



The Priory School Newsletter

Spring Issue 11 – Thursday 1st April 2021

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HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Our theme for the Easter service this year is 'New Life and New Hope'. The beautiful Spring weather and the easing of some restrictions, has resulted in a lovely atmosphere in school as we've celebrated Holy Week together.

The Easter egg hunts have been very popular and I must mention Year 6 children for their amazing support as the 'Easter Bunnies'! We are very grateful to FPS and Morrisons in New Milton for donating the chocolate eggs.

The traditional Easter Bonnet Parade was really enjoyable and everyone seemed to make an extra special effort with the decorations. The children enjoyed their special Easter lunch on Tuesday and class bubbles have finally been able to sing together in our Easter service.

I trust that the photos convey a tangible sense of hope and optimism as we look forward to a well-deserved rest and then an action-packed Summer term to follow.



Mr Ruffle

School Mission Statement

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



COVID-19 Update

We've had a few questions this week about our summer plans: the return of ukulele lessons & sports clubs, when school trips can restart and when we can start mixing year groups at playtime etc.

We have been advised that schools will receive updated guidance in the coming days relating to the gradual easing of the current level of restrictions. We will keep our current approach and risk assessment until we receive new advice.

On a positive note, we had been informed that **school swimming lessons can resume in the summer**. We have booked the pool at 2 Riversmeet for Year 3 to start on Monday 26th April. Parents should have received a separate letter about this.

We have also just been informed that our **PGL residential at Osmington Bay for Year 6 can go ahead on Monday 14th June!** We will hold a parents information evening (probably via zoom) as soon as we have received the answers to all our questions - please note we don't have any details yet.

Staffing Update

We are indebted to Miss Kelly and Miss Ridley who have done such a fantastic job supporting Year 4 during the Spring term. Following in the footsteps of Mr Croutear is no small feat, especially during a national lockdown, but they have gone over and above the call of duty. I was so impressed with how they delivered remote teaching and I am extremely grateful to them both.

Mrs Fidge, our new Deputy Head, has been in school this week preparing for her new role and getting to know the children. She will be picking up the Year 4 baton in the Summer term but I am pleased to announce that Miss Ridley will continue to support the class to give Mrs Fidge time for her Deputy Head responsibilities.

Miss Kelly, who is moving onto a new school, will remain at the Priory until the end of April to ensure a smooth transition with Mrs Fidge.

Mrs Miller is also returning to the Priory after Easter in a new 2 day a week role. This will provide us with a little more capacity during the summer to support children in moving their learning forward.

FPS - Virtual Easter Fair

Although our collective Easter celebrations will be greatly missed this year, the FPS are bringing Easter fun to your homes with their Virtual Easter Fair. This is a fun, interactive way for the children and their families to enjoy Easter themed games, challenges and competitions. There are lots of exciting prizes to be won.

Please do join in and help raise funds for our school by visiting <https://patchworkit.com/36951/prioryceprimary>

This is a new way of working for the FPS so we would also appreciate any feedback on our Virtual Easter Fair by emailing:

Friendsprioryschool@yahoo.com

Thank you for your continued support.



The first entry into the Easter Pet Competition



Online Safety - A letter from our Safeguarding Governor (and Parent Governor), Jamie Ward:

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the Easter holidays, we thought it might be a good time to highlight the importance of online safety for you and your family.

I know we all lead busy lives and our youngsters are often accessing technology through various devices which can be difficult to keep tabs on. As a parent myself, trust me, I know how challenging this can be!!

Therefore, I wanted to draw your attention to the attached NSPCC link, which offers some great tips, guidance and expert advice.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

It's crucial in today's world to keep a close eye on what your children are accessing, as whilst the internet, apps and games can be wonderful, we know there are many potential dangers online for our children, and indeed for ourselves.

Please do feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Wishing you and your families a happy Easter holiday.

Jamie Ward
Parent Governor (Safeguarding)



Protecting children from 'Peer on Peer' abuse



The Priory School 'Stay Safe' Code

The website 'Everyone's Invited' has now gained more than 11,000 posts from children sharing their experiences of abuse in school, often by peers. It is shocking and the Government responded yesterday by setting up an immediate review.

This is obviously an escalating issue for secondary schools and universities but we can't ignore the fact that the youngest victim to date was nine.

All staff at the Priory School are trained in recognising the signs of physical, emotional and sexual abuse and neglect. They are alert to the dangers of 'peer on peer abuse' and have regular updates and refreshers. We received an independent 'Gold Standard' accreditation for our work on anti-bullying last year.

We use a confidential recording system called CPOMS so that we are able to monitor and track patterns of behaviour. Parents may not always agree with our decisions and sanctions, but I do hope it is recognised that we are vigilant and that we take children's and parents' concerns seriously.

If you have any concerns relating to this, then please speak to Mr Ruffle or Mrs Kelly.





FPS Logo Competition

FPS LOGO COMPETITION!

THE FRIENDS OF PRIORY SCHOOL (FPS) NEED A NEW LOGO.



WHAT DOES A LOGO DO?

- A logo makes a great first impression
- A logo helps create brand identity.
- A logo helps people to remember your business.
- A logo helps to distinguish you from competitors.
- A logo fosters brand loyalty

LOGO ELEMENTS:

Text, image, colour, context

WHAT MAKES A GOOD LOGO?

A good logo shows what a company does and the values of the brand.

WHAT IS A LOGO?

A logo is a symbol made up of text, images or shapes that shows the name and purpose of a business

WHAT DOES THE FPS DO?

We are a group of parents / teachers that work together to help raise essential funds for Priory School. We organise the Christmas and Summer Fayres, School Discos & under normal circumstances host a number of social events including the highly acclaimed Parent Quiz Night. We also support the school by supplying prizes, treats and surprises for the children throughout the year.

CAN YOU DESIGN US A NEW LOGO?

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR ENTRY ALONG WITH YOUR FULL NAME AND YEAR GROUP TO friendsprioryschool@yahoo.com BY FRIDAY 23RD APRIL 2021

THE WINNER GETS TO SEE THEIR LOGO USED BY THE FPS & WILL RECEIVE A £10 CASH PRIZE!



Easter Track and Trace

Where a pupil or staff member develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), less than 48 hours after being in school, it is essential that school is informed, as others may need to self-isolate.

This means if your child develops symptoms on Friday 2nd April or Saturday 3rd April then you must inform the school by email on office@prioryceprimary.co.uk (phone lines will NOT be monitored).

Even if you have not had the results of a test, if you suspect your child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 then inform the school so that we are aware to the potential implications and can alert families if necessary. Remember your child will need to take a PCR test, not a lateral flow test, if they display any COVID symptoms.

If you develop symptoms after 48 hours since being in school i.e. on Easter Sunday 4th April, then you simply contact test and trace in the normal way and NOT school.



Super Attendance Figures

One of our Ofsted priorities is to improve school attendance and as you know we have been working on this for some time.

We are so pleased to report that our whole school attendance figure since September (excluding the national lockdown) is a super 96.2%!

This figure would be strong in a normal year, so during a pandemic it is truly exceptional. Thank you.



Collective Worship Holding Cross

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' 1 Peter 1v3

For our final cross in our A-cross the World series, we returned to a simple wooden cross that fits into the palm of hand called a 'Holding Cross'.

Often it can be hard to find the words to pray for difficult situations. Sometimes simply holding a cross and remembering Jesus' love for us can become a prayer in itself. We read the following simple prayers together:

As I hang on to this cross, Lord, hang on to me and those I love.

As I hold this cross, Lord, fill me with your strength, peace and hope.

As I hold this cross, Lord, I remember the cost of your great love for me.





Summer Dates (provisional)

Monday 19 th April – Friday 30 th April	-	The Big Pedal Scoot, Cycle or Walk to school
Monday 26 th April	1 – 3pm	Year 3 Swimming Programme at 2 Riversmeet begins
Monday 3 rd May	All day	Early Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4 th May	3:30pm – 7pm	Parent Consultation Evening via SchoolCloud *REVISED DATE
Wednesday 5 th May	3:30pm – 6:30pm	Parent Consultation Evening via SchoolCloud *REVISED DATE
Monday 24 th May	All week	Summer Assessment Week Y1 – Y6
Thursday 27 th May	AM	Class Photographs
Monday 31 st May - Friday 4 th June	Week	Half-Term Holiday
Monday 7 th June	All day	INSET
Monday 14 th June – Friday 18 th June	Mon – Fri	Y6 Residential - PGL Osmington Bay
Thursday 24 th June	6.30 - 8pm	New Reception Class Parents Welcome Evening *REVISED DATE
Friday 25 th June	All day	The Great Priory Bake Off
Friday 2 nd July	All day	Transition Day (<i>children, including our new Reception Class, spend time with next year's teacher</i>) *REVISED DATE
Tuesday 6 th July Wednesday 7 th July	6.15 - 8pm	School Production *REVISED DATE
Thursday 8 th July	All day	Class 6 Picnic and cycle ride to Hengistbury Head *REVISED DATE
Monday 12 th – 16 th July	-	Olympic Arts Week
Friday 16 th July	-	End of Year Reports to Parents
Monday 19 th July	3.30 - 6pm	Open Evening to view work, Arts Exhibition and discuss report
Thursday 22 nd July	2 - 3pm	Leavers Award Ceremony
Friday 23 rd July	9.45am 1.15pm	Leavers' Service at The Priory Church School Closes for the summer