



The Priory School Newsletter

Summer 8 - Friday 9th July 2021

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HEADTEACHER UPDATE

It has been lovely to see the children getting out and about during the last couple of weeks, and appreciating our amazing location and wonderful world. Here's a snapshot of what's been happening across the school since the last newsletter.

Tuesday 29th June - Reception Visit to Weymouth Sea Life Centre
Lunch is always the best bit of any trip!



Thursday 8th July - Reception Pirate Day



Monday 5th July - Year 5 Christchurch town and Stanpit Marsh walk



Thursday 8th July - Year 6 Bike Ride to Hengistbury Head



Friday 9th July - Year 4 River walk to the Quomps



Mr Ruffle

School Mission Statement

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



Visitors

Rich Parker - Silver Medal Winner at the 2019 X Games (Year 3)

Year 3 enjoyed an afternoon workshop with UK Inline Skater star Rich Parker. The whole school then enjoyed his inspirational talk describing the time he fell at his first X Games event, not only crashing out in the first round but also ending up in hospital. Things certainly did not go to plan, but Rich persevered and eventually won a silver medal at the 2019 Games. No way through definitely isn't true! Thanks for the lesson Rich and for successfully jumping over Mr Swain, Miss Ridley and Mr Ruffle.



BCP Road Safety Workshops (Whole School)

Christchurch roads are busier than ever, so we really valued the BCP road safety team coming into school to give all the children essential reminders about staying safe when walking or on bikes and scooters. Some of the sessions for older pupils made quite an impact and I, for one, will always make sure I'm wearing my helmet when cycling, even for short trips.



Bournemouth Water- WaterWise (Year 4)

Tricia from WaterWise (in partnership with Bournemouth Water) delivered a brilliant session to our Year 4's on how our water gets to us (from our local rivers) and the process of cleaning it.

The session finished by considering ways we can all play our part to save water and reduce the impact on our local environment.



Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits Year 6 Production

Against all the odds, Year 6 managed to pull off two amazing performances of their production titled 'Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits'. For the last week of rehearsals, Miss Field was self-isolating at home and having to direct by Google Meet! The only time we managed to get all the cast and staff crew on stage was the final performance on Wednesday. All the children did an amazing job, but the whole class song and dance numbers were a particular highlight. Well done Class 6.





Packed Lunch Reminder Nut and Citrus Free School



Just a reminder that a number of children / staff in our school suffer from a severe allergy to nuts and fresh citrus fruit (not juice).

These foods (including any chocolate spreads containing hazelnuts) should not be packed in your child's lunch.

End of Day Reminder - Please leave site promptly

We have noticed that lately a number of younger siblings (and pupils) have started playing on the playtrail and astro pitch at the end of the school day. This area is for the use of our pupils only during the school day.

We would respectfully ask that pupils leave school promptly, once collected, and that younger siblings are closely supervised when on the school site.

Bike and Scooter Reminder

After the weekend, our neighbours informed us that a number of older teenagers broke into the school grounds on Saturday night. We have also been made aware that two scooters left in the bike shelter over the weekend have subsequently gone missing.

Please make sure that bikes and scooters are not left overnight in our playground. The school cannot accept responsibility for any damage or loss to them.



Olympic Arts Week 12th - 16th July

We can't wait for the start of our Arts Week on Monday, which we have been planning for weeks (with the help of Mrs Clapcott and her fantastic video tutorials).

By Friday all the children should have a portfolio of amazing pieces of Art work ready to bring home, an appreciation Japanese culture and a much better understanding of the Olympics movement! We may even have a full size cherry blossom tree in the school hall!

All the children need to do is to bring in an old shirt or Art apron to protect their school uniform.



Worship Value - True Friends You can count on me...

"Jesus was still teaching when four people came up, carrying a crippled man on a mat. But because of the crowd, they could not get him to Jesus. So they made a hole in the roof above him and let the man down in front of everyone." Mark 2 v3-4

Friendship that responds to the needs of others and helps to overcome obstacles is true friendship indeed.

In our Bible story this week we listened to the story of the healing of the paralysed man - a man feeling utterly hopeless.

His 4 friends helped him, not by solving all his problems, but by carrying him to Jesus. . In the end the man's best friend was the one who restored his hope - Jesus.

The children's mission this week is to be a good friend to others, especially those in need.



New Parent Governors

Thanks to everyone who put themselves forward to be a parent Governor and to everyone who voted. It was such an encouraging response. It really is a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the school.

Congratulations to Geoff Tabor (Millie Y5 and Flossie Y2) and Sarah Andrews (Patrick YR) who are now duly elected for a 4 year term.



Transition for 2021 - 22

We were able to hold our transition day last Wednesday, even though a number of teachers had to meet their class remotely. It was lovely to have Mr Hall and Mr McLean in and I hope most of you were able to see them at the end of the day.

Teachers have been busy working on the curriculum for next year. There are some important new trends emerging which will ensure our unique 'Priory Curriculum' meets the needs of our context and community. We will continue to develop it over the summer, but **I have attached a draft copy of the 2021-22 Curriculum Themes for your interest.**



As part of our end of year reporting process this year, we would really welcome your feedback and input as we make plans for September.

A short survey will be included in your child's end of year report, next Friday.

COVID Update Step 4 Announcement

The Government have updated their guidance to schools following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday. When the country moves to step 4 (likely to be from Monday 19th July), there is no longer any requirement to maintain some of the more restrictive infection control measures in schools.



A particular relief for schools is that from the 16th August there is no requirement to self-isolate for 10 days after coming into close contact with a positive case if you are under 18 or have been fully vaccinated. This will greatly ease the pressures we are currently facing. Depending on how the crisis evolves over the summer, this revised guidance should mean a return to more normal arrangements from September.

One of the reasons I am keen to hear from parents is that some of the 'new normal' has actually been beneficial e.g. we've had positive feedback relating to paperless homework, PE Kit days, playground zones and virtual parents' evenings. As we plan to reset school operations from September, I need to work through what aspects we will keep in place and which ones we will drop.

Should the roadmap continue as planned, a new school handbook will be prepared for Friday 3rd September explaining our new systems and expectations for 2021-22.

As you can imagine, it is not possible to make those changes in the next few days. BCP Council have confirmed that schools should continue to follow step 3 control measures until the end of term. The school leadership team and Governors have also concluded that to reduce the risk of staff and families having to isolate at the start of the summer, Priory School will continue with our current arrangements (and events plan - see overleaf) until the end of term.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those parents who have been so conscientious in taking their child for a PCR test when COVID symptoms were present.

The latest Government advice to parents can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak?utm_source=08%20July%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19



Summer Dates

Monday 12 th – 16 th July	-	Olympic Arts Week
Friday 16 th July	-	End of Year Reports to Parents
Monday 19 th July	9:45am	Leavers' Service at The Priory Church (including presentation of Bibles and leavers' candles) Year 6 pupils and parents only
Wednesday 21 st July	2:30pm	Reception Country Dancing Reception pupils and parents only (outside)
Thursday 22 nd July	2:30pm	Year 1 Country Dancing Year 1 pupils and parents only (outside)
Friday 23 rd July	10:30am 1.15pm	Moving On - Whole School Final Worship (pupils only) School Closes for the summer

Support over Summer

We have been in touch with all our pupil premium families offering a range of support over the summer, including access to activity clubs and food vouchers.

If you are concerned about how you will cope over the summer, you can confidentially contact the school office and a member of the school's pastoral team will get back to you.



FPS Ruffle's Raffle - Summer Grand Draw

Ruffle's Raffle Summer Raffle tickets are now available for sale!

Please look for the envelope sent home with your child today. We have a fantastic set of prizes generously donated by local businesses including:

- Facial Phototherapy Treatment (£169) from Laser Skin Solutions
- 1 years Lawn Care from Greensleaves
- £100 from Richard Godsell Estate Agents
- Restaurant vouchers incl. a kids party package!
- **and many more**

Please put any bought raffle stubs and cash in the envelope provided and return to the school special raffle posting box (outside the office entrance, near the ramp) by **Thursday 15th July 2021**. The draw will take place on Friday 16th July at 7pm and can be viewed by dialling into this zoom meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7042646779?pwd=dE9SMHFpR1dLOG8xU2R5ZVBbN0ZkZz09>

Meeting ID: 704 264 6779

Passcode: feCtN1

You have to be in it to win it, good luck!

The FPS Committee