

10TH DECEMBER 2024

ISSUE 14

PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

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Headteacher's News

Dear Parents and Carers,
Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and that the new term brings fresh excitement and opportunities for our pupils and families.

As we begin 2025, I'd like to take a moment to remind everyone of some important guidelines to ensure the safety and smooth running of our school community.

Orchard Avenue Parking Restrictions

Please remember that there is no parking allowed along the first part of Orchard Avenue until past the exit gates of the visitor car park. Unfortunately, we experienced several near misses in the Autumn term due to poor driving and/or parking. Both Mrs. Larkins and I will continue to monitor this area in the mornings, but I must stress that these restrictions apply at the end of the school day as well. Your cooperation is vital to keeping our pupils and families safe.

Photography and Videoing on Site

A further reminder that photography and videoing on the school site is not permitted for safeguarding reasons. We appreciate your understanding and support in maintaining a safe environment for all our children.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead, with lots of activities and events planned. Please keep an eye on communications for more details as the dates approach. Here is a snapshot of what's coming up:

- Determination Term: A term to focus on resilience, grit, and achieving goals.
- Multicultural Day Dress Day (Friday 17th January) to celebrate World Religion Day (Sunday 19th January).
- Learning Together Week (27th January): A fantastic opportunity for pupils, parents, and staff to collaborate.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day (20th January).
- Chinese New Year (29th January): This year, we celebrate the Year of the Snake.

- National Storytelling Week (30th January - 7th February).
- Children's Mental Health Week (1st - 7th February): This year's theme is "Find Your Brave."
- Safer Internet Day (11th February): Focusing on online safety for all pupils.
- Inclusive Environment Week (24th February): Celebrating diversity through a Music Sharing Event.

In addition, our Parents' Evenings are scheduled for the 25th and 26th February, alongside the Book Fayre. Parents will receive an update on Spring 1 data, including information about where their child is currently working within the curriculum.

Finally, Random Acts of Kindness Day (17th February) will help round off this half term, with a focus on spreading kindness and joy within our community.

Thank you for your continued support. Let's make this a fantastic term!

Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages - W/C 6th January

Whole School - 92.7%

Year 1 - 85.2%

Year 2 - 88.7%

Year 3 - 96.8%

Year 4 - 91.4%

Year 5 - 96.7%

Year 6 - 93.1%

Congratulations to Plum and Maple 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

Sign of the week:

No sign this week!

Peek at the Week

Nursery– 10th January 2025



Don't forget



Happy New Year

and welcome back after the Christmas break.. It has been lovely meeting all our new children and parents and we look forward to supporting them to settle into our class over the following weeks.

With the cold weather we have been having, please remember that your child needs a warm and waterproof coat with a hood. Regardless of the weather, we encourage outside



learning in our wonderful garden.

It has been fantastic having a little bit of sunshine to warm us up in the garden and we have been busy exploring outside and trying different activities.



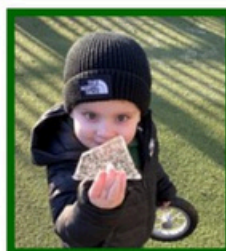
Learning

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We have been welcoming our new children to Nursery this week. We have been sharing with them how we make sure that our nursery is a happy place for everyone to learn in. This week we have been focusing on using our 'kind hands'



Communication & Language Development



Whilst we have been playing, we have been finding different words to describe the frost and ice



we have found outside.

Physical Development

We have been developing our fine motor skills with lots of cutting and sticking activities.

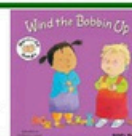


Child of the week: **Roman, Abi and Kedar** for quickly settling into their new routines and enjoying having lunch with their nursery friends.

Nursery rhyme of the week: 'Wind the bobbin up'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwdxJnAA6CI>

Please encourage your child to sing along.



Next Week's Word of the Week: **sitting**



Contact us: nursery@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week–Reception

10.01.25

Happy new year and welcome back! We started a brand new topic this week, Space. The children have thoroughly enjoyed getting stuck into lots of space themes activities; playing with moon sand, using oil pastels to draw planets and building rockets!

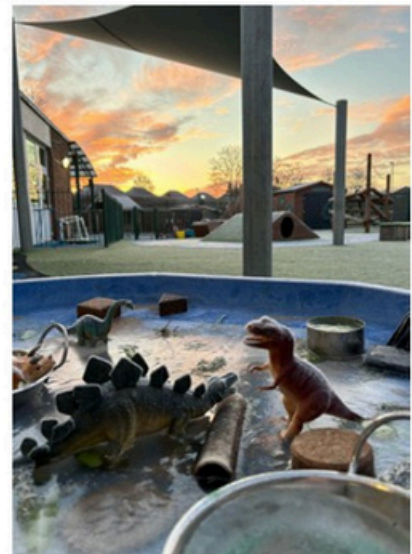


Literacy

This week, our focus text has been *Astro Girl* by Ken Wilson-Max. This book tells the story of a little girl who dreams of becoming an astronaut, just like her mum. The children have enjoyed literacy and Drawing Club activities based around this story. Next week, our Drawing Club will focus on the animated version of *"The Smeds and the Smoos"*.

Understanding the World

This week has been the perfect opportunity to discuss weather and seasons! On Friday, the children arrived to find their dinosaurs had frozen solid outside - and they had lots of fun rescuing them! The mud kitchen had various containers of coloured ice and a variety of frozen leaves—which led to some brilliant imaginative play!



Reception song of the week:

[Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer](#)



Reception Stars of the Week:

R Rupert: Rayan R Paddington: Gurkirat

Contact us: reception@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Year 1 – 10th January 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

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

Please log in to Numbots.



Homework

- Please read with your child for at least 15 minutes a day and record it in their reading diary.
- Focus core math skill: counting to 20

A video we are loving in class:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAZ7UJweYZ8>

Some pictures of continuous provision this week:



Our Learning

This week:

In math, we have started our new unit on place value within 20. We have been practicing counting to 20 from any given starting point and have had a go at counting backwards. We spent time practicing how to write numbers above ten and enjoyed exploring patterns in the words, such as noticing how many of them end in 'teen' and contain the base number within ten (like 'fourteen' includes 'four').

In English this week, we started our new text: *Lost and Found*. The children were so excited when a penguin was mysteriously delivered to our class on Wednesday morning! We spent time writing and generating questions to try and work out where the penguin had come from. The children learnt about questions mark and had a go at putting them at the end of their question sentences.



In afternoon sessions this week, we started our new Geography unit on our local area. We discussed the importance of having a job and why they are important. The children spent time thinking of the different jobs people may have in the local area.

Star of the week

1Donaldson:

1Jeffers: Kaira



Words of the Week: could people want your their

Contact us: year1@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Year 2 – 10th January 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

17.01.25 Multi-cultural Day (non-uniform)



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 also login in to NumBots and Times Table Rockstars to practise both number bonds and timetables.

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

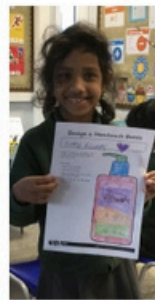
Please also send your child in with a coat daily as we are outside learning in our Year 2 garden for part of every day.

Our Learning

This week in English, we discussed the problem of 'littering' in our local area and explored how this could be harmful to animals, people and the environment. We also started our new text: *The Secret Sky Garden* and wrote thought bubbles to describe what the main character was thinking.

In **maths**, we recapped subtracting 1-digit numbers from numbers up to 100 using a blank number line and went on to subtract multiples of 10, using the same method.

In **science** this week, we've looked at what humans need to survive, what they need to stay healthy and the importance of a healthy, balanced diet.



In **PSHRE**, we worked together to make a garden of dreams and goals - full of beautiful birds and insects as well as a sentence to share our own personal dream and goal.

Next week, we will be writing a character description of Funni in English. In maths, we will be moving on to subtracting teen numbers and then any 2-digit numbers using a blank number line. In science, we are moving on to the topic of Plants and Growth and we will be setting up a class experiment to investigate what conditions plants need to germinate, grow and be healthy. In computing, we will be starting our topic on creating digital music.



From the Year 2 Team

Contact us: year2@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Year 3– 10th January 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

16.01.25 3 Jenner swimming lesson

17.01.25 World Religion Day

11.02.25 Year 3 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo



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/>

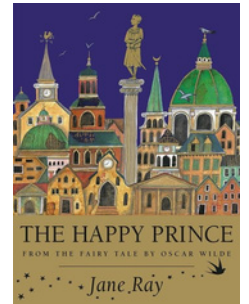
Please practise number bonds and multiplication tables with your child. Times Tables Rockstars: <https://trockstars.com/>

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

Our Learning

This week, Year 3 have been learning about the great rivers of the world in our Geography lessons. The children have also learnt about the different features of rivers.

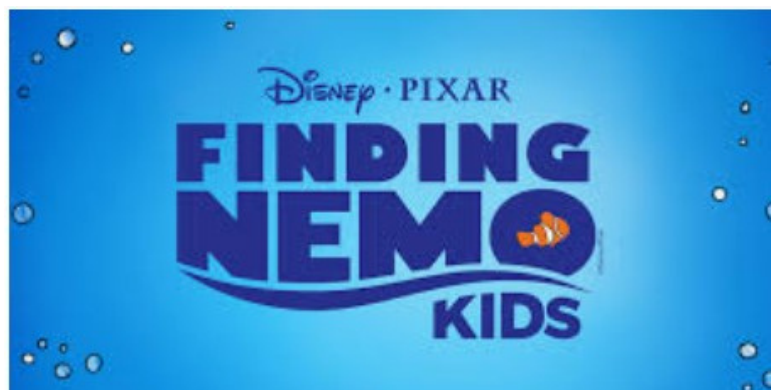
In English, we read a version of 'The Happy Prince' by Jane Ray. We will be working towards writing our own version of this lovely story. In Maths, we have continued to focus on multiplication and division facts.



Next week, we will be continuing to learn more about rivers and comparing the Thames and the River Nile. In English, we will continue to build our class sentence stack linked to the Happy Prince and in Maths we will focus on patterns that can help us to learn our 8x times tables.

Later in the Spring term, Year 3 and 4 will be performing Disney's Finding Nemo Kids to the rest of the school and parents.

We are currently learning the songs and look forward to sharing more news about this event soon.



Word of the Week: calendar

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 10th January 2025

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.

Dates for the Spring Term

Finding Nemo performance for parents–Tuesday 4th March PM–time to be confirmed.

Finding Nemo performance for parents–Wednesday 5th March AM–time to be confirmed.

Year 4 trip to Ufton Court–Thursday 27th March.

Our Learning

This week, we have been settling back into school after the break. The children are enjoying being back at school and seeing all their friends.

In English, we are starting our new book, Beowulf which the children will be learning about in English lessons. They will also be reading Anglo-Saxon boy in shared reading sessions.

In Maths, we have been continuing to practise our times tables which the children need to continue to do at home. Also, we have been thinking about how to multiply by 10 and 100.

Next week in English, we will be continuing to read Beowulf and the children are going to be generating vocabulary to write character descriptions from the story. In shared reading, the children will continue to read a part of the story and highlight unknown words. They will then answer inferential questions based on the text.

Next week in Maths, we will be looking at dividing by 10 and 100. The children will then be moving on to multiplying by a two-digit number.

Child of the week:

4 Turing: Lena 4 Lovelace: Ibrahim 4 Chamberlain: Aisha



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

10th January 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

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

World Religion Day–Friday 17th January

Science Museum Trip: Thursday 20th March

Our Learning

Happy New Year!

This week, we began our new topic: Exploration, Environments & Empires. This half term, we will focus on exploring space and our solar system before looking at our planet and the impact us humans have had on it's environment.

In maths, we enjoyed warming our brains back up by practising our timetables on Timetable Rockstars. Please encourage your child to practise these as much as possible at home.

In English, we created our own planets and wrote non-chronological reports about them.

This term in PSHRE, we will be looking at Dreams and Goals. Here we will focus on the values of hope and trust.

Next week, we will continue our Science topic focusing on Space. In particular, we will look at astronomers and discuss white-washing this area of history and science.

In maths, we will start our new top of multiplication, where we will be exploring new strategies to multiply 4 digits by 1 digit and 2 digits by 2 digits.

In English, we will begin to watch One Small Step– a story about a girl called Luna– and will eventually retell this narrative in our own words.

We became solar system experts in English this week after completing research about our planetary system.



My Solar System Booklet

name: _____

Child of the Week

5Dawe: **Hattie** 5Maple: **Zakariya** 5Ofili: **Liliana**

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

Contact us: year5@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Year 6 Peek at the Week

Friday 10th January 2025

Important Dates /Reminders

17.01.25: World Culture Day: non-school uniform

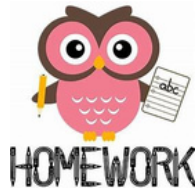
Thursdays: Wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.

Thursdays: Spelling quiz.

Homework due:

- Reading record x3
- Spellings x1

Times tables practice on TTRS



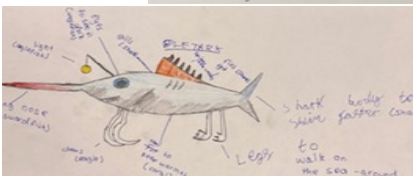
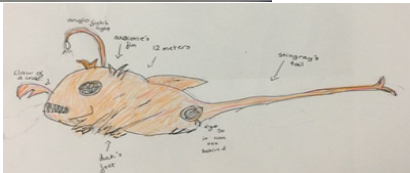
Our Learning

This week, in science, we started our new topic on evolution and inheritance. We learned about inherited characteristics as well as how animals are adapted to their environments.

In English, we started to explore a narrative poem called Moth by Isabel Thomas. This beautiful poem links to our science topic on evolution!

In math, we started to explore an exciting new topic: decimals! We learned about place values within 1, numbers with integers and decimals, and rounding decimals.

English : Adaptation, variation & survival



Next week, in science, we will learn more about Darwin's discoveries and how he came up with the theory of evolution.

In English, we will continue writing effective sentences for our poem, that include a range of poetic devices and descriptive language about the evolution of the peppered moth.

In maths, we will focus on mastering the skills of adding, subtracting, and multiplying decimals by integers. Additionally, we will revisit the concepts of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, and 1,000.

PSHRE Focus: Dreams and Goals. In PSHRE this term, we will understand the difference between realistic and unrealistic goal-setting. We will be able to identify our learning strengths and the steps we need to take to achieve our goals. We will share our dreams for the world by identifying problems and discussing our concerns with other people. We will understand how to work with others to help make the world a better place. Lastly, we will be able to recognise and celebrate our own achievements when our goals are met.



Child of the week:

6 Attenborough: Jana 6 Anning: Karnish 6 Darwin: Aaliyah

Word of the Week: exaggerate

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

Contact us: year6@prioryschool.com 01628 600300



Peek of the Week

The Orchard

Week commencing– 06/01/2025

Important Dates

Cherry Class TVAP:

Every Wednesday this term—*please remember a packed lunch to eat at TVAP.*

Plum class community visits

Every Monday morning—*please remember gloves and hats!*

Multicultural Day Dress-up:

17th January

Learning Together Week

Week commencing 27th January

Welcome back Orchard children!
We hope you had a lovely Christmas break.

This term's English topic is Traditional Tales. The children will be reading Little Red Riding Hood and Billy Goat's Gruff.

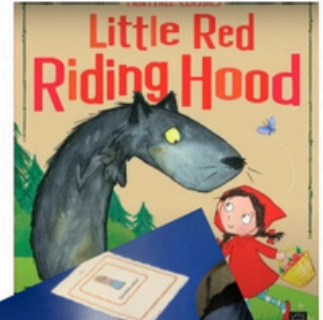
Our Traditional Tale: Little Red Riding Hood can be watched at this YouTube link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rV_NMsDO_nl

In maths, the children will explore money while continuing to develop their number, addition, and subtraction skills.

The children will be looking into the seasons in Science, drama through play in the wider curriculum, and algorithms in computing.

CELEBRATE!



Makaton sign:



Star of the week

Cherry class: Aroosh for fantastic writing during Phonic / Plum class: Manraj for helping complete classroom chores with no prompting—such as clearing the tables and putting up the visual timetable.

Apple class: Harrison for working hard during Phonics / Pear class: Yuhara for participating in Plums class Phonics





Priory School (Foundation)

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

7th January 2025

World Religion (Multicultural Day)

Dear Parent/Carer

On Sunday 19th January it is World Religion Day and to honour this interfaith day we invite our school community to wear the traditional national dress of their heritage or a heritage of their choice on Friday 17th January 2025.

It will essentially be a non-school uniform day so if you are unable to source traditional national dress please do wear a colour that represents the heritage you have chosen.

World religion day is an opportunity for us to remember the need for harmony and understanding between religions and faiths. There are approximately 4,200 religions around the world! The children will have the opportunity to engage with a range of religions to celebrate the differences and commonalities that our community shares.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Foster
Head Teacher

Contact: Telephone: 01628 600300
office@prioryschool.com



Language of the Month

At Priory School, we are proud that there are children and staff from a variety of different cultures and backgrounds. We would like to celebrate and value all the languages and faiths within our diverse community by introducing 'Language of the Month'. Language of the month will involve introducing commonly used words such as good morning, numbers one to ten, some useful links to facts and a fun song or two! This is a great way to celebrate a variety of languages and give the opportunity to children to learn words and phrases from each other's languages.

To start the New Year, the Language of the Month for January is Chinese. Please see the slides below. The slides have been introduced to the children in school.

This is also a great opportunity for families to share any photos of linked celebrations. Chinese New Year is marked on the 29th January and it is the year of the snake!

Language of the month

Good morning
Dzaoww-shung
haoww
再见

Thank you
Sshyeh-
sshayah
谢谢

Yes
Shrr
是

Hello
Nee haoww
你好

Sorry
Bào qiàn
抱歉

Well done
Sshyeh-
sshayah
谢谢

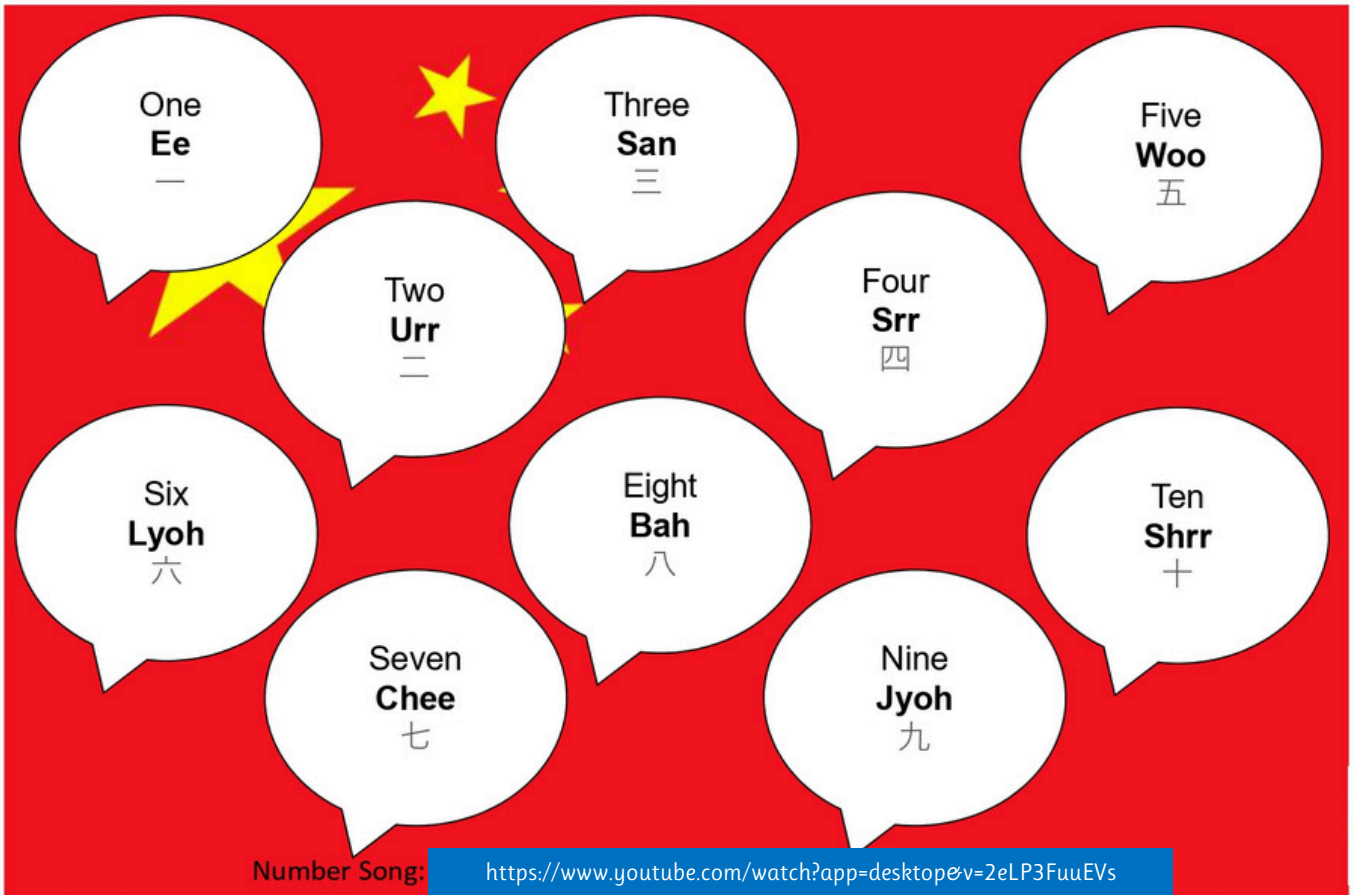
Please
Qǐng
请

Good afternoon
Sshyah-woo
haoww
下午好

No
Boo-shrr
不是

Goodbye
Zàijiàn
再见

January - Chinese



One
Ee
一

Two
Urr
二

Three
San
三

Four
Srr
四

Five
Woo
五

Six
Lyoh
六

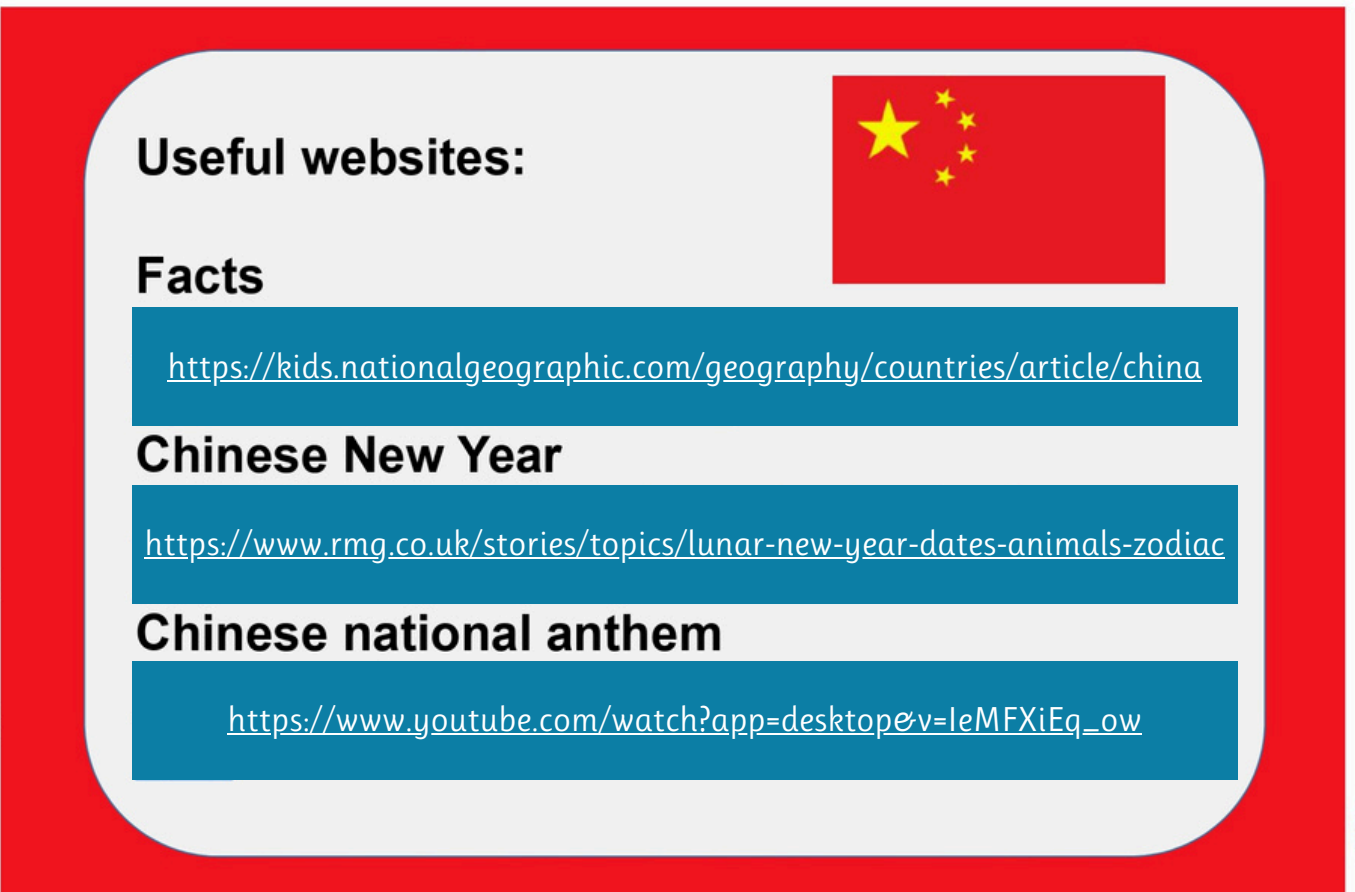
Seven
Chee
七

Eight
Bah
八

Nine
Jyoh
九

Ten
Shrr
十

Number Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=2eLP3FuuEVs>

Useful websites:

Facts

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/geography/countries/article/china>

Chinese New Year

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/lunar-new-year-dates-animals-zodiac>

Chinese national anthem

https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=leMFXiEq_ow



Language of the month



January - Chinese



Why is my child worrying?

Worries/fears are **normal**.

Worries **come and go**.

Sometimes worries can grow over time and stop your child from doing something or going somewhere.

For example, they may make your child:

- Avoid going to a park where there may be dogs that frighten them
- Avoid going upstairs on their own at home
- Avoid speaking to new people
- Have sleep difficulties
- Feel less confident in themselves, thus unable to do their best or enjoy activities



BHP090 CYFF 07.12.20 v.1.0 - Getting Help Slough Primary School

Working together to create positive changes:

We can think of all behaviour as a form of communication. When we hold this in mind it's important we try to understand what drives behaviour. This can often be difficult for children and young people to express or identify themselves.

Through our interventions we will work together with you to help identify needs and emotions underlying the behaviour. This greater understanding offers the opportunity to explore helpful coping strategies to create positive changes over time.



<https://cyf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/mhst>

This leaflet has been adapted from Burton and Uttoxeter MHST, Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust with kind permission.

Mental Health Support Team (5-18 years)

Mental Health Support for Children of Primary School Age



This leaflet is for
children aged 5-11 years

If you would like to hear more about our service please contact us via:
CAMHSGettingHelpEast@berkshire.nhs.uk

Who are we?

Mental Health Support Team (MHST) supports children and young people with emerging, mild or moderate mental health difficulties which may be affecting day to day life.

The MHST is a new initiative and the service is being offered to 14 participating schools in Slough.

We offer selected schools:

- Interventions to support children with mild to moderate mental health difficulties
- Surgeries for staff
- Mental Health Network meetings
- Staff training and support schools to have more of a focus on emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Peer mentoring
- Online access to resources and peer support on emotional wellbeing and mental health for parents/carers and professionals via digital platforms called SHARON

Depending on the age of the child or young person, we may work either directly with them or with their parents/carers. We also work with school staff supporting them to have a greater focus on emotional health and wellbeing in the various aspects of school life.

The team consists of:

- Team Lead
- Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs)
- Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) Therapist / Clinical Supervisor
- Clinical Psychologist / Senior Clinical Supervisor
- Administrator

Ways we can support you

- Managing fears and worries
- Separation anxiety
- Panic attacks
- Phobias eg: dogs, the dark
- Behavioural and sleep difficulties
- Problem solving

What to expect

After an initial assessment with both you and your child, we work collaboratively with you, the parent/carer, over 6-8 sessions. These sessions may consist of:

- Learning about the cause and maintenance of anxiety/behavioural difficulties in children
- Setting and working towards goals that your child would like to achieve
- Developing techniques in sessions that you can use at home when supporting your child

How to get support

If you would like support, you have three options:

As a parent/carer you can refer your child

Self-refer by sending an email request for a referral form to:

CAMHSGettingHelpEast@berkshire.nhs.uk

or call the MHST on 0300 365 0123

Your School Contact

Contact the Mental Health Lead in school and request a referral to the MHST.

By post

Request a referral form by writing to:

CAMHS Getting Help East Service

Fir Tree House, Upton Hospital
Albert Street, Slough, SL1 2BJ

If your child is having suicidal thoughts or extreme mental health difficulties and you need to talk to someone now, you can contact our mental health support team by calling 0300 365 1234.

Early intervention in childhood has long-term benefits such as improving self-esteem, social development and performance at school



**17TH-21ST
FEB**

FEBRUARY CAMP

8AM - 5PM - £31

9AM - 3PM - £24

**FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-11
YEARS OLD**



EARLY BIRD 10% DISCOUNT STARTS NOW!

FEB10

EXPIRES MIDNIGHT FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Hall Games
- Outdoor Sports
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Team Competitions
- Dodgeball
- Balloon Volleyball
- Dance
- Parachute Games
- Individual Challenges



Priory School;

Orchard Avenue, Slough, SL1 6HE



campse-in-2-group.co.uk

IN2CARE.MAGICBOOKING.CO.UK