



The Priory School

Newsletter

Spring Term - Issue 1
Friday 17th January 2020

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HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Welcome back to school for the Spring term; it is an important time when children often make significant progress.

The new year is an opportunity to reflect on the progress the school has made and consider future plans. Thank you to everyone who managed to make our School Conference, despite the fury of Storm Brendan. Getting your feedback is invaluable and so the presentation and response form are still available to download from the school website (see [latest news](#)).



As a result of the conference, the school is looking at ways to improve:

- Communication of the agreed actions following meetings
- Arrangements for giving online consent for trips
- The class blog, class page and online calendar on the website
- The end of year report
- The mid-year parent consultation evening (learner-centred reviews—putting the child at the centre of the discussion).

Parents were also asked to give their feedback on the proposed new Mission Statement. A Mission statement explains why the school exists and sets the overall goal. I wrote the current mission statement as a temporary fix, back in Jan 2018; '*We are a values-centred school inspiring all to learn and achieve in a caring, Christian community.*' Any new version needs to be embraced by the whole school community and the school's governing body have proposed:

"Inspiring all to learn, serve and flourish in a caring, Christian community."

Feedback surrounding the word 'serve' has been generally negative to date. It was chosen, not to indicate servitude but to emphasise the value of serving one another and came from my favourite Martin Luther King Jnr quote.

If you would like to suggest an alternative, or offer your comments on the above, please use the School Conference feedback form and return to the School Office.

It is hoped we will have a new mission statement and 5 year plan in place for September 2020.

Mr Ruffle



"Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve."

- Martin Luther King Jr.



Worship Theme Community

Our new worship value for Spring 1 is 'Community'. By looking at the England cricket team, we learnt this week that differences can make our team stronger; can make our school community stronger. We need to celebrate the benefits of diversity in our community - regardless of gender, religion, ability and skin colour.

The children have been invited to enter a Premier League Stars competition to create an advert promoting the power of diversity in teams. The winning team in the country will receive a visit from the Premier League Trophy (before it goes to Anfield).

'Roar' Competition terms and conditions:

- KS2 pupils
- Teams of minimum 2 and maximum 6
- Your advert could be a poster, artwork, poem, storyboard, or a whole combination of things
- Remember the ad's key messages of valuing difference and celebrating diversity

Return your entry to your class teacher.

School closing date for entries is **Friday 7th February**.



Kew Gardens Visit Class 4

Class 4 enjoyed an amazing trip to Kew Gardens on Monday - and incredibly the weather stayed fine. It was a brilliant beginning to their rainforests project and has really helped their Science (living things) and Geography (climate zones) learning.



Many thanks to Mrs Miller, Mrs Johnson, Mr Holloway and our parent volunteers for enabling this experience to go ahead.

Epiphany Service Spring Term Head Boy and Girl

The children's behaviour at the Epiphany Service last Friday was exemplary - at the start of the service you could hear a pin drop. The readers also spoke with confidence and fluency. Since the service the children have been thinking about the wise men's gifts and the gifts they would like to offer in 2020. Protecting the environment, friendship, a smile and a helping hand have all been suggested as ideas.

During the Epiphany Service we also welcomed Orla-Grace and Harvey as our new Head girl and boy. They have made a great start - showing prospective parents round, setting up the hall for worship and deciding who can use the chrome books during wet play!





Safeguarding - An Annual Reminder

Keeping children safe is always our first priority and it is everyone's responsibility.

One of the historic strengths of the Priory School has been our care for individuals - before a child can learn they have to feel safe. We regularly review our practice and safeguarding is always on the agenda of every staff, SLT and Governor meeting.

Our Child Protection Policies, including our Acceptable Use of ICT Policy and how we deal with allegations of abuse, are available to view on the 'School Policies' page of the school website.



Our key reference documents are 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' and 'Working Together to Safeguard Children', both of which can be downloaded from the safeguarding page on the school website. You can access different language versions of these important documents at: <https://bournemouth-poole-lscb.org.uk/useful-documents/schools-and-colleges/>

If you require further information relating to safeguarding, such as the school's prevent strategy or approach to children missing in education, please contact the School Office in the first instance.

Sharing a general concern regarding your child

If you need to share a general 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. This can be done by writing a short note and handing it into the School Office, sending in an email to parent@theprioryschool.org or by speaking face to face with the class teacher at the end of the day.

Raising a specific safeguarding concern

If you're concerned that a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm, and you believe it requires urgent action, call the **Police on 999**.

If you are worried about the safety of any child, you can contact BCP MASH (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).

Email: Mash@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: [01202 735046](tel:01202735046)

As a member of the public, the MASH team will ask you for any details you may have about the child or young person and the concerns you have about them. All information you give them will help them to make further enquiries. You will also be asked for your name and contact details so that they may contact you again if necessary. Your personal information will be treated as confidential.

You can also speak to someone in school about any concerns which you have. Please contact the School Office and they will arrange the appropriate meeting. *We have 4 trained safeguarding leads (sometimes called DSL's) in school: Mr Ruffle, Mr Croutear, Mrs Kelly and Mrs Sibbald.*

The information you share will be dealt with in the strictest confidence, but we can not agree to keep any information a secret as we may need to inform the MASH team for advice or support.

**Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility**





LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our Learners of the Week. They are:

20th December 2019

CLASS R: Elsie & Bonnie

CLASS 1: Pixie

CLASS 2: Rene

CLASS 3: Finley

CLASS 4: Isla

CLASS 5: Riley

CLASS 6: Will & Caitlyn

17th January 2020

CLASS R: Elsie

CLASS 1: Maisie

CLASS 2: Evan

CLASS 3: Jack

CLASS 4: Jamie

CLASS 5: Joshua

Class 6: Arabella

Well done to all our Learners of the Week.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance for the school, year to date, is currently **96.07%** and this week's attendance is **97.12%**.

ATTENDANCE CUP

Well done **Class 1** with **99.17%** for the week ending 10th January and again with **98.89%** for week ending 17th January

Keep up the great attendance, Class 1.

ABSENCE

To ensure the continued safety and welfare of the children, it is essential that the school is notified of the nature of your child's absence e.g. illness, medical treatment, either by a telephone call, visit to the School Office or a note to your child's teacher. **This should be done by 8.40am on the day of absence.** Once registers have been completed, office staff will contact the parent of absent children who have **NOT** either telephoned or previously sent in a note explaining the absence.

Absence Line Answerphone: 01202 484105 opt 1
(Available 24hrs a day)

