



Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School Newsletter 9th February 2024

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 09.02.24

In This Issue



This week we include:

- **Message from Mr Linsley**
- **Digital Leaders - Whatsapp / Group chats**
- **Attendance**
- **Spirituality**
- **Worship Theme - Zacchaeus**
- **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)**

Health and Wellbeing Week

Pupils in school have been engaging in health and well being activities this week, all classes have had the opportunity to make 'worry dolls' and take part in well being sessions.

BBC Teach/Mood Boosters online have lots of videos and resources for all ages which could be used this week or at any time when you need to speak with children about managing emotions and wellbeing.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/moodboosters/pshe-ks1-ks2-boost/z8nnvj6>

Look at further pictures in the class news section.

Number Challenge

Everybody knows that 7 ate 9, but why?

Because they wanted to eat 3 square meals a day!

Well Done to All the Winners!

FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE

In August of this year Chris (a Middlesbrough FC season ticket holder) suffered his second brain haemorrhage causing a major stroke leaving him hospitalised for nearly 3 months.

He is now back home with his family but has complete weakness to the whole right side of his body. Chris needs specialist neurological rehabilitation, which cannot be provided by the NHS.

To raise the funds required to provide Chris with this essential support for as long as possible, over 50 of his family and friends, will be walking from Sunderland's Stadium of light to Middlesbrough's Riverside Stadium in time for the match between Middlesbrough and Sunderland on 4th February.

The walking party will unite supporters of these two north-east footballing rivals in a common cause to support Chris in his time of need.

Chris hopes to join us en-route at Billingham for the final leg of the journey.

Any help you can provide will be incredibly useful and very much appreciated.

(For more detail of Chris's story and the walk, please contact Christopher Beaney via the JustGiving page by clicking on his name under the main photo)

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/christopher-beaney>

A fair result on the pitch but a fantastic result off it £22, 235 raised - AMAZING!

Reception and Nursery Places September 2024

A reminder to make sure that you take the time to apply for any reception and nursery places you want for September 2024 as places are starting to fill up. Please spread the word amongst any family and friends.

School Meals

Thank you to everyone who has pre-ordered a school meal using the new system - please continue to do this at home with your child as there is only limited opportunity for them to do it in school. Please contact the office and ask to speak to Miss Clapp or Mrs Twomey if you are having difficulties.

School Website

<https://priorsmill.org.uk/>

The new school website is now 'live' please check it out for all the up to date school information and links to the school Facebook feed. It also contains updated information about Safeguarding and the new child protection policy that the school uses. If you would like a copy of the policy or any other documentation that can be found on the website then please ask at the school office.

Prior's Promise Pals

Prior's Promise Pals identify children in school who display the Prior's Promise school values on a regular basis.

*** We are Honest**

*** We are Kind**

*** We give our Best**

***We Forgive**

***We are Respectful**

Priors Promise Pals - Spring Term

Luke Y6 Freya Y6

Wren Y5 Lincoln Y5 Scarlet Y5

Alice Y4 Ruby Y4

Alice Y3 Olivia Y3

Winners This Week!

Y6 - Mrs Wild and Luke

Y5 - Holly and Neave

Y4 - Ella and Scarlett

Y3 - Felicity and Rowan

Check out the picture below!

Holidays in Term Time

We have had a huge increase in holiday forms lately and although I can appreciate the challenges created by the cost of living crisis and the incredible cost of going away in the school holidays - going away during term time is not the answer. The results we obtained last year reflected how well children with good attendance did compared to those with a number of absences. I appreciate that there are some situations where it may be unavoidable and each case is looked at individually,

however if you do require time off from school during term time please consider the following information:

- A holiday request form must be submitted 4 weeks prior to the event
- Leave of absence without completing a form will result in a fixed penalty notice for both parents
- We are currently issuing fixed penalty notices for absences longer than 5 days that do not meet the criteria

The school is working very hard to support parents and pupils to attend regularly and achieve highly - Mrs Hanson our Pupil Welfare Officer is available to talk to if you need support. The school has to follow very strict guidelines surrounding school absence please understand that we are here to support and only want the best for you and your children. Positive attendance provides many opportunities to develop knowledge, understanding and social skills.

I have included some key reminders about dates (additional key dates are further in the newsletter):

Next Week :

Afterschool clubs as usual

School finishes for half-term Friday 16th February

If you have any queries, worries or safeguarding concerns over the holidays/weekend then please use the email address:

office@priorsmill.org.uk

The email account will be monitored throughout the holidays/weekends and we will endeavour to reply to any queries as soon as possible.



Chris
Beaney

We're raising £17,500 to Pay for Chris Wood's physiotherapy by doing a 40 mile walk from The Stadium of Light to the Riverside.



Is my child too ill to go to school or nursery today?

24.1.24

Dear Parents/Carers

I have received today Government guidelines regarding school attendance and illness. By law, if your child is aged 5 to 16 years old they must be in full time education. Missing school not only has a big impact on them academically, but also socially.

The advice below is based on government guidelines. If in doubt as to whether your child should attend school due to illness, school can advise on current guidance and school policy. Obviously, we would not expect a child to attend who is clearly unwell, however for minor illness we are happy to welcome the child into school and we would always endeavour to contact you if we thought they were too ill to remain in school.

As always, we would advise speaking to your GP or pharmacist for help for any illness which does not clear up in a few days or requires treatment (such as headlice/conjunctivitis etc).

If you have difficulty with getting your child into school, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office and we can discuss ways to support you and your child.

Regards

Mrs ALLISON HANSON

PUPIL WELFARE OFFICER

YOUR CHILD CAN GO TO SCHOOL OR NURSERY WITH THE FOLLOWING:

- Anxiety and worry
- Conjunctivitis
- Hand, foot and mouth/verrucae/athletes' foot
- Headache/earache/tummy ache
- Headlice
- Threadworms

YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL WITH THE FOLLOWING IF THEY FEEL WELL ENOUGH:

- Coughs/cold/sore throat
- Shingles
- Tonsillitis

YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL WITH THE FOLOWING:

- × diarrhoea and vomiting (can return 48 hours after last bout)
- × fever or high temperature
- × flu or chest infection
- × impetigo
- × measles, mumps, German measles, chicken pox
- × scabies
- × scarlet fever
- × whooping cough
- × Covid* (if a child has tested positive they should stay away from school for 3 days) * there is no requirement to test now

Digital Leaders - Whatsapp / Group Chats



This week Beatrice and Luke (Digital Leaders) have chosen the online safety guide and it has a focus on Whatsapp/Group Chats. 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.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat. Instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 27.04.2022

...MSG ME...

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

In UK and Europe, rest of the world 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

ONLINE

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content - but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly - whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location - potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers

...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know *never* to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy - and all too common - for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval; you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need - and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

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...HEY OSCAR...



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/an-open-letter> | <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1077018839982332> | https://faq.whatsapp.com/381005896189245/?helpref=hc_faq | <https://www.whatsapp.com/security> | <https://blog.whatsapp.com/chat-lock-making-your-most-intimate-conversations-even-more-private> | <https://www.cisra.com/learn/whatsapp-scams>

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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% (SAME AS LAST WEEK) this is below the DFE target of 96%. We need to try and make sure we can maintain whole school attendance this year and aim for 96 - 98%!

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!

"THIS MORNING, HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT SCHOOL... BUT LOOK AT HIM NOW!"

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

 HM Government
Head to the Education Hub to find out more.



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.



Spirituality at Prior's Mill CE Primary School

What Is Spirituality?

It is very difficult to put into words what 'spirituality' actually is because it is a very personal experience. It differs from person to person, and often spirituality changes within people during their lifetime. Spirituality is not the same as having a religion or faith; a person can be spiritual without having a particular faith.

As a school, we have defined spirituality as:

"Spirituality is not something we can see; it is something we feel inside ourselves. It is about awe and wonder, asking questions, inspiration and being aware of something 'bigger' outside of ourselves."

Teaching Opportunities and Strategies

At Prior's Mill we follow the Liz Mills approach to provide opportunities for spiritual development:

WINDOWS: giving children opportunities to become *aware* of the world in new ways; to **wonder** about life's 'Wows' (things that are amazing) and 'Ows' (things that bring us up short). In this children are learning about life in all its fullness.



MIRRORS: giving children opportunities to *reflect* on their experiences; to **think** about life's big questions and to consider some possible answers. In this they are learning from life by exploring their own insights and perspectives and those of others.



DOORS: giving children opportunities to *respond* to all of this; to **do** something creative as a means of expressing, applying and further developing their thoughts and convictions. In this they are learning to live by putting into action what they are coming to believe and value.



We provide **WINDOWS** throughout our curriculum. Children reflect (**MIRRORS**) on their learning, experiences and global issues at our school and often identify **DOORS** for themselves. They may hear of a local issue or an international event and request to take action, through fund raising and raising awareness. We also work with the local community through local fundraising and other activities. We also take part in Comic Relief, Children in Need, as well as identifying other charities to support during the year.

We also use this format of Windows, Mirrors and Doors within our Collective Worship.

School staff can develop spirituality in school through:

Establishing and maintaining a partnership between pupils, parents and staff; recognising and respecting the faith background of the children and their families;

Taking part in, and supporting, collective acts of worship;

Being good role models in their conduct towards other members of the community;

Promoting an attitude of respect for other people and for others' views;

Nurturing consideration for and generosity towards others.

Drawing on the experiences of pupils and their families during religious education lessons and beyond;

Recognising and being constantly aware of the needs and backgrounds of each individual pupil;

Being willing to develop their own knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith and the faiths of others;

Having a positive attitude to the value of spiritual education;

Conducting themselves towards others considerately and respecting the views and beliefs of others in line with the Prior's Promise.

Pupils can do this through:

Taking an active part in acts of collective worship;

Participating in activities which promote the skills allowing them to engage in examination of and reflection upon religious belief and practice;

Conducting themselves towards others considerately and respecting the views and beliefs of others in line with the Prior's Promise.

Parents can help through:

Adopting a positive attitude to the value of spiritual education;

Supporting the school's Christian ethos and acts of community worship such as assemblies and church services;

Respecting the views and beliefs of others;

Conducting themselves towards others considerately and respecting the views and beliefs of others in line with the Prior's Promise.

Worship Theme - Zacchaeus



WHAT IS THE GOOD NEWS THAT JESUS BRINGS?

Luke 19:1-10

I wonder if you have ever lost your way when following a map? I wonder if you have ever felt that you have lost your way on your life's journey.

In the gospels, Jesus tells us that the Gospel (good news) includes a promise that when we make mistakes and we all do), it's what we do after that makes the biggest difference. We can get back on track and put it right if we choose to.

Read the story of Zacchaeus in your Bible (Luke 19:1-10). There are some great photographs showing a retelling of the story here:

<https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-zacchaeus/>

or a clip

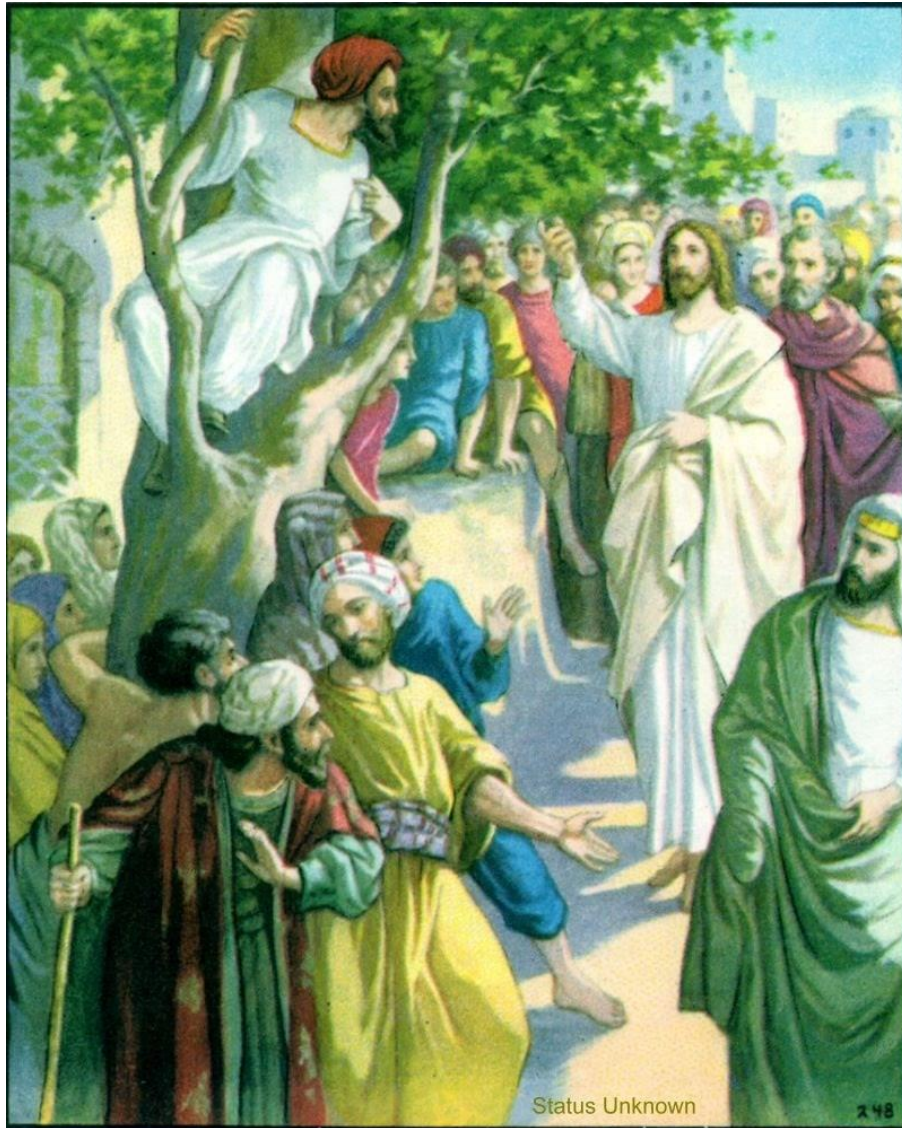
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BjtbJFz2ug>

I wonder what the people in the crowd were thinking during all of this?

Jesus wanted to eat with a known sinner who had treated them all very badly! Sometimes Jesus really surprised people. Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house and Zacchaeus was so moved by Jesus and

his words that he repented (an important word meaning that he changed his mind and said sorry). He knew just being sorry was not enough. He needed to repair the damage. So, he told Jesus that he would give half of his possessions to the poor and, if he had cheated anybody, he would pay them back four times the amount. He was not just making it right, he was making it better!





~
MISTAKES ARE
MEANT FOR
LEARNING,
NOT REPEATING.
~

WWW.LIVELIFEHAPPY.COM

Mistakes

Are The Stepping Stones To Learning!

Class News



Mental Health and Well Being Week

Mental Health Week

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week and the theme for this year is "My voice matters".



On Wednesday, Alliance came into school to deliver a presentation during Worship about how they, and other adults, can help children talk about and explore their worries.

After that, class 8 discussed what we could do in school to help each other.

Here are some of their ideas:

- Mindfulness time
- Calm/quiet area for lunchtimes - books, place to sit down, board games
- Place on the playground to go if you're lonely, sad or worried. Wellbeing ambassadors can go and check that place to support people.
- Art/ reading/ mindfulness club

All the children have had an opportunity to make their own worry dolls to take home. A worry doll is based on a story from Guatemala where children tell their worry to the worry doll and put the doll under their pillow when they go to sleep so by morning the worry has gone away.

Class 4 even read a book called "Silly Billy", a lovely story about a little boy with lots of worries and how the worry dolls helped him.

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors wrote notes of thanks to the staff at Prior's Mill which were displayed in the staff room. They didn't forget about our valuable office staff, cleaners, caretaker and lunchtime supervisors. They thought that a "thank you" would bring a smile to everyone.



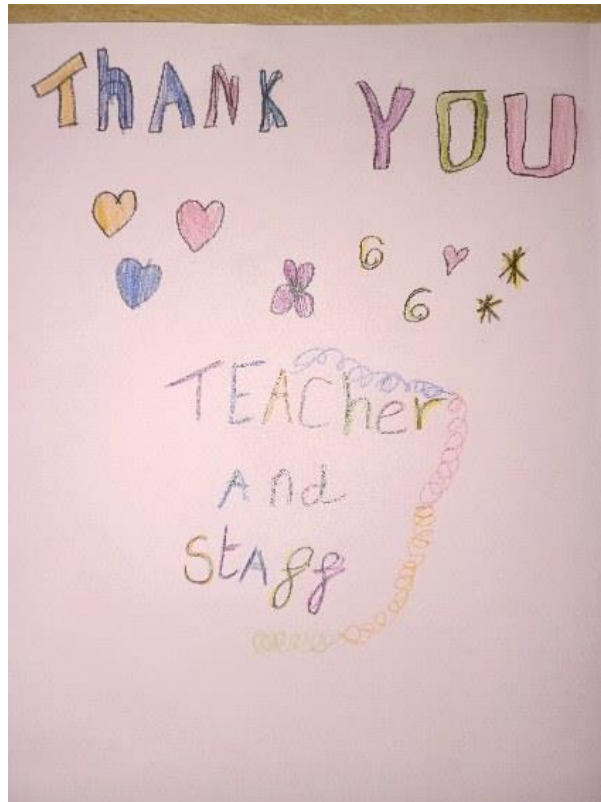






Class 12 even made their own Worry Rhyme!





Thank you to you all for your wonderful contributions to Children's Mental Health Week!

Parents, if you are worried about your child's wellbeing, we would suggest that you speak with their class teacher in the first instance. If they are unable to help, we would advise that you seek support from your GP. In school we can offer some low-level interventions delivered by staff. It is possible for us to refer to Alliance or to ABC, if your child meets the criteria, (please note that there is a long waiting list for ABC Counselling).

Any Special Educational Needs concern must be raised with the class teacher who will refer to our SENCo if appropriate.

CAMHS crisis number is 0800 0516171

The Children's Hub can be contacted on 01642 130080 if you are concerned about the safety or welfare of any child.

Mrs ALLISON HANSON

PUPIL WELFARE OFFICER

Prior's Mill C/E Primary School

Billingham TS225BX

01642 650426

office@priorsmill.org.uk

Wellbeing Ambassadors

Our KS2 Wellbeing Ambassadors have spent the past 8 weeks learning how to be an effective Peer Mentor with Tori from Alliance.

Erin from class 15 said, "I loved every part of it because I found it interesting. I learned about emotions, confidentiality and working as a team."

Sienna from class 13 explained that she now has a "great understanding of what to do when a child has a problem and who to tell when we need to."

Dominic from class 10 said, "I enjoyed learning about mental health and how to help other people. We learned about ways of communicating and all about emotions and feelings."

Harper in class 7 said "I enjoyed learning about feelings so we can help people to feel better. We can help people on the playground who we don't know. We will try to help people as we are a great team."

All of our other Wellbeing Ambassadors had lots of positive things to say about their training and definitely enjoyed learning new skills. They look forward to putting these skills into practise over the coming months.

Well done to you all.

Mrs Hanson



KEY DATES



Key Dates

School reopens Monday 8th January

Number Day NSPCC - 2.2.24

Mental Health Week - 5.2.24

Safer Internet Day - 6.2.24

School closes Friday 16th February - Half Term - Re-opens Monday 26th February

National Careers Week - 4.3.24

World Book Day - 8.3.24

British Science Week -11.3.24

Comic Relief - 15.3.24

Food Bank Donations - 18.3.24

Easter Around the World RE - 22.3.24

DT Week 25.3.24



1 - And Finally...enjoy the Weekend!

Good Luck Sunderland!!!

Picture News

2-14--collective-worship-powerpoint-2024-02-02



What's happening
in the news this week?





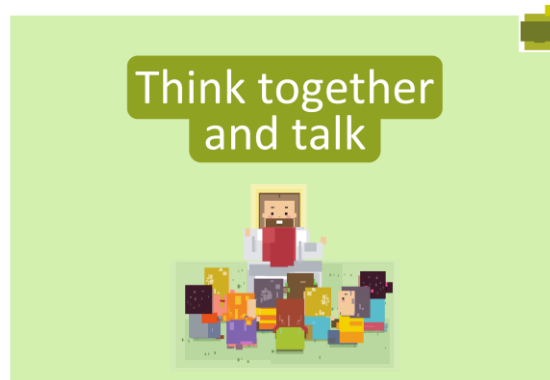
Let's have a look at this week's

5th – 11th February 2024



© Picture News 2024

45-year-old Mar Galcerán from Spain has become the country's first elected parliamentarian with Down's syndrome. Maria del Mar Galcerán Gadea is thought to be the first person with the genetic disorder to join a European regional or national parliament. She has been involved with politics since she was 18, when she joined Spain's conservative People's Party. Speaking to the media, Mar Galcerán said she wants to be seen as a person, and not for her disability.





Think together and talk

Have you ever felt inspired by someone? Who was it? How did they inspire you?

Can you think of a time when you had to show courage, determination and/or resilience?

Have you ever been inspired by something else such as a book, song, or piece of art?



What does the Bible have to say?



Someone who shows courage, determination and resilience to overcome barriers and achieve their goals can inspire us. Jesus lived over 2000 years ago and is still inspiring us today! The Bible shares many stories of the courage, resilience, hope, faith, compassion and love that Jesus showed and that we can learn from.

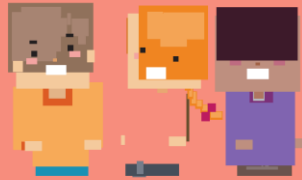


Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be

opened
Matthew 7:7-8



What do others think?



Be the reason someone smiles. Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people.



Roy T. Bennett - author

Time to be quiet
and to pray



Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for all the people and things that
inspire and encourage us,

Thank you for my gifts and talents that
inspire others,

Thank you for Jesus, who showed us how to
live,

Amen

Continue thinking



Key Stage 1 class discussion

What do you enjoy doing? What do you think
you are good at?

Is there anything you'd like to learn to do? Why
do you want to learn this? How will you learn
to do it?

Key Stage 2 class discussion

Discuss who you think is the most inspirational
person of all time.

What did they achieve? When did they achieve
it? Are they famous or not?

What would you like to be known for? Your
achievements, personality traits, something
else?

Time to worship

Light up the fire
Click here for the hymn online



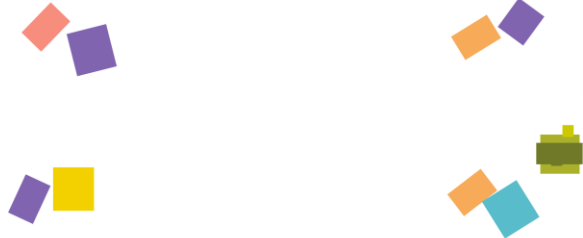
Colours of day, dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind,
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.

So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let His fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.

Go through the park, on into the town,
The sun still shines on, it never goes down,
The light of the world is risen again,
The people of darkness are needing
a friend.



So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let His fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.



Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has gone, the Son came to die,
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.



So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let His fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.



So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let His fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.





2 - class 8 worry doll photo

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

Clifton Avenue, Billingham. Stockton-on-Tees, TS22 5BX

Tel: 01642 650 426

Email: office@priorsmill.org.uk

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