



THE PERSE

PREP SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE

1st October 2021

Dear Parents,

Assemblies this week have centred on various magic words that, if used properly, will take your children far. My thanks to the intrepid explorers (stellar cast of Mr de Albuquerque as scary king, Mrs Robertson as hapless guide, Miss Bonner as mad scientist, Mr Nicholes as the strong-man porter and Mr Bidwell as the fresh-faced cook's assistant) who helped with the message in today's assembly. Good manners need to be taught and practised regularly until they become ingrained; I hope you see plenty of evidence at home as well! We also enjoyed a talk from the nutritionist of Holroyd Howe, the Perse caterers, which centred on healthy and balanced choices at mealtimes.



Term is certainly gathering momentum, with academic work in full flow, fixtures coming thick and fast, drama casts being announced and music groups now established, including the school orchestra which features a fifth of the pupils at the Prep. With children becoming tired, do ensure that they get sufficient downtime over coming weeks.



Covid Guidelines

In line with National Guidance, anyone who is unwell with Covid-19 symptoms (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste), must book an NHS PCR or School Samba II test and self-isolate. Other members of their household, including any siblings who are either under the age of 18 years and 6 months and/or are fully vaccinated, do not need self-isolate. Please can parents use the email address covidtest@perse.co.uk to report any symptoms. The following [government summary](#) of the guidance might prove helpful.



Music

Since the onset of the pandemic, we have noticed many more children opting for the piano and violin, and fewer signing up for woodwind and brass instruments. We are always eager to promote all instruments and are particularly keen to encourage some of the less mainstream instruments, all of which enable the orchestral opportunities which play a large part in the musical life at the Prep and Upper.

The Prep does have the following instruments that can be hired out: clarinets, flutes, alto saxophone and a tenor saxophone, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, cornet, French horn, trombone and a euphonium. For these instruments, where space and timetable allow, we do offer two free 'taster' lessons with an expert music

peri; if this is of interest, please do contact Jackie Wright (prepadmin@perse.co.uk) so that we can collate interest and arrange these.

In music lessons this week, Year 3 were introduced to the clarinet with a showcase from Dr Jon Halton, one of our music peris.

Charity Vote – Stand for Trees

Many thanks to all the children who nominated charities for the recent Big Vote, with a number of impassioned covering letters handed in to POD who then came up with the shortlist shown. After Mr Reston's informative presentation on each charity, every child marked their ballot papers. *Shepreth Wildlife Conservation Charity* was duly selected by the children after a very close vote; we look forward to welcoming representatives from this charity to speak to the children and explain their work in the coming months. After the upcoming PPP AGM we shall also find out the new charity chosen by the parents. As the PPP's financial year comes to a close, fundraising will switch to the new charities from *Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust* and *Stand for Trees*.

Name: The Perse Prep	Class: of 2021
Charity	Tick one
Marine Conservation Society	81
Shepreth Wildlife Conservation Ch.	87
Campaign for Female Education	44
Cancer Research UK	69
British Heart Foundation	22

Eco Reps

Mr Reston is excited to announce the Eco reps for Years 4, 5 and 6, all of whom put forward their cases strongly, either in speeches or in letters of application. We look forward to some of the recommendations and tangible differences that this group can make this year. Well done to:

Year 4: **Anamaya Kumar, Jacqueline Danesh and George de Albuquerque** (with **George Pullan, Henry Lloyd and Theodora Pring** taking over mid-year).

Year 5: **Fred Woodman, Mia Bird and Oli Taylor** (with **Daniel Shenker, Rosie Colvin and Léon Corne** for the second half of the year).

Year 6: **Niovi Skordos and Rufus Crabb**.



Online learning

The school has a number of online subscriptions available which can enhance learning at home:

Typing: *Typing Club* (which should be familiar to Year 5 as they are currently using it for weekly homework) is a great platform for developing typing skills. It can be accessed via <https://the-perse.typingclub.com>. If children are unsure of how to log in, their Computing teacher can confirm their username and password (although the default is the same username as used to access the network and then either a blank password field or the username again).

Maths: *MangaHigh* is a fun and interactive way to develop maths skills, either through tasks assigned by the teacher or just general practice. This can be accessed by visiting www.mangahigh.com, logging in with the user ID and password noted in their planners. We also make use of the activities on *Maths Frame* via www.mathsframe.co.uk (login details can be found in the children's planners).

French: For improving knowledge and understanding of French vocabulary, children can log into *Linguascope*, via www.linguascope.com, using the login details they have in their planners.

Current Affairs: New this year, children also have access to the digital newspaper *First News* by visiting <https://schools.firstnews.co.uk>. Year 6 should already be familiar with this as it is one of the main sources we have suggested (as part of our Year 6 homework timetable) for developing their awareness of current affairs throughout the week.

Sport

Parents are very welcome to attend these matches; collection for home fixtures is from the Playing Fields:

Wednesday 6th October

U11 A/B/C/D Girls' Hockey v SPF (Dame Bradbury's) & King's College Triangular at home at 2.30pm. Collection at 4.15pm

U11 A/B/C/D Boys' Football v King's College School at home at 2.30pm. Collection at 4pm

Thursday 7th October

U9 A/B/C/D Boys' Football v St Faith's at home at 3.10pm. Collection at 4.30pm

Friday 8th October

U10 A/B/C/D Boys' Football v SPF (Dame Bradbury's) at home at 3pm. Collection at 4pm

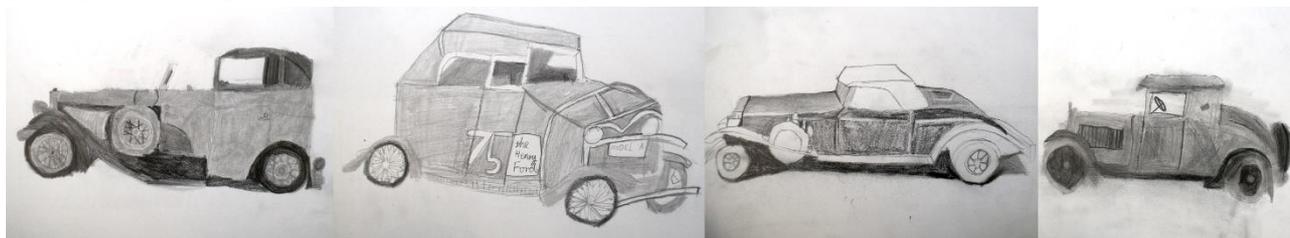
U10 A/B/C/D Girls' Hockey v King's College School at home at 3.30pm. Collection at 5pm

Saturday 9th October

U11A IAPS Football Regional Qualifier, Bishop's Stortford (10am – 1pm). Please meet at school at 8.30am. Collection at 2pm if returning to school.

Artwork

This week we showcase Year 3's toy cars and Year 4's vintage cameras, both pencil drawings from photographs, using shading pencils and blending sticks on paper.



Chess

Ten children have signed up for the Cambridgeshire Schools' Chess League with Mr Jackson, the chess coach. He is looking for at least two more children to join so that two teams of six can take part. If extra children take part, just the points from the top twelve children will count. This event will be held at St Bede's School on Saturday mornings (9am – 12pm) on the following dates: 9th October, 6th November, 27th November, 29th January and 26th February. If you are interested, do contact Nick directly (jacques.nixon@gmail.com).

PPP AGM

The AGM for the PPP will be held online on Monday 11th October this year, starting at 8.00pm. The AGM is open to all parents and, if anyone is interested in joining, the meeting please do email Valerie Hirzel at valerie.hirzel@outlook.com and then arrangements can be made to send you a meeting invitation.

The PPP will update on what it has done over the last year in hosting social events for both parents and children and also to report back on our fundraising activities. If you are interested in joining the PPP or would like to understand more about what is involved then please don't hesitate to contact either Valerie Hirzel at the email address above or Zoe Robson at zafrobson@gmail.com.

If parents have suggestions for the charity chosen by the PPP for the coming year, please do email the name of this charity to Valerie Hirzel, with a brief explanation that can be shared ahead of the AGM and a vote by the parents.

Perse Umbrellas – last orders!

The PPP would like to thank all those who have so generously supported the PPP's recent fundraising initiative by purchasing the Perse Umbrella. With only 8 more remaining, they urge you to seize the opportunity to purchase one of these stunning brollies before they sell out! Umbrellas can be collected from Reception and bought for £30 through Parent Pay or by leaving cash or a cheque made payable to Perse Prep Parents in an envelope in Reception marked PPP-Umbrellas-<insert your name>.

Certificates and Awards

Congratulations to **Arabella Wallace** on her Swim England 20m and Go Paddling Start Awards; **Sophie Newhouse** who has got the part of Susan in the Christmas production of *Miracle on 34th Street* at The Town and Gown Theatre in Cambridge; and **Esther Wong** for taking part in the swimming for England Level X racing, achieving her personal best in the 100m backstroke at 1:43:13, ranking 499 nationally, and 50m backstroke at 45:68, ranking 566 nationally. This leads us on to this week's Scores on the Doors:

4 TH	3 RD	2 ND	1 ST
CORINTHIANS	FORESTERS	BARBARIANS	NOMADS
1530	1543	1580	1581

Yours sincerely

James Piper
Head

We value endeavour, intellectual curiosity and scholarship, breadth and balance,
one another and our environment.