



The Priory Church of England Primary School

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

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WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 - Friday 29th September 2023

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Life at The Priory School continues to flourish; the children and staff have fully settled back into school routines and the classrooms are alive with the buzz of learning. Dolphin Class have started full time and have quickly settled in with the help of their year 6 buddy; it has been lovely to see our year 6 pupils showing great care and encouragement to our youngest pupils, particularly at playtimes.

We are fully engrossed in our projects; Class 2 are fully engaged with The Great Fire of London and Class 4 have been doing some exciting (revolting!) experiments about the Digestive system. They are creating so many learning memories. I look forward to visiting more classrooms to see their learning in action.

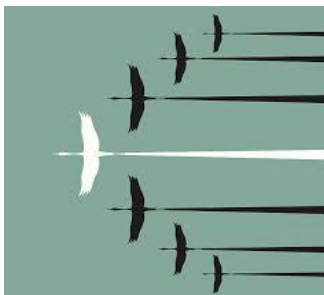
Mrs Richardson



WORSHIP

#Team Priory - Made to Flourish

The Wisdom of Geese



We have been learning how to be a great team and flourish through the power of Geese. In worship we have discovered that through connecting with and supporting one another, we are more likely to flourish and achieve our hopes and goals. Each of us has unique talents which can benefit the whole team. These points are important:

- Geese fly in v formation to create uplift for those flying behind.
- The leader rotates to share the responsibility.
- Geese show their encouragement for the team by 'honking' encouragement.
- If one goose is sick, two other geese fly down to comfort it.

"Two are better than one," Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12





Arts by the Sea Festival

We were very lucky to have a special assembly last week led by a representative of the Arts by the Sea Festival which is taking place for one weekend from 29th September to 1st October. This year, Arts by the Sea invites you to take a MOMENT and be present. Bournemouth's Town Centre will be transformed with artists who'll use the power of creativity to enable you to connect to your own unique MOMENT.

Embrace the feeling of freedom for yourself in your own space; connect with a feeling, embrace your senses, clap with joy, feel the sand underneath you or take a deep breath in nature. In a lifetime of experiences, it's the MOMENTS that stand out, shining the brightest and most vivid.

Pupils in Class 3, 4, 5 and 6 have designed their own dice with each face illustrating how they like to take a MOMENT. The children were certainly inspired by nature and the sea, reflecting the beautiful locality in which we live. The children's finished products will be on display in Bournemouth Library during the festival dates. Please go along and take a look at their wonderful ideas and creativity.

Harvest Festival - Friday 6th October



Our annual Harvest Festival will take place at The Priory Church on Friday 6th October 9:45am. Parents and grandparents are very welcome to attend and share in our moments of celebration and reflection. This is an opportunity for us as a school to connect with and serve our local community, something we very much value as part of #Team Priory. **SCHOOL UNIFORM MUST BE WORN BY ALL CHILDREN SO THAT THEY ARE SMARTLY PRESENTED. (NO P.E. KIT)**

Donations for our Harvest Festival will be greatly appreciated and will be shared with Christchurch Food Bank. Items donated must be dried or tinned goods; UHT milk, cereal, tinned fruit and vegetables and custard are especially needed. Children should bring their items to school on Friday 6th October and will carry them to church.

Save the Date - #Team Priory 30 Day Presentation



We would like to invite parents to our 30 day celebration presentation on Friday 20th October 2:45pm - 3:15pm. Weather permitting, each class will be delivering a short performance on our Astro. Parents and grandparents are welcome to view our performance from the playground. This presentation is an opportunity for us to demonstrate how we have been working together and flourishing as a team. (Wet weather plan TBC.) Following the presentation, parents are welcome to visit classrooms to see their child's work.

Parent Consultation Meetings

Parent Consultation Meetings will be taking place online in the Autumn Term. (Please note, Spring term meetings will be face-to-face.) Home/School partnership is an important part of helping your child to flourish and therefore this is an opportunity to celebrate achievements and work together to support your child. We very much hope every parent will make an appointment.

Monday 6th November 3:50 - 7:00

Tuesday 7th November 3:50 - 6:00

Further details about the booking system will be shared shortly.

Friends of Priory School Events

It is great to have such a strong collaboration with the Friends of Priory School; this group of parents do a fantastic job of organising special events which both help to raise money for the school but also bring our school community together. They are a big part of #Team Priory and we appreciate their enthusiasm and commitment to the school. Together, we have planned several fundraising events this term which we hope our children and families will support and take part in.

Disco

Quiz Night

Christmas Fair

Dates can be found below and more details will follow in due course.

School Navigator Open Morning

Our school Navigator, Steph Rice, is holding an open morning at The Priory School on Tuesday 10th October 8:30 - 11:00. This session is open to all parents if they would like to discuss an issue or concern related to home. Steph works at the Christchurch Family Hub and has lots of experience and advice for parents around behaviour, sleep, anxiety, housing and much more. Parents are able to arrive at a time convenient to them between 8:30 and 11:00 and tea/coffee will be available whilst you wait to speak with Steph.

School Parking

As you know, we are very limited on space in our school locality, making drop offs and pick ups very busy times, especially on the roads around our school. Please can we politely ask that parents allow enough time to find a suitable space and avoid stopping on double yellows or over driveway entrances. We are all part of the Christchurch community and we like to have positive relations with our neighbours.

Drop off and Pick Up

We are becoming concerned about the safety of pre-school children playing in our school car park at drop off and pick up times. Please can we ask that parents keep their children with them at all times whilst waiting for the gates to open so that they are unable to wander between the parked cars or up and down the slope towards our office entrance. Our entrance doors automatically open when someone approaches, meaning our door is opening and closing unnecessarily and, with the changing season, we are trying to conserve our heat. We will also be closing the large school gate at 8:15am and 3:00pm each day to avoid any potential incidents in the car park.

Raising concerns

We value feedback from parents and carers to ensure the safety and happiness of all our children and families. If you do have a concern, please speak to a member of our staff team on the gate and we will ensure this is followed up by the relevant member of staff. Can we politely ask that parents report concerns directly to the school rather than speaking with other parents themselves.

Free School Meals

Free School Meals – is your child eligible? If you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals (this is in addition to the universal free school meals that all Key Stage 1 children receive), please apply online at: <https://www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/Free-school-meals/How-to-apply-for-free-school-meals.aspx> or email or post your completed form to fsm@bcpcouncil.gov.uk; Free School Meals Team, Customer Services, BCP Council Civic Centre, Bournemouth, BH2 6DY.

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' (this is in addition to the universal free school meals that all Key Stage 1 children receive) and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school and you would be

helping us, if you are eligible and register.

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 2nd October	Class 1 and 2 Numbots parent and child session 2:45pm
Wednesday 4th October	Individual School Photographs SCHOOL UNIFORM ONLY
Friday 6th October	Harvest Festival at The Priory Church 9:45am start SCHOOL UNIFORM ONLY
Tuesday 10th October	School Navigator Open Morning 8:30 - 11:00
Wednesday 11th October	Flu Immunisations
Thursday 19th October	FPS Disco 4:30 - 5:30 & 6:00 - 7:00
Friday 20th October	SAVE THE DATE - Team Priory Presentation 2:45pm
Monday 23rd Oct - Friday 27th Oct	Half-Term Holiday
Thursday 2nd November	Open Morning - Tour for new Reception class 2024 9:15am
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