



The Priory School Newsletter

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

Autumn Term - Number 3 - Friday 10th October 2025

Headteacher's Update

This edition of the newsletter is packed with photos as we have had a very busy and productive two weeks both inside and outside of school. As parents are aware, next week we have a SIAMS (church) inspection, the first for the Priory since 2018 and we have so much to be proud of as a church school. We look forward to showing the inspector everything which the school stands for in terms of vision and values and I know that our pupils will be fantastic. They have certainly impressed me with their thoughtful and reflective contributions (as well as their singing) in whole-school worship this term. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend,

Mr Croutear

Restart a Heart

We enjoyed engaging with the 'Restart a Heart' campaign last week, with classes joining online virtual lessons to learn about the importance of knowing what to do in a medical emergency. Mrs Ponsford joined two classes to support their sessions and also gave pupils the opportunity to have a go with resuscitation equipment at playtime. She was also encouraging parents to get involved at the FPS coffee morning after the Harvest Service! We are very grateful to Mrs Ponsford for signposting us to this great initiative and we celebrated her as a 'Gamechanger' in worship this afternoon.

Heart Priory



Friends of the Priory School

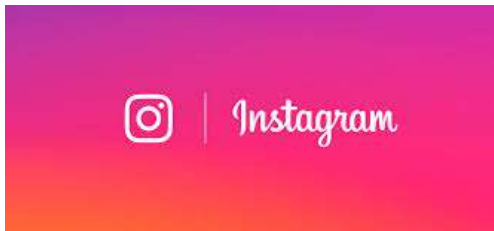
It was great to see so many people at the FPS A.G.M. last week as the new committee was elected and plans for the year ahead were discussed. Mr Croutear shared his priorities for FPS spending, including enhancing the outside play and learning spaces around the school. The FPS are so important in bringing the school community together for social and fundraising events, and the hard work put in really does make a difference. We thanked Mrs Sandell for her efforts as the outgoing Chair and welcomed Mrs Robinson who is taking over the reins - there are lots of exciting ideas and we are hopeful of a very successful year for the FPS.

Team Priory



New Priory social media (including FPS)

We are delighted to have gained so many followers of our new school Instagram account (prioryceprimary). The FPS have also set up a new page (friends_of_priory_school_). Please do share!



Learn Priory



World Mental Health Day

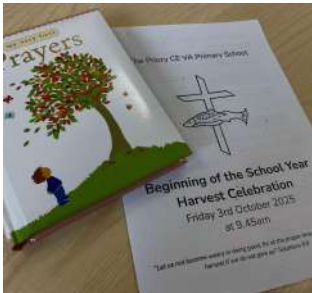
To mark World Mental Health Day today, we took part in 'Hello Yellow', inviting pupils to wear a yellow-coloured accessory to school and bring in a £1.00 donation for YoungMinds, the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health. Thank you to everybody who supported this initiative - the children enjoyed accessorising their uniforms and it was great to raise awareness of this important issue. YoungMinds offer to support parents and carers if you ever need help and advice to support your children. Please do see <http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>

Heart Priory



Harvest Service

Last Friday we held our Beginning of the School Year service at the Priory Church, which was a celebration of Harvest. Year 6 pupils talked about the 'colours of harvest', with each class sharing their celebratory artwork. We also learned about the significance of the Harvest Moon and its importance to farmers in centuries gone by. Pupils gathered their donations by the later, all of which were sent to the Christchurch Food Bank. Our new Year R pupils were presented with their Prayer books and we announced the new Head Boy and Head Girl for the term. Many congratulations to Clark and Bonnie.



Heart Priory



SCARF workshops

We have introduced a new PSHE curriculum called 'SCARF' and pupils are enjoying their weekly lessons. SCARF stands for 'Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship' and is a scheme which empowers children with essential life skills, from emotional well-being and social skills to health education. Over the last two days, each class has participated in a special SCARF workshop (on a physical health & wellbeing theme) with Lucy from Coram Life Education. There was much excitement as a giant inflatable classroom appeared in the Glade!



Learn Priory



Forest School returns

It was great to see the return of Forest School this week. Yesterday, Mrs Colebeck led an afternoon of outside learning with Class 6 in Druit gardens.



Learn Priory



Non-uniform day & 'rainbow hamper' donations

We are looking forward to the **FPS disco** next week and we would like to invite pupils to wear their outfits to school on **Thursday 16th October** in return for a donation towards a 'rainbow hamper' for the Christmas fete raffle. Each class has a different colour-theme - please see the following page for more details!

Rainbow Hamper Non Uniform Day



Bring in a gift that matches your classes colour
to make hampers for the Christmas fate raffle.
To say thank you come dressed to school ready for the disco



ACORNS - RED



YEAR 1 - ORANGE



YEAR 2 - YELLOW



YEAR 3 - GREEN



YEAR 4 - BLUE



YEAR 5 - PINK



YEAR 6 - PURPLE



Thursday 16th October

Idea of gifts - Chocolate, Biscuits, Sweets, Wine, Christmas treats
toiletries, Boys & Girls gifts, stationary, Candles.

Anything that you would like to receive in a hamper
that matches your classes colour.

(any food or drinks needs to have a best
before date longer than December)

Girls football success!



Congratulations to our Year 5/6 girls football development team, who participated in the recent Christchurch Sports Partnership competition. They did brilliantly in finishing in second place overall, narrowly missing out on the trophy by just one goal. Well done girls!

Celebration

As well as our usual awards, we also celebrated some 'Gamechangers' and lots of achievements from outside of school in our Celebration Worship this afternoon:

Congratulations to:

- Bea L-V (Class R)
- George R (Class 1)
- Jessica N (Class 2)
- Hugo Y (Class 3)
- Anaya M (Class 4)
- Isaac G (Class 5)
- Any M (Class 6)



Learn Priory



Team Priory



Attendance Cup

Well done to **Class 2**, who regained the Attendance Cup with **98.7%** over the past week. It had been held for the past two week by Class R.

Gamechangers

Ivy B (Class 6) - you are a Gamechanger for the amazing care and compassion you have shown to your buddy

Year 5/6 girls football team - you are Gamechangers for your brilliant effort and teamwork in finishing 2nd in your recent tournament

Mrs Ponsford - you are a Gamechanger for all of your work in promoting 'Restart a Heart'



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

Key Dates Autumn 2025

Please find below our key event dates for the Autumn Term 2025.

Friday 10th October	World Mental Health Day
Thursday 16th October	FPS Disco (4.15 - 6.45pm)
Monday 20th & Tuesday 21st October	Parents Evenings (3.30 - 7.00pm)
Monday 27th - Friday 31st October	Half Term
Monday 3rd November	INSET Day
Thursday 6th November	Flu immunisations
Monday 10th - Friday 14th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day School Open Morning (9.00 - 10.30am)
Monday 17th - Friday 21st November	Assessment Week
Thursday 20th November	School Open Morning (9.00 - 10.30am)

Friday 5th December	Pantomime - Alice in Wonderland FPS Christmas Fayre
Tuesday 9th December	Nativity Performance (1.45pm)
Wednesday 10th December	Nativity Performance (5.30pm)
Tuesday 16th December	Priory Carol Service (6.00 - 7.00pm)
Thursday 18th December	Christmas Lunch
Friday 19th December	Term Ends - School Finishes at 1:15pm