

# The Priory School Newsletter

Autumn 1—Friday 9th September 2022

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## HEADTEACHER UPDATE

This week's newsletter was already partially written when the news of Her Majesty's death was released. Sharing joyful photos of the children's excitement at starting a new school year and my delight with their behaviour and attitude (despite all the wet plays), seemed to jar with the sombre images broadcast from Buckingham Palace. Our nation is quite rightly set for a period of mourning until the end of the State Funeral.

As a school family, we paused to reflect on the life and service of Queen Elizabeth II in our special worship today. A representative from each class lit a candle as we gave thanks for her life, service and example. We also opened reflection books in each class, where children can write a memory of the Queen or a short prayer if they wish. I have not yet heard the plans for the day of the Queen's funeral or the King's coronation, but I will write to parents separately if there are any implications for schools.

I have saved all the pictures for another day, but the children have been amazing this week. Thank you for all your help with the **new start times** and helping the children **look so smart**. It makes such a difference when they are ready for learning.

There is always A LOT of information to pack into this first newsletter, so you may find it easier to **download the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions on Google Classroom**. Y1, 2 and 3 sessions are next week, so you can still zoom in live and ask any questions if you need to.

Information regarding our **Autumn extra-curricular clubs** is attached to this newsletter.

Please also read our response to your feedback from the **July parent survey**. Your comments have been invaluable as we move forward together, so thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and for your ongoing support.

*Mr Ruffle*



## Worship Value - Community

"Love your neighbour as yourself" Mark 12 v31

Our new school value of 'Community' will be very appropriate when we reflect on the contribution the Queen has made to the country and commonwealth. This week, we have been thinking about the lessons we can find in the animal world. In this incredible picture of a wolf pack, the sick and the elderly wolves are setting the pace at the front while the alpha male is at the back. The children shared their ideas of how to live in a school community where no one is left behind. We remembered the African proverb that "if you want to go fast, go alone but if you want to go far, go together." Over the next few sessions we'll be thinking about how Jesus taught his disciples that life is always better when you learn to live together. This is also the title of our new song for the half-term.





## Sequenced and compelling new curriculum

We have been working exceptionally hard over the summer to finalise our new curriculum. We've really been thinking about the specific content of what we want children to learn, so we have developed a knowledge-rich curriculum, mapping out content within and across year groups.



You can see the fruits of our labour in our [new year group curriculum maps](#) on the school website (Visit: Curriculum—Curriculum Overview). Teachers will also be posting the latest version on Google Classroom. This will give you the core content of what your child will be learning in the coming year.

To see [what trips and visits are coming up in your year group](#), look for the 'memorable moments' row. We have been very conscious of the rising cost of living and so we have limited each class to two paid coach trips. **Please also remember that there is additional financial support for school trips for Looked after Children and those receiving the Pupil Premium - just ask or email the school office.**

If you are interested in how we have mapped the knowledge, skills, concepts and vocabulary across a specific subject, e.g. Geography, then we will be uploading [our subject overviews](#) onto the school website over the next few days (Visit: Curriculum—Subject Overviews).

## Living with COVID-19

As we approach the Autumn and Winter, here is a reminder of the latest government guidelines around COVID-19 and other respiratory infections.



### Living with COVID-19: advice for those aged 18 and under

Has your child or young person aged 18 or under tested positive, or do they feel unwell with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms? If so, there are a few simple steps they can take to protect their family and community – especially those at highest risk of severe illness.



**If they feel unwell and have a high temperature, with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms, they should:**



**Try to stay at home,** avoid contact with others and follow the guidance on [gov.uk](#)



**Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare** until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return



**Carry on attending as normal if they only have mild symptoms** like a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough and otherwise feel well



**If they have had a positive test for COVID-19, they should:**



**Try to stay at home,** avoid contact with others for 3 days and follow the guidance on [gov.uk](#)



**Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare** during this time, where they can



**Go back after 3 days,** but only if they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to do so

Find out more on [gov.uk](#)



## Packed Lunch Reminder Nut and Citrus Free School



Just a reminder to new parents 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.

## Playtime Snack Reminder



At the Priory School, we understand a healthy playtime snack to mean 'fresh fruit' only.

Children wanting to eat other snacks such as cereal bars and breakfast biscuits will be told to keep them in their bag until lunchtime. Remember that children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 all receive a free fruit snack every day.

## School Safeguarding Team 2022-23

The following adults are the school's designated safeguarding leads. This means they have received extra training to support children following a concern relating to emotional, physical or sexual abuse or neglect. They also carry out a number of other important duties to ensure pupils are safe at the Priory School.

<p><b>Paul Ruffle</b> <b>HEADTEACHER</b> <b>Lead DSL</b> Online Safety Champion Domestic Abuse Key Adult Health &amp; Safety</p>	<p><b>Mel Fidge</b> <b>DEPUTY HEADTEACHER</b> <b>Deputy DSL</b> Anti-bullying Champion Attendance Lead Pupil Premium Champion Pastoral Care and Mental Health</p>	<p><b>Jenny Sibbald</b> <b>SENCO</b> <b>Deputy DSL</b> Special Educational Needs Coordinator Designated adult for Looked After Children</p>
		

If you would like to speak to one of us regarding a concern that you have, or you simply need some advice or help, then please request a telephone call / meeting by emailing the school office ([office@prioryceprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@prioryceprimary.co.uk)) or catching one of us on the school gate.

## Annual Volunteer Induction training—30th September 2022 9 - 10am led by Mrs Fidge (face to face)

We are really keen to welcome volunteers back into school. You are essential in helping our children reach their full potential—particularly in helping support the development of core skills (reading fluency and times tables). It is so beneficial for a child to read to an adult and we are aware this is not always possible at home.

It is part of our safeguarding policy that volunteers receive 'induction training' every year. This is so we can update you with some of the ever-changing guidance around working with children.

This year's session is being led by Mrs Fidge and we are holding it in school. We will keep a register and agree the times with you that you are able to volunteer. All regular volunteers will need an up-to-date DBS certificate—the office team will support with the process.



## Reading Challenge

Apologies! In our eagerness to promote regular reading in our brand new reading challenge, we forgot to take off the summer holidays when we calculated the totals.



The revised numbers are as follows:

- 50 nights reading - Bronze Owl
- 150 nights reading - Silver Owl
- 200 nights reading - Gold Owl
- 250 nights reading - The Golden Bookworm! The wow reward!

For older children who are able to complete their own recordkeeping, we ask that parents sign the bottom of the page to confirm that they have read that amount, in a similar routine to secondary school logbooks. **Please bring in your reading challenge and reading book every day.**

## Home Readers

The books your children are taking home to read will be different this year.

**Children in Reception and Year 1** will receive 2 reading books: a decodable reader, based on their phonics knowledge and a reading for pleasure book (which may have a book band colour/please ignore!), of the child's own choice. We have invested a huge amount of time and money in organising a new set of books based on the Little Wandle phonics progression. **Children should be able to read 9 out of 10 words in their reading book fluently, without even needing to sound them out.**



**Children in Year 2\*** eventually move on to our book band scheme, once they are confident with all their phonics. They also have a reading for pleasure book.

**Older children\*** eventually move through the book band scheme to become a free reader, meaning they are sufficiently fluent to read more challenging chapter stories or novels. At this stage they will only have 1 home reader.

*\*Children develop at different rates. Some children in Year 2 may be free readers by the end of the year. Some children in Year 6 may still benefit from an age appropriate decodable reader.*

## Stay Safe Code

At the start of every year we remind the children of our 'Stay Safe Code'. If pupils have any concerns or worries they can follow our stay safe code and report it to a trusted adult. We also remind the children that they can contact Childline.

We share it here in our first newsletter of the year, so you can support this message at home.

**“Please don't do that - I don't like it!”**

**If they don't stop – tell a trusted adult!**



## Extra Curricular Clubs

Attached to this newsletter is our initial **Extra-Curricular clubs timetable** for the Autumn term. I am extremely grateful to the many staff who are volunteering their time to run a club after school or at lunchtime—these clubs are all free. We are also pleased to host a number of reputable external providers to run other clubs and services for the children, for an appropriate fee.

### Start Dates

- Clubs led by school staff will start week commencing 19th September
- Most external clubs are starting the week commencing 12th September, but check with the individual provider

### Times

- 3:15 - 4:15pm unless otherwise stated

### Sign up Information

- There is no need to sign up for lunchtime clubs - simply attend on the day!
- Complete the **GOOGLE FORM** to register your child at an after-school school-led club by Wednesday 14th Sept. The office will confirm your place by Friday 16th Sept. The Google form link is [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe7-SUdwyXoZsBFg87KebmoLjW-HbfUqrhvO7AEDKIFAUh7g/viewform): <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe7-SUdwyXoZsBFg87KebmoLjW-HbfUqrhvO7AEDKIFAUh7g/viewform>
- Contact the external provider directly to register your place at the paid clubs
- School clubs are run by staff volunteering their time so they may be cancelled at short notice if there are clashes with other meetings/trips.

### New Club Information (See attached flyers/timetable for contact information)

- Crotchets Choir - led by Simon Earl, from Priory Church this is a new KS2 choir. The choir will be preparing to perform at the Christmas Fair, a care home visit and at the Christmas Carol Service. Use the Google form to sign up for this club.
- Arts2educate - This is a brand new opportunity for an Arts club, linked to the 'Arts Award Discover', run by Trinity College, London. The professional quality of this club is reflected in the price per session of £10. Contact Abi Thommes directly for more information.
- Atorro Sport - *"The session includes a variety of ball based skills and games to encourage the children to work on their movement, hand eye coordination and team work."* Click on the link to book in.
- Comedy Club - The school of Comedy have a strong reputation in local schools and the introductory session they delivered to the whole school last year was fantastic. We anticipate that this club will be very popular. Contact Laura to register.
- Disney Shooting Stars - Mrs Colebeck and Mr Hall are running a new physical activity programme aimed at encouraging young girls to participate in sport, through storytelling.
- Athletics Club - The reason for an athletics club in Autumn is so we can prepare children for the indoor athletics competition (and our hall is too small!).

### A word about peripatetic music clubs

Offering an increased range of extra-curricular music opportunities came out strongly in our parent survey. We miss the contribution made by Mrs Moss. I am continuing to explore opportunities with other local schools and Soundstorm (BCP's music service), while investing in the quality of our music curriculum.

I am excited by the return of a dedicated (and free) choir after school.





## Pre-loved uniform

We are extremely grateful to Mrs Rayner (Elliot Y1) and Mrs Ponsford (Florence Y1) for organising our pre-loved uniform sales this year.

If you require second hand uniform, then please either speak directly to Mrs Rayner or Mrs Ponsford on the school gate or via the facebook page 'The Priory School FPS school uniform shop'.

We are working on a new drop-off and collection zone for pre-loved uniform in the reception area, by the automatic doors. There is a particular need for junior sizes of most items, especially jumpers and cardigans.



## Google Chromebooks - Annual Home Loan Service

Our 'home loan' chromebooks have been cleaned and set up for the new academic year. We do not have an unlimited supply, so these are for children who would be unable to access their home learning without one. If demand exceeds supply, then priority will be given to children registered as pupil premium.

If you required a chromebook for this academic year, then please contact the school office ([office@prioryceprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@prioryceprimary.co.uk)) or let your child's class teacher know by **Wednesday 14th September**. We will aim to loan chromebooks out next Friday 16th September. Filtering and internet monitoring software has been installed on all school chromebooks, but parents and carers still need to sign an indemnity clause confirming that the school is not liable for any inappropriate content that is accessed at home using the school chromebook. There is a requirement to supervise a child when they are online.

## Little Wandle - Parent Workshop

Schools are required to teach a systematic synthetic phonics programme to help children learn to read and write. This work is mainly done in Reception and Year 1. In May, we introduced a new scheme which is validated and approved by Ofsted called Little Wandle. This workshop will help explain how you can support your child's development in phonics, which is key to decoding words and early reading fluency.

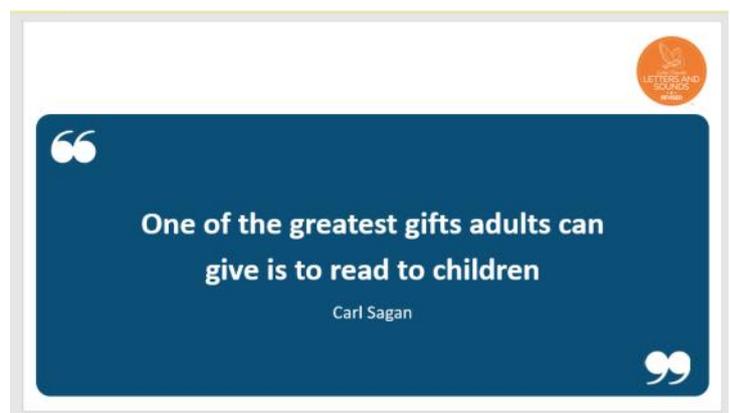
In English there are about 44 different sounds (phonemes). Children are taught the letters (graphemes) that represent these sounds.

They learn to put the phonemes together (blend them) to read words. They also learn to break words into phonemes (segment them) for spelling.

**The session will be a virtual 40 minute zoom meeting on Friday 16th September 9 – 10am. It will be recorded and put on Reception and Year 1 Google classrooms.**

Join Zoom Meeting [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79384374052?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79384374052?pwd=I0m5M2XmFTTxoHiaH22Lat0b5ntR40.1)

[pwd=I0m5M2XmFTTxoHiaH22Lat0b5ntR40.1](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79384374052?pwd=I0m5M2XmFTTxoHiaH22Lat0b5ntR40.1) Meeting ID: 793 8437 4052 Passcode: MuN853





## Upcoming Diary Dates - NEXT WEEK

The message hub for all year groups is Google Classroom. As well as sharing home learning instructions, teachers will post photos and updates about what the class has been learning.

Mon 12th Sept	2:30 - 3pm 3.45pm - 4.30pm	<b>Arts by the Sea Presentation Y3—6</b>  <b>Meet the teacher Y3</b>  Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71322449142?pwd=sWcHDr_Vq6YXQN0ZsMRMCpyL_Zs4tB.1">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71322449142?pwd=sWcHDr_Vq6YXQN0ZsMRMCpyL_Zs4tB.1</a>  Meeting ID: 713 2244 9142 Passcode: BEDNE8
Tues 13th Sept	8:35am	<b>New Dolphins</b> class start full time
Wed 14th Sept	3.45pm - 4.30pm	<b>Meet the teacher Y2</b>  Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71322449142?pwd=sWcHDr_Vq6YXQN0ZsMRMCpyL_Zs4tB.1">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71322449142?pwd=sWcHDr_Vq6YXQN0ZsMRMCpyL_Zs4tB.1</a>  Meeting ID: 713 2244 9142 Passcode: BEDNE8
Thurs 15th Sept	6:45am - 6pm 3.45pm - 4.30pm	<b>Y6 London Parliament trip</b> (to be confirmed in the light of recent events)  <b>Meet the teacher Y1</b>  Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71322449142?pwd=sWcHDr_Vq6YXQN0ZsMRMCpyL_Zs4tB.1">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71322449142?pwd=sWcHDr_Vq6YXQN0ZsMRMCpyL_Zs4tB.1</a>  Meeting ID: 713 2244 9142 Passcode: BEDNE8
Friday 16th Sept	9 - 10am	<b>Phonics Parent Workshop</b>  Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79384374052?pwd=l0m5M2XmFTTxoHiaH22Lat0b5ntR40.1">https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79384374052?pwd=l0m5M2XmFTTxoHiaH22Lat0b5ntR40.1</a>  Meeting ID: 793 8437 4052 Passcode: MuN853



## Upcoming Diary Dates - REMAINDER OF HALF-TERM (Autumn 1)

Mon 19th Sept	9 - 10am	<b>Coffee Morning</b> for new Reception parents hosted by FPS (tbc)
Fri 23rd Sept	9.45am	<b>Beginning of term service at The Priory Church</b> Children bring a Harvest donation for Christchurch food bank (non-perishable) Presentation of Prayer Books to Reception starters
Wed 28th Sept	10 - 11.30am	Open Morning for prospective parents
Fri 30th Sept	9-10am	Volunteer induction with Mrs Fidge (in school)
Fri 30th Sept	Tbc	Winchester Science Museum trip Y3
Mon 17th Oct	3.30 - 7pm	Parent Consultation Evening
Tues 18th Oct	1.30 - 2.30pm	Open Afternoon for prospective parents
18th Oct	3.30 - 6.30pm	Parent Consultation Evening
Fri 21st Oct	All day	<b>INSET</b> - school closed