



AUTUMN 2 2020

NEWSLETTER 1

Headteacher: Mrs H Malbon
Deputy Headteacher: Miss K Huddart (KS1 Leader)
Assistant Headteachers: Mr C Richards (KS2 Leader)
Mrs R Rowbotham (EYs Leader)

Romans 15:3

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

*Winter lockdown is here and we maybe all need some revived hope that this COVID season **will** pass and we will be able to live more normally again soon. I like how this scripture talks about being full of peace whilst we hope; I hope it brings some comfort to you also.*

COVID

Assurance Visit

We had a visit from our Local authority adviser on Monday this week to review our risk assessment and COVID safety measures in school. Feedback was very positive and reassurance was given that we have robust procedures in place and are doing all we can to provide a safe environment. We will continue to review our procedures on an ongoing basis and to welcome your feedback.

Reminders

- Children should stay at home if anyone in your household has symptoms of Coronavirus, is going for a test or awaiting test results. Please inform us and we will advise you of school protocol.
- Once test results have been received, please inform us of the outcome before sending your child back into school. If you do receive a positive test result – please contact the school as soon as possible. For out of school hours – please email our dedicated mailbox: tests@priorsmill.org.uk
- Alerting school to any positive test results at the earliest opportunity is essential as we have procedures to follow which may impact on children and staff.
- If someone tests positive for Covid 19 in your household, all other people living in the home must isolate.

Seesaw & Times Tables Rockstars

We have had some fantastic feedback from children and parents who have accessed home learning via SeeSaw and found it easy to use and a great way to stay connected with current work. Mr Farrell has put together an excellent help guide which will be emailed separately and also uploaded to the website and staff are happy to help if you have any difficulties accessing the platform. Please do take some time to familiarise yourself with the platform so that in the event of any need to stay home, your children are able to stay on track with their learning.

We have also introduced the children in KS1 and KS2 to Times Tables Rockstars, a really fun way for children to rehearse and improve their times tables knowledge. Mrs Legender sent a letter last week with details of how to access and use. Please do have a look.

Remembrance Day

We commemorated the amazing sacrifice and contribution of our armed forces on Thursday with a period of silence and a whole school poppy tribute placed outside on the school field. Each child decorated a pebble as a poppy and bubbles visited the garden throughout the day to lay the pebbles and take some time to reflect on their significance. It was a very moving tribute and the children were incredibly thoughtful and respectful in their attitudes.



Minds to learn; hearts to care!



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Christmas Plans

We have been making plans for how we can celebrate Christmas in school under these highly unusual circumstances. Clearly, the biggest difference is that we are unable to welcome parents into school to take part in events and performances and we are unable to gather the children together in large groups inside. However, we will definitely be doing all we can to make sure that Christmas is as special and enjoyable time for the children as possible!

Christingle

All bubbles will take part in a virtual Christingle Service which Reverend Radley is kindly preparing for us. Children will learn about the message of light and hope in the Christingle.

Party Day

Each class will have a party day in school when they can wear their own clothes and take part in a day of games and fun with some party snacks to enjoy. We have booked an 'online panto' for children in KS1 and KS2 to enjoy on their party day also and Early Years will ensure that our youngest children have a fun day too.

Performance

We know that enjoying the children singing is such a key part of school Christmas traditions and so each bubble will be sending out a little Christmas video with a song for you to enjoy. This will go out on SeeSaw just before we break up. As with live performances in school we would ask that you don't share the video on social media so as to respect the wishes of parents who may not choose for their child to be viewed online in this way.

Fundraising

This is the time of year when each year group works hard to raise awareness and money for their chosen charity. We are mindful of the pressure that the pandemic has put on families in terms of employment and finances and that our families have already given very generously to Macmillan, Children in Need, Harvest and the Early Years Charity, Blue for Jackson, this term.

Therefore, we are going to have a whole school approach to fundraising this Christmas and link it

to Christmas Jumper day when children (and staff!) can wear their favourite festive woolly and bring a donation. We will share the money collected between all the charities. Classes will be writing to parents beforehand to explain a little about their chosen charity.

Christmas Cards

Sadly, we need to ask that children do not bring cards to school this year to give out to their classmates. This is to reduce passing items between households as part of our COVID safety measures.

PD Days

Please note that our 3 remaining PD Days when school will be closed to children are:

Monday 12th April, Monday 19th July and Tuesday 20th July 2021.

Website

The school website has undergone a refresh and has moved to a new domain. The new address is:

www.priorsmill.org.uk

There is a redirect from the old site so if that is stored in your favourites, you should still be able to find us easily.

Please continue to check your emails, Marvellous Me App and the school Facebook pages for news, updates and information.

Key Dates

11th November	Remembrance Focus Day
13th November	Children in Need non-uniform fundraiser
10th December	Parties: Y1 & Y3
11th December	Parties: Y2 & Y4
14th December	Christmas Jumper Day - Fundraiser
15th December	Party: Y5
16th December	Parties: Y6 & Early Years
17th December	Bubble Christingles
18th December	End of term

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