

15TH MARCH 2024

ISSUE 21

PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

Headteacher's News

This week at Priory.

This week has been STEM week! The children have had the opportunity to attend a Maths puzzle workshop as well as other planned science and technology lessons. Year 6 have very much enjoyed the process of designing, making and eating bread this week. Year 5 explored the science museum and certainly had their curiosity piqued by the interactive activities and workshop. Miss Boland took some children to the A.I.M Math's day to Eton End School, the pupils really engaged with the activities and we had some good feedback about their mathematical ability.

We have also been lucky enough to hear the violinist semi-finalist in the Windsor Festival International String Player competition! The workshop was for Year 4 but some of our budding violinists and musicians were invited to attend to listen to him play, we hope that he inspired them all to practice that little bit harder!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Upcoming Events

- 21/03/24 - Year 2 Performance for Parents
- 25/03/24 - Colour run (link to Holi) - 3:30 - 4pm on Priory mile
- 25/03/24 - Holi, Religious celebration, Hope
- 27/03/24 - Easter egg hunt
- 27/03/24 - Stay and Play for prospective Reception Parents - 4pm - 5pm
- 27/03/24 - Apple Class Kurling Competition
- 28/03/24 - Priory's Got Talent
- 29/03/24 - 12/04/24 - Easter holidays

Poem

A Day in Nature

As the sun ascended from behind the horizon painting the sky in hues of orange and pink, nature awoke from a deep slumber. The forest stood tall and proud boasting picturesque leaves like ancient guardians reaching for the heavens.

In the meadow a tapestry of wildflowers bloomed. Their vibrant colours dancing in the gentle breeze: a kaleidoscope of life. Bees buzzed with purpose, flying from petal to petal, their delicate wings fluttering like wisps of joy.

A river wound its way through the landscape its currents flowing with a graceful rhythm: a melody of water. Rocks stood steadfast acquainting the shore.

Over the horizon, mountains stood tall their peaks puncturing the sky. A gateway above the clouds and the snow was a gentle contrast to the surplus of ash.

As dusk settled, the stars emerged twinkling like pinpricks of space complimenting the moon, which hung like a silver sickle: a celestial beacon.

By Adam Hussain, Amaan Mahmood and Rajveer Kumar

Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages: W/C 4th March

Whole school - 94%

Year 1 - 96%

Year 2 - 93%

Year 3 - 93%

Year 4 - 95%

Year 5 - 97%

Year 6 - 93%



Congratulations to 5Maple with 99% the highest attendance this week!

CONGRATULATIONS

Important dates:

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

[Click here](#) to see term dates for 2023-2024

Leaflets and letters:

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

Signs of the week:

STEM

&

Red Nose Day

<https://youtu.be/j-bOtHFzIE4>

Peek at the week:

Please follow the link for this week's

<https://www.prioryschool.co.uk/peek-at-the-week-1/>

Wonderful World Book Day

On Friday, Priory staff and pupils took part in a fantastic celebration of stories, authors and books in our World Book Day event. Our overall theme this year was 'Epic Adventures' and the children looked at different elements of the amazing adventure stories that keep us gripped! During the day, the children produced work, which will be displayed in the main corridor outside of the hall after Easter. Make sure you keep your eyes peeled for some familiar characters the next time you visit school!

It was wonderful to see so many pupils celebrating book characters through their costumes! As always, we like to recognise some of the 'best dressed' and, as always, it was so difficult to choose just one pupil from each year group. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all parents for supporting their pupils in assembling, creating or purchasing costumes and a huge well done to the winners who are listed below:

Nursery AM: Poppy Hill as a princess from 'That's Not My Princess'

Nursery PM: Oscar Doyle as Postman Pat

Orchard: Aran Naidu as the dictionary!

Orchard: Levi Adams as a giraffe from 'Rumble in the Jungle'

Reception: Esha Kaur Gakhal as Little Red Riding Hood

Year 1: Adam Hunt as an Investi-Gator

Year 2: Daisy Hill as Izzy the Ice Cream Fairy

Year 3: Shannon Deacon as Stick Man

Year 4: Laila Khan as Isabella from 'Encanto'

Year 5: Amelia Brigdale as a treasure chest from 'Treasure Island'

Year 6: Manha Saeed as Mary Poppins

Nursery World Book Day



Nursery's focus book was 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen.

We did lots of activities based around the story but the best fun we had was going on our own bear hunt! We found some bear paw prints in our garden and followed them.

'Through the grass, through the splashy puddles, through the sticky mud until we found a cave. We tiptoed into the cave and saw 1 shiny wet nose, 2 big furry ears and 2 big goggly eyes...it was a BEAR!'

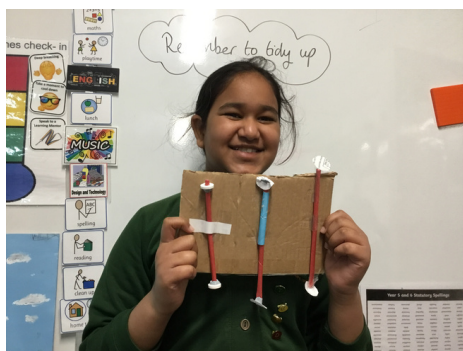


Stem Workshops

This week, Priory celebrated British STEM Week which promotes interest in science, technology, engineering and Maths. As well as taking part in a Maths puzzle workshop, the children in every year group had the opportunity to take part in activities linked to the STEM subjects. Year 5 were even lucky enough to visit the Science Museum! We hope that this celebration of STEM has sparked the curiosity of all our children.

It was wonderful to see the children working as a team and working systematically to solve the challenges. They really had to think outside the box and be resilient as the challenges took perseverance to solve!

Some of the following articles showcase the activities that have been taking place in different year groups during STEM week!





Priory School Holi

**Celebration Non Uniform Day
& Fun Colour Run**

Monday 25th March 2024
*



Help us Celebrate!

Non-Uniform Day Children and Staff can wear their brightest colours for a £1.00 contribution.

Also come and join the fun, children their family and staff are all welcome to join the colour run at 3.30pm, £1.00 entry fee.



HAPPY
HOLI

Red Nose Day

Today is Red Nose Day, meaning the children got to wear their own clothes with something red and of course their red nose, in exchange for a £1 donation to Comic Relief.

Here's some of their outfits:



A golden chance...

It was an ordinary day - just like any other. Jamie Lemaire had no idea when he woke up this morning that he would find the legendary GOLDEN HOOTER. Approaching his teacher's desk - £2 clutched in his eager hands - he reached for the box on top of the pile. Almost shaking, he lifted the lid and gasped. There it was - all his - the golden nose! Congratulations Jamie!



THE GOLDEN HOOTER

Some say it laughed its own face off. Others say that you can see it sparkle from outer space. Whilst some believe it will one day be sold at auction for billions. Yes, the Golden Hooters are sacred, plated in 24 carat gold leaf; there's a one in just 166 chance of getting one, so if you're lucky enough, guard it with your...well, your nose!

Year 2 News

This week, Year 2 have had great fun looking at time in science for our STEM week. We looked at the evolution of dinosaurs over time. We discussed whether they were herbivores, omnivores or carnivores and sorted them into groups. We also used our fine motor skills to make pasta dinosaurs.



We were also fascinated to see how kitchen towel absorbed the coloured water from our cups over time and then started to drip the liquid into our empty cups. We were able to accurately predict which new colours would be made, based on our colour mixing knowledge.

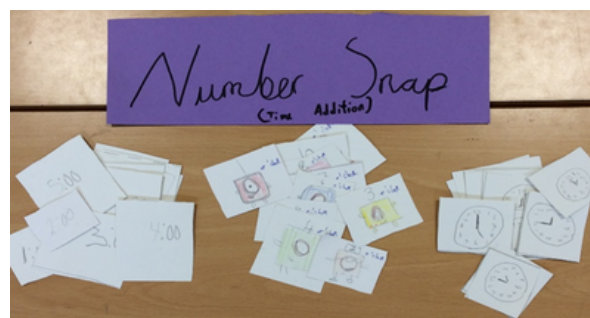
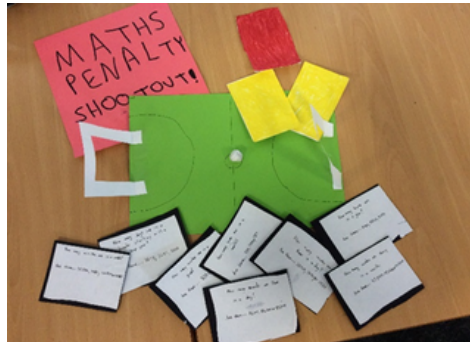


We also worked well to design our own clocks and thought about what each clock hand is for. We thought about how much exercise we could do in one minute and then had a go at completing the exercises and observing the changes in our bodies.



Year 4 News

Since this week was STEM week, Year 4 had the opportunity to make our very own Maths game, based on this year's theme of 'time'. Firstly, we recapped what time is and discussed how it is used in everyday life. Secondly, we planned and designed our game in small groups and used a range of materials to create them. Some children chose to make board games, others made UNO and snap cards. We even had football-related time questions! We really enjoyed our day on Wednesday - it was fun, exciting and nice to do something different.

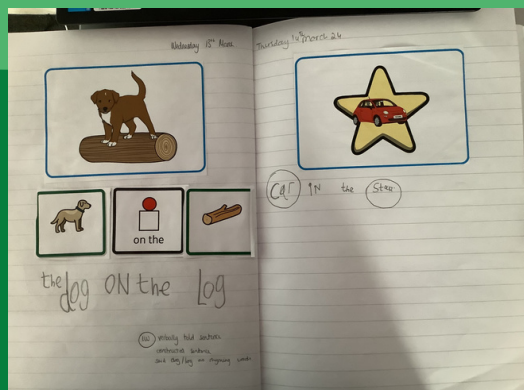


Orchard News

This week on Monday in The Orchard, all the classes had the opportunity to participate in a maths workshop; the children were completing problem-solving activities. One activity was to follow instructions and create a cube from a variety of 2D shapes. The children worked in groups to encourage teamwork, turn taking and social skills.

In English, Cherry class have been continuing to develop their rhyming skills; they have been identifying rhyming words and finishing rhyming sentences. Apple and Plum class have been working on adjectives (descriptive words) and applying these to their writing skills.

Keep an eye out for Peek of the Week for more information on what the children have been up to this week!



Choir congratulations

Here are a few photos from the choir's wonderful afternoon at the National Festival of Music for Youth on 6th March, and the video links for our performances in case you missed them!

A Keelie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWkchkUXe5g>

Silver Moon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mc6maAGTZc>

Street Seller: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jhIt7BldijA>

Gospel Song Medley: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8fDOCLfQKE>



String Stars!

This week, we were honoured to host three semi-finalists from the globally acclaimed Windsor Festival International String Competition.

On Monday, Year 4 were visited by 17-year old Australian violinist Edward Walton, who played some beautiful Bach and Brahms music to the children and answered some of their questions. He had begun learning the violin aged just 3! Rosie Taylor (who we recognised from last term's 'Fred and the amazing Tub-Tub' orchestra visit) linked in with our STEM week theme of Time, explaining that Bach was born in 1685, but because he wrote down his music, we can hear it performed in the same way over 300 years later!

On Tuesday, Year 3 were visited by Polish viola player Kinga Wojdalska and Canadian cellist Andrew Byun. Each of them played some music for the children, who were captivated by the special effects and cartoony sounds in the cello music of Penderecki, and loved the beautiful Bach played on viola. We discovered that Kinga regularly practises for 4-5 hours per day, and Andrew sometime plays for up to 6 hours a day when preparing for an important concert or festival! His cello was made in 1690, so is over 330 years old.

We thank Rosie for arranging the visits and leading the rhythm & pulse workshop elements with our Y3 and Y4 children, and wish all of our visiting musicians the best of luck in the competition (the final will be held on Friday evening so we will know the results by next week). We are so lucky to have met and heard these amazing and inspiring young string players. What a fabulous opportunity to experience wonderful music-making!

STOP PRESS! Our cellist visitor Andrew was selected to be one of the 3 finalists, so will be performing on Friday evening in the final concert!





WINDSOR FESTIVAL

Patron: HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

9TH WINDSOR FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION 2024

SUNDAY 10TH – SUNDAY 17TH MARCH





GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

LT
THE LIGHT UK
Caring for the community

Respite and support services from The Light UK

Friday 22nd March 10am to 11am

Join our online session hosted by Maariyah Fazil (The Light UK) to discuss:

- Respite
- Education
- Employment and training
- Personal care assistance support
- Mentoring
- Family Support and access to service
- Question and answer session for parent and carers

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



**Wednesdays, 13th March; 17th April; 8th May;
12th June; 3rd July 2024**

Community Parent/Carer Support Group, Slough

A support group for family members who have children/young people with additional needs living within Slough.

A safe and supportive space for sharing experiences and gaining support with the unique challenges faced by families of children with additional needs.

Each session will include an hours topic around being a parent of a child with additional needs. The remainder of the session will be for discussion of the topic and social support time.

March Topic; Exploring self care

DATE & TIME

Monthly- See above dates
10-12pm

VENUE

Farnham Common Village Hall
Victoria road Farnham Common,
Slough SL2 3NL

COST

FREE
(Refreshments provided)

FURTHER INFORMATION

Charlie Taylor
07831409731
charlie@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

Children welcome under parent supervision



Berkshire Healthcare **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Wednesday 27th March

10am-11.45am OR 1.30pm - 3pm

At Priory School

Toilet training intervention workshops for parents and carers of children with additional needs over the age of 4yrs (although lots of information about toilet training for all ages and stages of development)

Some children struggle more than others when learning to use the toilet. This can be for a variety of reasons. We understand how very stressful this is for parents.

We offer free workshops for families in Berkshire covering:

- ☒ Toilet training – trouble shooting the difficulties parents and their children are experiencing
- ☒ How to help child have a healthy bladder and bowel
- ☒ Specific information for families with a child or young person with additional needs

It also provides parents the opportunity to ask those difficult questions about toilet training in a safe space.

To book a place please follow link and complete questionnaire

<https://forms.office.com/e/wDwHq69rbQ>



PLAYERS WANTED (3 or 4)

Taplow United u9s (current Year 4) are looking to strengthen their squads for the 2024/25 with experienced players looking for change.

We currently have two teams playing in TVFDL on Sunday. Training every Saturday morning @ Braywick Maidenhead.

For more info contact: Stuart Godbolt
Email: stuart_godbolt@tiscali.co.uk



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2023/24 Season



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GIRL PLAYERS WANTED

We are recruiting for a girls' team!

Open to all girls going into school year 4 or 5 in September

2024/25 Season

For further information contact: girls.delafordfc@gmail.com

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