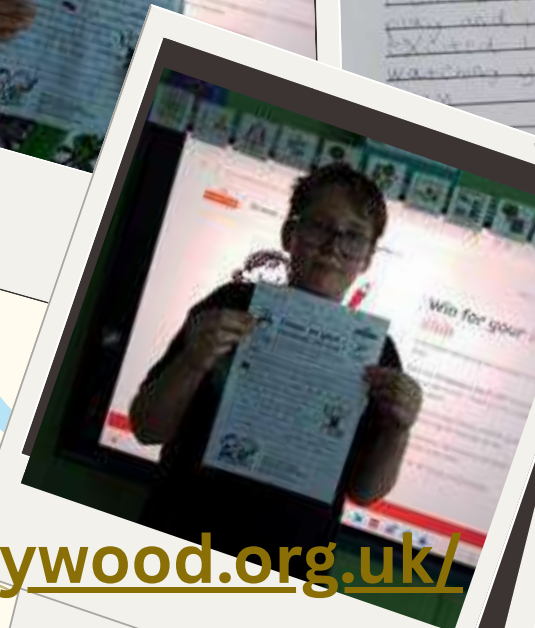
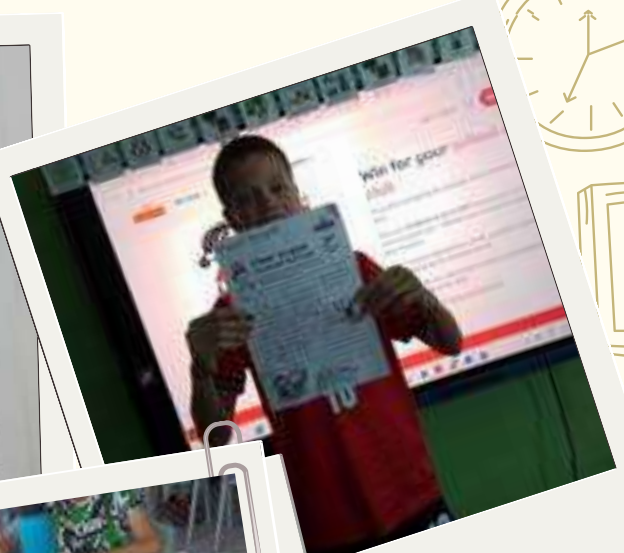
Parents were introduced to the 4 Cs of Online Safety – Contact, Content, Conduct and Commerce – and practical strategies to help keep children safe and become informed, responsible digital citizens.

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended. We look forward to hosting more online safety sessions in the future.



World Class Letter

As part of Royal Mail's World Class Letters campaign, some of our pupils wrote letters of support to their football heroes in the England and Scotland teams. They carefully crafted encouraging messages and good luck wishes, showing creativity and enthusiasm while developing their writing skills. The children were excited to share their support and take part in this national initiative.



DofE Expedition

Growing Together



Four students from Sycamore Class have successfully completed our school's first Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) Bronze Expedition.



Over two hot days, the students walked around Grafham Water, showing determination, resilience and excellent teamwork. They completed a 6½ mile walk on day one before returning to base to cook their own meals and camp overnight.

On day two, they packed up their tents and completed the final stage of the expedition, enjoying a well-earned rest at Grafham Water Visitor Centre before returning to school.

We are incredibly proud of all four students for their fantastic achievement and the way they represented the school.

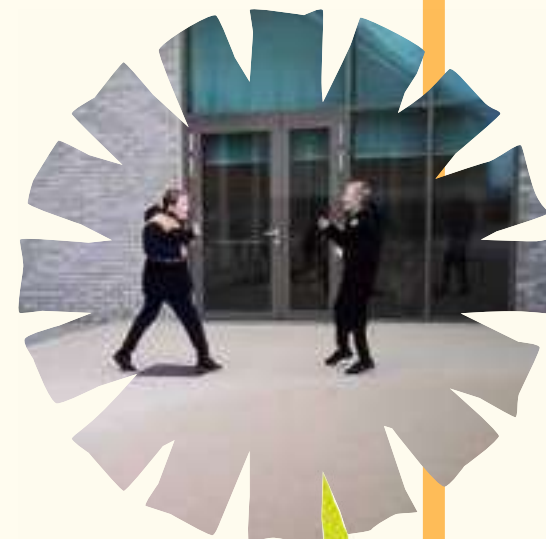
Congratulations to our very first DofE Bronze cohort. You smashed it!



This half term, our School Buddy System has continued to provide valuable opportunities for pupils to develop friendships, confidence, and independence. Older pupils are paired with younger pupils to offer support, encouragement, and positive role modelling, helping to build relationships across the school and strengthen our sense of community.

Our Eco-Committee and School Council have also been working together, combining their ideas and efforts to create a display board showcasing their projects and achievements. The board celebrates pupil voice and highlights the positive contributions our children are making to school life.

We are incredibly proud of the teamwork, responsibility, and leadership shown by all pupils involved.



Autism Awareness - Colour Run

Our students had a fantastic time taking part in our Colour Run for Autism Awareness! After eagerly awaiting the event, it was wonderful to see everyone embracing the colourful celebrations and showing great enthusiasm throughout. Well done to all of our students for making it such a memorable and positive occasion!



Join our Academy Advisory Group (AAG)

Thank You to Our AAG Members

And an Invitation for you to Join for 2026–2027!

As we approach the end of our second year at Prestley Wood Academy, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our current Academy Advisory Group (AAG) members. Your dedication, insight, and support have been instrumental in shaping our school's journey so far. From championing our values to guiding key decisions, your contributions have made a real difference - and we are truly grateful.

Looking ahead to the 2026–2027 academic year, we are now inviting expressions of interest for new members to join the AAG. This is a vital role in the life of our school. The AAG acts as a critical friend to the leadership team, helping to ensure we remain accountable, inclusive, and ambitious for every child.



Why join?

- Be part of shaping the future of Prestley Wood Academy
- Represent the voice of parents/carers and the wider community
- Support school improvement and student success
- Gain valuable experience in governance and education

Our school cannot run without a strong and committed governing body. If you're passionate and want to make a meaningful impact, we'd love to hear from you.

For more information or to express your interest, please contact Jo Tregent at:

jtregent@prestleywood.org.uk

Together, we can continue to grow a school we're all proud of.

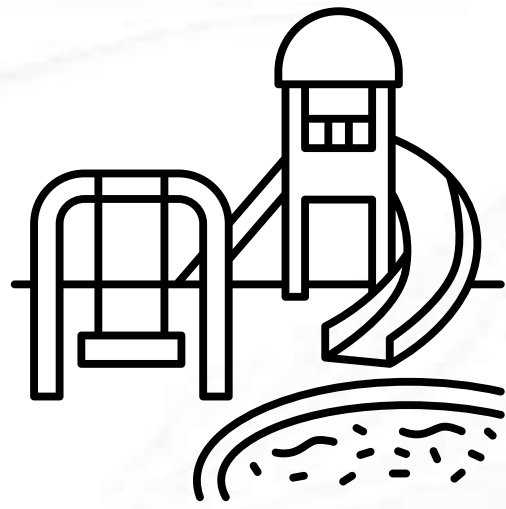


Summer Activities

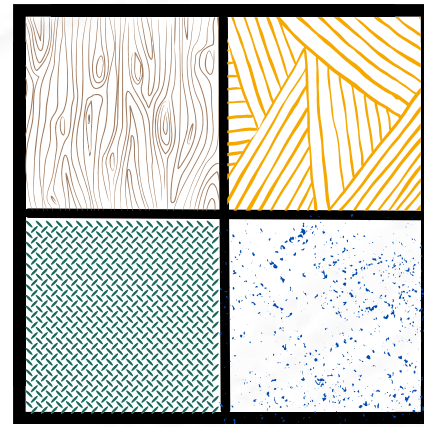
Summer Term 2 - 20.07.2026



Dance



Visit a Park



Sensory/Texture Adventure



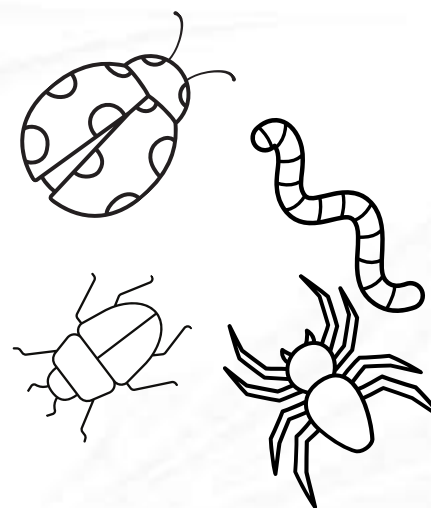
Imaginative Play



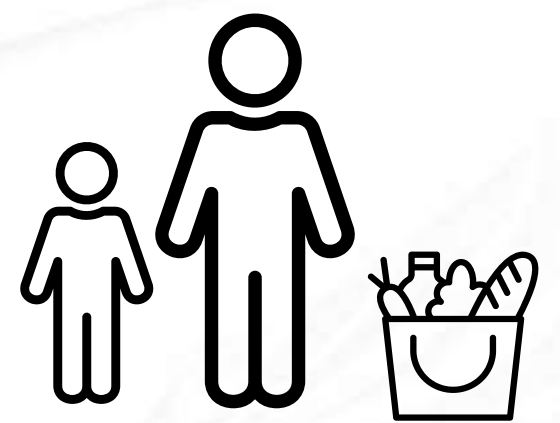
Listening Walk



Story Time



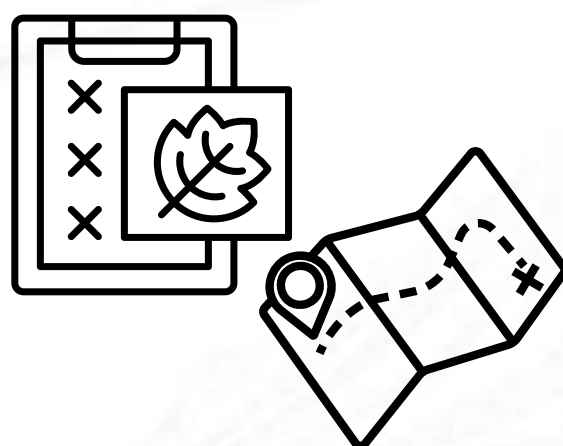
Minibeast Hunt



Shopping Help



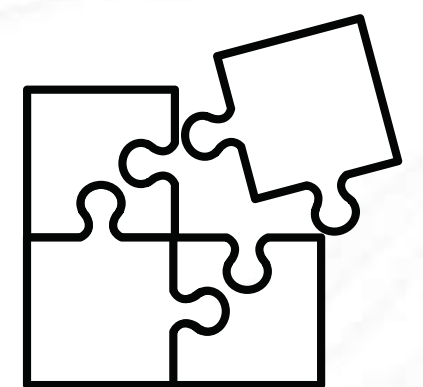
Water & Sand Play



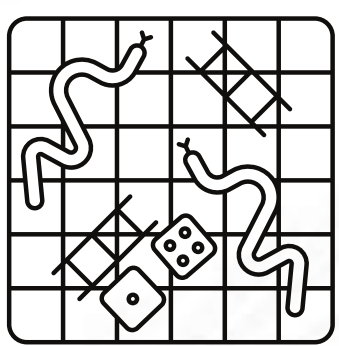
Scavenger or Treasure Hunt



Nature Walk



Puzzle play



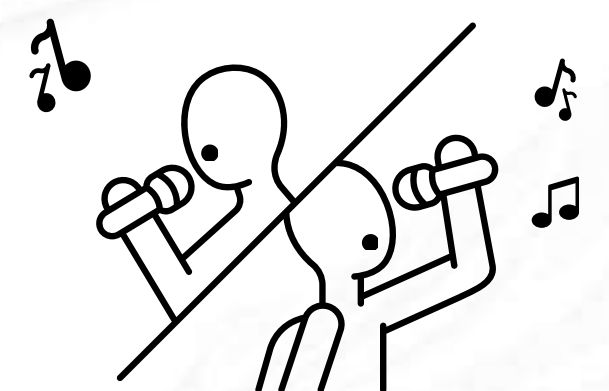
Board Games



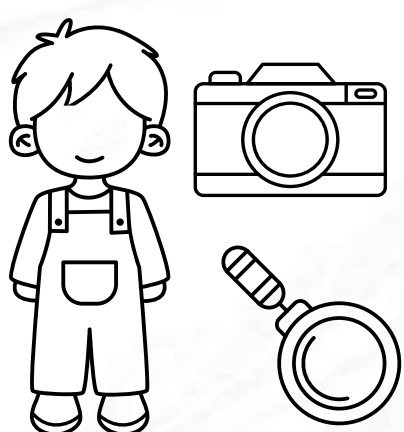
Play Sports



Garden Picnic



Sing



I Spy



Colouring/
Mark Making



Flower Search



Garden Yoga

Term Dates - 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026 - 3rd September to 18th December

Staff Training Day: Tuesday 1st September

Staff Training Day: Wednesday 2nd September

Autumn Term Opens: Thursday 3rd September

Half Term: 26th - 30th October

Staff Training Day: Monday 2nd November

Autumn Term Closes: Friday 18th December

Spring Term 2027 - 5th January to 25th March

Staff Training Day: Monday 4th January

Spring Term Opens: Tuesday 5th January

Half Term: 15th - 19th February

Spring Term Closes: Thursday 25th March

Summer Term 2027 - 12th April to 21st July

Summer Term Opens: Monday 12th April

Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May

Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 31st May

Half Term: 31st May - 4th June

Staff Training Day: Friday 2nd July

Staff Training Day: Friday 16th July

Summer Term Closes: Wednesday 21st July

