



The Priory Church of England Primary School

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

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The Priory School Newsletter

Friday 4th April 2025

School Update

As we approach the Easter break, we both reflect on the completion of our spring term and look forward to what is to come in summer term.

If you are interested in what is coming up in summer term in your children's learning, always remember that our year group curriculum maps are available on our [school website](#).

During the summer term, we will also be having 'behaviour and attitude' as a whole-school focus, with a focus on ensuring our practice continues to enable a positive, calm, safe and supportive environment in which our whole community can learn, flourish and achieve.

As part of this, we will be focusing on three core behaviour principles that we expect to become key and consistent in the language of our school community: be ready, be respectful, and be safe. We will be exploring in depth these principles with the children after Easter. We will be focusing on ensuring the conditions are in place to 'make it easy' to make the right behavioural choices and go 'above and beyond', that we celebrate and promote positive behaviour consistently across the school, and that we consistently encourage reflection in behaviour that falls below the expected standard.

Be Ready	Be Respectful	Be Safe

We look forward to working with you as we embed these key ideas, and would encourage you to view our updated behaviour policy on our [school website](#).

We wish you and your families a restful, enjoyable, and joyous Easter break, and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Worship

A huge thank you to those of you that were able to attend today's Easter service at Christchurch Priory, 'The Greatest Sacrifice'.

We are always grateful for your support and attendance, and for the children's commitment and enthusiasm in their singing and reading.

Learn Priory



Heart Priory



Update from the Chair of Governors

Team Priory



We welcome Mrs Richardson back after Easter. She has been off for 4 weeks, we have missed her very much, and she has missed us, so please give her a huge welcome back and loads of support.

The week we return, we will be running HT selection days, and all going well should select a new HT for starting in September. I'll keep you posted on this.

Massive thank you to the staff team who have worked their socks off this term.

It's been a tough few weeks but they have acted very professionally, worked really hard to make sure the time has been seamless.

My fellow governors also deserve a shout out... we have really had to pull together to work on a number of big hairy challenges, and it makes me proud to be involved with such a committed and able bunch. Thank you.

Thanks also to Mr McLean, who has made great personal sacrifices to look after the school for the last 4 weeks. Mr McLean has experienced first hand how hard it is to lead a school, be all things to all people all of the time and try to do all that with a smile.

I think beyond being prime minister, it has to be the hardest loneliest job in the world... and we really should protect and support and defend these people.

We don't always get things perfect, although we are expected to, and welcome constructive feedback when we don't.

It's regrettable when parents feel the need to air concerns publicly before discussing them with the leadership team and governors directly. We believe that open and direct communication is the best way to resolve issues and ensure the well-being of our pupils.

To help us fully understand situations and take appropriate actions, I kindly request that everyone reviews and follows the School's Communication Policy and Complaints Policy if they have concerns. These policies outline the steps to raise and address concerns, ensuring that all matters are handled fairly and thoroughly.

Please help your fellow parents follow the right channels to ensure staff and governors are aware of dissatisfaction and we can deal with challenges with the discretion and respect that they deserve.

It's been a super-tough term, we all need a break, some lazy lie ins, hours and days of family time, fresh air, sand between our toes, tv, pizza and lots and lots of fruit and veg...and then a fresh start in a couple of weeks, so I wish you good health and happy restful breaks with your loved ones.

Julia's House

Team Priory



Julia's House's 'Great Tail Trail' launches this weekend! For the trail, there are maps available from Julia's House charity shops, and an app available on the App Store and Google Play.

(If you want a clue to help locate our school tail, it will be somewhere in Christchurch where you might go to borrow a book...)

Let us know if you find it!

Fire Safety Advice

Heart Priory



With a number of recent fires in the local area, please see the below message from Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service:

This year there have already been a number of devastating outdoor fires in Dorset, including Moors Valley Country Park this week. With the school holidays soon to start, and lovely weather forecasted, we wanted to remind everyone of how to stay safe when enjoying the outdoors.

If you see a fire in the outdoors, do not try to tackle the fire:

- Get to a safe place;
- Note the fire location (apps such as What3Words can help if you're not sure);
- Call 999;
- If there is an adult present, meet the Fire & Rescue Service at the access point, if it is safe to do so.

Avoid having open fires or using barbecues in the countryside. Disposable barbecues and campfires are actually banned in many parts of Dorset. #BringAPicnicNotABarbecue

If you're at the beach, don't set off flares, have campfires or light barbecues as these can easily lead to gorse and foliage on the cliffs catching fire.

Extinguish smoking materials properly, and don't throw cigarette ends on the ground or out of car windows.

Take your litter home.

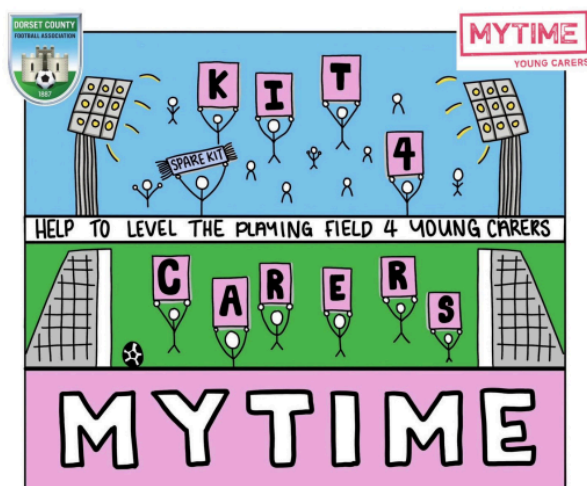
Most children do not play with fire, but please keep matches and lighters out of reach and talk to your children about the danger of playing with fire.

Kits for Carers

Heart Priory



Dorset FA and MyTime Young Carers have teamed up to form a 'Kits for Carers' scheme. They are inviting donations of old/spare football kit which can be distributed to local young carers. Please see below for further information:



We are collecting any old/spare kit

Any Size!
Shin pads, football boots & items of clothing in good condition!

This project is run by Dorset FA's Youth Leadership Group in collaboration with MYTIME, a local charity dedicated to helping young carers.

Queries: development@dorsetfa.com
Insta @ dorsetyouthleadershipgroup



Venues with Kit Banks

- 1 Dorset FA
- 2 Blandford School
- 3 Dexter Sports FC
- 4 Avonbourne Academy
- 5 Christchurch Junior School
- 6 Colehill First School
- 7 Broadmayne First School



Key Dates 2024-2025

Please find below our term dates and key event dates for the academic year 2024 -2025. We hope that by publishing these dates in advance, families are able to plan in advance to avoid absences during term times.

Tuesday 22nd April 2025	Term Starts
Monday 11th May - Thursday 14th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd May	Arts Week
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025	Half Term
Monday 2nd June 2025	INSET Day
Thursday 12th June	Key Stage 1 Sports Day (AM)
Friday 13th June	FPS Summer Fayre
Monday 16th June - Friday 20th June	National School Sports Week
Friday 20th June	House Day Celebration Lunch
Thursday 26th June	Key Stage 2 Sports Day (AM)
Friday 27th June	Transition Day
Tuesday 8th July - Friday 11th July	Year 6 Residential
Tuesday 15th July	Open Evening for Parents
Monday 21st July	Leavers' Service Priory Church 9:45am
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	Term Ends - School Finishes at 1:15pm

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