



The Priory School

Weekly Briefings

Friday 3rd April 2020

<https://prioryschool.dorset.sch.uk> | office@theprioryschool.org | Tel: 01202 484195 | @PrioryCEPrimary

Dear Parents / Carers,

In this unsettling new landscape in which we find ourselves, it seems strange to announce that today marks the end of the Spring term and the start of the Easter holidays. I hope that, despite the restrictions and the enforced changes to holiday plans, you are still able to enjoy precious time together.

Depending on the time you read this, we will have had our first livestream Youtube 'Learner of the Week' Worship (*follow the link <https://youtu.be/qq3DjjLmCao>*). Here's hoping we haven't made too many bloopers. This is part of our aspiration to connect with pupils while they have to stay at home. We will continue to explore new ways (such as the daily vlog and the weekly pupil newsletter) to get better at inspiring, informing and engaging with the children during the school closure.

School @ Home - Easter Plans

During the holidays (6th—17th April), no new work will be posted on blogs or google classroom. The Help Desk will also be closed.

We recognise that the structure of 'School @ Home' has been helpful so on Monday 6th April we will send home a bumper pack of Easter activities. I also know that Mrs Moss, Mrs Clapcott and Mr Major have plans to keep in touch with you over the holidays—so keep an eye out for updates.

School @ Home will resume on Monday 20th April.

Childcare provision for key workers and vulnerable families

The situation relating to childcare provision over Easter is constantly changing as the number of infections hits the peak period. Due to several last minute requests, we will now be open for some of the Easter holidays, with limited provision for key worker children only.

Our Monday—Friday childcare arrangements for key workers and vulnerable children will resume as 'normal' from Monday 20th April.

Another gentle reminder that Poppets are also on site to provide before and after school care should it be required.

Free School Meal Provision

Hampshire Council Catering have been incredibly supportive partners during the school closure. For our free school meal families, a packed lunch is available for pick up and 15 Easter hampers have also been prepared for the holiday period. We have been able to deliver some of these to families who are in self-isolation. The Government advises that meals provided by the school's usual caterers are preferable to the supermarket voucher scheme so after the holidays, the packed lunch service will return.

If you think you are eligible please apply online at <https://www.christchurch.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/free-school-meals.aspx>



Charanga

This week all children should have received a login and password to charanga, which is an online music service which the school buys into. Miss Deay has set some music lessons and objectives on here for you to do.

If you are struggling to access, please contact the Help Desk.

Class 4 arrangements

Today we officially say goodbye to Mrs Miller as she starts her maternity leave. It must be a concerning time, so our thoughts and prayers go with her. During the summer term, Class 4 will be taught by Mrs Kelly and, from 4th May, also by Miss Kelly on Monday and Tuesday. Initially Mrs Kelly will take responsibility for the school @ home learning posted on the blog and google classroom.

Class 5 residential—cancelled

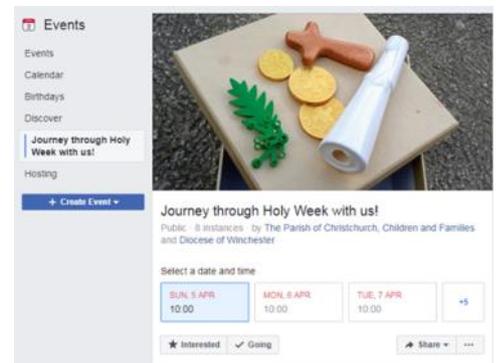
In the grand scheme of things, there have been many more significant events that have been effected by the Coronavirus pandemic, but it is still with a heavy heart that I have to inform Class 5 that their residential to Calshot has been cancelled. *Class 5 should have received a separate letter from me about this.*

Many of our Summer 1 plans are now on hold until we hear the latest Government advice. We have cancelled all events until the 18th May.

Those children in Class 6 transferring to Twynham should receive communication today about that process and contingency plans.

Journey through Holy Week—daily Facebook live with Heidi

Suffering withdrawals already from the school's daily vlog? Heidi is on Facebook live (*link Christchurch Priory families team*) every day during Easter to lead children through the events of Holy Week.



Covid 19 Helpline

BCP Council have organised a helpline if you are struggling during this pandemic. If you are 'shielding' or self-isolating and you need a volunteer to help get food or other essential household items, simply call **0300 123052**.

And finally

The last word, as ever, goes to the children.

We were delighted to be asked to produce some Art work for the Royal Bournemouth Hospital to cheer up patients on the wards. The children in school produced these posters, thanking our amazing NHS workers who risk their lives everyday to protect others.

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.” John 15:13

Have a safe and peaceful Easter.

Mr Ruffle

