



The Priory School Newsletter

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

Autumn Term - Number 2 - Friday 26th September 2025

Headteacher's Update

September is flying by and it's feeling more autumnal - we are into the harvest season and at last Sunday's Harvest All-Age Service at the Priory I was welcomed back into the church-school community by Father Richard, which was greatly appreciated. Our link with the Priory Church is such a special part of our school, not only of historical significance, but also how it positively impacts our pupils every week. Harvey (the Children & Families Minister) and his wife Lisa run our Trinity Club and Chaplaincy sessions at school and collective worship is led by the church every Wednesday. Next week we will all be at the Priory for our school Beginning of Term Harvest Service (further details below). This week I am writing my update from the Minstead Study Centre where I've joined Class 5 on their residential - we are really pleased to have re-introduced a Year 5 residential as these experiences do so much in developing children's independence and confidence, as well as being great fun. Wishing everyone a restful weekend (especially Class 5 pupils who may need to catch-up on sleep...)

Mr Croutear

Harvest Service

Our Beginning of Term Harvest Service takes place on **Friday 2nd October** at the Priory Church. This will begin at 9.45am (with doors open from 9.30am) and parents/families are very welcome to join us. As usual, pupils will be walking to and from the church with staff and we would appreciate **donations for the Christchurch foodbank** (tins, packets, etc). The children should bring these to school on Friday and will need to be able to carry their donations themselves. The FPS will be serving tea & coffee in the school hall following the service and you are most welcome.

Heart Priory



Staff news

We are delighted to share the happy news that Miss Field and her partner celebrated the arrival of a baby boy on 13th September, weighing 7lb7oz. Miss Field has told us that everyone is doing well and the dogs, Ralph & Jasper, are loving their extra responsibilities!



Team Priory



Last week we successfully recruited two new Teaching Assistants, Katy Morris and Tegan Benns, to join Team Priory. They begin their new roles next week and we look forward to welcoming them.

New Priory social media

We have launched a new school social media feed on Instagram - this will be used to share a variety of photos which showcase the 'Priory experience', including a celebration of learning achievements, enrichment activities and other windows into school life which we hope parents and the wider online community will find interesting. For now, no pupil's faces will be visible on our Instagram page. Please do follow and share!



Learn Priory



Christchurch bypass closure

BCP Council have advised that the Christchurch bypass will be closed for three weeks from Monday 27th October until Sunday 16th November. The eastbound closure will consist of the Christchurch Bypass from its junction with Fountain Roundabout to its junction with Salisbury Road, as well as Stony Lane to the railway bridge. The westbound closure will be from its junction with Somerford Roundabout to its junction with Fountain Roundabout.

Acorns arrive!

We have been very impressed with our new cohort of Year R pupils as they have settled in to begin their Priory School learning journey.

Team Priory



Class 1 Art

Our Year 1 pupils have been learning about the artist Andy Goldsworthy and studying natural resources. Earlier this week they were printing to see what kind of textures they could make.

Learn Priory



Class 5 Minstead Residential

Our Year 5 pupils had a fantastic experience this week at the Minstead Study Centre in the New Forest, learning about the national park's unique eco-system, biodiversity and sustainable-living. Nights away from home with school always help to develop skills of independence but this was especially the case at Minstead, as pupils were tasked with making their own packed lunches every day, as well as laying the tables and making their beds! Class 5 very much enjoyed their trip and showed great Priory values throughout - a huge thank you to Miss Harriss, Miss Harrison & Mr Croutear who accompanied the children.

Team Priory



World Mental Health Day

To mark World Mental Health Day on **Friday 10th October**, we will be supporting the Young Minds charity by inviting pupils to wear something yellow in return for a donation of £1.00. Please note that this is **not a non-uniform day** and pupils should bring something yellow to wear in addition to their normal school clothes, e.g. a hairband, wristband, scarf, sensible hat.

Celebration

In today's Celebration Worship, we gave out '**Headteacher's Award**' certificates and the new weekly **Attendance Cup**. Class 5 returned to school just in time from their residential but we couldn't choose just one pupil, they all deserved celebrating!

Learn Priory



Team Priory



Congratulations to:

Hallie A-B (Class 1)

Joey V (Class 2)

Arthur B (Class 3)

Amelie G (Class 4)

Ozzie S (Class 6)

Attendance Cup

Well done to **Class R**, who won our Attendance

Cup for the week with a perfect 100%! Although

Acorns are not yet joining us in whole-school

worship, they were delighted to be presented with the trophy

by Mr Croutear in class just before bedtime today!





Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Invitation

Cheese and Wine & AGM

Open invitation to all parents / carers and staff

30th September 2025

6PM for 6:30 start in school hall

The new FPS committee will be voted in during the AGM which will be followed by a brainstorming / social meeting for all to share ideas.

Come along to find out how you can be involved and help at school!

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.

Tuesday 30th September	Year R Parent Reading Workshop (2.40 - 3.10pm)
Tuesday 30th September	Friends of Priory School AGM (6.00pm)
Wednesday 1st October	School photographer in
Friday 3rd October	Harvest Service at Priory Church (9.45am)
Thursday 9th & Friday 10th October	SCARF Workshop days
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