



The Priory School Newsletter

Summer 10 - Friday 23rd July 2021

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HEADTEACHER UPDATE

We very nearly made it to the end of term, but on Wednesday the reality of the pandemic finally caught up with us. We had our first positive case of Coronavirus in school and, following advice from BCP Council and Public Health Dorset, we had to close Class 2. It was desperately sad saying a rushed goodbye to Miss Deay, knowing many of us will not see her before she returns to Ireland. She was devastated not to be able to spend the last few days with her class.

We are also aware of the many holiday plans that are going to be impacted by children self-isolating. I am incredibly relieved that it has only affected one year group so far and that no one is seriously unwell. I firmly believe that this is because everyone, from our cleaners to our vigilant parents, has been so determined to keep one another safe.

Wednesday also saw children thoroughly enjoying the special summer indoor picnic. The children's smiles helped raise everyone's spirits and the spread put on by HC3S was delicious. The Country Dancing performances by Reception Class and Year 1 were amazing and meant, that despite everything, we have been able to finish on a high!

On behalf of the staff, thank you for your feedback and all your kind comments and gifts. I wish you all a wonderful summer holiday and I look forward to seeing the children refreshed and ready to go on Monday 6th September.



Mr Ruffle

Worship Value: Leavers' Service Priory Church

Philippians 4 v4 "Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice!" Our Year 6 leavers' led a lovely service on Monday at Priory Church and we were so pleased that parents were able to attend - it made it so much more special. The children shared memories of their 7 years at Priory School and sang 'He'll be there!' They were presented with a Bible and a special leavers' candle from the Winchester Diocese. I hope they enjoyed their boat trip and bacon sandwiches before their final day. As they move on to secondary schools, we wish them every success and happiness.



School Mission Statement

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



Extra Bank Holiday - Friday 22nd July 2022

For the academic year 2021/22, in acknowledgement of the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Department of Education has agreed that schools can take an extra day's holiday at a time of their choosing in the summer term.



Priory School recognises that this could be very disruptive for parents and so, along with many other local schools, we will be taking our extra Bank Holiday on the last day of the summer term, namely **Friday 22nd July**.

This means that Thursday 21st July 2022 is the last day at school.

Contact Tracing from Friday 23rd July

Just a reminder that once school closes for the summer on Friday 23rd July at 3:30pm, all responsibility for contact tracing is passed to NHS test and trace.

During the summer break you do not need to inform the school of any positive test results and the school office email will only be monitored infrequently.

FPS News

1. Changing of the Guard

Our amazing FPS Chair, Maria James, will be stepping down as Chair from the September AGM. She is the only FPS Chair that I have worked with and she has the incredible gift of making the organising and running of highly complex events with a volunteer workforce look easy and fun!

Maria would say this is only possible because of a fantastic team effort, especially her 2 vice chairs. In fact, after a number of years' service, this team are also stepping down from their roles:

- Vice Chair: Ruth Allen
- Vice Chair: Lucie Holt Davies
- Treasurer: Dave Boyle

As Mrs Moss so eloquently put it; *"You've been supersonic in your role and it's been a pleasure to work with you and your fabulous vice chairs over the last five years. The school will miss you very much.. I have fond memories of meeting the three of you busily plotting in Coast! You've done amazing things for the greater good of everyone and I know you will be very much missed."*

We are grateful to Hazel Hill for offering to pick up the reins at the September meeting, but we are still on the lookout for more volunteers to get involved.

The AGM will be on Wednesday 29th September at 6.30pm (maybe in the school if Covid allows, or by zoom if not). The FPS meeting will follow at 7pm.

2. Anonymous Donation

For your encouragement, the FPS team and School Leadership Team have been staggered to receive a very large donation. This will make such a difference to all the children at Priory School. Thank you to our generous, mystery giver! Spending plans are being discussed with Maria and will be shared at the FPS AGM.

3. Ruffle's Raffle (without the Ruffle as it happened!)

The grand draw of the FPS virtual raffle took place last Friday. We are grateful to the many local businesses who supported this event by donating goods or services. It took hours to organise, but the money raised was an incredible £1,200. I believe all winners and prizes have now been accounted for.

Thank you to everyone who bought, sold or raffled a ticket!



New Website for Parents to Help their Children Catch-up

The Department for Education have launched an information site for parents, to support children of all age ranges and abilities catch-up on lost learning from the pandemic. The site also features advice and support for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as programmes for the summer.

Visit educationcatchup.campaign.gov.uk

Summer Jobs

We're planning a number of improvements to the school over the summer.

- The large COVID container will be removed from KS2 playground
- The swans, pirate ship, wooden playtrail and decking areas in Early Years and Year 5 will be repaired
- Class 2 toilet area will be redecorated
- The blinds in Reception Class are to be replaced
- Upgraded sound system in the hall (as a result of an active sports grant)
- Installation of new beach huts in KS1 playground

The school will also be undergoing a thorough deep clean at the end of August.

Awards and Achievements

We're very impressed that so many children have earned their badges this year by getting on the 'pot of gold' regularly.



We'll be restarting this behaviour scheme in September, which rewards effort and our 6 learning behaviours of resilience, teamwork, creativity, communication, problem solving and courage. We have new bar badges for 2021-22!

Year 3 swimmers will collect their swimming certificates in September.

Thank you as well to all the children who took part in our summer reading challenge; we actually ran out of certificates because so many of you have been reading everyday! You can keep this habit going by taking part in the library 2021 reading challenge: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/news/general/wild-world-heroes-intro>

Summer Reading Challenge 2021

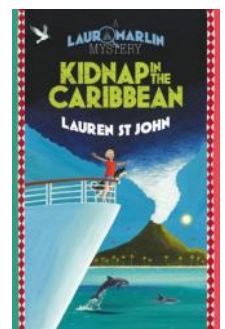
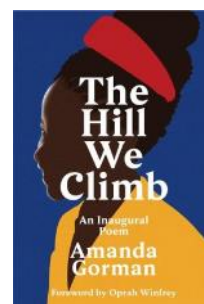
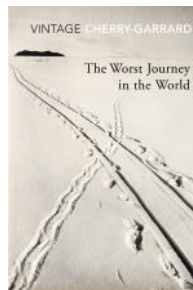
WILD WORLD HEROES

Sign Up Video
Sign up now at your local BCP Library!

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

Miss Field has been busy making new reading challenge booklets for the Autumn term - watch this space!

This summer I am planning to read:





Key Dates 2021-22 - Autumn & Spring Terms

Date	Event
Autumn Term 2021	
Thursday 2 nd September	INSET
Friday 3 rd September	INSET
Monday 6 th September	First day of Autumn Term
Monday 25 th Oct - Friday 29 th Oct	Half-Term Holiday
Friday 12 th November	INSET
Friday 17 th December	Final day of Autumn Term
Spring Term 2022	
Tuesday 4 th January	INSET
Wednesday 5 th January	First day of Spring Term
Monday 21 st Feb - Friday 25 th Feb	Half-Term Holiday
Friday 8 th April	Final day of Spring Term School closes at usual time 3.15pm

Holiday Support

Children can always turn to Childline for help with any worry or concern.

The BCP Council 'Together We Can' community response service is still available to provide help with food or household items to anyone who needs it, including those who are unwell or self-isolating.

Contact the team by phone on 0300 123 7052

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
[childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk) | 0800 1111

It has been such an exhausting year for so many families—so do take time to look after yourselves this summer and ask for help if you need it.

Final Goodbyes

The final 'Moving On' Assembly will be very emotional this morning, especially as part of it will be held online as we thank Mr Major and Miss Deay for their contribution to the school over the years.

As well as our Year 6, we are also saying goodbye to Jamie O'Neil in Year 5 and Mrs Kelly, Mrs Olsen and Mrs Calfe. Our final prayer of the term will be the Benedictine blessing; "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. Amen."



Our Priory School Leavers of 2021



As our Leavers of 2021 sail off into the distance, I'm sure you will join me in wishing them every success in their new schools.
Good Luck Year 6!