



# The Priory Church of England Primary School

*Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve*

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## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Autumn 1 - Friday 13th September 2024**

- Headteacher update
  - Worship
  - Gamechangers
- Attendance and Punctuality
  - Key Dates

## HEADTEACHER UPDATE



What an incredible start to the new school year. In just 8 days, I have been overwhelmed by how well Priory School has demonstrated the power of community.

Last Wednesday, we congregated at our new school gates to acknowledge and celebrate the incredible work that has been put in over the past 4 years to secure the planning and funding for our new perimeter fence to help keep our school site secure. It was very fitting that Mrs Brown, our previous and well-loved School Business Manager cut the ribbon before all the children and families entered the playground. I would like to say another thank you to both Geoff Tabor, our Chair of Governors, and Helen for never giving up on this project and for getting us to the finish line. It looks fantastic!



On Wednesday, we had a 'little' leak in our school kitchen. Our school community pulled together; the office managed the coms, a lot of staff helped to wash and dry all the plates and cutlery by hand, a parent saved the day and fixed the leak and all the families willingly provided a packed lunch for their child for the following day. What brilliant team work! It was very sweet when one pupil offered me £1.00 of their own money the following day as payment towards fixing the leak. Needless to say, he kept his pound coin but the gesture warmed me right through.

Every child in school has been given a leadership role this year; this is an opportunity for them to take on responsibility and contribute to their classroom and school community. EVERY job matters and EVERY child matters. Our vision is to inspire a future generation to show our values through their good works and every child in school has made a fantastic start at this already.

And we have welcomed the new Acorn Class children and families to our Priory School community. The children have been attending either morning or afternoon sessions and have shown courage and friendship as they settle into the new school routines. Just like oak saplings, we cannot wait to see them grow to their full potential over the next seven years. Today, year 6 met their buddy for the first time and they had a wonderful afternoon together.



Thank you to all Priory families for encouraging your child at the start of the new school year.

*Mrs Richardson*

## WORSHIP



We have started the year by looking more carefully at our new Vision picture of the 'City on a Hill'. We are thinking about this Bible verse which encourages us not to hide our light but put it on stand for others to see. We have been exploring how we can let our light shine this year and because we are all unique we will all shine in different ways.

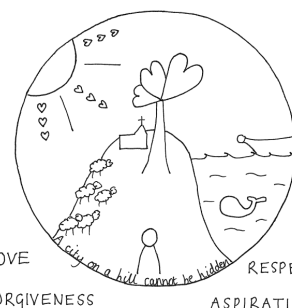
*A city on a hill cannot be hidden.*

*Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.*

*Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in*

*the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds. Matthew 5:14*

Inspiring a generation to learn, flourish and achieve in a caring Christian community.



## GAMECHANGERS CELEBRATION WORSHIP



Last year we introduced the phrase 'Gamechanger' and this year we are keeping it for our celebration worship on Friday afternoon. A Gamechanger is someone who works hard to achieve ways to shine their light or shines the light on important issues. Each week we will celebrate the children who have achieved the Made to flourish Friday Award as well as a few other Gamechangers from our school community.

In our first Gamechangers we celebrated 3 children who had shone their light on important issues. Two children spent one day of their summer holiday litter picking at Southbourne Beach. We were staggered to hear what items they found and we are all going to make sure we take our rubbish away with us from the beach. Another pupil had been inspired by our bee focus in summer term and spent a day at Grounded Community in Boscombe and actually got to put on a beekeepers suit and learn more about these amazingly important creatures. Please see below a link to Grounded Communities upcoming activities this autumn which you might like to try as a family.

And our fourth Gamechanger last week was a pupil who had shone their light in their learning and through displaying impeccable manners. What a brilliant start.

This week we have celebrated 12 Made to Flourish Friday Award superstars who have all been noticed for their growth mindset in class.

We also had another Litter Picking Family, inspired by last week's Gamechangers. Isn't it great that we can start ripples of generosity in our community.

Mrs Crouch, one of our TAs, also shared her special letter from the King. She had written to him to wish him well and she got a lovely response. This shows that we should let others know they are valued. We could try writing a card for someone else this week.

I can't wait to see who our Gamechangers are next week.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Thank you to everyone for their support for excellent attendance. As you know, this year attendance is tracked using a 10 in 10 method. 10 unauthorised absences (equivalent to 5 school days) will trigger us to consider a FPN. Miss Field, our Attendance Champion, is monitoring attendance every Tuesday and **may** contact you if we notice a drop in attendance. This is purely a supportive measure.

In school we are using a new registration system called Arbor. This system allows us to track the number of occasions pupils are late and the number of minutes of missed learning. Our school gates are open from 8:35am - 8:45am. Children who arrive after this time and arrive through the office are registered as late. If your child is late on 5 occasions or more you will be contacted by Miss Field as a supportive measure.

## COMMUNITY LINKS



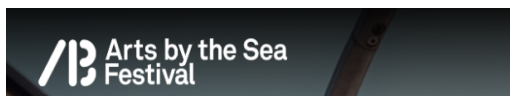
Please find below links to three groups within our community who are running events over the next few weeks. These may provide great ideas for weekend activities.



<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/groundedcommunity/>



<https://artsbythesea.co.uk/>



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

## DONATIONS



Some of our Year 6 Leaders are starting a Chess Club for younger pupils. If any families have a spare/unused chess board and pieces that they would be willing to donate, we would be extremely grateful. They don't necessarily need to be in a box. Please drop them off at the office. We are also looking for any sets of card games which families no longer use but are still in good condition.

Our school HIVE is an extremely popular spot with the children to play a game with a friend or a small group.

Thank you.

## SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024-2025

Please find below our term dates for the academic year 2024 -2025. We hope that by publishing these dates in advance, families are able to plan in advance to avoid absences during term times.

Monday 2nd September 2024	INSET Day
Tuesday 3rd september 2024	INSET Day
Wednesday 4th September	Term Starts
Thursday 19th September	Year 1 Home Learning Meeting
Monday 23rd September	Acorn Class starts full time
Tuesday 24th September	Acorn Class Home Learning Meeting
Friday 4th October	Harvest Festival Service at Priory Church 9:45am
Thursday 17th October	FPS Discos (KS1 4:30pm - 5:30pm, KS2 5:45pm - 6:45pm) <b>TBC</b>
Friday 18th October	Flu immunisations
Monday 21st October & Tuesday 22nd October	Parent Evening Consultations (face to face)
Thursday 22nd October	New Reception Starter 2025 Open Morning
Friday 25th October	Break the Rules Day - FPS Fundraiser <b>TBC</b>
Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November 2024	Half term
Monday 4th November 2024	INSET day
Monday 11th November - Friday 15th November	Anti Bullying Week - Choose Respect
Tuesday 12th November	New Reception Starter 2025 Open Morning
Thursday 21st November	New Reception Starter 2025 Open Morning
Friday 6th December	Treehouse Theater Panto Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 10th december	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity 1:45pm
Wednesday 11th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity 5:30pm
Tuesday 17th December	Carol Service at Priory Church 6:00pm
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Lunch Day Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20th December 2024	Term Ends School finishes at 1:15pm



Monday 6th January 2025	Term Starts
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February 2025	Half Term
Monday 24th February 2025	INSET day
Friday 4th April 2025	Term Ends School Finishes at 1:15pm
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	Term Starts
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025	Half term
Monday 2nd June 2025	INSET Day
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	Term Ends School Finishes at 1:15pm