



Priory News 2019



Dear Parents,

A very Happy New Year to you all. I hope that you all enjoyed your time together over the Christmas holiday.

We enjoyed many festive celebrations at the end of the Autumn term. The Christmas performances were wonderful – we hope you enjoyed them too. Thank-you for your generous donations. Together, we raised £234 for Shelter.

Our Christingle assembly ended the Autumn term – it was a beautiful occasion – we sang carols together, and children narrated the assembly, while we lit the candles together.

We have many exciting things planned for this term, and this newsletter should outline some of these for you. You will also shortly receive your curriculum overview for this term, which will provide you with a helpful overview of your children's learning for this term.

Diary Dates

Year 6 Macbeth Day	11 th January
E-Safety Day	14 th January
EW4 Class Assembly	16 th January
Life Education Bus – Year 3 / 4	17 th /18 th January
Parents Info Evening – Reading	17 th January
AG6 Class Assembly	23 rd January
Choir Young Voices O2 Trip	1 st February
Parents' Coffee Morning	5 th February
FOPJS Discos	7 th February
Half-Term	18 th – 22 nd February
DR6 Library Visit	25 th February
EW4 Library Visit	26 th February
Parents Evenings	27 th /28 th February
Book Fair	26 th February – 5 th March
Book Week	5 th – 8 th March
Parents Do Day	5 th March
World Book Day	7 th March
JC3 Library Visit	11 th March
Year 6 Bikeability	18 th – 21 st March
BP3 Class Assembly	20 th March
SH5 Library Visit	21 st March
Year 5 Egyptian Day	25 th March
TR4 Library Visit	26 th March
TR4 Class Assembly	27 th March
Author Visit – Isabelle Thomas	28 th / 29 th March
BP3 Library Visit	1 st April
Parents Coffee Morning	2 nd April
NW3 Class Assembly	3 rd April
End of Spring Term	5 th April
Summer Term starts	23 rd April

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Broadhurst to our Teaching Assistant and Midday Supervisor teams this term. Mrs Broadhurst is an experienced teaching assistant, and will be working within KB5.

We are also sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Woodgate – who is part of our midday team and cleaning team. We wish her well for the future.

Class Assemblies

Class Assemblies usually take place on Wednesdays, at 9.15am.

Parents are very welcome to join us for these occasions. This term, the following assemblies will be taking place:

EW4 – 16th January
AG6 – 23rd January
BP3 – 20th March
TR4 – 27th March
NW3 – 3rd April

Supervision of Children

From 8.40am, children are supervised coming into the school. Please remember that, before this time, the supervision of children before the start of the day remains your responsibility.

Daily Mile

We have been delighted with the success of the Daily Mile in school, and the inspiration it has provided for children.

We are currently in the process of having an all-weather Daily Mile track installed, as you know, which will allow us to keep the Daily Mile running all year, without damaging the field surface.

Once the track is completed, we will be re-launching the Daily Mile. Why not decide to join us for a walk or jog around the field – January is an ideal time to start! Look out for more details in the near future.

Parents Drop-Ins – Book an Appointment!

*Do you know about our Family Worker? Lorraine Simons, one of the St Neots Locality's Family Workers, visits our school every fortnight and offers **appointments** for parents to support with a wide variety of areas – from bedtime routines – to challenging behaviour. They are also able to provide information to families about other services available in the local area.*

If you would like an appointment to see the family worker, this can be done either through the school office, or by calling into the cookery room, when the drop-in sessions are on.

The drop-ins take place on alternate Thursdays, from 8.45 – 10am, and are held in the cookery room.

Emergency Closures

If the school should need to close for any reason, we will notify you through the School Gateway message service, and also on the front page of our website.

We will also notify Cambridgeshire County Council and our local radio station – BBC Radio Cambridgeshire.

Decisions to close the school due to an emergency would always be taken as early as possible, and parents would be informed as quickly as possible regarding this.

Coffee Morning

Come and drop-in for a coffee and cake on 5th February from between 9– 10am. We look forward to seeing you.

Our coffee mornings are open to parents of all year groups, unless otherwise stated.

World Book Day – 7th March

Children are invited to dress as their favourite book character on World Book Day.

Life Education Bus

We will have the Life Education Bus visiting us next week – on 17th and 18th January.

Year 3 and 4 will be involved in visiting the bus – and finding out about keeping their bodies healthy.

There are also opportunities for parents to attend – please make sure you have seen the letter about this, with times to visit the Bus.

We are very fortunate to have the bus visiting us, with it being partly-funded by the Rotary Club. Don't miss the opportunity to visit it!

E-Safety Coffee Morning

Parents are invited to join us for a coffee on Monday, 14th January, alongside an information event around the topic of e-safety.

We will be joined by Craig Thompson from the ICT Service for the visit – come along at 9am to enjoy a coffee and a chat.

If you are dropping off at the Infants, don't worry, you can still come along. We will start the information session at 9.15am.

Last time Craig visited, we were inundated with positive responses from parents – so we are delighted to be welcoming him back.

New Reading Books

Over the last term, we were very busy replenishing our reading books stock, and also changing from a levelled reading scheme to banded reading book choices. These will allow all children to choose a book from within our library – which is at an appropriate level for their reading.

The children will all be given their band to choose from this week – which will be guided by an initial assessment made in class.

We hope that this will allow all our children to feel motivated and inspired with reading.

We will also be holding a parents information evening on 17th January at 6pm to discuss and explore strategies for supporting children with reading, throughout the junior years.

Parking / Roundabout

Please remember that the roundabout is for dropping off only in the mornings. This is so that we can maintain a steady flow of parents using the roundabout in the morning to drop children off. It works really well when we all keep to this – so please help everyone by making use of the visitor's car park if you wish to leave your car to come onto the playground, or into school.

In the interests of the safety of all our children, please do not park on the zig-zags or the zebra crossing, even for just a short time!

If you are having trouble finding places to park, have you considered 'Park and Stride' – one good place to park for this is Priory Park car park, which the council are happy for you to use for such a purpose, and then walk up to school from there. There are also marked parking bays further up Longsands Road, which are often empty at pick-up time, and are legal places to park.

Autumn Term 100% Attendance

Our attendance for the whole school ended the term at 97%, which is good! 104 children were able to maintain 100% for the Autumn Term too – well done!