



Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School Newsletter June 7th

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 07.06.23

In This Issue



This week we include:

- **Message from Mr Linsley**
- **School Council**
- **Sporting Stars**
- **Digital Leaders**
- **Attendance**
- **Worship Theme**
- **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)**
- **Contact Us**
- **Safeguarding**

Heads Up!



Half-Term

I hope everyone had a lovely half-term break and took the opportunity to relax and spend it with friends and family. I know this is not always the case due to the challenges life brings and the British Weather. Hopefully everyone managed to find a little bit of sun and I'm hopeful the warm weather will continue throughout our last half-term of the academic year.

Y4 Multiplication Masters

A huge congratulations to the children in Mr Farrell and Miss Alderson's class who have worked really hard to learn their times tables in time for the online Multiplication Check that happened this week. I have included a Parent Fact Sheet about the check in the newsletter. We are proud of all the children who have all made progress from their starting points since the start of term. The check is for Y4 only.

D-DAY 80th Anniversary

6th June is the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Normandy, the day in 1944 when Allied forces from thirteen different countries stormed five beaches in Normandy, France. This marked the beginning of the end of World War II. A World War II veteran, Henry Rice, who is 98 and from Surrey, has called for schools to teach children more about D-Day 1944. He believes that by learning about the history of it, they could urge politicians to avoid wars. Children in Mrs Stokes Class were very engaged in discussing the topic when I was in their class during the week. As someone who had family involved it is really important that we don't forget what happened and also appreciated the challenges faced by those living in areas of conflict today. It was lovely to hear the mature approach our Y5 children were taking they will be excellent role-models next year.

KEY DATES

Nursery Welcome Meeting Tuesday 11th June 5pm

Reception Welcome Meeting Thursday 13th June 5pm

National Sports Week is 17th - 21st June

Nursery Sports Day Tuesday 18th June 10am - Morning Nursery / 1:45pm Afternoon Nursery

Reception Sports Day Wednesday 19th June (afternoon)

Sports Day KS1 and KS2 Friday 21st June (afternoon)

Y6 Prom - Friday 12th July

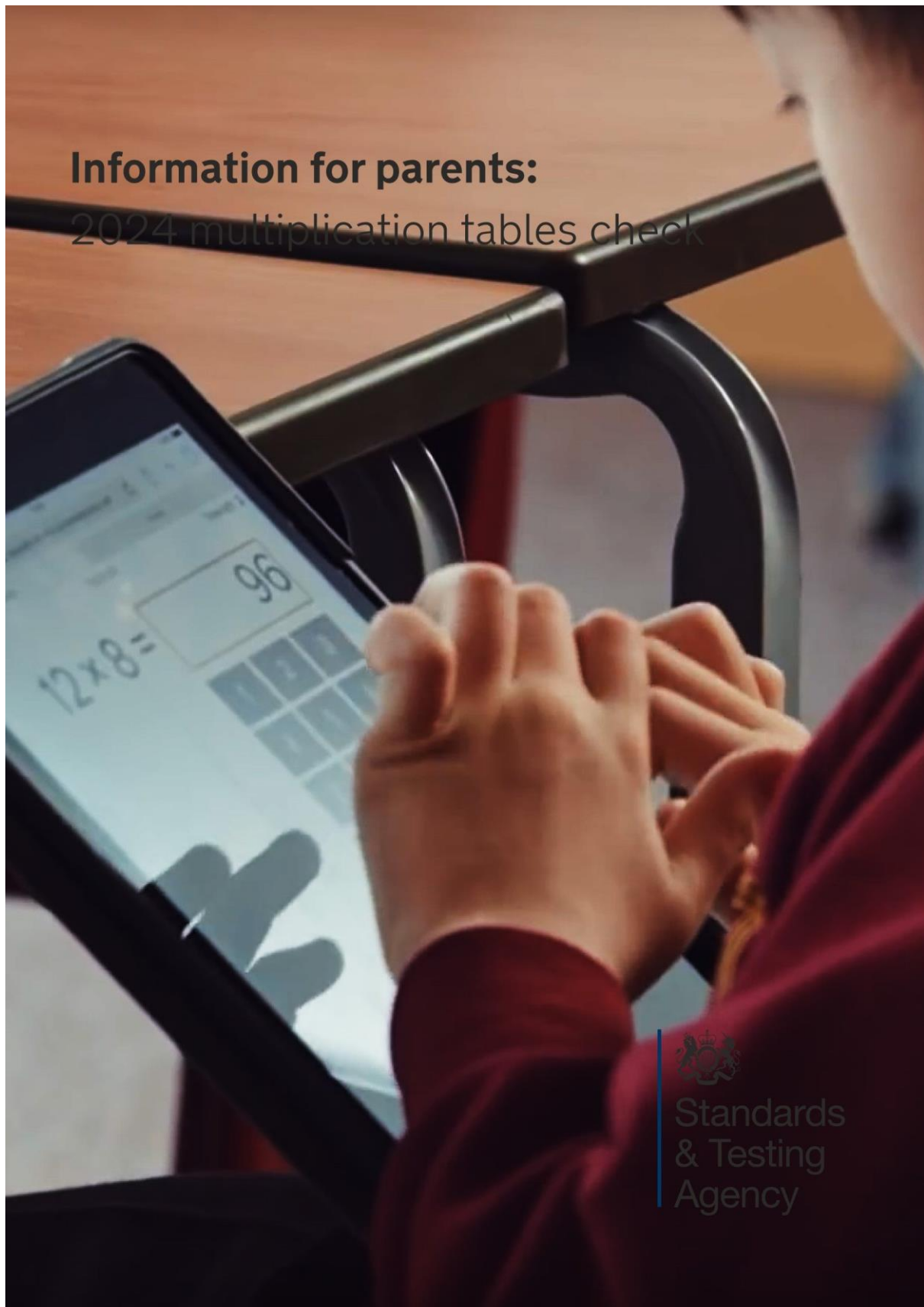
Y6 Performance of Memories and Singing - (Tuesday 16th July 1:30pm and 5pm).

*** Y6 Eucharist Service Thursday 18th July 10am**

Reception Graduation Wednesday 17th July 2pm



Information for parents:
2024 multiplication tables check



Standards
& Testing
Agency

Multiplication tables check

Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, your child will be participating in the multiplication tables check (MTC) in June.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help your child's school to identify if your child may need additional support.

What is the multiplication tables check?

It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, which can be used to support pupils with specific needs. Your child's teacher will ensure that the access arrangements are appropriate for your child before they take the check in June.

The check was designed to be inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). However, there may be some circumstances in which it will not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check, even when using suitable access arrangements.

If you have any concerns about your child accessing the check, you should discuss this with your child's headteacher.

Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

No, you do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check. As part of usual practice, teachers may ask you to practise times tables with your child.

Schools will have unlimited access to a 'try it out' area from April. They can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support to access the check. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required.



How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, to allow them to identify pupils who need additional support.

Will I receive feedback on my child's check?

Yes. Your child's teacher will share your child's score with you, as they would with all national curriculum assessments. There is no pass mark for the check.

Further information

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any questions about the MTC.

For further details you can also visit www.gov.uk/STA.

Further information about the personal data we collect, process and store for the MTC is available in our [privacy notice](#)^[1] .



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Information for parents: 2024 multiplication tables check

Electronic version product code: STA/23/8909/e ISBN: 978-1-78957-902-4



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This document is available for download at www.gov.uk/government/publications.

[1]. www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-privacy-notice/privacy-noticemultiplication-tables-check

School of Sanctuary



In October 2023, Miss Wilbraham and Miss Chapman signed a pledge with the City of Sanctuary organisation. The purpose of signing the pledge is to gain a City of Sanctuary award which enables us to be nationally recognised as a School of Sanctuary. Schools are at the forefront of receiving those who are displaced, international students and students who use English as an additional language. It is becoming vital that we educate about those who have 'a lived experience' of displacement and re-location.

Our journey began with Prior's Mill welcoming our first international student. While trying to learn about, understand and support this pupil's needs, Miss Wilbraham and Miss Chapman began to recognise and appreciate the complexities involved when families leave their native country. This could be due to work commitments, needing asylum, fleeing from war and violence or fleeing persecution due to religious or political differences.

The City of Sanctuary aims to educate children, young people and the wider community about the challenges faced by families around the world and how we can support them in our setting. Supporting cultural differences is best achieved through empathy and understanding. Inspiration, openness, participation, inclusiveness and integrity are values that the City of Sanctuary aim to foster. We have diversified our practise so that we can support students who use English as an additional language (EAL) to access the national curriculum and to integrate into school life.

Schools do not need to have children from sanctuary -seeking backgrounds within the school community to become a School of Sanctuary. As a potential School of Sanctuary, we have to demonstrate that we are a place of acceptance, safety, diversity and compassion for all. To this end, Miss Wilbraham and Miss Chapman have written engaging and fun lessons designed to teach our pupils about asylum, migration and refugees. Year 3 & 4 have already enjoyed the lessons! Staff have also had the opportunity to learn about these topics. Some examples of their work can be seen on the school website.

Miss Wilbraham and Miss Chapman have been following the 'learn, share, embed' process in gaining the award and continue to work towards raising our status to be a place of safety and welcome for all.

For more information about City of Sanctuary, please visit: <https://schools.cityofsanctuary.org/>

School Council



The school council organised a successful fundraising non uniform day.

As a school we have three charities which are Blue For Jackson (Early Years), WWF (KS1) and Guide Dogs (KS2), on the day we are inviting children to come to school in non-uniform, pyjamas or fancy dress.

We raised £310 that will be split between the 3 charities - thank you for your support.

Sporting Stars



Pupils in Y6 and Y5 also continue to attend catch up swimming sessions it is a requirement of the National Curriculum that pupils are able to swim 25m confidently before they leave school and perform a range of water safety exercises.

National Sports Week is 17th - 21st June

Nursery Sports Day Tuesday 18th June 10am - Morning Nursery / 1:45pm Afternoon Nursery

Reception Sports Day Wednesday 19th June (afternoon)

Sports Day KS1 and KS2 Friday 21st June (afternoon)

Digital Leaders



1 - This week I have included a parent fact sheet about sharing kindness online and Youtube . 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

10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10–15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying: most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place – but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved: maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online – perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site – share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it – if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive – even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past – take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Educators

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by 'preschool' (4 and under), 'younger' (ages 5 to 9) and 'older' (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds)

[/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)

[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday)

[@wake.up.weds](https://www.youtube.com/wakeupweds)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 26.01.2023 Last reviewed: 31v.05.2024

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.

Attendance Matters



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 95% 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.

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

Worship Theme - When Saul became Paul



Saul becomes Paul on the road to Damascus

Acts 9: 1-19

The rest of the term is about St Paul (c 5-65 CE) and all that he did and taught as a key figure in early Christian communities

This is one of the most dramatic stories in the whole Bible. It resulted in the conversion of the person who would become a faithful apostle of Christ and the most famous Christian missionary ever. Make sure there is 'drama' – either through your retelling, a presentation through live drama or

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eRXq-cKmr0>

What sort of person was Saul before he met the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus? How did he change? I wonder why Saul changed his name to Paul? I wonder if you know any other stories of people who changed when they met Jesus? I wonder if you can think of some of the different emotions that Saul went through as he decided what to do next? I wonder if you can guess what Paul did decide to do?

We might not have the same experience as Saul, but we all have to learn to deal with big changes. I wonder if there are events that have brought changes for you? Moving house or school? Welcoming a new family member?

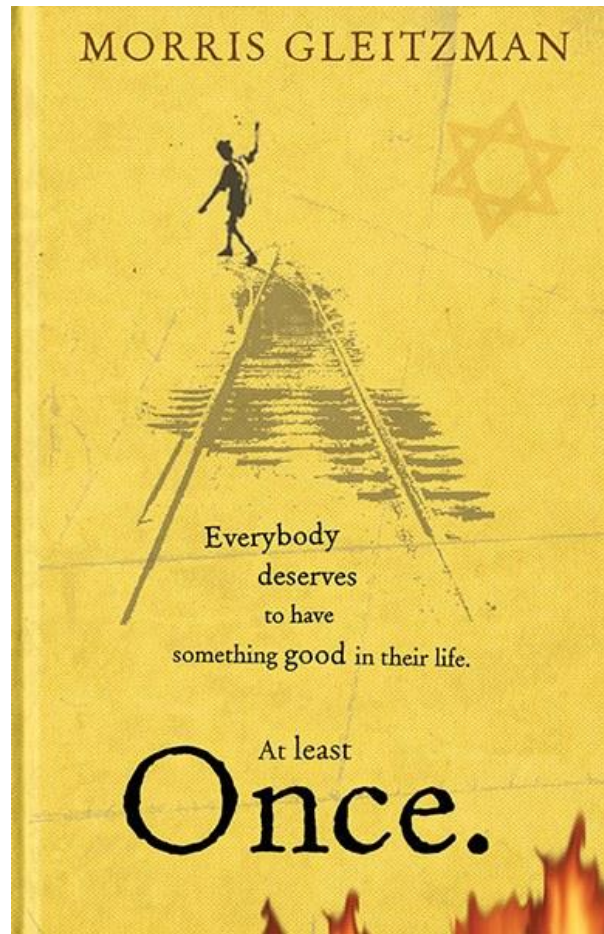


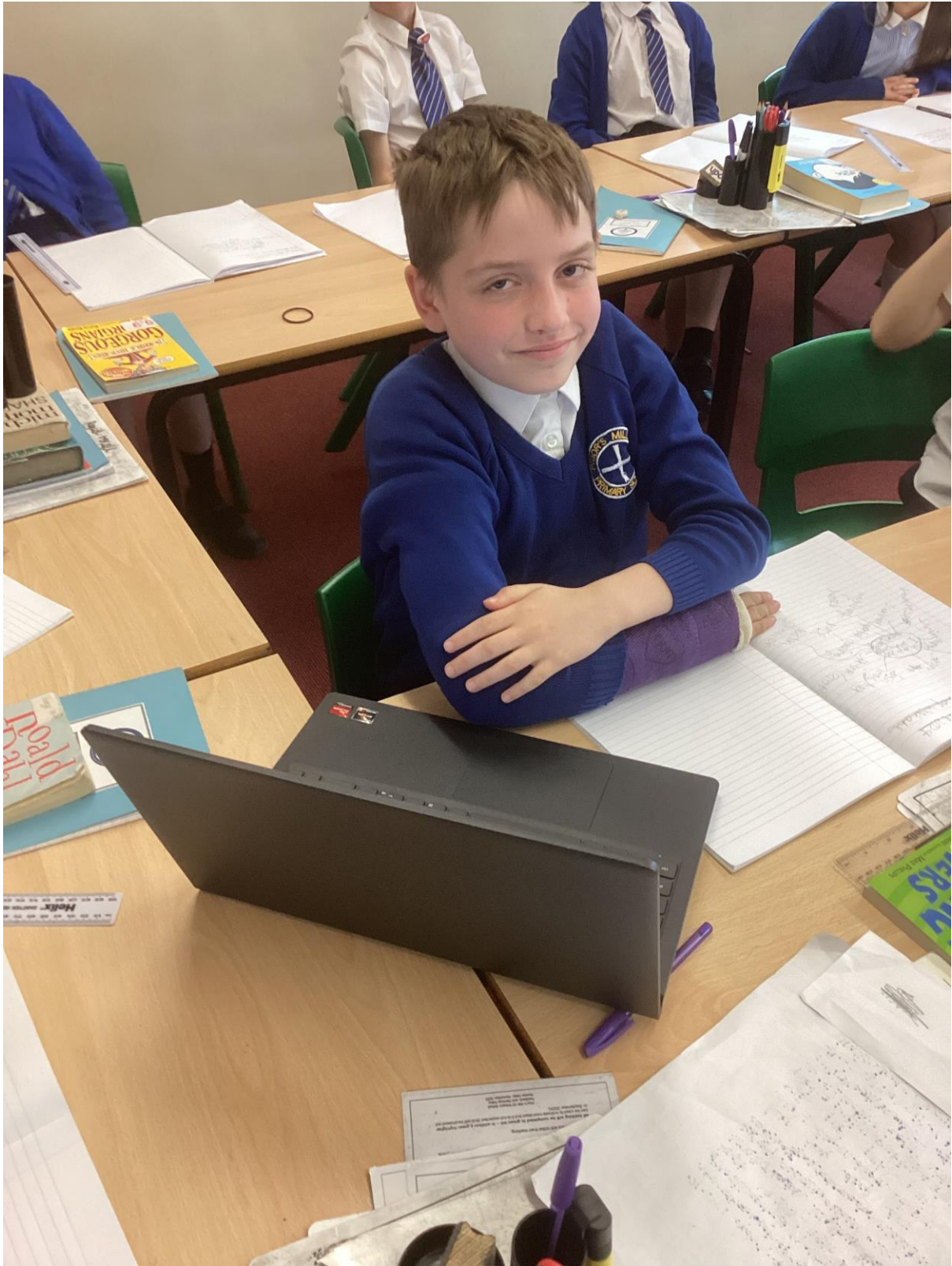
Class News



Thanks to pupils in Mrs Stoke's class I enjoyed reading the book 'Once' this week. I can highly recommend it if you are interested in the treatment of Jewish families during the Holocaust. Read the first chapter and find out about the book below.

<https://morrisgleitzman.com/once.htm>





2 - , Mrs Gordon asked me to listen to Leighton's Once inspired story - it was fantastic!



3 - Fantastic Reading, Writing and Questions from Children in Mrs Stokes Class this week

Key Dates



Key Dates

Nursery Welcome Meeting Tuesday 11th June 5pm

Reception Welcome Meeting Thursday 13th June 5pm

National Sports Week is 17th - 21st June

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Y6 Prom - Friday 12th July

Y6 Performance of Memories and Singing - (Tuesday 16th July 1:30pm and 5pm).

*** Y6 Eucharist Service Thursday 18th July 10am**

Reception Graduation Wednesday 17th July 2pm

Picture News



2-14--collective-worship-powerpoint-2024-05-31



What's happening
in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's


3rd – 9th June 2024



Learning from difficult times

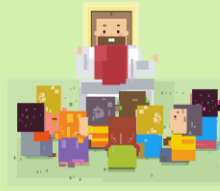
 God	 Creation	 Fall	 People of God
 Incarnatio	 Gospel	 Salvation	 Kingdom of God

© Picture News 2024



6th June is the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Normandy, the day in 1944 when Allied forces from thirteen different countries stormed five beaches in Normandy, France. This marked the beginning of the end of World War II. A World War II veteran, Henry Rice, who is 98 and from Surrey, has called for schools to teach children more about D-Day 1944. He believes that by learning about the history of it, they could urge politicians to avoid wars.

Think together and talk



Think together and talk

Have you ever experienced a difficult time in your life? How did it make you feel?


What do you do when you face difficult times?

What or who gives you hope?




What does the Bible have to say?





In the New Testament, we learn about the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus' good news not only transforms lives now, but also points toward a restored, transformed life in the future. Remembering and learning about the life and teachings of Jesus shows us how to live and gives us hope for a new life.




May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the

Holy Spirit

Romans 15:13



What do others think?



The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power.

Mary Pickford
– actress, producer, writer

Time to be quiet and to pray



Prayer

Dear God,
Give us the strength to face difficult times,
Help us to learn from the experience of others,
present and past,
Help us to move forward in a positive way,
Help us to look for hope,
Amen

Continue thinking



Key Stage 1 class discussion

Difficult times can make us sad. Have you ever felt really sad? What made you feel this way?

Discuss the different ways people might show they are sad e.g., cry, sit alone, struggle to sleep.

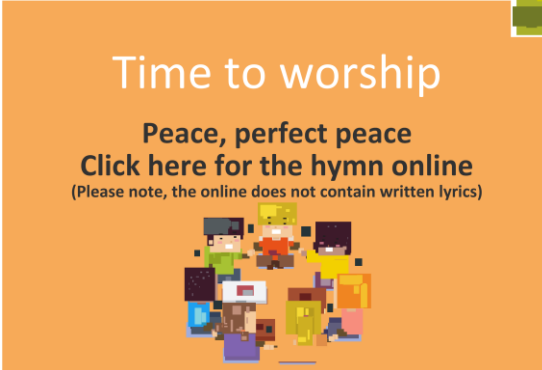

Explain that feeling sad is normal. Often, we get through it or overcome it. How might you do this e.g., talk to someone, do an activity you enjoy?

Key Stage 2 class discussion

Have you ever learned about a difficult time in the past that made an impact on you? How?

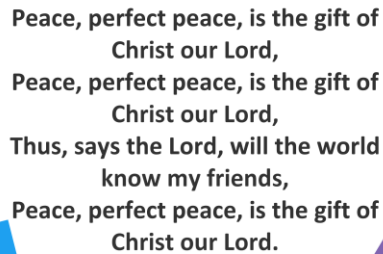

Have you experienced a difficult time that has influenced who you are today?

What or who has shaped you? Your beliefs, hopes, dreams, strengths, weaknesses.

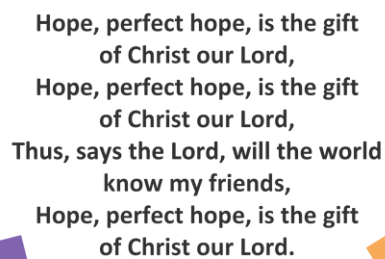



Time to worship

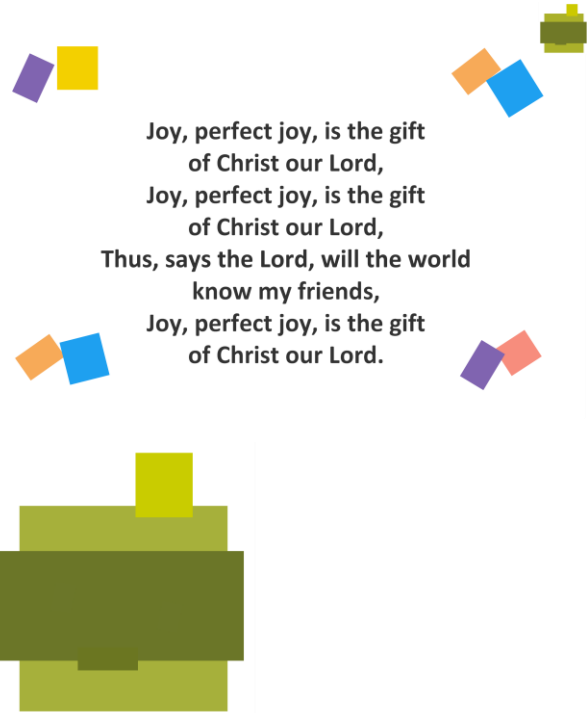
Peace, perfect peace
Click here for the hymn online
(Please note, the online does not contain written lyrics)



Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of
Christ our Lord,
Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of
Christ our Lord,
Thus, says the Lord, will the world
know my friends,
Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of
Christ our Lord.



Hope, perfect hope, is the gift
of Christ our Lord,
Hope, perfect hope, is the gift
of Christ our Lord,
Thus, says the Lord, will the world
know my friends,
Hope, perfect hope, is the gift
of Christ our Lord.



Joy, perfect joy, is the gift
of Christ our Lord,
Joy, perfect joy, is the gift
of Christ our Lord,
Thus, says the Lord, will the world
know my friends,
Joy, perfect joy, is the gift
of Christ our Lord.

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.

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/>

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.

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