



The Priory Church of England Primary School

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

Wick Lane
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1HX

Telephone (01202) 484105
Fax (01202) 488702

Email: office@prioryceprimary.co.uk
Website: <https://prioryschool.dorset.sch.uk>

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 - Friday 11th October 2024

- Headteacher update
 - Worship
- Gamechangers
- Forest School
- Parents' Evening
 - Attendance
 - Cyclists

HEADTEACHER UPDATE



As a school, we have come together to celebrate and participate in several community events over the past couple of weeks.

Our wonderful Harvest Service at Priory Church last week enabled everyone to be thankful for all we have as well as to share generously. Our food donations were collected by Christchurch Food Bank and will go towards supporting vulnerable people and families in our local area. I would like to congratulate all the children for their contributions towards the service; their words, song and joy helped to deliver our messages of thankfulness.



We also announced our Year 6 Pupil Leadership Team. We have children with multiple leadership roles in Team Priory, Learn Priory and Heart Priory. Their service and the opportunities they are providing for our younger children and the community is inspiring. We proudly announced our new Head Pupils for the Autumn Term. These children aspire to be the best role models they can be as well as championing diversity in our school to ensure everyone is valued and respected.



We marked Mental Health Awareness Day on Thursday 10th October by wearing yellow and spending time in our classrooms thinking about the importance of positive mental health. We would like to thank Luca, one of our Wellbeing Ambassadors, and his mum Mrs Cristofoli for visiting each classroom and teaching some helpful breathing and relaxation strategies to help us cope with life's ups and downs.

We are very excited to announce that the Priory School Eco Team has made it through to the Christchurch Soup Dragon Event. This is an opportunity for schools and charities to present a live pitch to gain funding for a project that will benefit their community. Our Eco Team is passionate about raising awareness of sustainability in our school and have collaborated to produce a plan to create a recycling centre in our school. The Soup Dragon event is taking place on Monday 21st October 5pm-7pm at God First Church in Mudeford. If you would like to come along and support our Eco Team and watch the live pitches, please see the attached flyer.

Mrs Richardson

WORSHIP



We have had a focus on how we can **Switch On** and be ready to **Cheer On** ourselves and others in our school. We have taken inspiration from the Bible verse in Thessalonians. We have also used two cards from our Trick Box programme to celebrate other people's skills and talents.

The children were very excited to 'Switch On' a range of lights. We also used our Trick Box Mirror to reflect kind messages back to others.



We are continuing to celebrate this theme on the playground. We have introduced a Trick Box Bench on our playground which is supervised by our Trick Box Ambassadors. These children have been trained to help support children at break/lunchtime who may need a listening ear or a helping hand. One of our Trick Box Ambassadors, Lucy in Class 4, has been so inspired that she wrote her own Trick Box Song to let others know about the support that is in our playground. We have attached a copy of Lucy's song for you to read.

GAMECHANGERS CELEBRATION WORSHIP



Over the past two weeks we have celebrated more Gamechangers in our school. We have had children and adults who are shining their light through dance, writing and publishing their own books and this week Toilet Twinning. At the end of last year, we were gifted a Toilet Twinning Certificate. This framed certificate shows us the toilet block in Zimbabwe we are twinned with. We have hung this outside the year 3 and year 4 toilet cloakroom. This is a brilliant reminder to our children about how lucky we are to live in a society where we have access to flushing toilets and clean water. We strive for our pupils to think about others in the world who don't have this human right and to be advocates for change.

Next week, we are all going to be Gamechangers on our House Day by raising funds to twin each of our other cloakroom blocks in our school. We have a toilet which has been kindly donated by one of our parents which will be used to collect all monetary donations next week (£1-£2 suggested donation per child). We will then repurpose the toilet as a planter in our school grounds.

FOREST SCHOOL



We would like to express our gratitude to **The Woodshed** in Wimborne for kindly donating 30 log stumps for the Forest School area we are developing in our grounds. The Woodshed is a small family business who supply top quality fuel products for wood burning stoves, multi fuel burners, open fires, pizza ovens and chimeneas. The Woodshed has followed an active tree planting scheme which it has been involved in for many years in order to ensure that wood supplied is sourced from sustainable sources. We are so grateful for their generosity and kindness.

This week we have set up our logs in small circles and they have been a place for us to enjoy reading and reflecting.



PARENTS' EVENINGS



You will have received a letter this week regarding our Parents' Evening consultations scheduled for Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd October. We look forward to seeing you and sharing with you the successes and progress your child has made already this year. It is also a really useful time for teachers to share key aspects of learning we can work together on to help support your child.

ATTENDANCE



You will receive our Attendance Leaflet and your child's individual attendance record at your parent consultation. Our curriculum is designed and carefully sequenced to ensure that children learn knowledge and skills in a systematic order to enable them to thrive. Attendance at school every day ensures that your child's learning is built upon each day. If your child is feeling under the weather but could possibly still attend school, please do send them in; we can always give you a call if needed or they become more unwell.

CYCLING TO SCHOOL

We encourage children and adults to cycle to school whenever possible to help the planet. Please can we remind all those who cycle (children and adults) that they should be wearing a helmet to protect their heads. I would also like to say a big well done to all the children in Class 4 who completed their Bikeability course last week.

UNIFORM AND LOST PROPERTY

Thank you to everyone for helping us by labelling all items of school uniform for the new school year. We have made a brilliant start to reducing the lost property. This week, with the change in weather, we have had more children wearing coats. Please make sure all coats are labelled with your child's name. We have three at the office we can't return to their owners. We also have several brand new sweatshirts and jumpers without names. It would be great if you can have another check to ensure all items are named clearly.

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 15th October	House Day - York - Love - Toilet Twinning Wear a coloured accessory to match your House Team colour.
Thursday 17th October	FPS Discos (KS1 4:30pm - 5:30pm, KS2 5:45pm - 6:45pm)
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
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

