



The Priory Church of England Primary School

Inspiring all to learn, flourish and achieve

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WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1 - Friday 13th October 2023

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Our Harvest Service last week was a wonderful celebration of love, thankfulness and aspiration. Thank you for attending and sharing this 'wow' moment with us. It was a privilege to announce our new Year 6 leadership team and I am looking forward to empowering our year 6 pupils to lead in aspects across the school to develop our vision and opportunities to make a difference in our world. I was also incredibly proud of all the children for their thoughtful reflections, joyful singing and wonderful behaviour in church. They are a credit to our school.



As you know, we have had a focus on teamwork this term and we have been busy creating a 3D and 2D art piece in school to reflect #TeamPriory. Many months ago I was inspired by this print on the left and had a vision of recreating this with your children. Over the past week, each class has had the opportunity to contribute a part of the whole. We look forward to sharing our 3D and 2D version with you on our 30 day celebration next Friday.

Mrs Richardson



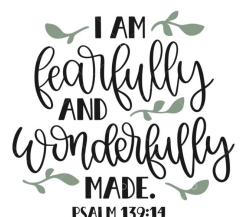
WORSHIP

#Team Priory - Made to Flourish

The Lost Sheep

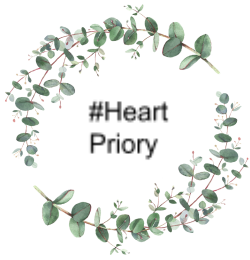
In worship we retold the Parable of The Lost Sheep; in this story the Shepherd never gives up on finding his sheep because he loves it so much. This reminds us that in Team Priory we are all of equal importance and the adults and our friends will never give up on us. We have also taken our inspiration from Psalm 139 which again reminds us that we are all unique and have been given God-given talents which will also help us to flourish throughout our lives.

"I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14





Heart Priory - Shoe Box Appeal



Today we had a special assembly led by a representative of Link to Hope charity. This organisation co-ordinates the collection and distribution of Christmas Shoe Boxes which are given to thousands of families in Eastern Europe. In the assembly, Lizzy talked to the children about how to make a Christmas Shoebox and the hope this gift can bring to whole families who are living in poverty. 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 Lizzy will be collecting them on Thursday 2nd November.

Team Priory - House Learning Heroes

This week our House Captains announced our learning heroes for this year. Being a school which promotes inclusivity we have chosen four people who have overcome barriers and achieved great success.



York - Tom Holland

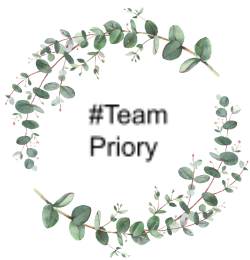
Winchester - Simone Biles

Canterbury - Rose Ayling-Ellis

Salisbury - Billie Eilish

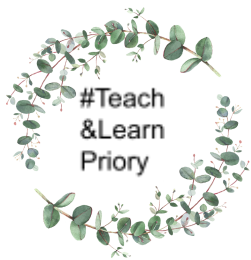
I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Friends of Priory School for purchasing coloured house badges for every child. These were given out yesterday and are to be worn on school ties to show which house they belong to.

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. Following the presentation, parents are welcome to visit classrooms to see their child's work. If on the day the weather prevents us from doing a live outside performance, each class will film their part during the morning and it will be available for parents to watch on Google Classroom.

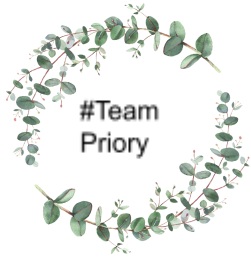
Black History Month



Each October, along with others across the globe, we take part in Black History Month. This is an opportunity for our children to learn more about inspiring black people who have challenged and overcome barriers in order to bring about equality and pave the way for change. This year, the theme of **'Saluting our Sisters'** highlights the crucial role that black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities. This year's celebration will showcase pioneering black women who have made remarkable contributions to literature, music, fashion, sport, business, politics, academia, social and health care, and more. As a school, we are studying these 6 women: Mary Seacole, Rosa Parks, Kofoworola Abeni, Anne Raven Wilkinson, Floella Benjamin, Eniola Aluko. You will be

able to see a display about Black History Month at our 30 day celebration on 20th October.

Conker Challenge



Over the past weeks my conker collection has grown. Each conker handed to me at the gate is precious and has been lovingly added to the worship table in the entrance. A few weeks ago, I showed the children a video about planting conkers so that they might germinate over the winter and become a sapling. I am now going to give each child a conker to take home and plant in a pot. Please watch this video for some great tips. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hym199ltTmk> Our year 6 pupil leaders have also created an instruction leaflet to help you get started. Your child will be bringing this home on Monday and a basket of conkers will be at the gate so that each child can take one home. Good luck with the conker challenge; in Spring let us know if you have succeeded.

Christmas Jumper Rail



We are always looking for ways to be a sustainable school and therefore, as we approach Christmas, we have decided to extend our 2nd hand uniform rail to include Christmas jumpers or T-shirts. This is a brilliant way to share good quality clothing our children have grown out of and reduce the need for families to buy brand new Christmas jumpers. If you have a Christmas jumper or top in good condition (freshly washed) please donate it at our school office where a wonderful team of parents will add it to the rail. If you are looking for a new Christmas jumper this year, please pop in and look at our rail before purchasing a brand new item. Donations are voluntary. (NO COSTUMES - JUST CHRISTMAS JUMPERS OR TOPS.)

Please note Christmas Jumper Day is 1st December at Priory School this year. (More details to follow).

Uniform and Labeling Items



Being in Team Priory means that we take pride in our presentation and uniform. Please can we politely remind parents that on PE days there is still a PE uniform.

Coloured Logo PE T-shirt, Navy Long Sleeve Logo Top, Plain Black shorts/jogging bottoms (unbranded) and PE trainers.

On occasion, some children are wearing fashion trainers (high tops, fashion leisure pumps and pastel/floral trainers) as well as some branded (Adidas, Nike etc) sports tops/skins. These items are not part of our PE uniform.

The children enjoy their fruit snacks each morning and sensibly bring these in a reusable container which is eco-friendly. However, **please can all pots be clearly labeled with your child's full name** so that we can return any items. Thank you.

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	
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
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Summer Term 2024	
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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

