PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

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Headteacher's News

Celebrating Our Ofsted Success

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following our recent Ofsted inspection, I want to take this opportunity to highlight more of the glowing feedback we received. The report reflects the incredible hard work and dedication of our entire school community.

The inspection team commended the high expectations that staff set for our pupils, noting that "most pupils behave very well because staff have high expectations and use consistent routines and strategies." Pupils were praised for their focus in class, with inspectors commenting that "pupils typically pay close attention to their teachers. They enjoy learning because teachers make lessons interesting."

Our Early Years provision was also celebrated for its inclusive approach and strong foundations. Inspectors recognized that "staff work closely with parents, carers and professionals to provide the support children need to learn well," particularly noting how well we support pupils with English as an additional language or SEND.

The support provided to pupils in our resource bases stood out as a key strength. Inspectors highlighted how "teachers quickly learn the preferred ways that pupils use to communicate" and how this enables pupils to sustain focus and achieve their potential.

Finally, our emphasis on personal development was praised, with inspectors acknowledging that "staff help pupils recognize and manage their feelings" and ensure that every child is treated with "utmost kindness and care."

This report is a testament to the commitment, resilience, and shared values of everyone in our school community. We remain committed to building on these successes and striving for even greater outcomes for our pupils.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being such an integral part of Priory School's success.

Friday 20th December:

This will be the last day of term and school will be finish at 1.30pm.

Lunch will be served as normal so please ensure you pre order lunches or please send in a packed lunch. Lunches can still be ordered as normal in class as well.

Friday will also be a non-school uniform day.

Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages - W/C 18th November

Whole School - 90.8%

Year 1 - 90.6%

Year 2 - 91.8%

Year 3 - 88.1%

Year 4 - 88.1%

Year 5 - 94.0%

Year 6 - 95.8%

Congratulations to 6Darwin with 97% the highest attendance this week!

Important dates:

Click here to link to the school calendar
Click here to see term dates for 2024-2025

Leaflets and letters:

Please <u>click here</u> to go to our leaflets page on the website and choose external providers

Sign of the week:

Human Rights

https://youtu.be/qlVdnsHQ3tl

Peek at the Week Nursery– 13th December 2024

Tuesday 17th

Christmas theatre

performance (please remember to contribute on parent pay)

Thursday 19th is the last day of term for all our Nursery children.

(usual finish times)

We had fun singing and signing our festive songs with our families. It was lovely to welcome so many parents and family members to our Christmas singalong. Thank



you to Mrs Shaw for accompanying us on the keyboard, it made it





Learning

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We have been talking about how important it is to use a tissue to blow our noses and then to wash our hands. This will help us not to spread germs.



Communication & Language Development



We have been listening to the Christmas story: the birth of baby Jesus. We have been retelling the story with our nativity characters.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/ watch/presenters-nativity-story

Physical Development

We have been developing our hand-eye





co-ordination with lots of Christmas activities this week.



Child of the week: Alayna for her confident singing and signing during our 'Christmas singalong'.

Nursery rhyme of the week: Jingle Bells

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQ34DSTjsLQ&pp=ygUMamluZ2xlIGJlbG



Word of the Week: 'Jingle Bells'



Contact us: nursery@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week-Reception 13.12.24

Last Friday, we had a wonderful time meeting Santa and his elves at Santa's grotto! The children were very excited to see the animals who accompanied Santa — some very fluffy sheep, bunnies and chickens. Every child had a lovely chat with Santa, before receiving a unique gift — the Priory Christmas story!





We hope you enjoyed reading the beautiful story, written by our very own Mr Philpott (Assistant Head and Year 4 teacher) and illustrated by the very talented Mrs Glister from Nursery!

Coming up:

Monday 16th - Christmas performance, 2pm

Tuesday 17th— "Scruff's Christmas Adventure" show. Please ensure you have followed the link to contribute £5 towards the performance.

Wednesday 18th-Christmas lunch

Thursday 19th–Christmas class parties

Friday 20th-Last day!

Christmas Performance Rehearsal

We were delighted to welcome residents from Burnham Lodge care home into school on Thursday. They had a lovely chat with some Reception children, while Year 6 Prefects served them some tea and biscuits. After, they joined us in the hall where we performed our festive songs! The residents and carers were all given a hand crafted Christmas card from Paddington and Rupert class. All involved had a fantastic time, and the Reception children are ready and eager to perform to parents on Monday.



Expressive Art and Design

We have had lots of lovely festive crafts in Reception this week! The children have enjoyed printing

Christmas trees using paint and sponges, then adding some extra sparkle with sequins.



Reception song of the week:

We Wish You a Merry Christmas



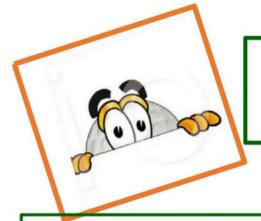


Reception Stars of the Week:

R Rupert: Kiyra R Paddington: Manha

Contact us: reception@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week Year 1 - 13th December 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

- Please can all book bags be brought in on a Thursday so library books and reading books can be changed.
- Please log in to Numbots.
- Key Math skill: Naming 2D and 3 shapes.

Key dates:

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Lunch

Thursday 19th December – Christmas parties

Friday 20th December – End of term

The stage has been a very popular part of the outdoor area this week. The children have enjoyed practicing the songs from the Year 1 Performance, and even moved the benches to make an audience.



Our Learning

This week:

In Math this week, we started a new unit all about shapes! The children learnt to name a range of different 2D and 3D shapes and started to talk about some of their properties. The children had a go at finding different shapes in the classroom and year 1 outdoor area.

In English this week, we continued to read our class text: Jesus's Christmas party. We had lots of fun retelling a part of the text where the innkeeper keeps being woken up but loud knocks on his front door! We then performed it as a class adding in our own actions and changing our expression to show how angry the innkeeper was getting.

In afternoon sessions this week, we have been doing lots of rehearsals for the performance. On Tuesday, everyone got dressed up in their costumes and took part in a dress rehearsal to Year 6. The children were really brave performing in front of their first big Audience. We really hope all of the parents enjoy it on Friday!

The year 1 team cannot quite believe how fast the Autumn term has gone. We looked forward to finishing the term with lots of Christmas activities and fun!

Star of the week

1Donaldson: Azlan 1Jeffers: Leo



Words of the Week: would should could ask our

Contact us: year1@prioryschool.com 01628 600300



Peek at the Week Year 2 - 13th December 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

18.12.24 Priory Christmas lunch

20.12.24 Last day of term finish at 1:30pm.



06.01.25 INSET Day

07.01.25 Spring term starts

Please read with and to your child every day and discuss what you are reading. Once the children have used their phonics to decode the words in the book, please re-read the book several times over the week to help them build up their pace and fluency.

Spellings are sent home on Fridays with a spelling quiz the following Friday. Please practice writing these spellings daily if possible. Please also login in to NumBots and Times Table Rockstars to practise both number bonds and timetables.

Please send your child in the correct PE uniform on Wednesdays. Please also send your child in with a coat daily.

The children have been doing a great job counting back in ones this week to solve subtraction. It can be tricky remembering how to bridge 10



though. For example: 32, 31, 30, 29, 28. We have been working on this by practising finding one less.

Child of the Week

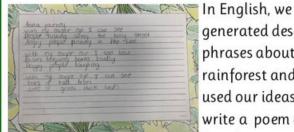
2Newton: Mannat

2Franklin: Mason



Our Learning

This week, we have continued with our unit on subtraction in maths, using different methods to solve these numbers sentences (counters, drawing and crossing out dots, counting back on our fingers and counting back on a blank number line).



generated descriptive phrases about the rainforest and then used our ideas to write a poem about Anna's journey from

the busy city to the tropical rainforest.

We enjoyed a visit from a lady from Cippenham Baptist Church who spoke to us about the Christian celebration of



Christmas. We had lots to contribute to this workshop and could 'show off' our recent learning about the Christmas Story in RE.

Next week, we will continue with our reading and phonics/spelling lessons as well as maths activities in the garden. In class, we will be focusing mainly on DT - where we will be designing, making (sewing) and evaluating our own firefighter glove puppets. We will also be starting our new science topic where we will be learning about the human life cycle and comparing this to the life cycle of other animals such as frogs, chickens and butterflies. We will also have fun doing Christmas crafts amongst the other celebrations next week: a significant achievement assembly, Christmas lunch and class parties.

Contact us:

year2@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week Year 3– 13th December 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

18.12.24 Priory Christmas Lunch

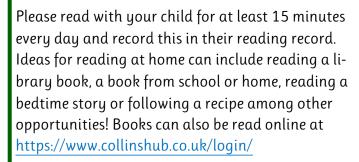
20.12.24–Last day of term finish at 1:30pm

06.01.25 INSET Day

07.01.25 Spring term starts

09.01.25 3 Jenner swimming lesson





Please practise number bonds and multiplication tables with your child. Times Tables Rockstars: https://ttrockstars.com/

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each Monday.

Our Learning

This week, we began a Design and Technology unit where we will have the opportunity to make our own seasonal decorations. We each designed a decoration and then practised our sewing techniques to create it.

In English, we had a special visitor to inspire our independent report about tortoises.







In Maths lessons we have been working on our 3x tables.

Next week, we have a fun week packed full of Christmas events and will also be learning about the Christmas story in RE.



Year 3 had a wonderful Christmas Jumper Day last Friday.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported our first

Priory Christmas Market!

Word of the Week: curiosity

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year3@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Year 4 Peek at the Week Friday 13th December 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

Wednesdays: wear the correct PE uniform to school. <u>Please bring in a water bottle.</u>

Fridays: Spelling test. Please remember to read at least three times a week and record it in the reading record. Your child also need to be practising their times tables as much as possible.

Learning about the Christmas story





Our Learning

This week in Maths, the children have been learning how to multiply and divide by 1,0 and then how to multiply by three numbers. They are becoming more confident in their times tables but please keep practising at home as much as possible.

In English, the children have been focusing on sentence structure and how characters feel this week and they are preparing for writing their story next week.

In the afternoons, we have been looking at the digestive system and how the organs in our body work to support digestion. The children even had a go at making their own intestines which got quite messy!

Next week is our last week before the holidays, the children are going to be enjoying the Christmas lunch on Wednesday and their Christmas parties on Thursday afternoon,

In maths, we will be doing some Christmas problem solving applying all the skills that we have been learning this term.

In English, we will be writing our piece based on the film, Feast that we have been learning about this half term.

PSHRE Focus: Being Me in My World. In PSHRE this term, we will learn that our attitudes and actions make a difference to our class team. We will acknowledge who is in our school community, the roles they play and how we fit in. We will understand that our actions affect ourselves and others. We will learn to care



Child of the week:

4 Turing Ellis Lovelace Lily-May 4 Chamberlain George W

Remember to read 3 times a week and practise your timetables on Rockstar Maths.

Contact us: year4@prioryschool.com 01628 600300



Year 5 Peek at the Week 13th December 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

Significant Achievement Awards 20th Dec Christmas lunch 18th Dec Christmas class parties 19th Dec Last day of tern 20th Dec

This week we started our DT unit and began making our own Christmas Stockings.



Our Learning

This week, we began our DT unit and learned a range of stitches to join and decorate fabric in order to make a Christmas stocking. We also looked at Christmas traditions around the globe.

In maths, completed our Autumn term assessments and also developed our understanding of adding and subtracting fractions that are less than 1 and greater than 1.

In English, we completed Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Assessments and a Reading Assessment. We also wrote a blog in Geography where the children will talked about the impact of a tsunami.

In PSHRE, we looked at money and the importance of this.

Next week, we will continue to practise our stitching techniques in the lead up to creating our own stockings from scratch. We will also learn more about the Christmas Story in RE.

In maths, we will continue to focus on fractions. Here, we will consolidate learning this half term.

In English, after Christmas, we will be focusing on space-themed non-chronological reports in which the children will create their own planets and write about them.

Star of the week

5Dawe: Esmae 5Maple: Savina 5Ofili: Daniyal

Word of the Week: disastrous

Remember to read 3 times a week and practise your timetables on Rockstar Maths.

Contact us: year5@prioryschool.com 01628 600300



Year 6 Peek at the Week Friday 13th December 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

18.12.24: Christmas Lunch/Party

20.12.24: Christmas Holidays (finish by 1:30pm)

Thursdays: Wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.
Thursdays: Spelling quiz. Homework due:

- Reading record x3
- Spellings x1Times tables practice on TTRS

Y6 Art:



Our Learning

This week, in art, we finished our symbolism unit by creating a collage inspired by Elizabeth II. We used a range of materials and layered them.

We then started our geography unit on the continents, researching key features of each continent and then looking at biomes and climates.

In English, we explored more of Macbeth in detail, learning how to empathise with the characters. We also began to look at the poem Double, Double Toil and Trouble.

In maths, we started our new topic on measurement. We enjoyed a practical lesson on measurement and focused on converting metric measures.

Next week, in geography, we will compare developed and developing countries, looking at how that links to where the world's natural resources are.

We will then start our RE unit on Christianity, building on our learning from the Church visit. In English, we will be composing and publishing our own poems inspired by Double, Double Toil and Trouble.

In maths, we will complete our topic on converting units by learning how to calculate with metric measures. We will also enjoy some fun Christmas maths activities.

PSHRE Focus: Celebrating Difference. In PSHRE this term, we will learn to accept that everyone is different and understand that there are different perceptions of 'normal'. By the end of the unit, we will know how to help someone who is being bullied and explain ways in which one person or a group can have power over others. We will learn the importance of using kind words by appreciating people for who they

Child of the week:

6 Attenborough: Faryal 6 Anning: Finn 6 Darwin: Mahnoor

Word of the Week: guarantee

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year6@prioryschool.com 01628 600300

Music News

Choir News!

Congratulations to our wonderful choir, who performed last week both to open the Priory Christmas Market, and also as part of the Community Carol Service at St Peter's Church in Burnham last Tuesday evening. For many of the children, these were their very first performances with the choir so we are very proud of them. Thank you to parents and carers who enabled their children to be there to sing on these occasions, and to staff who offered their support.

Young Voices

Now that our festive performances are complete, we have returned to practising our songs for Young Voices at the beginning of February. This will come around before we know it! There are a lot of songs to learn, which have to be known off by heart, so please take the opportunity to encourage your child to listen and sing along with the songs over the Christmas break. If you have ordered tickets or t-shirts, they should be with us at school to distribute in January.

Spotify playlist link: https://open.spotify.com/artist/39qcKoWHfI0pApSKFaoYhY?si=hxBJYUr2TBKX8AY6xaIOZA

If you haven't already, please sign up to the Young Voices website known as the YV Music Room using this link, where you can add your child and they can practise the songs and dance moves: https://yvmusicroom.com/auth/parent/register-referral?code=NzEyMi8xNzI2MDUzNjI1

We shall resume choir again on the first Friday of term! Mrs Shaw



The Creative Academy - A Christmas Carol

On the 5th of December, students from Year 5 and 6 were invited to watch a special performance of 'A Christmas Carol' courtesy of The Creative Academy! This incredible show retold the classic tale of Scrooge through the medium of dance, utilising an array of dance styles such as Jazz, Hip Hop and Contemporary to retell the beloved story in an original way.

The Creative Academy kindly provided us with free tickets for the show as a thank you for Priory's performance at the SSSPAN Dance Festival in April, so thank you Creative Academy! Also, a massive thank you again to all the students who participated in the festival, including last year's Year 6s who could not be with us, we are incredibly proud of you all!

The children very much enjoyed the show, and the staff and performers at the Academy were incredibly motivational. They inspired the children to continue dancing and performing themselves, which is exactly what Priory will be doing at the SSSPAN Dance Festival in 2025, so see you then!







Priory Friends

Our Christmas Market was a great success - the children had a wonderful time! We all had a chance to get together and raise around £2000 which will be used for projects in the school.

Thanks go to so many people but Natasha, Teresa, Iram and Nagina from Priory Friends did an amazing job of bringing things together. Sarah, Sandy, Mil, Josh, Shanice, Emma and Jo from the staff team worked incredibly hard. A special thank go to the choir and Mrs Shaw for their lovely singing and of course to all the staff, parents and pupils who helped, donated, bought raffle tickets and supported and encouraged us all.

We need to think about next year - did you like having the event on a Friday afternoon? We were less ambitious than in previous years - what did you miss and what might be changed?

The Priory Friends team need a bit of a rest over the holiday period but would love to involve some other parents - get in touch or come along to our next coffee afternoon





Sport In Mind

Sport in Mind Workshops

Did you know?

Fewer than 50% of children and young people are reaching the government's recommended 60 minutes of exercise per day and rates of probable mental disorders in children and young people have increased to 1 in 5.

Last week **Sport in Mind** had the pleasure of holding **workshops** at **Priory School** for their **Year 4's** to **raise students awareness about the links between physical activity and positive mental health.**



We talked about...

- How sport and exercise can help our body and mind.
- Raising our **HEART RATE** is easy and really good for us.
- COMMUNICATION is used in sports and helps us talk about how we think and feel.
- Sport gives us a positive FOCUS which gives our brain a break.
- Thinking about our BREATHING can help us calm down or feel energised

Also, that we offer:

FREE community sessions to improve the lives of children, young people and adults experiencing mental health challenges through sport and physical activity.

What our participants say....

"a break from my thoughts"

"fun"

"lots of laughs"

"Highlight of my week"

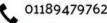
"I would never have come to a sport centre without Sport in Mind"

For more info get in touch



.org #











Bear



First and third Monday of the month - 4pm to 5pm

6th January 2025 - Make a bookmark and read a story! - Online

20th January - Talent Show- Bracknell

3rd February - Big on Bouncing - Slough- Small Fee Applicable

17th February - Disney Quiz - Online

3rd March - Sensory Bus - Windsor

17th March - Park Play - Maidenhead

*Please note activities may be subject to change

Registration:

Gems.4Health@nhs.net 0800 999 1342

Criteria:

Children with or likely to have ADHD and/or autism and living in East Berkshire







10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY



Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS



The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS



Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD



Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS



Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS



Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE



Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and

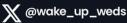
Meet Our Expert





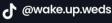
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season









CYBER PROTECT



The Digital Dilemma



December 4th, 11th, 18th



Hints and tips to secure your family online, covering:

Gaming



Social Media



Email

BOOK YOUR SPACE:

Eventbrite: Police - South East Cyber

DON'T LET IT BE GREET OF THE LEVEL YOUR ONLINE SECURITY

BRITWELL'S OUT OF WONDERLAND

bring your lights and lanterns.

let's light up the area, together!

carol singing > lights

stalls > childrens' activities >

arts and crafts > refreshments

music and entertainment

in a variety of venues and outside on

Wentworth Avenue, Britwell
Thursday 19th December
4-7pm

something for all the family!



britwellcommunityforum@gmail.com Tel/mssg: 07825 338558