



# Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School Newsletter June 30th

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*Welcome to the Prior's Mill Newsletter - this is shared weekly and will contain key dates and information, paper copies are available at the office 30.06.23*

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## In This Issue



This week we include:

- **Message from Mr Linsley**
- **SPA - WE NEED YOU**
- **School Council**
- **National Sports Week**
- **Digital Leaders - Loot Boxes**
- **Attendance**
- **Worship Theme - Exercising Body and Mind**
- **Class News**
- **Key Dates**
- **NEW! Picture News (We thought you might like to read 'Picture News' this is shared with children in a class worship every week)**

## Sporting Champions



We've had an incredibly busy week in school, with lots of pupils participating in different Sporting Activities and leading collective worships. This afternoon, Sports Week Culminates with 'Sports Day' and I'm hopeful that the weather will hold and pupils will have chance to enjoy taking part in a number of different events - with some supportive and encouraging spectators.

As headteacher it has been great to get involved with some of the different sports that pupils have taken part in this week and I would like to thank Mr Greenwood for putting together a comprehensive programme of events. The rest of the staff team have thrown themselves enthusiastically into a packed programme of events and I think that there will be a few tired pupils

and staff members tonight! It fills me with immense pride that staff are willing to engage so positively with all the sports and activities as well as with the children in school. It can be taken for granted but I've not always seen it in previous schools and I think it is a clear strength of Prior's Mill.

A huge thank you also to the Mums, Dads and family members who took part in the family races at the end of the Reception Sports Day - we had 4 fantastic races!

I've tried to include as many pictures as possible this week but the newsletter can only take a certain amount, please check out our Facebook page for additional pictures and information.

### **New Starters**

It was lovely to welcome new children and parents to our New Starters meetings this week. Mrs Noble and the Early Years team spoke about the fantastic opportunities that lie ahead for your children once they join Prior's Mill. If you know anyone who is ready to start in Reception next year or would like to join Nursery or Pre-school then please encourage them to get in touch as we are nearly full.

### **Strike Action**

The NEU have organised two further strike days on Wednesday 5th July and Friday 7th July, **currently we anticipate being able to remain open on those days for all year groups**. If there is any change then I will let you know as soon as possible. Union advice to teachers is not to let Headteachers know until the day of the strike, we are fortunate in school that teachers are cooperative and understand the pressure this puts on parents however they also have their own children in other schools and may have child care issues themselves. Where possible we will always endeavour to keep classes open and where we can't we will provide information as soon as possible. Regardless of your views on striking teachers the issue of school funding is something that I'm passionate about as I would prefer as much money as possible to go into recruiting and retaining quality teachers and providing resources that our children deserve. The uncertainty over school funding makes this incredibly challenging to plan for at the moment. Hopefully the situation will be resolved before further strike action happens in the Autumn Term.



**“Sports teaches you character, it teaches you to play by the rules, it teaches you to know what it feels like to win and lose- it teaches you about life.”**

**- BILLIE JEAN KING -**

**MARATHON HANDBOOK**

 **@MARATHON.HANDBOOK**



1 - Lucy Lamb in Class9, Y3, made a video saying please donate some money so that I can raise funds for Ruby in Year 4. Lucy's mum very kindly took it into her place of work and raised £140 which Lucy passed on to Ruby.

A True Prior's Mill Star!



2 - It was brilliant to experience 'Bright Day' on Friday 23rd June and raise funds for Ruby Radley so that she can convert her wheelchair into an electrical one. Thank you to everyone who wore bright clothing or attended in their Pyjamas and made a donation online or at the school office, everyone had a great day for a great cause. **We raised a magnificent £681.45!**

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rubyradley>

## SPA - WE NEED YOU!



In the current economic climate this money is essential in raising funds for things that we would like in school.

It is essential that we are able to create a group of staff and parents that are willing to carry this great work on. Currently the SPA is made up of mainly staff and it would be great to have a few more

parents involved. I promise this will not take up a huge time commitment but can be fitted in around your own priorities. It could be 30 mins labelling tombola items or bagging up sweets for a disco.

***We raised £1,178 through the efforts of parents, staff and pupils at our Coronation Event - FANTASTIC!!***

Without increased parental support then a number of additional events such as discos will be cancelled as school does not have the capacity alone to organise and prepare them.

If you can spare any time at all to join SPA then it would be greatly appreciated by the staff team and ultimately by the pupils who will benefit from having a number of events to attend during and after school.

Please contact Mrs Twomey in the office [office@priorsmill.org.uk](mailto:office@priorsmill.org.uk) / 01642650426

## School Council



### House Points

St David - 279

St George - 215

St Andrew- 198

St Patrick - 245

Well done to St David

## National Sports Week



A few pictures from a very busy week of Sport at Prior's Mill!

**Nursery will host their own Sports Event in the final week. Morning Nursery on Tuesday 18th July at 10.30am and Afternoon Nursery on Wednesday 19th July at 2.15pm. Nursery will send out further details shortly.**

## Digital Leaders - Loot Boxes







This week Beatrice and Luke (Digital Leaders) have chosen the online safety guide and it has a focus on 'Loot Boxes'. If there are any apps or online sites that parents would like a fact sheet about then please get in touch and we'll try and provide one.

***Any safeguarding concerns can be relayed to:***

***Mr Linsley - Designated Safeguarding Lead***

***Miss Huddart - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead***

***The safeguarding policy is on our website and you can also request a paper copy from the office. We will also share with you our pupil version of the safeguarding policy.***

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about LOOT BOXES

Remember us following a report in September 2019 that game developers increasingly peddle a form of gambling to children? Well, the numbers have just gone up and now there's a new twist to the story. The UK's Gambling Commission has issued a warning that loot boxes in video games are a form of gambling and should be treated as such. This means that children under 18 should not be able to buy or play games containing loot boxes.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

**MONETISING GAMES**  
Loot boxes are a way for game developers to make money from their games. They are a form of gambling and can be addictive. Children can spend a lot of money on them, often without their parents knowing.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL ADDICTION**  
Loot boxes can be addictive. Children can spend a lot of money on them, often without their parents knowing. This can lead to financial problems and other issues.

**SMALLING GAMING**  
Loot boxes are often sold for small amounts of money, which can make them seem like a harmless way to spend money. However, they can be addictive and lead to financial problems.

**KNOWING SCAMS**  
Loot boxes can be a way for scammers to steal money from children. They can be sold for a price that is much higher than their value, and they can be used to buy other items in the game.



## Advice for Parents & Carers

**COMPARE THE COSTS**  
Loot boxes can be expensive. Compare the cost of a loot box to the cost of other items in the game. This can help you decide if it's worth the money.

**RESTRICT SPENDING**  
Set a limit on how much money your child can spend on loot boxes. This can help you control their spending and prevent them from spending too much money.

**USE PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Use parental controls to restrict your child's access to loot boxes. This can help you control their spending and prevent them from spending too much money.

**TEACH THE RISKS**  
Teach your child about the risks of loot boxes. Explain that they are a form of gambling and can be addictive. This can help them make better decisions about whether to buy them.

**Watch Our Expert**  
Watch our expert advice on how to protect your child from the risks of loot boxes. This can help you control their spending and prevent them from spending too much money.

**National Online Safety**  
National Online Safety is a charity that provides advice and support on how to stay safe online. They have a website and social media accounts where you can find more information.

## Attendance Matters



### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

In accordance with School and Trust Policy any unauthorised absences (that are not subject to exceptional circumstances) will be subject to a fixed penalty notice.

**Current School Attendance is 93.4% (same % from last week) this is below the DFE target of 96%.**

We strongly advise that any holiday in term time should be avoided due to the impact of lost learning time on children. Please be aware that leave of absence (holiday) during term time will not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances. It is school policy to refer any unauthorised absence due to holiday to the local authority who may issue a fixed penalty notice. This is a penalty of up to £120 per child, per parent and so can add up to a significant amount. The school does not receive any revenue from fines; the money is paid to the Local Authority. In addition, we now have a new system in school for pupils who are late. Pupils must be escorted to the office in the main building and a form completed by parents/carers to sign the pupils in and indicate the reason for the lateness. This is for our records and also to avoid pupils becoming distressed.

**All gates are opened at 8.20am, KS1 & 2 staff will be in attendance and children remain in the yard until school doors are opened just before 8.30am. For Nursery and Reception children gates are**

**opened for access and to ease congestion on Clifton Avenue and staff are not in attendance until school doors are then opened just before 8.30am. Children should remain supervised until then. Pre-School will open at 8:25am.**

**LATE MARKS ALSO IMPACT NEGATIVELY ON ATTENDANCE PLEASE TRY TO BE ON TIME!**

## Worship Theme - Exercising Body and Mind



- Monday was based on Holistic Health which is Mind, Spirit and Body.
- Tuesday was Armed Forces Day - we performed a whole school salute on the KS2 playground.
- Wednesday/Thursday was based on sleep and diet
- Friday was based on celebrating our achievements

## Class News - Sporting Pics















We had two lovely class worships this week from Mrs Akhtar and Mrs Thompson's classes - thank you.





### **Great News For Ivy!**

I just wanted to send over an email to say a really big well done, and congratulations to Ivy - she recently entered Razzamataz's Stage Scholarship competition in association with The Stage Newspaper.

We had a record number of entries this year, and the standard was excellent. Ivy's entry was absolutely brilliant and we were really pleased to see her application awarded a prize.

Here is what our Judges had to say.

*- 'Ivy's application video was wonderful to watch and she performed with such passion. Ivy is clearly a very confident young lady with lots of skills'*

*- 'It was really wonderful to see some key skills taken from your classes at Razz put together to create your video entry. This shows what great focus you must have in class to take these skills and use them in your own way.'*

*- 'A huge well done for introducing yourself at the beginning of the video, it was extremely clear'*

*- 'A really lovely performance Ivy, we are really excited to see how you progress from here at Razzamataz'*

Ivy has been awarded a free place in our Summer School classes, a prize worth £120.



## KEY DATES



### *Key Dates*

5th May Coronation of King Charles III

From 2-3pm Friday 5th May we will provide activities in each classroom and you are welcome to join us for refreshments and cakes in the KS1 & KS2 halls, we will have a children's tombola in each hall and the raffle will also be drawn that day.

Following refreshments children can be collected from their class at 2.50pm but will need to be signed out with the class teacher.

Children who have not been collected will be dismissed at usual time.

15th May

Christian Aid Week

15th May

Walk to School week

17th May - Reception School Trip - Hardwick Park

23rd May

School Council Charity Day

EY – Teddy Bears

KS1 – Turtle Day

KS2- Mind

5th June - School PD Day (Closed)

6th June - School Re-opens using New Start Time 8:30am

8th June

National Best Friends Day

13th June

Grandads wheels visit.

Wednesday 21st June

Anti-Bullying Workshop Parents for 9am KS2 Hall

Mrs Rowbotham Collective Worship

Mrs Mackay Collective Worship

**\*NEW\*** 23rd June

Bright Colour / PJ Day Raising Money for Ruby

26th June

National school sports week - Children are invited to come to school wearing sports clothes and trainers during this week. They will be taking part in a variety of sporting activities.

Whole week to include sports day

EYFS SPORTS DAY - Reception Class will hold their own Sports Day on Wednesday ....2pm. Parents are invited to join us! Please bring your running shoes!!! Children can be taken home after the event.

**3rd July**

**Y2 Wynard Sports Event**

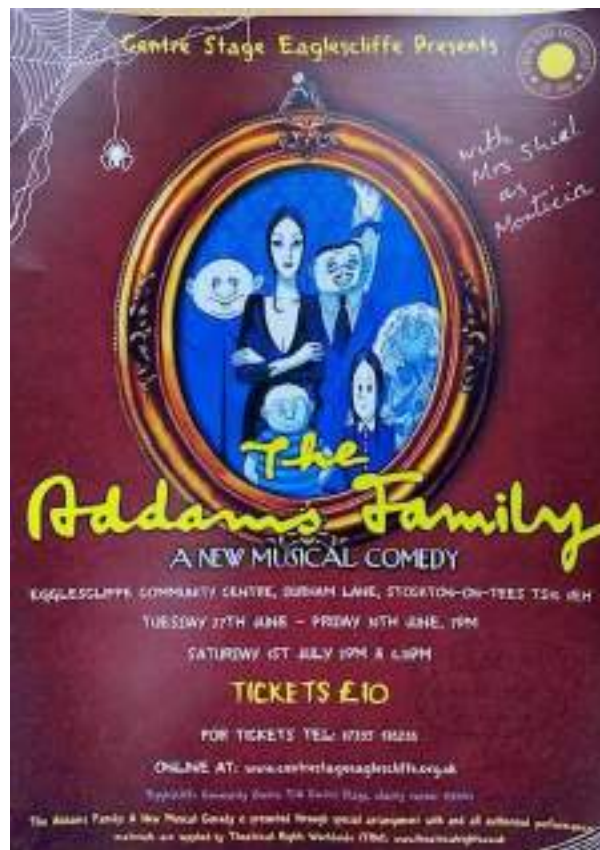
**National Fieldwork Week**

## Save the Date

**The Year 6 Prom will be held on Tuesday 11th July at 6pm. Further information to follow.**

Nursery's Teddy Bears Picnic - **Friday 14th July 1.45pm -3pm** - Please come and join us for an end of term Teddy Bears Picnic! This will take place in our Nursery Outdoor garden. This will be an opportunity for all of the children and parents to join together before the children move onto the next step of their journey. If your child attends morning nursery or the pre-school setting then they are welcome to join this picnic too! Additional details to follow closer to the time!

Class 1 and Class 2 - End of Year Graduation - **Monday 17th July, 1.45pm – 3pm** - Please join us to celebrate and congratulate the children's fantastic achievements and look back on their special memories from their treasured time in Early Years! We will mark this momentous milestone by awarding each child with an end of year personalised certificate as a keep sake for their magical journey throughout Early Years! We value the partnership we have built up between us and yourselves and would love for you to be a part of this occasion!



3 - Our own Mrs Shiel is starring in this production of the Addams Family! Tickets are on sale now.





4 - And Finally...fingers crossed that the weather continues to be good and you have a great weekend and can join us for the sporting events we have planned for next week.

Primary Picture News Resource England Collective Worship - 19th June - Fast travel

Picture News - 26th June - Jungle rescue



### Let's look at this week's story



Four children have been found alive after surviving a plane crash and spending forty days alone in Colombia's Amazon jungle. Colombia's president, Gustavo Petro heralded the rescue as a joy for the whole country. The four siblings were the only survivors of the plane that crash landed in the jungle on 1<sup>st</sup> May. They then became the focus of a massive rescue operation, involving soldiers and local people. Speaking of the incredible feat of survival, Gustavo Petro said, 'They were alone, they themselves achieved an example of total survival which will remain in history'



Learn more about this week's story [here](#)  
 Watch this week's awful video [here](#)  
 This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#)



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### How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	scared	worried	shocked	afraid
depressed	agitated	amused	stunned	stressed	apprehensive	astonished	stunned
discouraged	annoyed	content	surprised	shocked	apprehensive	astonished	stunned
downcast	angry	delighted	bewildered	alarmed	apprehensive	astonished	stunned
downhearted	annoyed	delighted	bewildered	alarmed	apprehensive	astonished	stunned
forlorn	annoyed	delighted	bewildered	alarmed	apprehensive	astonished	stunned
glowing	amused	glad	flummoxed	terrified	dreaded	astounded	terrified
glum	amused	glad	flummoxed	terrified	dreaded	astounded	terrified
glum	amused	glad	flummoxed	terrified	dreaded	astounded	terrified
glum	amused	glad	flummoxed	terrified	dreaded	astounded	terrified
glum	amused	glad	flummoxed	terrified	dreaded	astounded	terrified

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This week's story looks at events related to ...



Read through the information below about the reason in the jungle.

How did the Vikings live in the jungle for forty days?

The first Vikings aged 12, 15 and 17, crossed a great ocean. The island of the jungle in Colombia.

The family members of the Viking people, who were hunting, fishing, and gathering from nearby sea.

The children had, each, only a bag of food to eat. The idea is to give all kinds of things from some place to eat. Important, so there are many interesting foods in the forest and animals that to look for a body.



His knowledge about the world helped him to find the island.



His knowledge about the world helped him to find the island.

The children were free in 100 days until they returned. The island was a great place to live. They had to eat the food that they had with them. They had to be careful of the animals that were there. They had to be careful of the people that were there.

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Talk about the different examples of luxury shown.



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about the Colombian jungle.

The Colombian jungle is part of the Amazon rainforest. It covers a large area and is larger than the whole of the UK. There are many plants and animals in the Colombian jungle. There are many birds and animals.



There are many plants and animals in the Colombian jungle. There are many birds and animals.

Can you imagine what it might be like to live in the Colombian jungle?



Look at the resource below, which shares some information about the Buitato?

The Buitato is a traditional festival in the town of Buitato, Colombia. It is a festival of the Buitato people.



The Buitato people are very happy and they are very friendly.

The Buitato people are very happy and they are very friendly.

Is there anything that surprises you? What else would you like to find out?



## Reflection



Bravery comes in many different forms. Having the support of others can make a big difference to the choices we make and the courage we show, when facing difficult and scary experiences.



## Individual Liberty

There are some situations or challenges we face that may be tricky. Learning how to manage risks can help us make choices and take action in response to these.

## Protected Characteristics

Race can mean your colour, nationality or your ethnic or national origins. The Huitoto are an indigenous group whose traditional land is around the Southern Colombian city of Leticia. We should never be treated unfairly because of our race.





# UN Rights of a Child



Governments should let families and communities guide their children as they grow up. The Huitoto traditionally learn hunting, fishing and gathering from a young age.



## Useful vocabulary



**Lifted**  
Transported in aircraft from a place that can be difficult to reach.  
The plane was lifted off the ground and taken to safety after landing here due to the language barrier.

**Foot**  
An instrument that supports and moves the body.  
The foot of the mountain was covered in snow.

**Revised**  
Made something publicly known, especially by publishing or printing it.  
The book was revised and published in a new edition.

**Jungle**  
An area of land overgrown with dense forest and tangled vegetation.  
The jungle was thick with vines and trees.

**Siblings**  
Children and other relatives.  
The two siblings were the only children of the couple.

**Survived**  
Continued to live or exist, in spite of difficult circumstances.  
The team survived the storm and returned home safely.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

## Collective worship



What is the purpose of collective worship?

**Right to education**  
The right to education is a fundamental right for all children. It is essential for their development and for the progress of society. Education should be available to all children, regardless of their background or ability.

**Right to play**  
The right to play is a fundamental right for all children. It is essential for their development and for the progress of society. Children should have access to safe and enjoyable play opportunities.

**Right to a fair trial**  
The right to a fair trial is a fundamental right for all children. It is essential for their development and for the progress of society. Children should have access to legal representation and a fair trial.



## Picture News

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## Picture News

**What is literacy?**  
Literacy is the ability to read and write. It is a fundamental skill for all children. Literacy allows children to learn, communicate, and participate in society. It is essential for their development and for the progress of society.

**What is the purpose of collective worship?**  
The purpose of collective worship is to provide children with a sense of community and belonging. It allows children to learn about their faith and to participate in religious activities. It is essential for their development and for the progress of society.

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**Reflection**  
Reflect on what you have learned and how it relates to your own life.

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**Picture News**

**CE1 Follow-up ideas**

- Topic 1**
- Write a letter to the author of the book you have read, asking them to write a sequel. You could ask them to write about a new character or a new setting.
  - Write a book review.
  - Write a story inspired by the book.
  - Write a poem about the book.

**Topic 2**

- Write a letter to the author of the book you have read, asking them to write a sequel. You could ask them to write about a new character or a new setting.
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**Picture News**

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**Picture News**

**This week's useful activities**

- The week's new story**
- The week's useful words**
- The week's useful phrases**
- The week's useful sentences**
- The week's useful paragraphs**

**WITC SPOTLIGHT**

**Record-Breaking Writers**



Two young boys, **Arjun and Aravind**, have broken the world record for the fastest time to write a story. They completed a 1000-word story in just 10 minutes!

The boys are from **St. Xavier's School** in **Chennai**. They were inspired by the book **'The Boy Who Swam to Africa'** and decided to write a story about a boy who swam to Africa.

Their story is titled **'The Boy Who Swam to Africa'** and is a heartwarming tale of a boy who dreams of seeing the world and decides to swim across the ocean to reach the continent of Africa.

The boys are proud of their achievement and hope to inspire other children to write their own stories.

**Share your thoughts and see the video of their attempt!**

**Wonderwoods Vertical Forest**



The **Vertical Forest** is a unique building in **Bologna, Italy**. It is a residential building that is covered in thousands of plants and trees. The building was designed by **Bruno Zevi** and **Paolo Polizzi**.

The Vertical Forest is a prime example of **biophilic design**, which is a design approach that seeks to connect people with nature. The building is designed to be a living space that is in harmony with the natural world.

The Vertical Forest is a great example of how we can live in a city and still be connected to nature. It is a building that is not just a place to live, but a place to thrive.

**Share your thoughts and see the video of the building!**

**Making an Impact**



There are many ways to make a difference in the world. You can help people in need, protect the environment, and promote peace and justice.

Here are some ideas for how you can make an impact:

- Volunteer at a local charity or community center.
- Donate to a charity that supports a cause you care about.
- Recycle and reduce your carbon footprint.
- Speak up for what you believe in.

Every small action can make a big difference. Let's work together to make the world a better place!

**Share your thoughts and see the video of the organizations!**

**Last week's topic: What is the best way to show your respect?**



There are many ways to show respect for the environment and for other people. Here are some ideas:

- Recycle and reduce your carbon footprint.
- Be kind to others and listen to their opinions.
- Respect the rules and customs of different cultures.

Showing respect is an important part of being a responsible citizen. Let's all do our part to make the world a better place!

**Let us know what you think about this week's topic!**

**Share your thoughts and see the video of the topic!**



## Contact Us



***If you would like to contact us about anything in the newsletter or need an additional conversation then please don't hesitate to catch me outside on the yard or through making an appointment at the office.***

### **Safeguarding**

**The school safeguarding policy is on the website and a paper version can also be requested from the office. Safeguarding is at the heart of all we do at Prior's Mill CE Primary School.**

### **Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School**

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Visit us on the web at <https://priorsmill.org.uk/>

### **School Vision**

As an inclusive Church of England primary school, we welcome children and families of all faiths and none to be part of our school family which has a distinctly Christian character and ethos. At Prior's



Mill, we encourage everyone to discover, flourish and grow in their talents, nurturing their God given gifts and potential. We work with passion to foster a love of learning, a love of community and personal resilience. Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we are a school where kindness, forgiveness, respect and honesty underpin our words and actions.

**Biblical Narrative - The Parable of The Mustard Seed – Mark 4:30-32 (NIV)**

“What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

**School Values**

We give our best - We are kind - We are honest - We are respectful - We forgive