

8TH NOVEMBER 2024

ISSUE 08

PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

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Headteacher's News

Welcome Back!

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break. It's wonderful to have the pupils back, and we're looking forward to the exciting weeks ahead.

As you know, we're preparing for our Christmas Market, and we're grateful for the generous donations we've already received. If you have any outstanding donations or additional items that you could contribute, please feel free to bring them in next week. Every bit helps us make this event special for our school community.

On Tuesday, 26th November, we're introducing something new - Tea with SLT. This gathering will replace the more formal Parent Forum with an open, relaxed conversation with members of the Senior Leadership Team. It's a chance to connect, share, and discuss any general questions or ideas you may have about the school. We're excited to provide this opportunity for open dialogue, enhanced communication, and greater parental engagement, and we encourage you to join us!

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working together for another successful term.

Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages - W/C 4th November

Whole School - 93.1%

Year 1 - 92.4%

Year 2 - 95.0%

Year 3 - 94.3%

Year 4 - 94.3%

Year 5 - 90.9%

Year 6 - 94.2%

Congratulations to Pear and 1Jefferers with 100% the highest attendance this week!

Important dates:

[Click here](#) to link to the school calendar

[Click here](#) to see term dates for 2024-2025

Leaflets and letters:

Please [click here](#) to go to our leaflets page on the website and choose external providers

Signs of the week:

Diwali, Hope and Determination

<https://youtu.be/FbEDYl8TPuc>

Peek at the Week

Nursery – 8th November 2024

Learning

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We have been talking about how to make sure our Nursery is a happy place for everyone to learn in. This week we have been focusing on 'talking to a teacher if we are upset or hurt'

Communication & Language Development

We have been reading the story of Monster Clothes and naming all the clothing items that the monsters wear. One of the monsters called Lester wears leaves on his head!! We collected leaves and pretended we were Lester.



Physical Development

We have been developing our fine motor skills by hammering golf tees into our pumpkins. We have needed to carefully use our hand-eye

co-ordination skills to safely hammer. We have also been spooning 'spooky rice' into our little pumpkin containers.



World Nursery Rhyme Week is next week.

Join your child for rhyme time on:



Friday 15th Nov 10:45am

(15 hr AM parents)

Friday 15th Nov 2:45pm

(15hr PM parents and all day parents)



Children in Need Day is also on Friday 15th.

Making Diwali diva lamps.



Child of the week: Dexi for being a kind friend, following our classroom behaviour charter and for sharing his rainbow crystal powers with his teachers!!

Song of the week: This is the Way we brush our teeth.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrjIH3RvgZo>



Word of the Week: 'hammering'

Contact us: nursery@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week–Reception

08.11.24

Welcome back! We have loved hearing stories all about things you got up to during the half term break; Diwali celebrations, Halloween, fireworks, lovely autumn walks and even trips away!

This week has been all about fireworks—as our learning has revolved around Diwali and Bonfire Night. The children used coloured rice to work together and create beautiful rangoli patterns which we displayed during our whole school celebration assembly. It was the first time Reception joined a whole school assembly this year, and they absolutely loved singing with all the other children.



Book baskets

From next week, one child from each class will be bringing home a book basket for the week. Inside, they will find a lovely book for you to read together (and some other exciting things!) Happy reading!

Communication & Language Development

This week, phonics home learning is to read!

Reading practice book:

This week your child is coming home with their first book from our reading scheme. They will have read this book in a small group three times this week, so are very familiar with it.

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Library book:

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

[How to read a wordless book at home](#)

Reception song of the week:

[Celebrate Diwali!](#)



Reception Stars of the Week:

RRupert: Noor

RPaddington: Iyla Ava



Contact us: reception@prioryschool.com

01628 600300

Peek at the Week

Year 1 – 8th November 2024



Important Dates / Reminders

- Please can all book bags be brought in on a **Thursday** so library books and reading books can be changed.

Homework

- Please read with your child for at least 15 minutes a day and record it in their reading diary.
- Focus core math skill: number bonds to 10.

In busy learning this week, the children also had lots of fun making their own firework art.

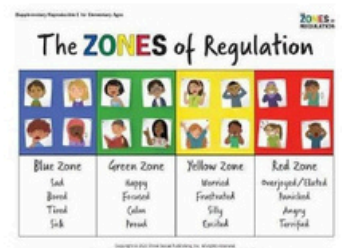


Our Learning

This Week:

In math this week, we continued our topic on addition and subtraction (within 10). The children have started to learn how to write simple number sentences, adding together numbers within 10. They have been using cubes and counters to work our number sentences using a part-whole model.

In English this week, we started our new book called *The Best Diwali Ever*. We spent time reading the story as a class and discussed how the main character was feeling throughout the book. The children then sorted a range of emotions into the different Zones of regulation.



In afternoon sessions this week, we started our History unit all about Guy Fawkes. We spent time looking at old drawings of what he looked like and discussed how we knew these drawings were done a long time ago. The children learnt a range of facts about him and hand a go at writing these facts into simple sentences.

In busy learning this week, the children had lots of fun making their own diya lamps for the Diwali celebration assembly. They used lots of materials and sequins to decorate their lamp, making it really bright and colourful!

Next week's learning

English - The children will be writing character descriptions

Math- We will practicing number sentences and our number bonds

History - We will be learning all about the importance of Remembrance Day.

Star of the week

1Donaldson:

1Jeffers: Arthur



Please practice the following tricky words:

there were says one here

Contact us: year1@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Year 2 – 8th November 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

15.11.24 Non-uniform day for Children in Need/ Determination Day



6.12.24 Christmas Market

Please read with and to your child every day and discuss what you are reading. Once the children have used their phonics to decode the words in the book, please re-read the book several times over the week to help them build up their pace and fluency.

Spellings are sent home on Fridays with a spelling quiz the following Friday. Please practice writing these spellings daily if possible.

Please login in to NumBots and Times Table Rockstars to practise both number bonds and times-tables

Please send your child in the correct PE uniform on **Wednesdays**.

Please send your child in with a coat or waterproof



Child of the Week

2Newton: Lutfan

2Franklin: Jordan



Our Learning

This week, we have started looking at **addition** in maths, using counters to represent two 1-digit numbers and then looking at how many there are **altogether** or **in total** and writing the corresponding addition number sentence.

In English, we have been exploring animal fact files to learn about the features of this type of non-fiction text (for example, headings, sub-headings, pictures, fun facts). We have also started researching facts for our own fact file.

In Geography, we started our new unit by looking at the definition of rural and urban and what we would expect to see (or not see) in these different areas.

The highlight of our week has been a visit from the fire service where we could ask lots of interesting questions and even look inside the fire engine. We also really enjoyed learning about the Hindu and Sikh celebration of Diwali, making wall hangings to decorate the hall and joining in a whole school Diwali assembly.



Next week, we will be counting on in maths to solve addition number sentences, continuing research in English for our African animal fact files and comparing the features of a Kenyan village with our local area, in Geography.



Peek at the Week

Year 3– 8th November 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

14.11.24 3 Nightingale – Swimming lessons

15.11.24 Non Uniform Day– Children in Need /
Determination Day

06.12.24 - Christmas Market



HOMEWORK

Please read with your child for **at least 15 minutes** every day and record this in their reading record. Ideas for reading at home can include reading a library book, a book from school or home, reading a bedtime story or following a recipe among other opportunities! Books can also be read online at <https://www.collinshub.co.uk/login/>

Please practise number bonds and multiplication tables with your child. Times Tables Rockstars: <https://trockstars.com/>

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each **Monday**.

Our Learning

This week, we began a unit of work in science linked to the human body. We learnt about skeletons and muscles, healthy diets and animal diets.

In English, we constructed a class non chronological report about the peculiar pangolin.

In maths we have continued to work on column method for addition.

Next week, we will be studying human and animal diets in our science lesson. We will explore the different food groups that help us to maintain a balanced diet and how animals can be split into groups according to what they eat.

In English, we will be learning how to write a non chronological report. We will look at layout features and how these engage and help a reader. In maths we will be working on column method for subtraction.



Outdoor Maths games help us consolidate our understanding of number!



Word of the Week: bicycle

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year3@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Year 4 Peek at the Week

Friday 8th November 2024

Important Dates /Reminders

Wednesdays: wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.

Fridays: Spelling test. Please remember to read at least three times a week and record it in the reading record. Your child also need to be practising their times tables as much as possible.

Portman Farm visits

The children will be going to visit Portman farm with their class on the following dates:

11th, November – 4 Lovelace

18th November – 4 Turing

25th November 4 Chamberlain

To keep the trip free, we will be travelling in the school minibuses and school car. The children will need to be prompt for school as we will be leaving at 8:50. The children can have school dinners or packed lunch as normal on the day of the trip because we will be back in time for lunch.

Please ensure that your child is dressed well for the trip wearing either trainers with grip, walking boots or wellies. The children also must bring a warm coat on this day.

Your child may bring a healthy snack that fits in the pocket of their jacket and their water bottle.

Our Learning

This week, the children have been continuing to practise subtracting two four-digit numbers. They have become more confident at doing this and they are now able to solve calculations with two exchanges.

In English, we have been looking at the features of newspaper articles and the children have been reporting on the discovery of a intricate spider web that was left outside one of our Year 4 classrooms.

In the afternoons, we have been learning all about farming and agriculture and the children are looking forward to their trip to a local farm next week.

On Friday, we enjoyed celebrating Diwali. The children enjoyed making lanterns and decorating using different rangoli patterns.

Next week, we will be continuing with our geography topic on farming.

In maths, we will start a new topic on area. We will learn how to calculate the area of a shape by counting squares and compare the areas of different shapes.

In English, we will be working on our class book, Charlotte's Web. The children will be continuing to learn all about the characters and think about what the characters are feeling at different points in the story. They will also be looking at setting descriptions and how to use interesting vocabulary effectively.

We will also be taking part in a range of activities next Friday for determination day.

PSHRE Focus: Being Me in My World. In PSHRE this term, we will learn that our attitudes and actions make a difference to our class team. We will acknowledge who is in our school community, the roles they play and how we fit in. We will understand that our actions affect ourselves and others. We will learn to care about other people's feelings by trying to empathise with them.



Child of the week:

4 Turing Zainab 4 Lovelace Arham 4 Chamberlain Esa

Remember to read 3 times a week and practise your timetables on Rockstar Maths.

Contact us: year4@priorschool.com 01628 600300



Year 5 Peek at the Week

8th November 2024

Important Dates / Reminders

Tuesdays: Wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.

Diwali celebration assembly: 8th November

Determination day/Children in need: 15th November–non uniform.

Our Learning

This week, we enjoyed beginning our new science unit on Properties of Materials and have already conducted several experiments. Next week, we will continue being scientists and also become geographers. Our next geography unit looks at the migration of refugees and also mountains, earthquakes and volcanoes.

In maths, we started our Multiplication and Division unit focusing on multiples, common multiples, factors, common factors, and prime numbers.

In English, we continued to read the text 'Goodnight Mr Tom', exploring the characters and their emotions as the story unfolds.

In PSHRE, we looked at cultural differences within the classroom and how we should be celebrating these differences rather than allowing them to cause conflict.

Next week, we will continue our Science unit and begin our geography for this term. We are also exploring vector drawings in ICT this half term.

In maths, we will continue to apply multiplication strategies to help support us within common factors, prime numbers and square numbers.

In English, we will write a newspaper article about how the evacuees settled into Little Weirwold and we will write a book and movie review about Goodnight Mister Tom.

We made factor clouds and multiple chains in maths this week!



Star of the week

5Dawe: **Vanessa** 5Maple: **Zahraa** 5Ofili: **Bailey**

Word of the Week: **conscious**

Remember to read 3 times a week and practise your timetables on Rockstar Maths and Doodle Maths.

Contact us: year5@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek of the Week

The Orchard

Week commencing- 04/11/2024

Important Dates

Plum class swimming:

Every Tuesday this term- *please remember your swimming clothing each week!*

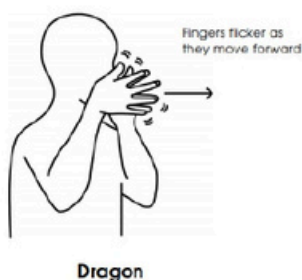
Anti-Bullying Week

Week commencing 11th Nov

Remembrance Day Monday

11th November - *if you wish to purchase a poppy- please bring in your donation.*

Makaton sign:



In English this week, the children have explored their new topic of Castles and Knights. The children channelled their inner Knights and went on a dragon hunt in search of a dragon's egg! They participated in a dragon hunt sensory circuit where they had to walk through tall long grass, through a deep wide river, over a mountain and into a cave!

During maths the children have been working on their skills in addition, number consolidation and finding amounts.

In science, the children have begun to explore magnets and forces. They have investigated different surfaces and how they affect an object's force when moving.

A little reminder:

We are asking for photos of the children from when they were a baby, with family members or during special events. Please can you email us with photos to include in our afternoon lessons? Thank you.

CELEBRATE!



Star of the week

Cherry class: Riaz for engaging during phonics / Plum class: Zidan for amazing addition skills

Apple class: Harrison for engaging during phonics / Pear class: Remell for engaging during maths.





Peek at the Week

The Woodlands
Week commencing- 04.11.24

What the Woodlands has been up to

This week:

In English,

We have been exploring poetry. Identifying features of poetry and gave our personal opinions on poems. We have looked at rhyming, repetition, metaphor and similes, as poetry tools.

In maths,

We have been working on our number bonds to 20. We have been using number lines to help with our addition. We have also been exploring addition problems involving doubling.

The children have counted in 2's using number lines, hundred squares and physical objects. The children have enjoyed using sensory objects to help them with their counting.

The afternoon,

The children have been making Diya Lamps to celebrate Diwali.

The children have been working on their attention skills and made Rangoli patterns.

We have also been learning from our Diwali book. How Diwali is celebrated and discussing why.

The children have also been discussing what they celebrate and why.

Next week,

In English, we are going to work on our poetry skills. We are going to learn and recite a poem.

In Maths, we are going to continue our understanding of doubling and begin to explore subtraction.

Next week, in the afternoon, we are going to continue to explore Diwali and work on our turn taking skills..



Priory Friends

Thank you so much for all the amazing donations you sent in at the end of half term. We are well on our way to getting the Christmas Fair ready and all these lovely prizes make a huge difference. We want to make this a fun event for the kids but we also want to raise some funds for the school and those donations help us do both of those.

Does anyone work for or know of a company who might be willing to make a donation? Let us know by leaving a message at Reception and we can approach them. If you still want to drop something off you are welcome to leave it with the Reception team. And finally, would anyone like to join a Christmas fair preparation session - mostly wrapping and organising the donations? Thanks for your support - it will help us make this a fun event for the children



Priory School (Foundation)

Orchard Avenue, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 6HE
www.prioryschool.com
Head teacher: Mrs H Foster

8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The festive season is just around the corner, and we are excited for the return of the Priory School Christmas Market!

The event will take place on Friday, 6th December, from 3.15pm – 4.30pm.

The Christmas Market is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school community, support fundraising efforts, and kick off the season of goodwill with some festive fun! To ensure the market is a success, we are kindly asking for donations to help us create a fantastic selection of goods for sale.

Ideal donations include:

- Luxury Christmas food and drink items
- Chocolate, sweets and biscuit selections
- Toiletries and fragrances (Adults & Children)
- Wine and spirits (please deliver these directly to the school office)
- Soft drinks
- Gift-type items (e.g., novelty gifts, decorations, etc.)
- New toys, games, books
- Craft Supplies/Fancy Pens/Stationery
- Pocket money Toys etc
- Plus spare wrapping paper!

All donations are greatly appreciated and will help us raise funds to support the school and its activities. Please drop off your contributions at the school by Wednesday 27th November so we can prepare for the event.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Market and celebrating the festive season together!

Please note we are a nut free school

Thank you for your support,
Priory Friends

Contact: Telephone: 01628 600300
office@prioryschool.com



INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate **££s** to schools.

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With
Parentkind

HERE'S HOW:

- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
- 2** Choose your primary school
- 3** Shop in-store across Asda & George, and scan your Asda Rewards app at the checkout.
- 4** Shopping online? Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5** We'll do the rest! We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.



Selected stores. Minimum spend £1+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability UK 18+. App & Opt in required. 0.5% of the value of all customers eligible shops donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1071833. Full T&Cs at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Rewards T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30/11/24



OCT/NOV TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

FREE SESSIONS Introduction to Facing Defiance Decreasing Depression	24 OCT 25 NOV
Anxiety Explained	17 OCT
Understanding Anger	21 OCT
Autism: Improving Communication	28 OCT
Introduction to OCD	29 OCT
Improving Family Communication	4 NOV
Anxiety-Based School Avoidance	12 NOV
Anxiety Explained	14 NOV
Understanding Anger	18 NOV
Drug Awareness for Parents	19 NOV
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	21 NOV
What is ACT?	26 NOV
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 NOV
Understanding the Teenage Brain	2 DEC

Slough's

Children's Centres/Family Hubs

Parent Health Education Groups

in partnership with the public health nursing service



Date	Venue	Session
9 Sep	Penn Road	Childhood illnesses
16 Sep		Fussy eating and healthy diet
23 Sep		Keeping children safe
30 Sep		Routines (toilet training)
7 Oct		Looking after you
14 Oct		Child development
8 Nov	Romsey Close	Childhood illnesses
15 Nov		Fussy eating and healthy diet
22 Nov		Keeping children safe
29 Nov		Routines (toilet training)
6 Dec		Looking after you
13 Dec		Child development
Jan 2025	Chalvey Grove	Childhood illnesses
10 Jan		Fussy eating and healthy diet
17 Jan		Keeping children safe
24 Jan		Routines (toilet training)
31 Jan		Looking after you
7 Feb		Child development

For more info about what else we offer:



Any questions?

Penn Road: 01753 574420

Romsey Close: 01753 540797

Chalvey Grove: 01753 574387

Located in our family rooms, parents and children are welcome. Toys and activities will also be available. Drop-in sessions, no need to book.

Sessions open at 9.30am for a 10am start, finishing at 11am.

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council



Special Educational Needs Disabilities

SEND-AID

SEND Advice and Information Sessions

Autumn/Winter 2024

If your child has SEND and you need advice or information, please book a 1:1 appointment at SEND-AID. We can answer your questions relating to local services, education, Disability Living Allowance and much more.

Location:	Dates:	Time:
Chalvey Grove Children Centre, Slough, SL1 2TE	Monday 16 th September 2024	09:30 – 12:00
	Monday 14 th October 2024	09:30 – 12:00
	Monday 11 th November 2024	09:30 – 12:00
	Monday 16 th December 2024	09:30 – 12:00

Online sessions	Thursday 26 th September 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Tuesday 22 nd October 2024	10:00 – 12:00
	Tuesday 19 th November 2024	13:00 – 15:00
	Monday 23 rd December 2024	13:00 – 15:00

Romsey Children's Centre, Slough SL3 8PE	Thursday 5 th September 2024	09:30 - 12:00
	Thursday 3 rd October 2024	09:30 - 12:00
	Thursday 7 th November 2024	09:30 - 12:00
	Thursday 12 th December 2024	09:30 - 12:00

Penn Road Children's Centre, Slough SL2 1PG	Thursday 3 rd October 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Thursday 10 th October 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Thursday 31 st October 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Thursday 7 th November 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Thursday 21 st November 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Thursday 5 th December 2024	09:00 – 12:00
	Thursday 12 th December 2024	09:00 - 12:00

To book a face to face, on-line or telephone sessions,
please contact: EarlyHelp@sloughchildrenfirst.co.uk

Concerned about a child's communication skills?

How can I help my child
learn more words?

How can I help them
listen to me?

How can I help them
play with me?

Am I doing this right?



Call our **Enquiries Line** to get advice
from a **Speech and Language Therapist**

0118 904 3700

Lines are open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am - 3.30pm.

Available for parents, carers, professionals, and
early years setting staff supporting preschool children
with a Berkshire GP.

cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/slt

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BUILD EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

With increasing societal pressures, many children struggle with managing emotions, facing challenges and processing failure in a healthy way. This is why building emotional resilience in young people is vital for their mental health and personal success. This guide provides practical strategies for parents and educators to help children develop resilience and foster confidence, adaptability and a positive mindset.

1 ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Regularly engaging children in open dialogue fosters trust and emotional expression. Encourage them to share their thoughts and feelings freely without judgment. Set aside time daily, perhaps during dinner, to ask open-ended questions such as, "What's made you happy today?". This encourages children to express themselves openly.

2 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

Children often learn how to manage emotions by observing adults. By modelling calm and positive responses to challenges, you can teach them valuable emotional management skills. If you've had a difficult day, verbalise how you're feeling and explain how you plan to handle it, such as "I'm a bit worked-up, so I'm going for a walk to clear my mind."

3 TEACH PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Helping children break down challenges into manageable steps encourages a proactive mindset. Explain that every problem has a solution, even if it's not immediately obvious. For example, if a child is stuck on homework, support them in breaking the task into smaller steps, saying things like "Let's focus on just this first question for now."

4 FOSTER A GROWTH MINDSET

Encourage young people to view mistakes as learning opportunities. A growth mindset helps them see setbacks as part of the process, rather than something to be upset about. After a child loses a game or performs poorly on a test, for example, ask them what they've learned from the experience. This reinforces the idea that effort – and even failure – leads to improvement.

5 PROMOTE SELF-CARE PRACTICES

Teaching children about self-care helps them understand the importance of balancing work with relaxation to maintain emotional wellbeing. Parents and carers could start a screen-free hour before bedtime where the family engages in relaxing activities like reading, setting an example to the child for how to unwind.

6 BUILD HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Strong relationships with peers and adults provide a support system that enhances resilience. Encourage positive, respectful interactions to develop social skills. Playdates or group activities can be instrumental in teaching children how to resolve conflicts with friends by modelling and practicing calm communication.

7 SUPPORT EMOTIONAL AWARENESS

Helping children to identify and name their emotions allows them to manage those feelings more effectively. When a child's upset, encourage them to talk to you about what they're feeling in an empathetic and supportive manner, and ask them why they might be experiencing these emotions.

8 ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE

Giving children opportunities to make their own decisions boosts confidence and problem-solving skills. A good example of this would be letting children choose and pack their own lunches for school, guiding them with options but allowing them to assume responsibility for the task to help them take ownership.

9 DEVELOP COPING STRATEGIES

Teaching children techniques like mindfulness, deep breathing or journaling can help them to manage stress. Show them how to perform breathing exercises when they're feeling anxious, and practise this regularly. Reinforcing this behaviour in young people will make it easier for them to use these techniques of their own accord during stressful moments.

10 CELEBRATE SMALL WINS

Recognising effort, no matter how small, reinforces perseverance and encourages children to keep trying. After a child completes a difficult task, makes progress on a project or reaches another type of personal goal, praise their efforts. Emphasise the hard work they've put in and be sure to let them know how proud you are!

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provisions.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any firework activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"

Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES

Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are **not** toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fire-safety>

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GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

Virtual Coffee Morning - Demand Avoidance

Friday 22nd November

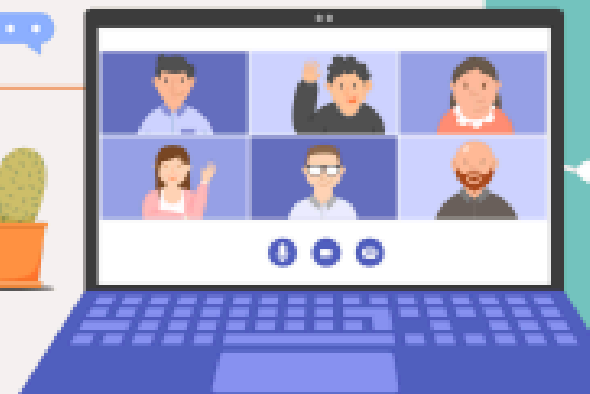
10am to 11:15am

**25 spaces
available!**

Join our online informal discussion to cover the following areas:

- How do you frame demands to get your child engaged?
- How does demand avoidance affect your lives?
- How do you navigate daily routines with demand avoidance?

Please note this is not a workshop but support group for parent/carers and any medical advice should be sought from your medical practitioner.



Sign Up Today!

Available for families who reside in or have a registered GP in East Berkshire with a child who is Autistic/ADHD (suspected/pathway/diagnosed)

To book your place contact GEMS:



Gems.4Health@nhs.net



0800 999 1342

STAY TRUE TO YOU

**Free online training sessions
for parents, carers and wider family
or community members**

Tuesday 12 November, 6.30pm–8.30pm (online) → [register in advance](#)

Thursday 21 November, 6.30pm–8.30pm (online) → [register in advance](#)

Course content:

Everyone is worried about the levels of violence in our community, particularly knife crime involving young people.

The Stay True to You campaign aims to prevent violence by taking a positive approach to supporting young people to help them build confidence and make the right decisions.

Open to all parents, carers and wider family members, these sessions are an opportunity to better understand the facts, including:

- Risk factors to crime and violence
- Exploitation and county drug lines
- Online harm
- How fear drives weapon carrying
- Legal consequences
- How to have those difficult conversations and create trusted relationships
- Sources of help and support

**Tuesday 12 November
6.30pm–8.30pm (online)**

Register in advance at bit.ly/stty-12nov2024

**Thursday 21 November
6.30pm–8.30pm (online)**

Register in advance at bit.ly/stty-21nov2024

Or visit the training page on the website:
staytruetoou.co.uk/upcoming-training-dates-parents/

Contact

info@staytruetoou.co.uk

THAMES VALLEY

**VIOLENCE
PREVENTION**

PARTNERSHIP



Priory School (Foundation)

Orchard Avenue, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 6HE
www.prioryschool.com
Head teacher: Mrs H Foster

8th November 2024

Dear parents/guardians,

First News is the leading source of news and news-based learning for children. Their print newspaper and app are age-appropriate (aimed at 7 to 14 year olds but accessible for all ages), impartial and helps keep kids reading and developing their critical literacy skills.

If you are looking for educational and fun gifts for your children this holiday season, we would recommend First News.

With First News, kids stay informed on current events in a way they can understand and discover new interests through their huge range of content – available to read, listen and react to in print and via their app.

We subscribe to First News at school and see how it helps to boost students literacy and oracy skills.

Plus, our school will receive £10 commission for every order placed. See First News' offers here, using our unique link:

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/christmas?schoolreferral=PMY4MCM5>

Kind Regards
Priory School



Contact: Telephone: 01628 600300
office@prioryschool.com





SPECIAL VOICES

Special Voices Information/Local Offer Live Day

Friday 22nd November 2024 - 9.30-1pm

Singh Sabha Sports Centre, Stoke Poges Lane, SL1 3LW
Guest Speakers @ 10am from Health, Education & Social Care

Special Voices look forward to welcoming you to another of our information/Local Offer Live days, free gift bag on entry for parent/carers, refreshments, free parking on site & surrounding area, lots of information stands with the providers representing education, health & social care, lots more services, groups & organisations have been invited to provide information for families in Slough plus guest speakers beginning at 10am (TBC)

Who is it for? Parents and carers of children, young people/adults with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), professionals or service providers working with families with children with SEND.

Pop in anytime between 9.30am-1pm and meet the services that are available in Slough to support you and your family.

**For further information/details, or to book a table at the event please contact:
tel: 07990 693439 or email: info@specialvoices.co.uk**