



### Headteacher's News

Good afternoon all,

### **Parent Forum**

We held our second parent forum this week, a big thank you to those of you who attended. I will get the minutes on the website as soon possible. We discussed the pros and cons to our core curriculum delivery and clubs. It was a productive and helpful session. We have lots to discuss with staff as well as maybe roping in a few parent volunteers to run a club! More details will follow.

### Holi



Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March marked the festival of Holi, so I wanted to wish everyone in our Hindu community a wonderful Holi.

Holi is a Hindu festival celebrating love and new beginnings. It marks the end of winter, new life and the victory of good over evil. It has become quite a well-known festival for its bright colours and crowds of people pelting each other with perfumed colourful powder called gulal. Each colour has a special meaning. The God Krishna is represented by blue powder, red is for love and yellow is for healing. But the festival is not just about throwing colourful paint at each other. On the first day of Holi, people light bonfires in the belief it will purify the air of anything evil. And of course, like many religious festivals Holi is a time for families to spend together eating and dancing!

### Chicken pox

It is that time of year when we start to see chicken pox do the rounds. The majority of the time chicken pox passes quickly. However, if you are worried about your child's symptoms the NHS website recommends the following:

For most children, chickenpox is a mild illness that gets better on its own.

However, some children can become more seriously ill with chickenpox and need to see a doctor.

Contact your GP straight away if your child develops any abnormal symptoms, such as:

- if the blisters on their skin become infected
- If your child has a pain in their chest or has difficulty breathing





#### Strike days

Next week are the final two planned industrial action days. Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. As before I will send out final information early next week as I know more. However, I expect it will be similar to the previous strikes. We struggle to plan ahead because we don't know yet how many teachers plan to strike, in addition to the teachers striking we also won't know yet how many staff will need to stay at home with children who are off because their school is closed.

Therefore, we have to analyse our school community to identify who we can safely accommodate in school. Our priority is to those children with an EHCP, this is also a large proportion of our school community so to add any other group to this would mean that we may struggle to safely staff that number of children.

I have spoken to a few parents about the strikes and I am always humbled by the support that is shown by our parents. Some parents have been surprised to hear that one of the reasons teachers are striking is because they are so concerned about school budgets and the constant cuts we are having to make. Any pay rise that staff get, support or teachers are to come out of existing budgets with no or very little financial support from the government. As parents know, we have already had to make significant cuts over the last year or so and to not get any further financial support is going to result in further cuts.

### Ramadan – please complete this form if your child wishes to join you in fasting

Ramadan begins on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. So that we can be prepared I have included a link to a form to all parents requesting information on whether your child will be fasting. The form will tell us what you and your child have decided around fasting. Such as, if they will be fasting on certain days from certain times, whether they can drink water or not and what you want us to do if your child feels unwell. As per the NHS advice sheet, we do not encourage children under the age of 7 fast during school so please be mindful of this. NHS Ramadan Health guide.

Please ignore it if you are not Muslim or your children will not be participating in the fasting. I only need responses if your child intends to fast. https://forms.office.com/r/HCNSrasCxe

#### **Upcoming events:**

17<sup>th</sup> March, Red nose day – wear red, bring in a £1 to go to the Red Nose charity

**24**<sup>th</sup> **March** – **Hot shots**, English schools football Association, ESFA are encouraging schools to celebrate a day of football. Children can come into school in football shirts there will be 1 hour per year group of Football mania.

**30**<sup>th</sup> **March, The Priory House Egg hunt** – All house competition, we will encourage the older children to take care of the younger ones. Nursery do an egg hunt in their garden.

Each child will go home with an Easter Egg – if your child's allergies have changed please notify the office ASAP.

**31st March, Talent show** – auditioning this week and 2 acts per year will be chosen





Priory School Jubilee – we are going to celebrate the school's opening on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September.

#### The school will have been open for 70 Years!

Science week - 10th - 19th March

Learning gallery – week of 13<sup>th</sup> March

Young carer's day - 16th March

Mother's Day – 19th March

Communication with Parents (Reception) Coffee Morning 29th March—details on page 4

Easter Egg Hunt – 30th March

Ramadan starts 22nd March



### **Important Dates:**

<u>Click here</u> to link to the school calendar <u>Click here</u> to see term dates for 2022-2023



### **Leaflets and Letters**

Please <u>click here</u> to go to our leaflets page on the website. Leaflets this week:

- Future Talent Sports
- GEMS Flyers April to June 2023
- Use Code: SCHOOL10 for a Barracudas exclusive discount!
- Children's Centre Consultation Focus Group
- New Extended Care Provision



### Sign of the Week

This week's sign is for **Sorry no Sign this week** 

### Peek at the Week

Please follow link for this week's

://www.prioryschool.co.uk/peek-at-theweek-1/





### Weekly attendance percentages: 27th February—3rd March

### Whole school - 92%

Year 1 - 95%

Year 2 - 91%

Year 3 - 91%

Year 4 - 82%

Year 5 - 95%

Year 6 - 92%

Congratulations to **2Hawkings** with **97%** the highest attendance this week!



### **Communication with Parents - Coffee Morning**



The first of our communication mornings will start with Reception.

Please save the date – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00am – 10.00am.

More details will follow on how to confirm your place





### **Year 4 Ufton Court Trip**

This week, Year 4 children enjoyed a trip to Ufton Court. Whilst we were there, we learnt about Anglo-Saxon charms and superstitions and collected our own herbs from the garden, we sat in an Anglo-Saxon roundhouse, followed a rune trail and practised a range of Anglo-Saxon skills. We were taught how to spin wool, weave a fence and made sparks using flint stones.



























### **Year 6 Cippenham Baptist Church Visit**

This week, Year 6 visited the Baptist Church in Cippenham to learn more about the Easter story. The children also learnt about Easter traditions and the significance of baptism in the Christian religion.

































### **Music News**

### Young Voices Single Now Available to Download

We are super excited to announce that the **PROUD charity single**, that features children from Priory School choir, is out now! Every single voice from the YV23 concerts has been blended together along with the unmistakeable sound of Heather Small for this incredible live recording.

We would love to try to get PROUD to No.1 in the UK charts! Just one more thing to make your child feel PROUD!

Here's the link to purchase the song for less than £1: <a href="http/www.youngvoices.co.uk/proud-cty-single">http/www.youngvoices.co.uk/proud-cty-single</a>

All UK proceeds will be donated to children's mental health charity Place2Be.







We are delighted to announce this years ESFA Hotshots Football Day. The event will be taking place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. The day will be filled with fun footballing activities with coaches from around the area as well as Premier League clubs.

We are also delighted to be working alongside Sports for Champions who have kindly arranged for a current Reading FC and Wales international footballer to join us for the day 'Lily Woodham'. Lily will be hosting an assembly, Q&A as well as a fitness circuit for all the children.

An Online Fundraiser has also been set up which can be found below.

Online Fundraiser: <a href="https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/prioryschool">https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/prioryschool</a>









### BEEP BEEP!

As the sunshine is on holiday we thought we would brighten up your day!

Our School mini buses have had a face lift and don't they look fab.

With our Priory colours and logo be sure to give us a beep beep or a friendly wave when you see us!!













"Pupils are proud that their school is inclusive. Leaders promote a culture of understanding and acceptance. Pupils from a broad range of backgrounds and cultures are equally welcome here."

Ofsted 2022

Join a highly effective and hard-working team, totally committed to a innovative, caring and aspirational learning community for all.

### **EXAM INVIGILATORS NEEDED**

Seasonal part-time work available during school hours
Good rate of pay and training provided

Enquiries and application forms to Mrs S Patrick, The Chalfonts Community College, Narcot Lane, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 8TP. Tel: 01753 882032 Email: <u>pa@chalfonts.org</u>

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. A DBS check which will include a barred list check will be undertaken for the successful applicant and a certificate of good conduct may be required.





It's **Red Nose Day** on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Non-school uniform day – children can wear something red. £1 donation for Comic Relief. There will be limited red noses on sale for £2.50







### **New Extended Care Provision - Information on our website and emailed to parents:**

Following on from our communications regarding Tree Tops provision finishing at Christmas, I am delighted to let you know that we have organised for a new Wrap Around Care Provider to be in place at Priory School. The provision will be put in place for Breakfast and After School Clubs, starting from Monday 18th April 2023 (After the Easter Holidays).

The company who will be our new Provider is 'In2Care'- more information can be found on their website- <a href="https://in-2-care.com/">https://in-2-care.com/</a> and their Facebook Page - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/In2careclub/">https://in-2-care.com/</a> and their Facebook Page - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/In2careclub/">https://www.facebook.com/In2careclub/</a>

In2Care can offer our families a consistent Breakfast and After School Club Provision, and at competitive and affordable price for our families. In2Care are in the process of completing their Ofsted application at Priory School, and they offer payments to be made via Childcare Vouchers and Tax-Free Childcare, which supports parents in managing finances for any childcare needed.

In2Care will initially launch Breakfast and After School Clubs, and more information on Holiday Camps will be shared with you in due course. Holiday Camps are run by In2Care and their Partner company In2Sport. Head to their Facebook pages for information on what provision they offer at their Holiday Camps.

The last Christmas Holiday period In2Care and In2Sport had a 'Winter Wonderland' themed Holiday Camp. Sports and team games included Ice Hockey, Curling, Angry Penguins, and crafts such as Handprint Polar Bears, Baubles and Snow Globes. In the larger school holiday periods, In2Care and In2Sport partner with local businesses to offer 'Special Activity Workshops'. The Partnered activities that have recently been offered include Pizza Making, Bubble Football, Brickies, Nerf Wars, Face Painting, Dance, Storytelling, a Climbing Wall and much more! In2Care and In2Sport have also changed their operating hours in Holiday periods, and from Easter 2023 the Extended Session will run from 8.00am-5.00pm.