



The Priory School Newsletter

Issue 9 - Friday 13th November 2020

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

Tel: 01202 484105

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

We had a very productive meeting with the Friends of Priory School Committee on Wednesday. Despite the challenges ahead, FPS have set a fundraising target of **£5,000** this year. **WOW** – that would be amazing!

I thought it would be helpful to share the school's wish list for 2020-21, so everyone can see what the school purchased last year and what we hope to buy in the future. Please see the attached **FPS Spending Plans**.

We are already making progress towards our target, thanks to many families in Reception Class. Over half-term they carried out a sponsored challenge to travel 153 miles as a group (the age of the school). Despite the wettest half-term in living memory, Year R still went out on cycles in the forest and walks along the beach. The 153 mile target was smashed and that's a lot of steps for little legs! The money is still coming in so we don't have a grand total yet - but a huge thank you to everyone. Perhaps this sponsorship model can be replicated by other year groups, until we can start to have whole school events again?

Mr Ruffle

THE
Wishlist



Worship Theme Remembrance

“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me” **Psalm 23 v4**

The whole school was able to participate in our Act of Remembrance on Wednesday. 2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the end of World War 2. We thought about the **service** and **sacrifice** of helpers then and now. The children wrote and shared their own Poppy Prayers.

We are especially grateful to Mr Payne, the BCP Early Years Adviser, for playing the Last Post.



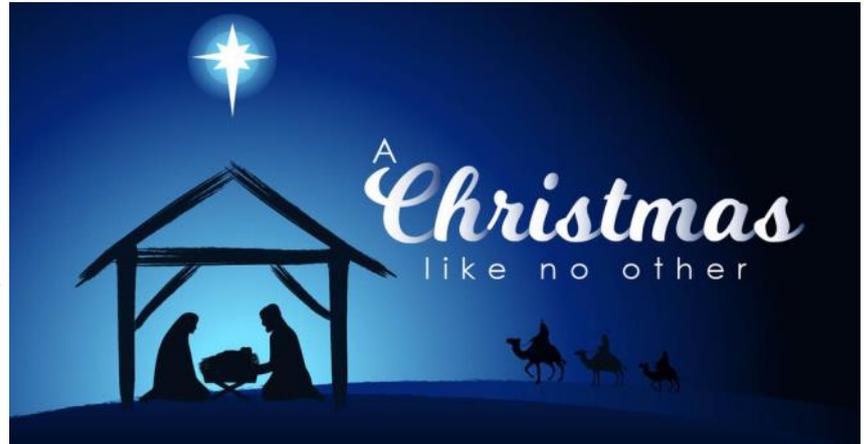
School Mission Statement

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



Christmas Plans

After the year the children have had, I don't think it is too soon to start looking forward to Christmas. Despite some enforced changes to our usual programme of events, we have got a really busy and exciting time lined up for the children. **Please see the attached Christmas Planner for details.**



We have planned it so that all the listed events are still able to go ahead in a lockdown scenario. As a Church School it is such a precious time to remember the nativity story which is at the centre of all the celebrations. A story of light in the darkness.

Anti-bullying Week United Against Bullying

Monday 16th November to Friday 20th November

We are going to take part in **Odd Socks Day on Monday, 16th November** to help launch our Anti-bullying Week. The children can wear odd socks to school on this day, which signifies that we are all unique and that it is ok to be us.



During the week there will be a special focus on online bullying for our older children. As parents and carers you may want to visit www.net-aware.org.uk for practical and simple guide to the latest social networks, apps and games children are using.



If you would like particular advice about bullying as a parent/carer then please visit <http://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-parents> where you can find a whole host of information, including an interactive tool that provides information and a helpline for families on a number of parenting aspects. Please remember that if you have any concerns about your child in school, then please talk (or email office@prioryceprimary.co.uk) to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

School Mission Statement

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



Fostering a Love of Reading A New Reading Challenge - Winter 2020 *Monday 16th November - Friday 4th December*

We have found it difficult to monitor reading due to our concerns over the reading diaries going back and forth, between home and school, on a daily basis. However, we are really keen to see what your child has been reading at home and celebrate their achievements.

For the next 3 weeks, starting on **Monday 16th November**, we want the children to record what they have read **EVERY DAY** in their **READING DIARY**.

On **Friday 4th December**, we ask that all the children bring their reading diaries to school. Once we have quarantined these diaries, we will check them and the children who have read every day, during this period, will earn a small reward. Nothing beats immersing yourself in a good book!

If your child would like to share pictures of themselves reading in their favourite space, please forward them to Google Classroom.

If you are unsure of your child's current reading level, please contact your class teacher. Plus, if any parents would like to film themselves reading a short story for the children, please send it in via the office email!



Stem Newsletter

Mr Swain is missing The Priory Post, our pupil lockdown newsletter, so he has created a new STEM newsletter for the children to enjoy. Please find it attached to this newsletter.

Flu Immunisation

Flu immunisations are taking place on Tuesday 17th November; separate communications have been emailed regarding this.

Parent Enquiries

We appreciate the difficulties you face trying to speak to the class teachers at this present time. However, please do speak to us at the end of the day - although this will still have to be outside! If it is a more private matter, please contact the School Office to arrange a telephone call with the class teacher. Google Classroom messages should **only** be used by pupils/parents for enquiries about home learning and not for pastoral care matters or other issues.

School Menu Revamp

The refreshed school menu starts next week. There are 4 options now: Main, Vegetarian, Packed lunch or Jacket Potato.

Thursday Job Talks

We are really enjoying our Thursday zoom meetings, when parents are talking about their jobs to the children. There's room for lots more volunteers, so please contact the Office to sign up. The more, the merrier!

School Mission Statement

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



Coronavirus Review Week 9 Staying Safe During Lockdown 2.0

I am very conscious of some of the long queues we get at the end of the day, which have seemed more noticeable recently. I have asked staff to once again make sure that they stagger children's departures between 3.05 and 3.15pm. Our aim is to leave a small gap between releasing each child, so that we don't end up with a bottleneck at the exit point. Please continue to be patient with us as we try to support you in maintaining a safe distance between one another.



For now, the national restrictions have clarified the rules for us all:

'In general, you must not meet with another person socially or undertake any activities with another person. However, you can exercise or meet in a public, outdoors space with people you live with, your support bubble (or as part of a childcare bubble), or with one other person.'

Please note that this 'childcare bubble' does not refer to the entire class bubble, but to a specific household or individual. You can only use a childcare bubble for childcare – that is, where the child's parent or regular carer is not present. You cannot use a childcare bubble to mix with another household for other reasons.

You should minimise time spent outside your home. When around other people, stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household - meaning the people you live with - or your support bubble. Where this is not possible, stay 1 metre apart with extra precautions (e.g. wearing a face covering).

Board Games Wanted

We need to refresh our Golden Time now we have to stay in bubbles. One of the things we would like to do is to encourage more traditional game playing. Not only will this encourage problem solving and sharing but it will also provide an opportunity for more social interaction, something which has been sadly lacking this year.

We would like to improve our stock of decent board games. FPS are helping us to buy some as part of the class Christmas present, but we need more. If you have any at home (with all the pieces) here's our top ten wishlist:

- Dominoes
- Drafts
- Chess
- Uno
- Battleships
- Guess Who
- Risk
- Boggle
- Connect 4
- Colditz (Mr Swain's choice)

Deputy Headship Appointment

In case you missed the letter earlier in the week, I am delighted to announce that we have appointed Mrs Fidge as our new Deputy Headteacher.

Mrs Fidge is currently Head of Juniors at Walhampton Independent School in Lymington and she will be joining us for the Summer term. Mrs Fidge will be responsible for many pastoral and curriculum matters, but initially she will assume Mr Croutear's teaching commitment in Class 4.

I am also pleased to welcome back Miss Jenna Kelly for the Spring term and she will share teaching duties in Class 4 with Miss Izzy Ridley until Mrs Fidge arrives.

