



The Priory Church of England Primary School

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

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WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 - Friday 20th October 2023

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

As we come to the end of our first half term I would like to express my thanks to all families for warmly embracing me into your Priory community. Getting to know your children and sharing Worship together is the highlight of my role. Their understanding of 'Made to Flourish' has grown over the weeks and we have enjoyed seeing signs of flourishing in God's creation.



I wanted to share with you something I read recently which sums up what we have been learning.

Rocks

Rocks aren't simply obstacles the vinedresser has to contend with; they're something grapes require in order to thrive.

If the grape plant's sunny field isn't rocky enough, she'll be all showy with green leaves but bear little fruit. If the grape plant's field is too rocky, she'll lack enough earth for hearty roots and mournfully shrivel up. Thus, the landowner looks for a field with the right amount of rocks to make things just challenging enough for his vines to be a little uncomfortable.

'Bearing fruit is possible only when we're a little uncomfortable.'

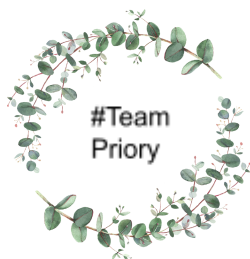
Firstly, it is lovely that the children have taken so much inspiration from admiring God's creations. They are showing much aspiration to grow and learn. It is also great to see the children embracing challenges (their own rocky earth) and accepting their own and other's mistakes in order to flourish.



Our #Team Priory Celebration today has shown what a remarkable team we are. We all have our own gifts and talents and flourish together. We hope that you enjoyed the little videos we made to demonstrate how we are all 'Made to Flourish'. If you were unable to make this event, you can access your child's class video on their Google Classroom homepage.

You can also follow our 'Made to Flourish' journey on our school Twitter page. There are lots of photographs that have captured our flourishing moments this half term.

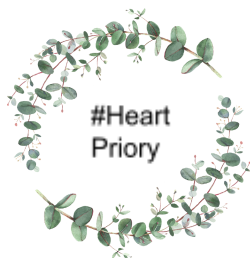
Team Priory - Our Lost Sheep



Our Lost Sheep has been given a makeover and she stands in our entrance in all her glory. The final design includes lots of elements from the children's initial designs. It is wonderful to hear the children explaining the meaning behind each part of the design. This week, classes have been voting on her name and it is a great honour to announce that Blossom is the winning name. Next half term, I will be talking to the children about how a female sheep is called an Ewe. I love the play on words and will be promoting an initiative called Ewe Matter which will focus on recognising those who serve our community. More details to follow.



Heart Priory - Shoe Box Appeal



Last week we had a special assembly to launch our Christmas Shoebox appeal. If you would like to, and you have time during the half term, please fill a shoebox to give to a family in need this Christmas. Your child will have brought home a leaflet in their bag, but for further information regarding the types of items to include in the shoeboxes, please follow this link.

<https://linktohope.co.uk/shoebox-appeal-2023/>

This is an opportunity for your child to give hope to people globally and make a real difference to others this Christmas. You have over half term to make the shoebox and they will be collected on Thursday 2nd November.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful half term break whatever you may be doing. I look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Monday 30th October.

Mrs Richardson

INSET days and Key Dates

We have scheduled our final INSET day for Monday 15th April. Please take a close look at our key dates below so that you are aware of upcoming events.

Key Dates Academic Year 2023-24

Date	Event
Autumn Term 2023	
Monday 23rd Oct - Friday 27th Oct	Half-Term Holiday
Thursday 2nd November	Open Morning - Tour for new Reception class 2024 9:15am
Thursday 2nd November	FPS Disco
Monday 6th November and Tuesday 7th November	Parent Consultation Meetings online
Monday 13th November - Friday 17th November	Anti-bullying Week - Make a Noise about Bullying
Tuesday 14th November	Open Morning - Tour for new Reception class 2024 9:15am
Friday 17th November	FPS Quiz Night
Thursday 23rd November	Open Morning - Tour for new Reception class 2024 9:15am
Friday 1st December	Priory School Christmas Fair
Tuesday 12th December	Carol Service at The Priory Church 6pm
Friday 15th December	Final day of Autumn Term School closes at usual time 3.15pm
Monday 18th Dec - Monday 1st January	Christmas holiday

Spring Term 2024	
Tuesday 2nd January	INSET (school closed)
Wednesday 3rd January	School Term begins
Monday 12th Feb - Friday 16th Feb	Half-Term Holiday
Thursday 28th March	Final day of Spring Term School closes at usual time 3.15pm
Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April	Easter holiday

Summer Term 2024	
Monday 15th April	INSET day (school closed)
Tuesday 16th April	First day of Summer Term
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May	Half-Term Holiday
Monday 3rd June	INSET (school closed)
Tuesday 23rd July	Final day of Summer Term School closes early at 1.15pm