



The Priory School Newsletter

Issue 1 - 10th September 2020

<https://prioryschool.dorset.sch.uk> | office@prioryceprimary.co.uk | @PrioryCEPrimary |

Tel: 01202 484195

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

It is wonderful to be back and striving to fulfil our core mission of ‘inspiring a generation to learn, flourish and achieve.’

Before I share the ‘snagging list’ from our new Coronavirus arrangements, I want to take a moment to consider our school vision and the kind of school we would like to be moving forward.



In sharing my draft vision for children here at the Priory School with staff, pupils, parents and governors, I have come to appreciate just how valuable and significant the work of schools can be. The challenge is turning these words into a lived experience.

Please feedback your comments to the office@prioryceprimary.co.uk as this vision will shape our priorities and development plans for the coming years.

Our Vision for Children

For every unique and precious child at our school, we will:

- Protect and nurture pupil wellbeing
- Inspire all pupils to achieve their potential and be well-prepared for the next stage of their education.
- Immerse pupils in a compelling and well-taught curriculum; to develop critical thinking, a rich vocabulary and a love of learning.
- Guide and prepare pupils for their future as global and compassionate citizens.

Mr Ruffle

School Mission Statement

“Inspiring a generation to learn, flourish and achieve in a caring, Christian community”



Coronavirus Update Week 1 Review

Our systems have coped reasonably well with the pressure of all the children returning. Washing hands and moving around school is certainly very different with a class of 30 compared to 15, which we had in the summer.

Like anything new, some things have worked better than others and these are the changes we will be introducing from [Monday 14th September](#).



1. Drop Off Arrangements

The staggered drop off is working well. A steady flow is what we are after, so please don't worry if you are a few minutes early or late (all the teachers are ready) - just please don't all arrive at 8.40am. In the light of the new 'Rule of 6', remember to avoid congregating by the school entrance and exit points.

We are concerned that when Reception children start attending, this could make the earlier times too busy, so we have changed the Reception starting time to **9am for the first 2 weeks**, when it will be reviewed.

A gentle reminder that no pets are allowed into school beyond the main gate, except guide dogs.

2. Pick Up Arrangements

Pick up arrangements have been challenging for KS2 staff due to the number of siblings who are leaving earlier than expected. Our aim is to create a steady flow of parents and avoid unnecessary congestion, so we are removing designated times. The gate will be open from 3.05pm and children will be released from 3.10 - 3.15pm. We hope parents will be able to maintain a safe distance on the playground with our one way systems and leave promptly.

We have reminded all the children to stay with their collecting adult. We are working really hard to keep the children in separate class bubbles all day, and this is for nothing if they then mix with other classes at home time. I'm afraid the same also applies to preschool children. The traversing wall and play trail remain out of bounds at home time.

We do have a number of 'at risk' adults collecting and dropping off children, so we all need to follow the Government guidelines.

3. PE Kits

This has also worked well, but it is something we will keep under review as the weather changes. In regards to indoor PE, a number of classes have started with gymnastics and PE kit would also be beneficial, especially for the girls wearing skirts.

Therefore, we would like all children to wear their PE kit whenever they have PE.

Year Group	Rec	1	2	3	4	5	6
PE Kit to be worn all day	Fri	Mon / Fri	Mon / Fri	Mon / Wed	Wed / Thurs	Wed / Thurs	Mon / Tues



4. Bike Shelter installation

Works to install the new bike/scooter shelter start next week, so please take extra care by the KS1 playground.

5. Hot School Dinners

We have been working hard to resolve some of the issues around lunchtime. Children have to transition to different areas as a class bubble, but as they eat at different speeds some are desperate to start playing, while others need longer to finish. All classes get a minimum of 20 minutes to eat so this should be sufficient and the children are getting used to it.

We are ready to reintroduce hot dinners next week, starting with the Street Menu which is easy to serve and eat. I would encourage you to order a school lunch, especially for children in YR, 1 and 2 as it is free. Unless we start to see a substantial pick up in numbers, the long term viability of our kitchen is in doubt.

6. Curriculum News

The children have bounced back to school this week, reassuring staff that we were right to restart a normal curriculum next week. The children are ready and eager to get on with their learning. As you know we will be carrying out some assessments from Monday to help us identify what the next steps are for each child.

You will receive a Curriculum Newsletter from your child's class teacher today detailing the learning for this half term. Please make full use of the key vocab lists, perhaps putting them on the fridge or learning a different word a day.

Some things to note:

- **Y6 SATS parents evening** is cancelled, but a self-explanatory presentation has been uploaded to the class blog for your information. Please do read it as it contains lots of ways in which you can support your child during this important year.
- **Home learning** will start next week and we will use Google Classroom for Y2 - 6. It's important this is set up soon, in case your child needs to self-isolate.
- Children who are not yet free readers should have a banded reading book by Monday at the latest. Reading is a real focus for us this year.
- Unfortunately our **Meet the Teacher sessions** are also cancelled, so if you do have a query or question please simply email the school office.
- Our whole school **Harvest Assembly** is cancelled, but we have planned for each class to contribute to a special online service. We remain hopeful that we may be able to welcome our Reception class and their parents in a **beginning of term service** at Priory Church, but this is now under review by the church following yesterday's announcement.

7. Lost Property

It is very difficult to return belongings when they do not have a named label. We will not be storing unnamed clothing, so please ensure all new jumpers are labelled this weekend.

8. Long Hair

A number of children have returned from lockdown with longer hair (boys and girls). In line with our existing policy, any hair which is shoulder length should be tied back. We will insist on this on Monday and we have some new hair ties just in case your child forgets.



9. School Governor Vacancies

We currently have several governor vacancies, please see the attached advert for more information. Please contact Kay Towler, Clerk to the Governing Body, if you are interested via email : ktowler@prioryceprimary.co.uk

10. Extra curricular News

Mrs Kelly is still waiting for a number of our regular providers to respond, as they work through the changing guidelines.

We continue to be grateful for Mrs Moss as she patiently waits for the school to see what might be possible in the near future. Unfortunately, all mixed choirs have been ruled out for at least this half-term. We are hoping to start some 'small, same year group, outside' singing in the coming weeks.

We are able to offer the following clubs and we have ensured that they fulfil the expectations of our own Risk Assessment i.e. maintaining the separate class bubbles.

Name of Provider	Year Group	Day	Details
Mrs Moss ukulele	Open (Year 3 focus)	Tbc	The format will be dependent on numbers & bubbles. Fee payable If interested, please contact cazzamoss@icloud.com
Other instrumental music lessons	-	-	We are still awaiting details from Mr Dunwoody and Rock Steady - but we can confirm they will not be on site this half term.
Southbourne Tennis Club	5 only	Monday School playground	Max 8 pupils Fee payable Contact Ray Burningham at Southbourne tennis club
Lights, Camera, Action! (online code club)	Open Limited places available. Max. of 5 children in each session	Mon-Fri Session 1: 4pm-4.50pm Session 2: 5pm-5.50pm Homes	Sessions conducted via Zoom (£10 per session). Email Kev on lightscameracode@gmail.com for more info, to check availability and to book. Or check out our website www.lightscameracode.com.
Mr Major's & Miss Ridley's sports clubs	-	-	We are not running sports clubs after school for the first half-term. We hope to offer some activity clubs during lunchtime (in class bubbles). Free
Mr Diggins' Physio and Activity Club	6	Daily in school	By invitation only. Free.