

Priory News

September 2018



Dear Parents,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year. We hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing time during the summer holiday. A very warm welcome to our new families – in Year 3 and also, in other year groups too. We hope your children will settle into their new school quickly. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask!

It has been great to see all the children ready for school and learning on their return – they are all looking smart in their new uniforms. This year, we have grown in size again, and now have 332 children in the school! There are so many of us now!

Our first newsletter of the year contains much information which we hope you will find useful.

Before the holidays, you will have received an information pack to check and return to us. Last week, we sent reminders to the few outstanding forms. If you received one of these, please return it as soon as possible. This will help us to ensure our records are up-to-date. Thank-you!

Finally, this year is a special year in the life of the school – as we celebrate being 50 years old! You may have seen that the logo has changed to reflect this. We have quite a few events planned throughout the year to commemorate this special occasion, and look forward to sharing these with you.

School Gateway

Don't miss a letter or other useful information about school – make sure you have the School Gateway app on your mobile phone – our school communication system.

It is great for hearing about your children's achievements, seeing their attendance, making payments, and giving trip permissions.

Diary Dates

<i>Daily Mile Launch Week</i>	<i>24th – 28th September</i>
<i>FOPJS AGM</i>	<i>25th September</i>
<i>Y3 Hunstanton Trip</i>	<i>27th September</i>
<i>Harvest Assemblies</i>	<i>3rd October</i>
<i>Parents Forum</i>	<i>3rd October, 7pm</i>
<i>Y5 Space Centre Trip</i>	<i>4th October</i>
<i>Parents' Coffee Morning</i>	<i>9th October, 9-10am</i>
<i>Individual Photographs</i>	<i>11th October</i>
<i>Y6 Cambridge Trip</i>	<i>12th October</i>
<i>Priory at 50 Theme Week</i>	<i>15th – 19th October</i>
<i>Y3-5 Flu Vaccinations</i>	<i>16th October</i>
<i>Parents Evenings</i>	<i>17th / 18th October</i>
Half Term	22nd – 26th October
Professional Day – School Closed	29th October
<i>Priory at 50 Community Event</i>	<i>3rd November</i>
<i>GB Athlete Visit</i>	<i>6th November</i>
<i>National Anti-Bullying Week</i>	<i>12th – 16th November</i>
<i>Odd Socks Day</i>	<i>12th November</i>
<i>Anti-Bullying Theatre Show</i>	<i>13th November</i>
<i>Children in Need Day</i>	<i>16th November</i>
<i>Y4 Bikeability Day</i>	<i>16th November</i>
<i>Open Evening</i>	<i>22nd November</i>
<i>Y6 Viking Day</i>	<i>23rd November</i>
<i>Parents Do Day</i>	<i>4th December</i>
<i>Christmas Performances</i>	<i>12th / 13th December</i>
<i>Parents' Coffee Morning</i>	<i>18th December</i>
<i>Christingle</i>	<i>19th December</i>
End of Term	19th December
Spring Term Starts	7th January

Staffing

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Welch and Mr Grieve to our teaching team this term. Mrs Welch is one of our Assistant Headteachers, overseeing the work of the Y3/4 team. Mr Grieve has joined the Year 6 teaching team.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Cook and Mrs Jones to our teaching assistant team, and Miss Brain has joined The Base, as one of our play workers.

2018 SATs Results

We are pleased to share our SATs results from the Summer term. Our Year 6 children worked hard throughout the year, with the following results being achieved.

Percentage achieving expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics: 54%

Percentage of pupils achieving a high level of attainment in reading, writing and mathematics: 7%

Average progress in reading: -1.6

Average progress in writing: -3.5

Average progress in mathematics: -1

Average scaled score in reading: 104

Average scaled score in mathematics: 104

Nationally, 64% reached the expected standard, and 10% achieved a high level.

We continue to focus on building on these results, ensuring that all our children continue to progress well in all subjects. One of the key aspects of our development work this year will be focused on reading and the development of non-fiction writing.

Assemblies

*Class assemblies are held throughout the year and will take place on **Wednesdays at 9.15am**. Parents are welcome to come to these assemblies.*

This term, there will be class assemblies for: -

- *JC3 - 10th October*
- *KB5 - 17th October*
- *DR6 - 21st November*
- *CS6 - 28th November*

Harvest Assemblies

With the growth of the school, and the popularity of our Harvest Assembly for parents, we will be holding 2 Harvest Assemblies, to enable all who wish to attend to do so.

*They will be held on **3rd October**, with **Y3/4 at 10am**, and **Y5/6 at 11.15am**.*

More information will be sent home in the near future.

Proud to be Priory:

- ❖ *The Year 3 children and other new children to our school have made a very good start!*
- ❖ *We are enjoying the wonderful artwork produced by Year 4s last term – on display in the entrance area and hall.*
- ❖ *We enjoyed some fabulous sharing of writing in assembly on Friday last week – well done to SH5 and CS6!*
- ❖ *The Year 6 Leavers play at the end of last term was superb! We were sad to say goodbye to our Year 6 children on the last day – but have been enjoying seeing them visit us this term – looking very smart in their new uniforms!*

Break-Times

*Children may bring a healthy snack (**fruit or vegetables**) for break-times on Monday to Thursday.*

Sweets, chocolate and crisps are not permitted on these days. Crisps will be acceptable on Fridays. Please remember that a snack should be a small amount and not excessive in size!

*We provide school footballs for use at playtimes. **Other balls are not allowed.***

School Uniform

We continue to encourage all our children to wear school uniform.

School uniform sets the tone for learning, and provides children with a sense of belonging to the school community. It also helps to alleviate peer pressure from having the latest fashionable items.

School Uniform can be purchased directly from www.motif8.co.uk

If you do not have internet access, please send your order to the school office.

We also hold a selection of second-hand uniform in the school office which is available for £1.

Friends of Priory Need You!

Our school is very fortunate to have benefited from a team of parent volunteers who help to organise events throughout the school year for families and children to get involved in. However, this team is in need of some extra help!

If you want to join the committee, that would be great! If you can spare time to help with events that would also be greatly appreciated. Could you give some time to help? If you can, please come along to the Friends of Priory AGM on 25th September at 7.30pm – and find out more about the work of the committee and its volunteers. Refreshments will be available.

Parent Helpers

We welcome parent helpers in class. If you are able to offer any time to help in school, please speak to your child's teacher in the first instance.

As part of our procedures, we will complete a DBS check with you. This will be done through the school office.

Summer Holiday Building Work

We were pleased to be able to refurbish another set of children's toilets during the summer holidays. These have been well received by the children.

We also redecorated the remaining upper floor cloakrooms, and converted some spaces to additional meeting rooms.

We are pleased to report that the roofing work is nearing completion, and we look forward to being able to reinstate the visitor parking and the adjacent pathway in the near future.

School Roundabout

Just a reminder that the School Roundabout is open in the morning for dropping off only. Vehicles should not park here.

The roundabout is closed between 9.00 – 3.45pm, for the safety of our pupils.

Absences

While we are keen to ensure that children attend school, we recognise that from time-to-time your child may be too unwell to come.

If this is the case, please inform the School Office as soon as possible, along with the reason for the absence – this can be done using the School Gateway or by leaving a message on the telephone system: 01480 226730.

Jewellery

The only jewellery permitted in school is a watch and stud earrings. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, including newly pierced ears – this is county policy. Earrings are not allowed to be taped over for this purpose.

Please make sure your child is either able to remove their own earrings for PE, or they do not wear them on PE days.

School Lunches

Our new lunches, provided by the Lunchtime Company, are being well-received by children! They have been very excited by the choices on offer, having plates instead of trays, and the placement of jugs of water on the tables. The menus for each week are available to view on the school website, and lunches can be booked and paid for using Gateway. We are happy to say that bookings for birthday tables can now be taken for the week commencing 24th September. Please collect a form from the school office if you wish to book a birthday table. At least four working days' notice is required please.