

Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School Newsletter January 23rd 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 23.01.25

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 - Windy Week!



Storm Eowyn

I hope everyone manages to stay safe as they journey home this evening and over the weekend as the storm passes through, fortunately we have experienced no significant damage but we are aware of issues in the local community. The children despite the wind have been brilliant today and very sensible.

Mr Chris Macdonald MP Visit

Children in KS2 had the opportunity to ask a Mr Macdonald a number of questions when he visited the school this afternoon - he was very impressed with how much thought they had put into the questions and said that he really enjoyed the visit - we will share pictures in the newsletters next week.

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. CLOSING DATE NEXT FRIDAY 31st JANUARY.

Safeguarding Update

Parents with older children in KS2 might have heard about a game that some of the Y6 children were playing based on the Netflix show Squid Game. The show is rated as being a 15 and is therefore not appropriate for Primary age Children and as a result we have spoken to the children involved and explained that this is inappropriate. I have attached a guide for parents in the section below.

Maths

Mr Farrell has asked me to share some guidance for parents based on maths we are having a real focus in school on developing the reasoning and problem solving skills of children. Engaging them in maths and making part of the daily routine is the first step.

QUICK REMINDER: KEY DATES

- 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
- 10/2/25 Bikeability Class 12
- 11/2/25 Safer Internet Day
- 13/2/25 Class 10 Worship
- 13 &14/2/25 NHS Checks Reception and Y6
- 20/2/25 Class 9 Worship
- 20/2/25 Break Up for Half Term
- 21/2/25 PD Day
- 3/3/25 Return to School
- 3/3/25 National Careers Week

- 7/3/25 World Book Day
- 10/3/25 British Science Week
- 21/3/25 Comic Relief Day
- 26/3/25 Parent Consultation
- 31/3/25 Easter Foodbank Donations
- 2/4/24 Parent Consultation
- 10/4/25 Break Up for Easter Holiday
- 11/4/25 PD Day
- 28/4/25 Return to School



School Council



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



Sporting Stars



On Tuesday, Class 3 children participated in a Pirate Festival. They participated in a carousel of pirate themed activities designed to help develop the fundamental movement skills of Agility, Balance and Co-ordination. The children had a great time!















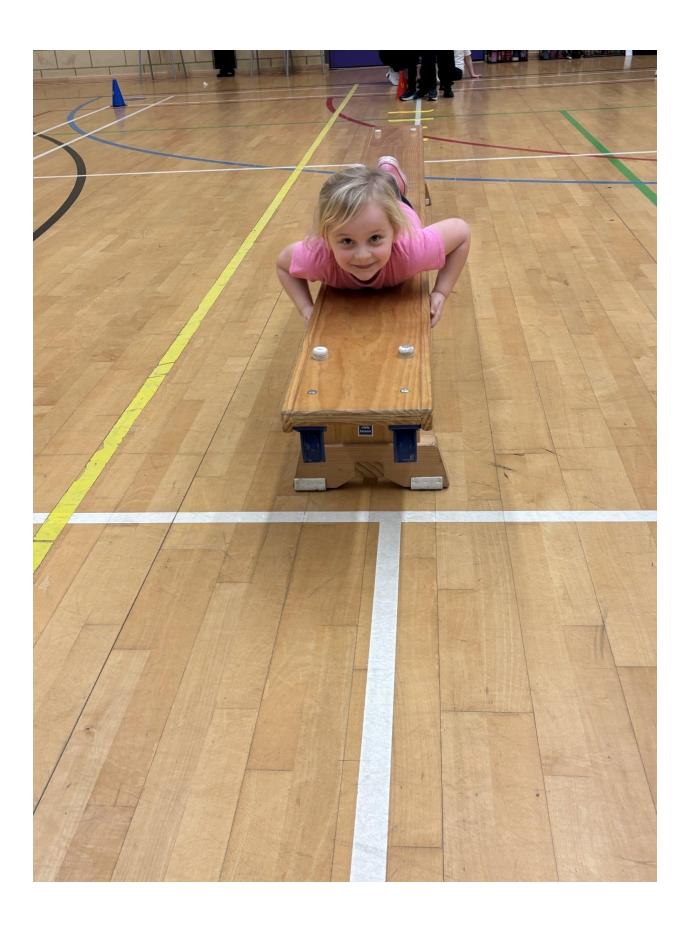








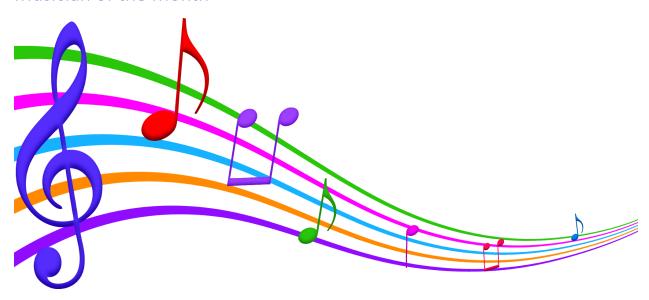








Musician of the Month



Price Poster

日馬馬馬哥



Born: U.S.A., 1887

Died: U.S.A., 1953

Famous Composition: I am Bound for the Kingdom

萨凡岛黑色





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

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



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.

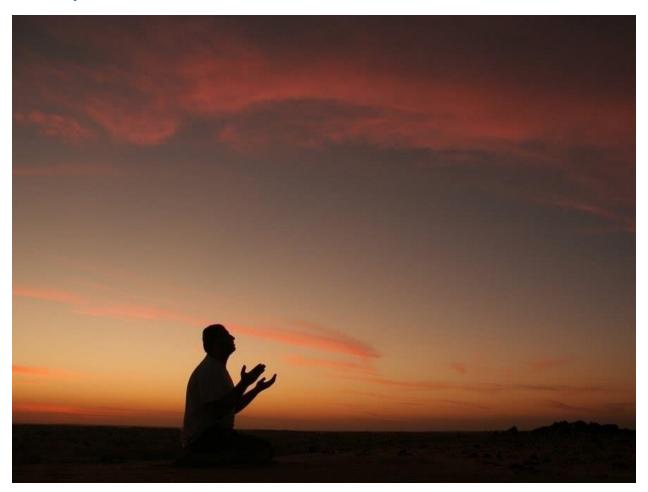
Current School Attendance is 95% this is just below the DFE target of 96%.

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 - Water



I AM THE WATER OF LIFE

John 4:13-14

These verses are taken from a description of a meeting which Jesus had with a Samaritan woman. Tomorrow, we will look at the story in a bit more detail.

I wonder why we need water? I wonder how water gives life?

Jesus said, 'Whoever drinks the water that I will give will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in him a well of life that lasts forever.' John 4:13-14

I wonder why Jesus would describe himself as the living water? I wonder what this might teach us about Jesus?

I wonder how Jesus is a 'Life Giver'?

Jesus is saying that he is offering 'water' that gives eternal life; a life with Jesus.

I wonder why Jesus used this particular metaphor to describe himself?

Dear God, Thank you for the generous gift of water for our physical refreshment but also for the living water of Jesus which gives us spiritual health and strength. AMEN



Class News



LOVELY COOKING FROM AFTERSCHOOL CLUB WHO MADE HOT CHOCOLATE MARSHMALLOW TREATS!









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
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Picture News



Picture News Worship - 20th January - YouTube



What's happening

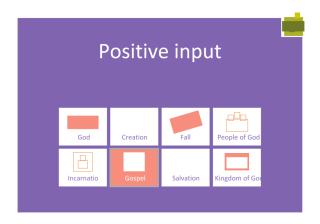
in the news this week?





Let's have a look at this week's

20th – 26th January 2025



© Picture News 2025

The UK government's culture secretary, Lisa Nandy, has written to video-sharing platforms, such as YouTube and TikTok, asking them to actively share more educational content for children. Nandy stated that while YouTube has improved children's content on its platform, it is not doing enough to make sure the content is easily seen by children.





Think together and talk

What do you enjoy watching or listening to on TV or online? Does it make you feel happy?

Do all the things you watch impact you positively?

Can you share something you have watched or listened to that you think had a positive influence and something you think had a negative influence?







Thirteen of the twenty-seven books in the New Testament are written by Saint Paul. Paul spread the teachings of Jesus. Whilst he was in the city of Philippi, he gave some advice to a group of people. He suggested they fill their thoughts with the things that are right, true, pure and lovely. We can choose the things we read, listen to and watch so we feel positive, happy and good about ourselves.

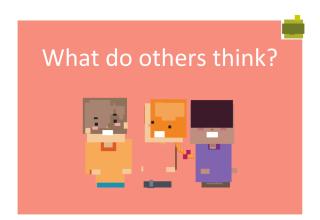




Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

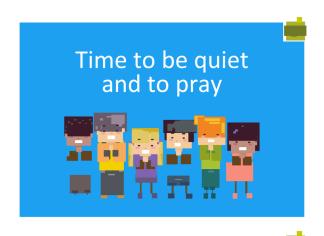
Philippians 4.8





If you are selective about the things you choose to read, look at or listen to, then you are taking effective action against negative thinking. It's just

Zig Ziglar - author



Prayer

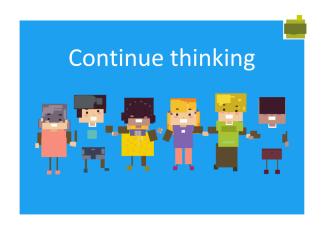
Dear God,

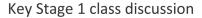
Give us the courage to choose positive things to watch and listen to,

Help us to fill our thoughts with things that are lovely, right and true,

Please help anyone who may be easily influenced and keep them safe,

Amen





Do you watch anything on TV or online? Have you ever watched anything on a mobile phone, tablet, computer?

Share the things you watch and listen to that make you feel happy and smile! Have you ever watched anything that made you feel sad or worried?

Key Stage 2 class discussion

Make a list of some of the programmes, people or channels you watch. For each, discuss what you believe its purpose is, e.g., to entertain, educate, persuade, influence.

Have you considered how much screen time you have each day? What else could you watch or listen to that would be positive for you?

How can you make sure you are safe online?

Time to worship Click here for the hymn online (Song 14)





Be careful little eyes what you see, Be careful little eyes what you see, There's a Saviour up above, Watching over you with love, So be careful little eyes what you see.









Be careful little ears what you hear, Be careful little ears what you hear, There's a Saviour up above, Watching over you with love, So be careful little ears what you hear.









Be careful little lips what you speak,
Be careful little lips what you speak,
There's a Saviour up above,
Watching over you with love,
So be careful little lips what you speak.









Be careful little hands what you do, Be careful little hands what you do, There's a Saviour up above, Watching over you with love.









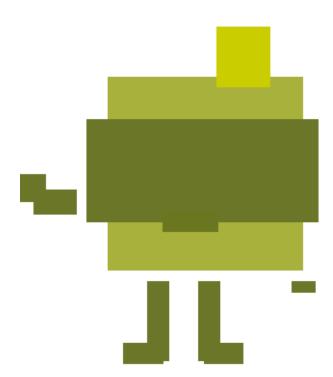
Be careful little feet where you go, Be careful little feet where you go, There's a Saviour up above, Watching over you with love.





Collective

Worship



Ask the children to play 'Follow Me'. They watch and listen to your commands then follow/copy them.

For the first game, select commands that are positive, such as wave with your right hand, wave with your left hand, smile, clap your hands, put your thumbs up, wave both hands in the air, do a happy dance, say 'you're fantastic'!

For the second game, select commands that are negative, such as stick your tongue out, put your thumbs up, stomp your foot, frown, fold your arms, shrug your shoulders, say 'you're horrid'.

Ask the children to compare the two games. Which did they prefer? Did anyone feel uncomfortable in the second game? Did anyone have the courage not to follow the negative commands?

The things we watch and listen to can influence us. We can choose positive things that make us happy and feel good.



Pupil involvement

Bible Link: Philippians 4.8

Christian Value: Courage

Theme: Positive input

Pupil talk

What do you enjoy watching or listening to on TV or online? Does it make you feel happy?

Do all the things you watch impact you positively?

Can you share something you have watched or listened to that you think had a positive influence and something you think had a negative influence?

Think

The UK government's culture secretary, Lisa Nandy, has written to video-sharing platforms, such as YouTube and TikTok, asking them to actively share more educational content for children. Nandy stated that while YouTube has improved children's content on its platform, it is not doing enough to make sure the content is easily seen by children.

Thirteen of the twenty-seven books in the New Testament are written by Saint Paul. Paul spread the teachings of Jesus. Whilst he was in the city of Philippi, he gave some advice to a group of people. He suggested they fill their thoughts with the things that are right, true, pure and lovely. We can choose the things we read, listen to and watch so we feel positive, happy and good about ourselves.

Invitation prayer

Dear God,

Give us the courage to choose positive things to watch and listen to,

Help us to fill our thoughts with things that are lovely, right and true,

Please help anyone who may be easily influenced and keep them safe,

Amen

Key stage 1 class discussion

Do you watch anything on TV or online? Have you ever watched anything on a mobile phone, tablet, computer?

Share the things you watch and listen to that make you feel happy and smile! Have you ever watched anything that made you feel sad or worried?

Key stage 2 class discussion

Make a list of some of the programmes, people or channels you watch. For each, discuss what you believe its purpose is, e.g., to entertain, educate, persuade, influence.

Have you considered how much screen time you have each day? What else could you watch or listen to that would be positive for you?

How can you make sure you are safe online?

Worship song



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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.

The Children's Hub

Stockton: 01642 130080

¹https://priorsmill.org.uk/

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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

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

²mailto:childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk

³mailto:info@billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.org.uk

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