



Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School

Newsletter January 17th 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 17.01.25

In This Issue



This week we include:

- **Message from Mr Linsley**
- **School Council**
- **Sporting Stars**
- **Musician of the Month**
- **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



Reception Open Event For Pupils Starting September 2025

It was lovely to meet children and families of potential new Reception starters in September 2025. If you missed the events but would like your child to attend school in September please contact the office who will give you the details for admissions team at the Local Authority.

Parent Governor Opportunity

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Kelly Chilton for her time and dedication while serving on the school governing body, a new job role means that she is unable to continue and will be stepping down. If you would like to be a parent representative on the Governing Body then please look out for the letter being distributed or check out the website next week. For an informal chat about the role please speak to myself or Miss Huddart. You can also speak to Mr Kevin Cooper Chair of Governors.

QUICK REMINDER: KEY DATES

- 15/1/25 Class 2 Sports Event
- 21/1/25 Class 3 Pirate Sporting Event
- 30/1/25 Class 12 Worship
- 31/1/25 Dogs Trust Assemblies for KS1 and KS2

- 3/2/25 Swimming Class 12 – 2 weeks
- 3/2/25 Mental Health Week
- 6/2/25 Class 11 Worship
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School Council



The school council have been very busy meeting to look at Safeguarding issues within school



Sporting Stars



EYFS Sporting Stars!



Musician of the Month



Price Poster

JANUARY



Born : U.S.A., 1887

Died: U.S.A., 1953

Famous Composition: I am Bound for the Kingdom

FLORENCE PRICE



Digital Leaders



1 - Hugo (Y3), Felicity (Y4), Luke (Y5) and Joey (Y6) are the new school Digital Leaders.

Parent guide for this week - Spending and Saving

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

As a parent or carer you play a key role in keeping your child safe online. Find out more about commonly used social media platforms at

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators EDUCATING CHILDREN ON SPENDING AND SAVING

Evidence shows that children's spending habits begin to form as early as seven years old. With primary schools in England not required to teach financial literacy, many young people are reaching adulthood without knowing the basics of budgeting. This guide explains how to teach young people about money in a practical way, giving them the understanding to become savvy spenders and savers.

- 1 PROVIDE POCKET MONEY**

Giving children money – even a small amount – can help them learn to make their own choices. Research shows that young people who receive pocket money are more likely to become adults with strong financial skills and significantly less debt.
- 2 USE A PREPAID CARD**

Being able to pay by card is essential these days, with some retailers not accepting cash. Since the government's Prepaid debit cards are available to children from the age of 16, it's important for them to get used to spending the way adults do. Encourage them to use a prepaid card instead of cash. Learning about money is the first step to being able to get in the good and have a go.
- 3 PRACTISE BORROWING**

Although official borrowing is only available to over 18s, kids need to understand how debt and interest work. Before kids borrow, explain what they are borrowing and how much they need to pay back. If they borrow, explain how much they need to pay back by a certain date, plus an extra couple of pounds as interest.
- 4 ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATION**

Chatting about money and how much things cost will teach children that money is a part of everyday life and not some "magical" thing. Parents can discuss their budgeting for the weekly shop, for example, and encourage them to get everything on the list while saving the total. When a child makes a spending choice, make sure they understand the consequences of their choice. Encourage them to make spending decisions in a safe space, not in front of their friends or on social media.
- 5 DISCUSS THE PRESSURE TO SPEND**

Whether it's a YouTube ad or a friend's brag about a new purchase, spending pressure is everywhere. Encourage children to notice how these shop signs and offers such as "2 for 1" deals entice us to spend more. Challenge them to resist impulse buys by getting them to sleep on it before deciding to spend.
- 6 TELLING 'NEED' FROM 'WANT'**

Learning how to prioritise spending is an important life skill. The difference between 'need' and 'want' is a key concept. Encourage children to think about whether they really need something or if it's just a 'want'. For example, if a child wants a new toy but has a broken one, encourage them to think about whether they really need it or if they can just fix the old one. Encourage them to think about whether they really need something or if it's just a 'want'. For example, if a child wants a new toy but has a broken one, encourage them to think about whether they really need it or if they can just fix the old one.
- 7 ENCOURAGE SAVING**

Getting children saving early can set them up with a useful habit for their future life. Encourage them to set aside a small amount of money every time they receive money, such as from a birthday or allowance. Encourage them to think about whether they really need something or if it's just a 'want'. For example, if a child wants a new toy but has a broken one, encourage them to think about whether they really need it or if they can just fix the old one.
- 8 SPARK INTEREST IN INTEREST**

Money can be a tricky thing to understand, but it's important for children to know how it works. Encourage them to think about how money can grow over time. If they have a savings account, encourage them to think about how much they can save each month. Encourage them to think about how much they can save each month.
- 9 PAYING FOR CHORES**

This is a complex debate with no right or wrong answer. If you decide to pay for chores, make sure you have a clear system in place. Encourage children to think about whether they really need something or if it's just a 'want'. For example, if a child wants a new toy but has a broken one, encourage them to think about whether they really need it or if they can just fix the old one.
- 10 PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SCAMS**

Scams are a terrifyingly easy way to lose money and children are generally more likely to be taken in by a scam than adults. Encourage children to think about whether they really need something or if it's just a 'want'. For example, if a child wants a new toy but has a broken one, encourage them to think about whether they really need it or if they can just fix the old one.

Meet Our Expert
Goherry is a prepaid debit card and financial education app with a mission to make every young person smart about money. Co-founder and CEO Louise Hill is a professional speaker for better financial literacy among young people and strongly believes that money management is a crucial life skill.

WakeUp Wednesday
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/teaching-spending-saving>

[X @wake_up_weds](https://www.wakeup_weds.com) [f /www.thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com) [@wakeup.wednesday](https://www.wakeup_weds.com) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.wakeup_weds.com)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.12.2024

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 just 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 - Who do you say that I am!



WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

Luke 9:18-20

I wonder how many questions you will ask or be asked today? I wonder what questions will be the most important ones that you hear today?

One of the important questions that Jesus asked his disciples was 'Who do you say that I am?'. This was because there was a lot of speculation about who Jesus was because of all of the amazing things that Jesus was doing and saying. For some people, like the religious political leaders, Jesus was a threat. For others, Jesus was seen as a figure to lead them to freedom. For his disciples, he was their friend and teacher. The answer given to the question that Jesus asked would result in some people following him and others not doing so. So it was definitely an important question.

I wonder if you have your own ideas about Jesus? I wonder what words you would use to describe Jesus? I wonder if we can create our own wordle with all of our ideas? I wonder if what you think about Jesus means that you can follow his example and act on his words in your day to day life?

Dear God, As we look at the life of Jesus in the coming weeks, help us to ask and answer the questions which help us to become people who follow the right ways of living and service as Jesus did when he lived in the world. AMEN

Class News



LOVELY COOKING FROM AFTERSCHOOL CLUB WHO MADE MARSHMALLOW TREATS!

Mrs Akerman's Class - Science

They have been learning about storms and wind in Science today, we made a windmill to help measure the wind. We had so much fun today in super Science



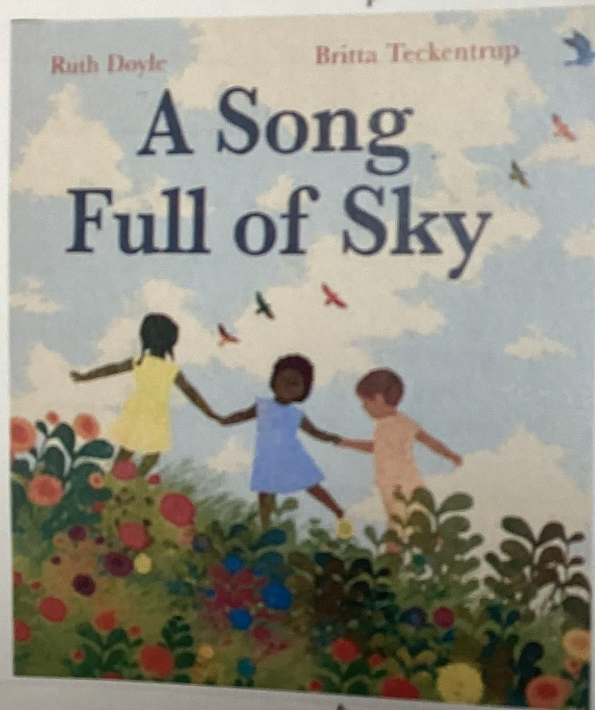
Fantastic Writing in Y4!

3.1.24 - picture book study - A Song
of Sky.

Predict

singing

friends



play

Happy
think the story is about 3 girls sing
a song in clear skys.

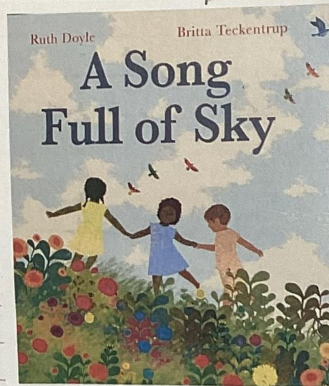
Big Questions

13.1.24 - picture book study - A Song of Sky.

Underline Predict

singing

spends



playing

I think the story is about ^{Happy} 3 girls singing a song in clear sky.

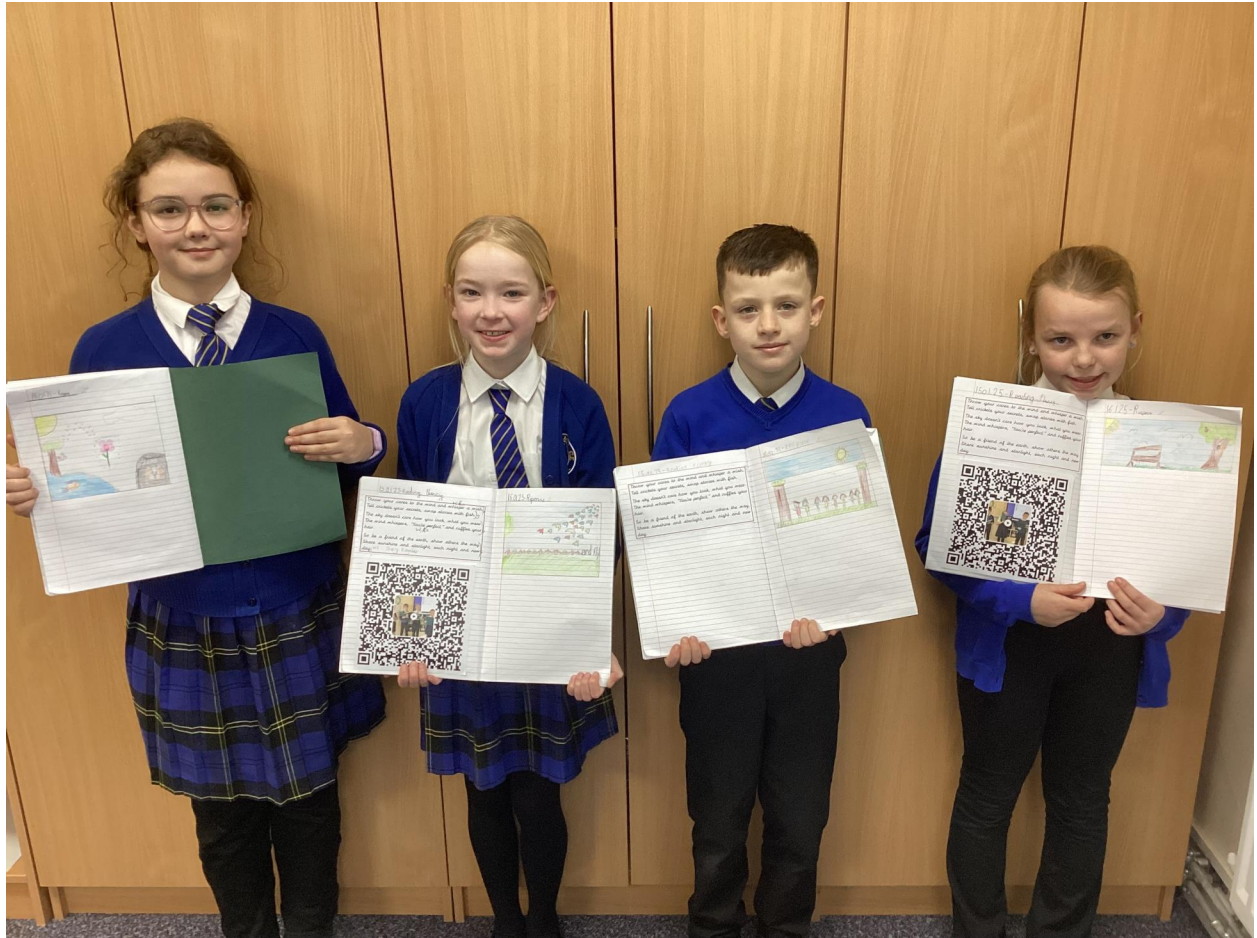
Big Question

Why are some people nervous about going outside?

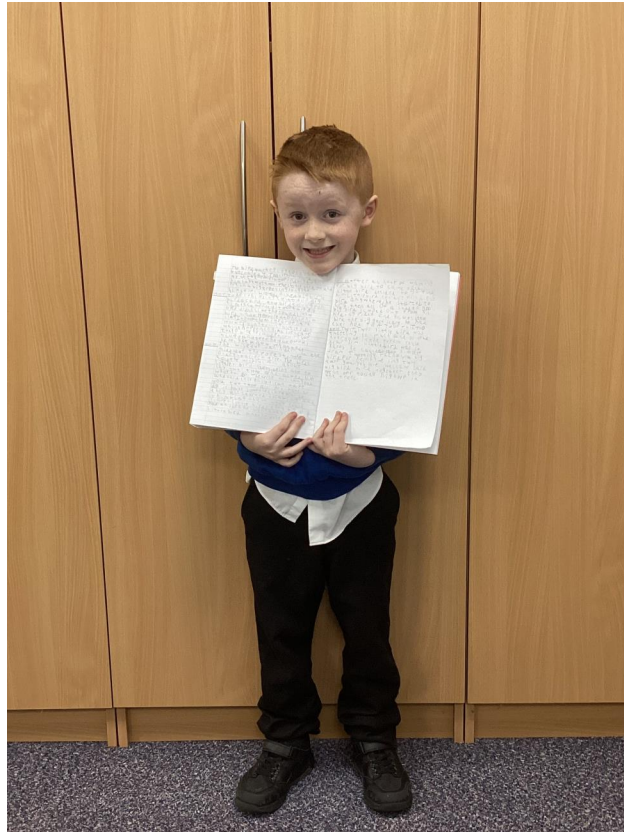
A bird might poo on them.

Story is

There is a wings



Fantastic writing from Reuben in Y3!



Lovely Writing from Y4 Children in Miss Alderson's Class.









Key Dates



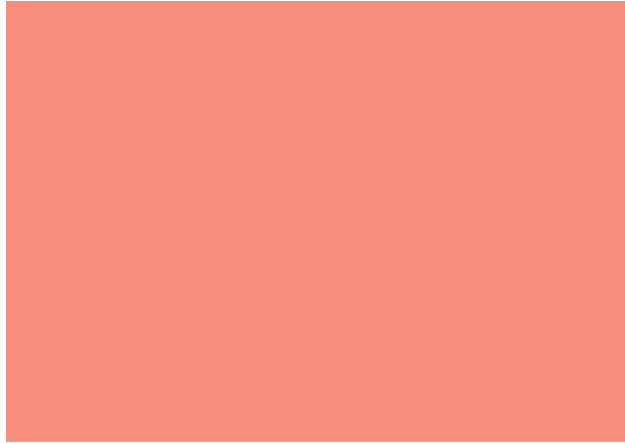
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Picture News



Collective Worship PowerPoint (1)



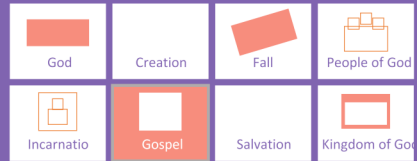
What's happening
in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's

13th – 19th January 2025

Strong Foundations



© Picture News 2025

UK Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, has stated that building new homes is a 'top priority.' The government has announced changes to planning rules, aiming to make it easier to build homes in the countryside. Local areas have been set targets to deliver a total of 370,000 new homes each year in England.

Think together and talk



Think together and talk

Do you enjoy building and construction? What have you built?


What are the homes like in your local area? Are there any new buildings? Which homes do you like the most/least?

What do you think is important to consider when building new homes, e.g., materials used, design, layout, where it is built?





What does the Bible
have to say?





In the Bible, Jesus tells us a story about two men. They both built a house. The wise man built his on rock, whereas the foolish man built his on sand.

When the storms came, the house built on sand collapsed but the house built on rock stood firm. Jesus teaches us to build our lives on strong foundations, just like we would a house. Building a foundation on our faith in God will keep us standing firm, even in times of difficulty.

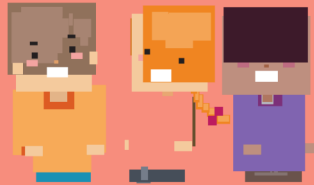


Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Matthew 7:24-27



What do others think?



Build a strong foundation
and you can reach even the
most unthinkable heights.

M. J. Moores - author

Time to be quiet
and to pray



Prayer

Dear God,
Help us to make good choices,
Help us be strong, kind and loving,
Thank you for being part of the
foundations that we build our lives upon,
Amen

Continue thinking



Key Stage 1 class discussion

Think about your home. Can you describe the building? What is it made from? Is it near other buildings? Are they the same or different?

What do you like about your home? How does your home make you feel? Do you feel happy and safe? Can you relax?

Key Stage 2 class discussion

Explain that a house's foundation isn't seen but it is very important. It supports the weight of the building and provides a flat and level space. Without it, the building may fall down. Have you ever fallen down? Were you able to get back up?

Think about the firm foundations of your life. What or who supports you, helps you get back up if you fall and gives you strength? Family, friends, beliefs?

Time to worship

[Click here for the hymn online](#)



All over the world,
Everywhere,
Where the sun shines,
And where the white snow gleams;
In the green, green forests and
by the streams,
Hands are busy, plans are laid,
And slowly, slowly,
Somewhere, somebody's house
is made



Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, day by day,
Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, in a different way.



All over the world,
Everywhere,
Where the sun shines,
And where the darkest night
Holds back the coming of the morning
light,
Bricks are laid and wood is sawn,
And slowly, slowly,
Out of a dream a house is born,



Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, day by day,
Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, in a different way.





All over the world,
Everywhere,
Where we're living,
Wherever children grow,
And their lives are shaped as
the moments go,
Minds are building, plans are laid,
And slowly, slowly,
Somewhere, somebody's life
is made



Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, day by day,
Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, in a different way.



All over the world,
Everywhere,
Where we're living,
Wherever children play,
For the things they do and the things they
say,
For good or ill, ground is laid,
And slowly, slowly,
Somewhere, somebody's life
is made





Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, day by day,
Everybody's building, everybody's building,
Everybody's building, in a different way.



[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/>¹

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.

Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mr Linsley

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead - Miss Huddart

EMERGENCY HELP DURING THE WEEKEND / HOLIDAYS

During the weekend / holidays, whilst your children are playing outside with friends, we would recommend that your child knows where to go to for help if they need it. This might be a grandparent or family friend, as well as at home. It is important that your child knows how to call the emergency services for help.

We have been advised that you talk to your child about risk-taking behaviour and the potential consequences of any decisions that they make whilst away from home. Give your children the confidence to say "no" to taking part in any risky or anti-social behaviour with their peers.

Of course, we want the children to enjoy the weekend and part of that is becoming more independent from parents; however, we want all our children to return to school fit, well and safe after the weekend.

TEWV Crisis team (CAMHS & Adults) has now changed.

There is a new system and people must call 111- option 2 - this is the 111 Mental Health line & call handlers will transfer to the local crisis team appropriately.

The Children's Hub is the first point of contact for anyone who has a concern about the welfare or safety of a child or young person.

¹<https://priorsmill.org.uk/>

The Children's Hub

Stockton: 01642 130080

childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk²

Crisis support line

If someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis call NHS 111 and select the mental health option.

Billingham & Stockton Borough Foodbank

4-6 West Precinct

Billingham Town Centre

Billingham TS23 2NH

07583 575522

<https://billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.org.uk>

info@billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.org.uk³

If you have any welfare or safeguarding concerns relating to a child in school during term time, please do not hesitate to contact –

Mrs ALLISON HANSON

PUPIL WELFARE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Prior's Mill C/E Primary School

Billingham TS225BX

01642 650426

office@priorsmill.org.uk

²<mailto:childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk>

³<mailto:info@billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.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