



The Priory Church of England Primary School

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

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WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Spring 1 - Friday 2nd May 2025

- Headteacher update
 - Worship
- Gamechangers
- VE Day Celebrations
- Upcoming Events
- Key Dates 2025 - 2026

HEADTEACHER UPDATE



We have had a wonderful start to the new term with warm sunshine to brighten our days. I hope you all had a lovely Easter break; I have loved hearing from the children about their holidays and special days they have spent with their family.

Many of the children have been talking about the Julia's House 'Great Tail Trail' that is currently taking place in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. They have been sharing where they have spotted a tail and how it has been decorated. If you have not yet had the chance to take part in the trail, there



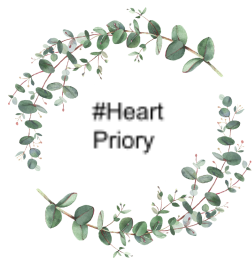
are maps available from Julia's House charity shops, and an app available on the App Store and Google Play. You may have also spotted our very own Tail in Christchurch Library; it is displayed in the window along with other tails designed by local schools.



I would like to congratulate and introduce our Head Pupils from year 6: Annabelle and Evie. These two pupils have demonstrated outstanding commitment to their learning in their classroom but have thrown themselves fully into the life of the school helping to organise and support as playleaders, Reading Ambassadors, Wellbeing Ambassadors and living out our values in all they do. I am sure they will both make wonderful contributions as Head Pupils this term.

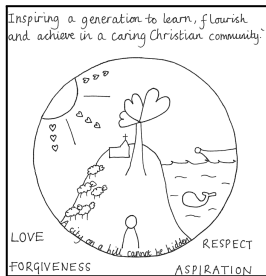
The Summer Term is extremely busy with lots of events to look forward to. Please look at our forthcoming events section below and the list of key dates.

WORSHIP



theme through art, science, sport and our Forest School sessions.

This term our focus is Heart Priory; the celebration of spirituality and wellbeing. Nature plays a huge part in our health and wellbeing and therefore it is exciting that we will be taking part in the Diocesan project Triwonder - creation care. This project will inspire the children to look for creation and wonder in their environment. The dragonfly is the symbol for this project, a creature who transforms and lives at some point in the sea, on land and in the air. We will be exploring this



We have been looking at our vision picture again and in particular the tree made of three hearts in the centre. The tree reminds us of our own Spirituality Tree near the Astro which is currently out in beautiful, pink blossom. The three hearts represent ourselves, others, the World and Beyond. We retold the story of Samuel who heard God call his name 3 times and was ready to serve him. We reflected that we can take inspiration from Samuel to be looking for wonder around us.



Please take a moment to look at the creation and wonder around you and talk about this at home. Blossom or spring flowers might only last a few weeks so let's admire them whilst we have the chance.

GAMECHANGERS



We have celebrated pupils who have been taking part in key sports events, swimming and karate and those that have been using their creativity.

In preparation for our VE Celebrations next week, we watched a video clip of Winston Churchill announcing the end of WWII. We also learnt about Alan Francis who in 1945 was a newspaper boy and delivered the papers on VE day. He got to be a Gamechanger by giving all the people such good news. We looked at some newspaper headlines from 8th May 1945.

At Priory School, I encourage the children to embrace opportunities to support the local community and charity events. Earlier this term, our Year 6 pupils were invited to take part, along with other local schools, in a competition designing the poster for the Christchurch Rotary Wishing Well Walk taking place on Saturday 10th May. I am delighted to share that Evie got through to the final round for her striking design. We have looked at the Wishing Well Walk during our Gamechangers Worship and have learnt that the event supports Macmillan Caring Locally. If families would like to take part in the 6 mile walk from The Cliffhanger in Highcliffe to the Wishing Well on Mudeford Quay (3 mile option available) please see their [webpage](#) for further details. If you do take part, please take a photo and send it in to school so we can share our Gamechangers.



VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Christchurch Event

On Thursday 8th May there is an extra-special beacon lighting event to Christchurch Quay to mark the nationwide VE Day:80 celebrations (6pm - 10pm).

The free family-friendly event features something for everyone with live music, WWII vehicles, a history hub, delicious food and drinks, face painting, fire engines and much more!

The unforgettable beacon lighting will be held at 9.30pm alongside the nation, followed by a crowd rendition of 'I Vow To Thee My Country'.

Families are invited to bring a picnic, dress up in 1940s outfits and have a magnificent summer's evening!

More information can be found on the Christchurch Town Council website: www.christchurch-tc.gov.uk



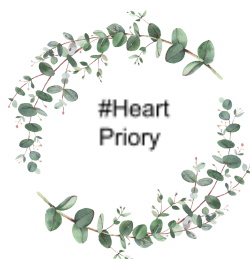
School Event



On Friday 9th May we will be having our own VE Celebration in school. Children are invited to wear red, white and blue and in their classrooms they will be learning more about the significance of this event. All the children will have the opportunity to make some celebratory accessories which will be on parade at the end of the day with some children performing a VE Celebration dance. Parents are invited to come along at 2:55pm to see our parade and dance which is taking place on the Astro.

There will also be a Year 5 bake sale after school with biscuits and cupcakes decorated in red, white and blue. All proceeds from this sale will be donated to The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes.

UPCOMING EVENTS



House Days - There are two more House Days this term. The first is during Arts Week where the children will have the opportunity to collaborate on an art project.

The final House Day of the year will be held during Sports Week and there will be a special Hot Dog lunch which can be ordered (more details to follow). The children will eat in their House Teams on this day, hopefully outside in the sunshine.



Arts Week - Our Arts Week will be linked to 'Triwonder - Creation Care' and children will have the opportunity to use a variety of media and learn about the work of artists who have taken inspiration from nature. Across the week, the children will be producing individual and group pieces which will be displayed in the hall and in their classrooms for an open gallery on Friday 22nd May. Parents are invited to come along and visit our galleries from 2:45pm on Friday 22nd May.

Skateboard Workshop - After the success and positive feedback we received about the skateboard workshop which took place last year, FPS has kindly funded the event again this year. This year it is taking place on Friday 16th May. **This event is for children in Year 1 - Year 6 only** and all children should be dressed in school PE kit on the day. Each class will get to learn new skills and techniques.



UNIFORM LABELLING



Please can we ask parents to ensure that all jumpers, cardigans and PE sweatshirts are clearly labelled with your child's name for the summer term. With the warmer days, we are finding items of uniform on the playground. If they are named we can easily return them to their owner. Thank you for your help with this.

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.

Tuesday 22nd April 2025	Term Starts
Friday 9th May	VE Day Celebrations (parents are welcome from 3pm) Year 5 Bake Sale after school - in support of The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes
Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 16th May	Skateboard Workshop Y1 - Y6
Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd May	Arts Week
Monday 19th May	PSHE Workshop for parents 2:45pm
Tuesday 20th May	House Day (wear a coloured accessory)
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025	Half term
Monday 2nd June 2025	INSET Day
Thursday 12th June	Key Stage 1 Sports Day (am)
Friday 13th June	Summer Fayre 4 pm
Monday 16th June - Friday 20th June	National School Sport Week - Always Active Wear PE kit everyday
Friday 20th June	House Day celebration Lunch (wear a coloured accessory) A special hot lunch meal can be ordered. More details to follow.
Thursday 26th June	Key Stage 2 Sports Day (am)
Friday 27th June	Transition Day Year 6 New EY Play and Stay
Monday 30th June and Tuesday 1st July	Year 6 Production 6 p.m.
Thursday 3rd July	Year 2 Dance Festival

Monday 7th July	New EY Play and Stay
Tuesday 8th - Friday 11th July	Year 6 Residential
Thursday 10th July	Christchurch Dance Festival Year 2
Monday 14th July	End of Year Pupil Reports
Tuesday 15th July	Open Evening Parents 3:30pm - 4:30pm QDOS Uniform supplier will be in the school hall from 2:00pm - 4:30pm
Thursday 17th July	International Firgun Day
Monday 21st July	Leavers' Service Priory Church 9:45am
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	Term Ends School Finishes at 1:15pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2025-2026

Please find below our term dates for the academic year 2025 -2026. We hope that by publishing these dates in advance, families are able to plan in advance to avoid absences during term times.

Wednesday 3rd September 2025	INSET day
Thursday 4th September 2025	Autumn Term Starts
Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025	Half Term
Monday 3rd November 2025	INSET day
Friday 19th December 2025	Autumn Term Ends School Finishes at 1:15pm
Monday 5th January 2026	INSET day
Tuesday 6th January 2026	Spring Term Starts
Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026	Half term
Monday 23rd February 2026	INSET day
Friday 27th March 2026	Spring Term Ends School Finishes at 1:15pm
Monday 13th April 2026	Summer Term Starts
Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026	Half Term
Monday 1st June 2026	INSET day
Wednesday 22nd July 2026	Summer Term Ends School Finishes at 1:15pm