



The Priory School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2018-issue 7

Friday 14th December

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

As I write the final newsletter of 2018, the sound of the Priory's signature carol 'Love shone Down' echoes around my office. The children are all in the hall, rehearsing for our nativity service at The Priory Church next **Tuesday 18th December**. It promises to be one of the highlights of Christmas and we are very grateful to Miss Deay and Mrs Moss in particular for all their hard work. It certainly feels very festive in school today; our Y5 and Y6 pupils experienced an interactive Christmas workshop at St George's church and grandparents were in good voice for the popular sing-a-long around the tree. For a small school, we certainly pack a lot in!

As we approach the end of 2018, I can't help reflecting on my first year as Headteacher. I absolutely love this job and I would like to thank everyone for their support. The cards and gifts we have received as a school have been overwhelming and demonstrate the strong partnership we have together. Please do attend the **School Conference on Tuesday 15th January** (2.15—3.15pm) and (5.30—6.30pm), which is all about listening to your feedback and setting the school's priorities for the next 12 months. If you get chance, please fill in the feedback sheet attached and return to school office before Friday 11th January.

Merry Christmas
and a Happy
New Year from
everyone at the
Priory School!



Y6 Trip: Victorian Christmas at Beaulieu

Y6 enjoyed a Victorian Christmas feast and survived a fearsome school mistress (even worse than Mr Swain) on their trip to Beaulieu!

The volunteers at the centre complimented the children on their Highwayman retelling and carol singing. Well done Class 6!



Worship Theme The very first Christmas

'He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king...' Luke 1 v32

In this week's worship, we thought about gifts which would be appropriate for baby Jesus—born to be a king. Rather than jewels and crowns, we thought Jesus would prefer acts of kindness in his kingdom.





Staff News

We would like to offer our congratulations to Mrs Rhodes who has been appointed as a family support worker at St Katharine's from January. Whilst we are delighted for her and know she will make a huge difference for that community, we are very sad to see her go and will miss her. She has been at the Priory School for just over 4 years and I know she has supported many families with care and wisdom. Our reviewed pastoral care support is detailed on page 3.



Due to financial pressures, we are unable to retain the services of our IT technician Mr Mills after the end of this term. Mr Mills has been a committed and valuable member of the school support staff for 4 years, and previously supported the school as Dorset County's linked engineer. Despite government reassurances, many schools like ours are having to make difficult choices like this in order to reduce costs. I would like to thank Mr Mills for all he has contributed to the school during his time here and wish him well as he continues in his role at Christchurch Infants school.

Finally, a familiar face will be returning to the kitchen after Christmas. Mrs Williams-Moody will be back as the catering supervisor at the Priory School. This means we have a vacancy in our lunchtime supervision team. If you are interested, or know someone who might want to top up their income, then please visit the school website or Dorsetforyou for details.

Christmas Lunch

Our kitchen elves did an amazing job on Wednesday, serving 168 hot Christmas lunches in just over 28 minutes. We tried something new with all the staff standing in a line and passing the plates of food along the chain. It was a fantastic team effort and as you can see from the pictures, the children thoroughly enjoyed it.



Thanks to H3CS for the cooking, FPS for the crackers and all the staff for giving up their lunchtime to help out.

Friends of Priory School Christmas Fayre



Many of us now have a little reindeer friend following our Christmas Fayre. Not only was it a lovely family event, but we also raised a staggering £3,300! On behalf of FPS, thanks to everyone who helped, supported and spent lots of money!

Home Learning

We have monitored the children's home learning books and are very pleased with the effort they are putting in. We don't set homework over the holidays, but if Santa should bring a new book then we'd love it if your child could tell us all about it when we start back in January!

Some advance notice that, by popular demand, **home learning projects** are returning for a one-off special, either side of February half-term. Our **exhibition day** has been set for the **8th March**. More details will be sent home nearer the time.

Compare schools' performance

Schools' data relating to last year's results have now been published on the following Government website: www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk It makes for really encouraging reading for the Priory and it's good to be sitting up there with the best schools in the area again. Onwards and upwards!



Supporting families

Our first priority will always be the safety and well-being of our children and one of the historic strengths of the Priory School has been our care for individuals. Maslow's hierarchy of needs showed that wellbeing and feeling safe have to be met, before learning can take place. If you need to share a concern regarding your child, you should usually first **inform the class teacher** as they are the ones with the day to day responsibility for your child and can often make the biggest difference.

In the morning you can pass on messages to **Mrs Poulter and Mrs Jennings**, who will be on the playground gate, or one of the senior leaders who will always be on the front gate. We have also set aside **Tuesday mornings**, when a member of our pastoral care team (see below) will be available to speak with you about more confidential matters—should you wish.



We have reviewed our staffing structure and designated certain staff as 'specialists' in different areas. Some of us will need time to develop in these roles, but we will be able to support you when you need further guidance in these areas.

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| Mrs Sibbald | – Inclusion leader; responsible for concerns relating to learning difficulties (including medical and health) and designated teacher for Looked After Children, pupil premium children |
| Miss Kelly | – PSHE co-ordinator; responsible for promoting personal and social development through the curriculum |
| Mrs Kelly | – Attendance and Behaviour concerns |
| Mrs Jennings | – ELSA (Emotional literacy and social skills) in particular behaviour |
| Mrs Poulter | – ELSA (Emotional literacy and nurture) in particular anxiety and attachment |
| Mr Croutear | – Mental Health & CAMHS referrals |
| Mr Ruffle | – Safeguarding, child welfare (including bereavement), exclusions and pupils on behaviour reports |

As a school we remain committed to working with local agencies to support families in need. The new local authority is retaining the **Christchurch family partnership zone** and they have lots of expertise working with families facing the following issues:

- parents who are separating or have separated
- where there's historical or current domestic abuse
- parents who are finding it difficult to manage their child's behaviour
- children who are self-harming or are thinking of self-harming
- a family member who uses alcohol or substances
- families who are struggling to cope financially
- families don't know where to access information

You can contact them through school or direct by email / telephone: **christchurchfamilypartnershipzone@dorsetcc.gov.uk** Tel:01202 225724

We also are a member of the **Christchurch Learning Federation**, who organise **regular parenting workshops**. We will continue to advertise these through personal invitations and our fortnightly newsletter.

At lunchtimes, for those children who can be nervous in social settings we will be using Teaching Assistants to support co-operative play. This 'watchful eye' will replace fun club, as we want children to be engaging in active play outside. For those children who are learning to control their emotions, we have a time out area and a separate safe space area. Once our Priory Hub is built, we will have a purposeful built space to develop social play such as role play and keep calm and colour. All of this will be overseen by a member of the Senior Leadership team, as one of us will always be on duty at lunchtime.

Our primary role is as educators, but I hope that through these actions and initiatives, we can continue to ensure the Priory School remains a caring and safe school.



LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our Learners of the Week, who we celebrated in Achievement Assembly over the past two weeks. They are:

**Week Commencing:
3rd December 2018**

**Week Commencing:
10th December 2018**

CLASS R: Daisy
CLASS 1: Sia
CLASS 2: Jack
CLASS 3: Millie
CLASS 4: Lily-Rose
CLASS 5: Tristan
CLASS 6: Bethany

CLASS R: Evie & Luca
CLASS 1: Maddie
CLASS 2: Matilda
CLASS 3: Anna
CLASS 4: Lily-May
CLASS 6: Ben

Well done to all our Learners of the Week



Does Your Child Love to Run?

Junior Parkrun is a free, weekly, timed event for 4-14 year olds of any ability.

The Junior Parkrun takes place at 8.50am every Sunday at Fawcetts Field in New Milton and they would love to see you there - simply register at www.parkrun.com then print off and bring your barcode to join in the fun"



ADMISSIONS TO THE PRIORY CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Applications to join our Reception Class in September 2019 must reach the local authority where you live by Monday 14th January 2019.

If you are submitting a supplementary information form to support your application, this must be signed by an authorised Church Official and returned to the School Office as soon as possible and **before the deadline of midnight on Friday 11th January 2019**.

For further information please see our website <https://prioryschool.dorset.sch.uk/admissions/>

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the school, year to date, is currently **96.24%** and this week's attendance is **97.23%**.

ATTENDANCE CUP

Well done **Class R 98.56%** for the week ending 6th December and to **Class 1** with **99%** for week ending 13th December.

Keep up the great work Classes R & 1.

Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 18th December	6.30pm	Nativity Service at The Priory Church
Wednesday 19th December	1 - 3.15pm 3-3.30pm 5.30-6.30pm	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Party and visit of Father Christmas Class 3 - Extreme Earth Museum Classes R, 1 & 2 - Bedtime Stories
Thursday 20th December	11am-12pm 1 - 3.15pm	Priory Choir @ the Fleur De Lis Retirement Complex KS2 Christmas Party
Friday 21st December	1.40pm	End of term - School Closes at 1.15pm
24th December 2018 - 4th January 2019		Christmas Holiday
Monday 7th January 2019		INSET DAY
Tuesday 8th January	8.40am	Spring Term Begins
Friday 11th January	9.45am	Beginning of term service at the Priory Church
Tuesday 15th January	2.15-3.15pm 5.30-6.30pm	School Conference - Led by Mr Ruffle in the School Hall
Thursday 17th January	8.45am	School Nurse Drop In Session

The Priory Church of England Primary School

Spring & Summer Key Dates 2018-19

Great effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of these dates at the time of publication, however they may be subject to variation and change due to circumstances beyond our control. Please follow us on Twitter for latest news and updates (@PrioryCEPrimary).

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday 6th February	2.15-3.15pm	Talk4Writing Parent Workshop - Led by Mr Croutear
18th February – 22nd February		Half Term Week
Thursday 7th March	All day	World Book day (dress up as book character)
Friday 8th March	2.30pm	Home Learning Exhibition
Monday 11th March	3.30—7pm	Parent consultation evening
Tuesday 12th March	3.30—6.30pm	Parent consultation evening
Friday 5 th April	9.45am 1.40pm	Easter Service at the Priory Church End of term - School Closes at 1.15pm
8th April - 22nd April 2019		Easter Holiday
Tuesday 23rd April		Summer Term Begins
Friday 26th April	9.45am	Beginning of term service at the Priory Church
Monday 6th May	Various	KS1 SATs assessments commence
Wednesday 8th May—Friday 10th May	Residential	Y5 Rockley Residential
Monday 13th—Thursday 16th May	Various	KS2 SATs testing takes place
Friday 17th May	10am - 3pm	Year 6 Cycle ride & picnic to Hengistbury Head
27th May – 31st May		Half Term Week
Monday 3rd June		INSET DAY
Sports days to be confirmed		
Monday 10th June	Various	KS1 Phonics screening takes place
Monday 10th June—Friday 14th June	Residential	Y6 Kingswood residential
Thursday 20th June	6—7.30pm	New Year R welcome evening
Friday 21st June	4-7pm	FPS Summer Fayre
Wednesday 3rd July	Provisional	Transition day (meet next year's teacher)
Monday 8th July	6.15—8pm tbc	Y6 Production
Wednesday 10th July	6.15—8pm	Y6 Production
Friday 12th July		Annual report to Parents
Monday 15th July	3.30—6pm	Open Evening
Tuesday 23rd July	9.45am 1.40pm	Leavers service at the Priory Church (Bible presentation to Year 6) End of Term at 1:15pm
Wednesday 24th July - Friday 30th August		Summer Holidays It is likely future holiday dates will be determined by the new Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council from this point, which as yet are unknown.