



# The Priory School Newsletter

Spring Issue 10 - Friday 19th March 2021

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## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

We were hoping the skipping craze would take off when we all returned to school. It's more important than ever that children have easy access to simple and effective exercise as they develop a healthy lifestyle. Most classes are now going out every day for their skipping challenge.



These were photos taken yesterday and only mid-air shots made it into the final cut.

## Worship Theme - Jerusalem Cross

Revelation 7 v9 "After this, I saw a large crowd with more people than could be counted. They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood before the throne and before the Lamb."



The children's view of the Christian church can simply reflect the predominant culture they see around them i.e. white British. In our worship this week we looked at the Jerusalem Cross which has 4 crosses on the 4 different compass points to symbolise that the Church is international and cross-cultural. We wondered about some ways we could make our own school community more welcoming to people from different races, tribes, nations and languages. Reading stories by diverse authors seemed an important next step. As an example Year 6 have enjoyed 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Rauf.



### School Mission Statement

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



## Easter Diary Dates

### Spring Assessment Week

All Year Groups will be carrying out informal assessments next week. We will be analysing this data to see how we can best support the children moving forward and adapt our summer planning as necessary. Reassuringly, teachers have been encouraged by the standard of work since the children returned and this reflects everyone's hard work during lockdown.

**We are making arrangements to share these assessments with you at our revised Parent Consultation evenings on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th May.**

### Egg Scavenger Hunts

During the afternoons of the last week of Spring term, children will hunt for plastic eggs and return them to a basket (they will be disinfected each time they are used).



Every child will then 'win' a real chocolate egg or allergy appropriate alternative. Children will not be allowed to eat the eggs until they are collected at home time.

**We are extremely grateful to Morrisons in New Milton who have donated over 220 eggs for this year's hunt.**

### Easter Bonnet Parade - Wednesday 31st March

We invite all EYFS and KS1 children to wear a special Easter bonnet to school on Wednesday 31st March. This is a fun and non-competitive event.

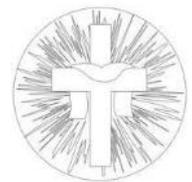
Children will take it in turns to parade in front of the 'camera' during a Youtube livestream, starting at 9:30am with the youngest children. The link will be sent separately to all parents in those year groups.

Please update your child's photo/filming consent via the School Office. If we **do NOT** have your consent they will still parade but 'behind' the camera.



### Easter Service - Thursday 1st April

Our Easter Service has the theme of 'New Hope and New Life'. It will be led by our KS2 children and will be a Youtube livestream event, starting at 10:30am. The link will be sent to our community and will be available on catch-up. With the current restrictions it is harder than ever to rehearse (especially the songs), but we hope we can still celebrate this special occasion together.



Please update your photo/filming consent if you do NOT wish your child to participate.

**The last day of Spring term is Thursday 1st April and we will finish at the normal staggered finish times.**

## FPS Update

I've attached the agreed FPS Wishlist to this newsletter.

If you want to make a specific donation to this year's wishlist, please contact the School Office.

## Let's Count

The UK National Census of people and households takes place every 10 years and the deadline is 21st March 2021.

In school we've been learning about this through the 'Let's Count' project. Pupils have been completing their own counting activities. No doubt you will get a reminder from them on Sunday!





## Reminder - E-library books Oxford Owl

We appreciate that many children love having a physical book in their hands as they learn to read. It's certainly easier to track the letters with a finger as they read.



However, we also know that children are increasingly used to reading on a 'screen'.

For the time being we want to minimise objects brought in from one household and then passed to another. We have risk assessed sending reading books home and currently we feel we need to find an alternative way of doing it.

Please be reassured that children are reading books in school and that we are finding ways of quarantining them once they have been finished. The logistics of doing this with books from home as well is too much to manage.

In the short term we are encouraging the children to make full use of their Oxford Owl login to access many of the same books as we have in our book banded boxes - but online.

As soon as we see a relaxation in the guidance to schools we will review this. If you have any feedback about how using e-books is working for your child, then please let your class teacher know.

## Fortnightly Newsletters

Now the children are back at school, we will revert to sending out a newsletter every fortnight.

Our next newsletter will be on Thursday 1st April.