



The Priory School Newsletter

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

Autumn Term - Number 1 - Friday 12th September 2025

Headteacher's Update

To begin the first newsletter of the school year, I would like to say a huge thank you to the school community for the welcome I've had as I begin my role as your new headteacher. I am delighted to be back at our wonderful school and it is already very much feeling like 'home' again. Of course, lots has changed in the last five years or so - as it always does in schools - so there is much for me to learn but I have been very impressed with our pupils and staff over the first week and a half of the term. It has been lovely to meet lots of parents both at the 'Meet the Headteacher' sessions last week and on the gate and I look forward to working in partnership with you to make the Priory school experience the best it can be for our pupils. I very much want to give parents the opportunity to share in your children's learning journey so please do look out for invitations to worships and learning celebration events this term.

For now, as we reach the end of the first full week of the new term, I hope the children are feeling well-adjusted to new classroom routines and teachers and are ready for the weeks ahead. Wishing everyone a happy and restful weekend,

Mr Croutear

Behaviour

The term has started with a resolute focus on behaviour and ensuring that a whole-school approach is implemented with consistency and fairness. We want all children to remember that 'ready, respectful, safe' is our expectation and that unwelcome or unexpected behaviour will be dealt with in line with our behaviour policy, which can be found on our [school website](#).

Team Priory



Be Ready	Be Respectful	Be Safe

Worship

In our first collective worships this term, we have been learning about 'Jesus light of the world' and reflecting on the bible verses Genesis 1:3-5 and John 8:12. We explored fascinating facts about the Sun and considered why Christians needed Jesus as 'light of the world' if we already have this incredible and powerful star. On Wednesday, Harvey from the Priory led our worship and showed us a fascinating map of all of the lighthouses in the UK. Did you know that the light from each is slightly different? So each lighthouse, like us, is unique.

Heart Priory



Attendance

As a new school year begins, we want the best possible attendance for all pupils. The negative impact which poor school attendance has on a pupil's learning journey and subsequent progress can be profound, as well as being detrimental to social development. Of course, we understand that all children get ill from time to time and the guidance below from the Public Health Agency may be useful for parents in deciding whether time off school is needed.



Please note that a **mild cough, cold or general tiredness** are not valid reasons for absence and we urge you to send your child to school in these circumstances - this will help build their resilience. We will of course keep a careful eye on them and contact you should they not be managing.

Children often feel unwell if **anxious** - please talk to us if you feel that this may be the case and we will do everything we can to help.

Thank you for remembering that **sickness / diarrhea** does mean that your child will need to stay off school (until **48 hours** after the last episode).

Heart Priory



All Age Service - Priory Church

On **Sunday 21st September** (10.00am) an All Age Service for Harvest will be held at the Priory Church. This will also serve as a welcome service for Mr Croutear and it would be lovely to see some Priory School families in attendance.

Team Priory



Volunteers

We would be very grateful for any offers of help from parents/grandparents who can dedicate regular time to listening to our pupils read. If you are interested in helping, please contact the school office who will send you a volunteer application form - we are running a volunteer induction session on Tuesday 23rd September at 9.00am.

Learn Priory



Online Safety - Acceptable Use Agreements

As part of our commitment to ensure the children we work with learn to live in a safe digital environment, we ask all members of our school community to comply with our 'Acceptable Use Agreements' relating to Online Safety. These are available within our Online Safety Policy, which can be found on the [school website](#) - the one for parents can be found on page 32. If you have any questions regarding online safety, please don't hesitate to contact Mr McLean, our Online Safety lead.

Heart Priory



Uniform

Pupils have returned to school looking smart and we want to ensure that high standards of uniform are maintained - this gives the pupils an important sense of pride and belonging. As we are continuing to ask that pupils wear P.E. kit to school on their P.E. days, please do ensure that the correct P.E. kit is also worn. Girls may continue to wear summer dresses if they wish until the October half-term. Please see [here](#) for a reminder about our school uniform.

Team Priory



Toys

Please can we remind parents that pupils should **not be bringing toys into school** as these often prove a distraction to learning. This week we have seen a fair number of soft toys appearing - these will be taken for 're-homing' in Mrs Russell's office and she has quite a menagerie already. Thank you for your support.

Learn Priory



SCARF curriculum

This term we are adopting a new PSHE scheme called 'SCARF'. Provided by Coram Life Education, it supports primary schools in promoting positive behaviour, mental health, wellbeing, resilience and achievement – giving us everything we need to meet the Relationships Education and Health Education statutory requirements. More than just a PSHE scheme of work, SCARF supports great learning every day. SCARF's values are Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience and Friendship and we are looking forward to seeing the impact this new curriculum has on our Priory pupils.



Class 5 made a great start to their SCARF unit 'Me and My Relationships' by taking on the Collaboration Challenge - building the tallest tower with six sheets of newspaper!

Learn Priory



Class 6 Science

Learn Priory



Year 6 pupils have been learning about animals and living things in Science and this week they enjoyed searching the school grounds for living and non-living things!



Celebration

In our first Friday Celebration Worship of the school year, we introduced our new '**Headteacher's Award**' certificates and our new weekly **Attendance Cup**. Teachers nominated a pupil from each class to receive a special certificate from Mr Croutear and we presented the Attendance Cup to the class with the best overall attendance over the last week.

Congratulations to:

Skylar D (Class 1)

Eugenie Z (Class 2)

Arlo G (Class 3)

Jenson N (Class 4)

Scarlett W (Class 5)

Elsie N (Class 6)

Attendance Cup

Well done to **Class 3**, who won our Attendance Cup for the week with 98.8%!

Learn Priory



Team Priory



FPS AGM

We are looking forward to a successful year for the Friends of Priory School and would like to invite parents to the AGM on **Tuesday 30th September**:



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 16th September	Year 1 Parent Reading Workshop (2.40 - 3.10pm)
Sunday 21st September	All Age Service (Harvest) at Priory Church (10.00am)
Wednesday 24th - Friday 26th September	Class 5 residential to Minstead
Tuesday 30th September	Year R Parent Reading Workshop (2.40 - 3.10pm)
Tuesday 30th September	Friends of Priory School AGM (6.00pm)
Wednesday October	School photographer in
Friday 3rd October	Harvest Service at Priory Church (9.00am)
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