



The Priory School

Newsletter

Issue 5 - 9th October 2020

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HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Aspiration.

It's one of our core values and it's something we want to promote over the next half-term. We truly believe that a good education will unlock futures, open doors and broaden horizons. Of course, we hold a holistic view of education but it is also true that we 'Learn to Earn.'



The future is uncertain at the moment, but we want to encourage our children to dream big, set goals and work hard to achieve them.

As part of our thinking around this issue, we would love to **dedicate our Thursday worships to celebrate different careers**. When you ask the children what they want to do when they are older, many of them still talk becoming a gamer, footballer or Youtube star. Of course, we don't want to squash those dreams but there are so many other great jobs out there!

Our planned Careers Fair is not going to be possible, so instead we want to invite parents to speak to our whole school community (via zoom) about their job and about what it took to get there. We would love to highlight a whole range of jobs (*as long as you (mostly) enjoy what you do*) from those that require a degree and a high level of knowledge, to those that are more creative or more practical.

We would also love to have a diverse cross section of our school community and to challenge stereotypes such women in the tech industry or men in a caring profession. This period has also seen a fresh appreciation of how valuable 'key worker' jobs are in our society and it would be fantastic to have volunteers from those of you in that sector.

If you feel you could contribute in this way, please email the school office (stating your job) and please don't feel offended if we are not able to use you on this occasion.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Ruffle

School Mission Statement

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



COVID-19 - Week 6 Review

We continue to monitor the increasing rate of infection in BCP, which remains at 'Medium Risk' at the time of writing.

There are no changes to our protective measures this week and we are still intending to run our Year 3 trip to the Ancient Technology Centre next week.

We are very grateful for the attitude and behaviour of our school community in trying to keep everyone safe. We get a large volume of calls from concerned parents wanting to do the right thing and 'follow the rules' and this is much appreciated. Teaching staff who have started their telephone consultations have also remarked on how supportive everyone is. Thank you.

Inset Day - Tuesday 3rd November

Our inset day is still going ahead on the published date of Tuesday 3rd November. The intention is to spend the day with the leaders of an outstanding school in Southall, West London and review our curriculum design. Although we will be visiting a different school, protective measures are in place to prevent the risk of cross-contamination and we will no longer be travelling in one minibus, as part of our contingency planning.

If you are interested in finding out about the school we will be visiting, you can visit their website here: <https://www.threebridgesprimary.co.uk/>

Mr Ruffle's Raffle

You might hear your child talking about raffle tickets this weekend. This is because we have decided to revamp our Team Points rewards system during the pandemic. We can not celebrate team points in the normal way, so we are handing out raffle tickets instead to reward good learning behaviours. Every Friday, during Celebration Worship, 5 tickets will be pulled out of the hat and the children with the winning numbers will come to the hall to collect a small prize.



Worship Theme

Be Bold, Be Strong for the Lord your God is with you

"A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" Judges 7 v20

Keith Jewell from Pace Trust led our Monday worship this week.

He told the story of Gideon and how his small army of just 300 was able to defeat the mighty Midian army, because God was with them.

When we face overwhelming challenges, we can also be brave because God is with us too.

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Staff Update - More Breaking News

It is with mixed emotions that I have to announce that another very popular member of our staff team has earned a much-deserved promotion. Mr Holloway, who currently works as a Teaching Assistant in Year 4, has been appointed as a Learning Mentor at Queen's Park Junior School in Bournemouth. This means he will be undertaking the duties of a cover teacher across the school. Mr Holloway will start his new job on Monday 9th November.

I am delighted for Mr Holloway, as I have seen him develop his teaching skills during his time here. He taught for the whole of the summer term in one of our Class 6 'pods' and he has been invaluable in covering staff absence this term. He will go onto make a fantastic teacher and the school has been fortunate to have played a part in his learning journey for the last 5 years.



I recognise this is more disappointment for our Class 4 but the whole school will miss him greatly. Arrangements for Mr Holloway's replacement will be finalised after half-term.

Lunch Hall Arrangements

We've had some questions about how the lunch hall arrangements work with 2 bubbles eating at the same time. Here's a photo of Reception class in their half of the hall and you can just make out Class 1 on the other side. Before a new class is allowed to enter the hall, both the chairs and the tables are disinfected.



Rites of Passage - First School Photo

More pictures from Reception Class.

We had the photographer in school yesterday taking photos of all the children. Everyone always comments on how smart our children look in their Priory uniform!



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