

24TH JANUARY 2025

ISSUE 16

# PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

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# Headteacher's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this week's newsletter! There are many wonderful things happening across the school that we're thrilled to share with you.

## Learning Together Week

Next week we are hosting our highly anticipated Learning Together Week. During this special time, we welcome 10 parents from each class to join us in their child's classroom, providing a unique opportunity to experience their learning environment firsthand. If it's your turn, you will have received a personal invitation.

## Important Reminders for Attendees:

- Only the invited parent can attend due to safeguarding requirements.
- To ensure space and safety, only one parent per child can be accommodated.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in making this a meaningful experience for all.

## Chinese New Year Celebrations

We will celebrate the Year of the Snake with a whole-school assembly on Monday, 27th January, ahead of Chinese New Year on Wednesday, 29th January. This assembly offers a wonderful opportunity to explore cultural traditions and reflect on the values of determination and courage.

## Celebrating Our Values

This term, we continue to embrace our school values of hope, opportunity, trust, and curiosity. Last week, the focus was on World Religion Day, where pupils explored how kindness and perseverance unite different cultures and faiths. It was a joy to see so many children and staff in their national dress, a big thank you to families who shared stories and traditions from their own faiths—your contributions enriched our learning immensely!

At home, we encourage you to discuss shared values with your child and ask them what they learned about respect, empathy, and resilience during the week.

## Upcoming Events

National Storytelling Week: (30th January – 7th February)

Pupils will be treated to storytelling sessions and inspiring excerpts in both assemblies and classrooms. Keep an eye out for some creative resources coming home!

SLTea for EYFS and KS1 Parents: (4th February)

Join us for an informal chat over tea with the Senior Leadership Team. This is a perfect time to share your thoughts and connect with the school community.

Please confirm your attendance using the link:  
<https://forms.office.com/e/5yL2NCtHH3>

## A Note on Behaviour

We are proud of the positive behaviours we see every day in our classrooms, and we continue to work hard to support all pupils in thriving at school. While there have been a few challenges this week involving a small number of children, we are committed to providing the right support for every pupil to help them develop positive relationships and behaviours. Thank you for reinforcing our shared values of hope, trust, and kindness at home, as this partnership makes a real difference.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Priory School. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

# Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages - W/C 20th January

Whole School - 93.3%

Year 1 - 93.2%

Year 2 - 93.8%

Year 3 - 94.4%

Year 4 - 93.9%

Year 5 - 94.1%

Year 6 - 93.8%

Congratulations to 4Chamberlain with 98.3% 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:

World Religion Day

<https://youtu.be/bS2knuH-onw>

# Peek at the Week

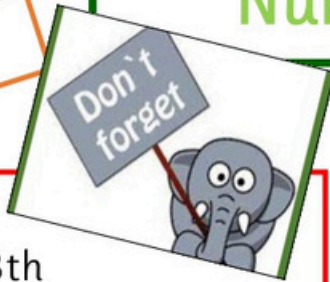
## Nursery– 24th January 2025

### Learning Together

sessions: Tuesday 28th  
and Thursday 30th January

### Half term holiday

No nursery sessions from Monday  
17th February–Friday 21st February.



### 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 how we use our manners especially at snack time by saying 'please' and 'thank you'.



#### Communication & Language Development

In our story 'The Greatest Gymnast of all', Zoe the main character, jumps 'inside', 'outside' and 'through' a hoola hoop. We have been learning lots of prepositions by naming the actions we do.



#### Physical Development

We have been trying different activities that challenge us. One of the things we find difficult is cutting. This week we have been practising snipping and cutting and remembering to stay safe when we use scissors.



### International Day

Last Friday we celebrated all the different cultures represented in our class. We had fun dancing to music from around the world.



Child of the week: **Hallie** for beginning to join in at carpet time and showing great focus and excellent listening skills at our library session this week.

Nursery rhyme of the week: Rain rain, go away!!

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

Please encourage your child to sing along.



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



Contact us: [nursery@prioryschool.com](mailto:nursery@prioryschool.com)

01628 600300



# Peek at the Week–Reception

## 24.01.25

Last Friday, we celebrated World Religion Day across the school. It was fantastic to see such a variety of cultural dress in Reception! The children were so excited to show off their special outfits, and the adults absolutely loved talking to the children about what they were wearing.



**27th–29th January–Learning Together Mornings.** Please ensure you only come on your allocated day!

**SLTea Tuesday 4th February–2pm.** EYFS parents are invited to come along to meet with our Senior Leadership team and enjoy a child free cup of tea!

Please send in any clean plastic bottles (water, juice, fairy liquid!) for a crafty activity next week!

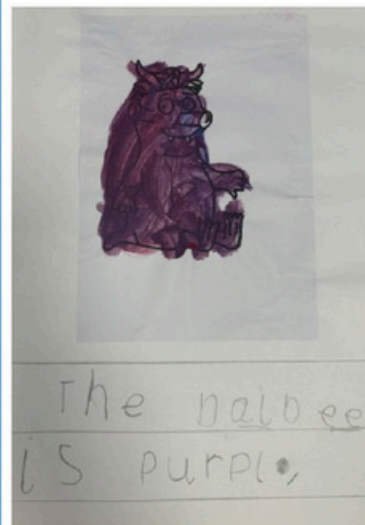
### Communication and Language

This week we have continued Spring 1 of [Little Wandle](#), as well as recapping the digraphs (two letters making one sound) learned before Christmas. Our new digraphs are: **ee**, **igh**, **oa**, **oo** and **oo**. The children are doing really well with their new tricky words: *was, you, they!*

Phonic information for Parents [here](#)

### Maths

We have been exploring weight and mass – using vocabulary such as “heavier” “lighter” and “capacity”. The children enjoyed the story “Who Sank the Boat!” by Pamela Allen



### Literacy

Following on from our colour mixing activity last week, we practiced using our phonics knowledge to write a simple caption for our picture. The children used the new digraphs ‘ai’ and ‘ee’ to sound out baby.

### Reception song of the week:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vcUyDAO1Fk0>



### Reception Stars of the Week:

R Rupert: Neil R Paddington: Ayaan

Contact us: [reception@prioryschool.com](mailto:reception@prioryschool.com)

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# Peek at the Week

## Year 2 – 24th January 2025

### Important Dates / Reminders

#### w/c 17.02.25 Half term

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 learnt about the features of a persuasive letter, so that we could draft our own persuasive letters to Mrs Foster next week. In maths, we began our unit on money and have reminded ourselves of the value of different coins and what they look like. We have also been using our coins to make different amounts.

In science, we set up an experiment to test what conditions plants need to grow. We have been observing our cress seeds and were surprised to find that the seeds in the cupboard that were watered did germinate even though they had no light!



We also made posters to show our learning about the life cycle of a sunflower.

**Next week**, we are going to draft a letter to Mrs Foster in English, asking her to consider building a new garden at Priory School. We will try and convince her with our persuasive arguments and reasoning! In maths, we are going to be focused on counting pounds and pence to work out how much money there is in total. We will be looking at the difference between seeds and bulbs in science, and will be planting our own seeds to bring home and then writing up a set of instructions on how to plant a seed.



### Child of the Week

2Newton: Ali

2Franklin: Aman







# Peek at the Week

## Year 3 - 24th January 2025

### Important Dates / Reminders

30.01.25 3 Jenner swimming lesson

11.02.25 Year 3 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo w/c

17.02.25 HALF TERM 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 took part in some experience lessons to learn about the life of working Victorian children. In Maths, we have been exploring divisibility using our multiplication facts.

In History lessons, we have been learning about life in Ancient Egypt. We have also been learning more about coding in Computing and continuing to practise the songs we are learning for our upcoming performance of 'Disney's Finding Nemo Kids'.

Next week, we will continue to learn about life in Ancient Egypt. The children will be given the opportunity to explore an 'Egyptian tomb' and to see what artefacts can tell us about life in Ancient Egypt.

In English, we will be learning about how to punctuate contractions using apostrophes. In Maths, we will be learning how to multiply two digit numbers by one digit numbers.

### World Religion Day



Word of the Week: centre Follow this link to find more super daily activities:

[www.morningchallenge.co.uk/](http://www.morningchallenge.co.uk/)

Contact us: [year3@priorschool.com](mailto:year3@priorschool.com)

01628 600300



# Year 4 Peek at the Week

## Friday 24th 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.

If your child needs suggestions for their costume, please speak to their class teacher.

### Our Learning

**This week**, we have had a busy week, the children have been working hard learning the lyrics for our performance coming up soon.

**In English**, the children have been planning and writing their version of the Beowulf from the perspective of Beowulf. This has given the children the opportunity to really think about what the characters are feeling.

**In Maths**, the children have been multiplying one-digit numbers by two or three-digit numbers. They have then been applying these skills to solve challenges.

**Next week in English**, the children are going to be moving on to look at a picture book, Journey which will really open up the children's imagination.

**Next week in Maths**, the children are going to be moving on to dividing two-digit and three-digit numbers by one digit.

**In the afternoons**, we are going to be moving on to learning about the history of the Anglo-Saxons. The children will be looking at artefacts and thinking about what this information tells them about what it was like at the time.

### Child of the week:

4 Turing: Sufyan 4 Lovelace: Shammah 4 Chamberlain: Amir



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

Contact us: [year4@priorschool.com](mailto:year4@priorschool.com) 01628 600300



# Year 5 Peek at the Week

## 24th January 2025

### Important Dates / Reminders

Learning Together Morning: Thursday 30th January

Slough Mosque Trip: Thursday 6th February

World Book day: Thursday 6th March

Science Museum Trip: Thursday 20th March

The children used torches to understand more about how shadows are created!



### Our Learning

**This week**, we continued our Science topic focusing on Space. In particular, we explored our solar system and focused on day, night and the phases of the moon!

**In maths**, we continued our topic of multiplication, learnt new strategies to multiply 3 digits by 2 digits, and 4 digits by 2 digits. We have progressed onto our new topic and moved onto short division.

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

**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 learn more about why there is life on Earth, the Goldilocks planet, and write our own space-themed versions of this fairy tale.

**In maths**, we will continue our topic of division, and develop strategies to divide 4 digits by 1 digit, divide with remainders and multiply unit fractions with integers.

**In English**, we will continue writing effective sentences, focussing on complex sentences that extend our writing. We will then retell this narrative in our own words.

### Child of the Week

5Dawe: **Harvey** 5Maple: **Drew** 5Ofili: **Baari**

### Word of the Week: **government**

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

Contact us: [year5@priorschool.com](mailto:year5@priorschool.com)

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# Year 6 Peek at the Week

## Friday 24th January 2025

### Important Dates /Reminders

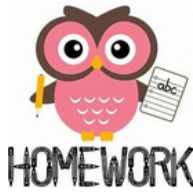
**Thursdays:** Wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.

**Thursdays:** Spelling quiz. Homework due:

- Reading record x3
- Spellings x1

Times tables practice on TTRS

Times Tables Rock Stars: Play  
([ttrockstars.com](http://ttrockstars.com))



**HOMEWORK**

### Our Learning

This week, in geography, we started our new topic on the Americas! We identified some of the countries and learnt about the wide range of climates and biomes.

In English, we drew on our knowledge of the Industrial Revolution in our poem. We understood its impact on nature and animals – including the moth.

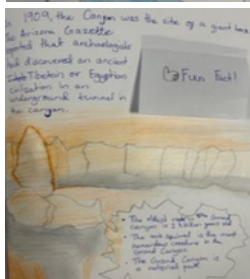
In maths, we completed the topic of decimals by focusing on dividing decimals by integers and applying division and multiplication in context. We then began a new topic on ratios, exploring both language and symbols.

Next week, in geography, we will learn about manmade landmarks in North and South America, as well as the impact of deforestation in the Amazon rainforest.

In English, we will use our knowledge of Natural Selection to write our own narrative poem on Darwin's finches!

In maths, we will complete the topic of ratios by exploring ratios and fractions and applying ratios to worded problems. We will then begin a new topic on fractions, decimals and percentages, with a focus on converting fractions to decimals and understanding their equivalents.

### Geography– Physical Features of the Americas



**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: Harisaran 6 Anning: Inaya 6 Darwin: Rania

**Word of the Week:** government

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: [www.morningchallenge.co.uk/](http://www.morningchallenge.co.uk/)

Contact us: [year6@priorschool.com](mailto:year6@priorschool.com) 01628 600300



# Peek of the Week

The Orchard

Week commencing- 20.01.2025

## Important Dates/ information

**Wednesday-** Cherries trip to TVAP

**Thursday-** Learning Together afternoon 2.15-3.00

P.E- Please send children to school wearing their uniform and pack their P.E in their bags. This is to support the children in learning to independently dress themselves. Thank you!

Makaton sign of the week:

Shop



## Peek of the Week from the Orchard

This week:

In English, the children have been using props from our topic book to retell the story and sequence key events during lessons. The children really enjoyed dressing up and acting out the story during playtime. Next week our new topic book will be 3 Billy Goats Gruff.

In Maths, all classes visited the 'Priory Shop'. The children used role play money to buy a snack from the shop and sat down with all their friends to eat it. This activity focused on the exchange of coins and notes as well as reading price tags and making the amount with coins.

Plums class were very lucky and went to Burnham Beeches. They went on a nature walk and then stopped off at the café at the end. They practiced their life skills by paying the correct coins to buy something they wanted.



## Stars of the week

**Plums:** Ardsher for fantastic walking on our community trip to Burnham Beeches.

**Cherries:** Riaz for writing cvc words

**Apples:** Henderson for focusing and engaging during his phonics sessions.

**Pears:** Martyna for regulating her emotions and engaging well in her lessons





# Peek at the Week

The Woodlands  
Week commencing- 20.01.25

## What the Woodlands has been up to

### **This week:**

**In English,** We visited Black Park with the children this week and took a walk around. The children had a checklist of things to find and describe, for example, spikey pinecones, a zigzag path, and rough bark. They've also been working on improving their sentences by adding adjectives and conjunctions.

In addition, the children have started planning their adapted version of Little Red Riding Hood. We are really looking forward to reading the children's completed stories.

**In maths,** we've continued focusing on the properties of 2D and 3D shapes. The children have been practicing sorting shapes by their properties and learning how to draw some of them.

### **The afternoon,**

We have continued to work on our Zones of Regulation lessons. We have been recognising how other children are impacted by our own behaviour.

The children have been practising their social skills by reading social scripts. We have practised how ask others to stop making noises we don't like.

The children have been using Colourful Semantics to explore Little Red Riding hood.

The children have been building their listening and attention skills, pointing to different body parts.

### **Next week,**

**In English,** we are going write our own version of The Little Red Riding Hood story.

**In maths,** we will continue to build our understanding of shape.

**In the afternoon,** we are going to continue our work on social and emotional skills.



## PE News

Year 5&6 boys football fixture v. Cippenham

The boys returned to league action with a 1-0 victory against Cippenham!

It was a hard fought game with our goalkeeper Saranveer making great saves and Jordan S with the winning goal!

The team demonstrated excellent teamwork!



Year 6 SSSN multi sports festival

On Thursday 16th January 10 Year 6 Superstars took part in a multi sports festival at Singh Sabha Sports Centre. The students took part in a range of activities including modified hockey, modified dodge ball and Kurling games. The children demonstrated awesome Priory values and were applauded for their behaviour and excellent sportspersonship.



## 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-sshhyeah**  
谢谢

Yes  
**Shrr**  
是

Hello  
**Nee haoww**  
你好

Sorry  
**Bào qiàn**  
抱歉

Well done  
**Sshyeh-sshhyeah**  
谢谢

Please  
**Qǐng**  
请

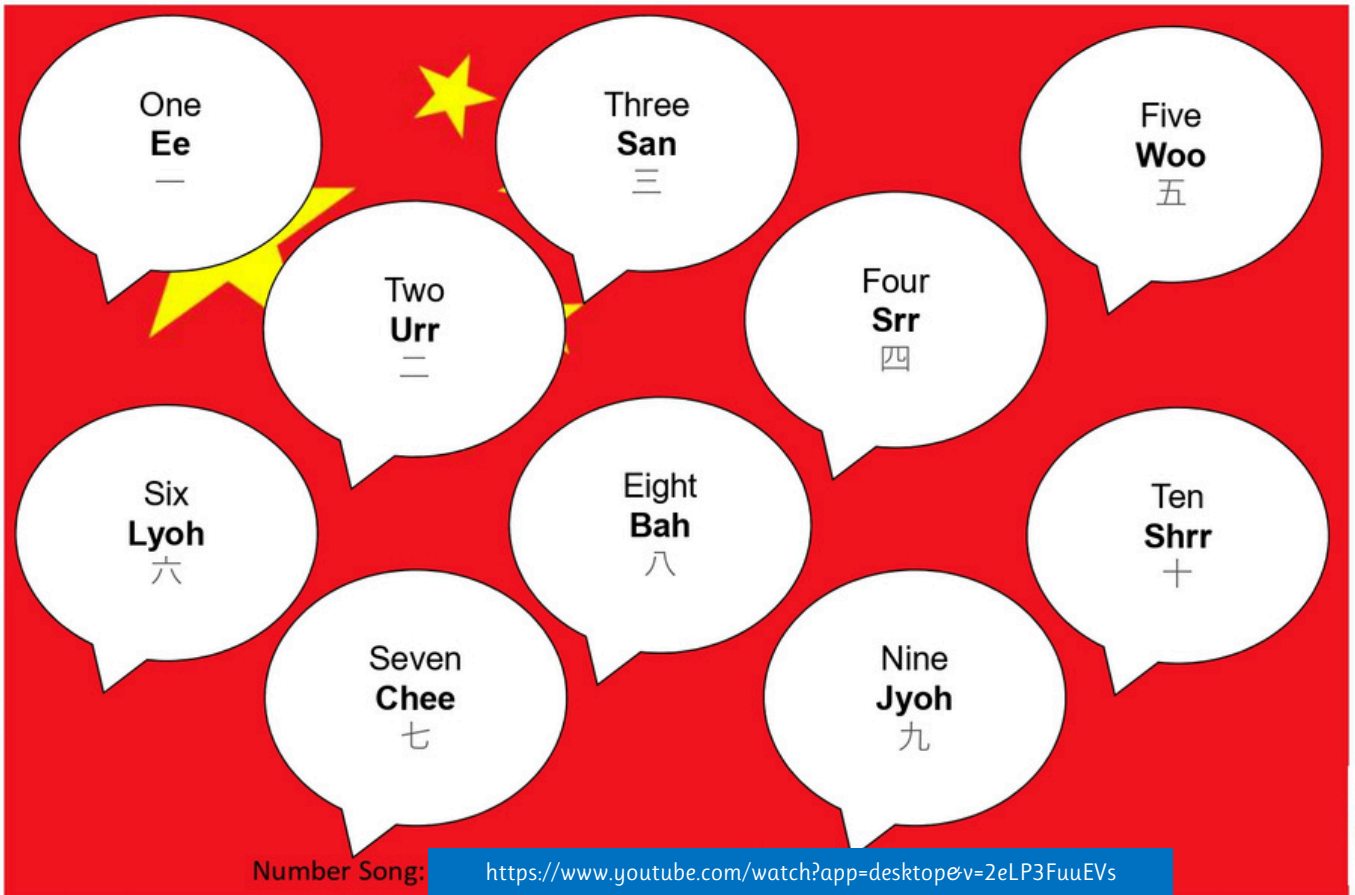
Good afternoon  
**Sshyah-woo haoww**  
下午好

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>

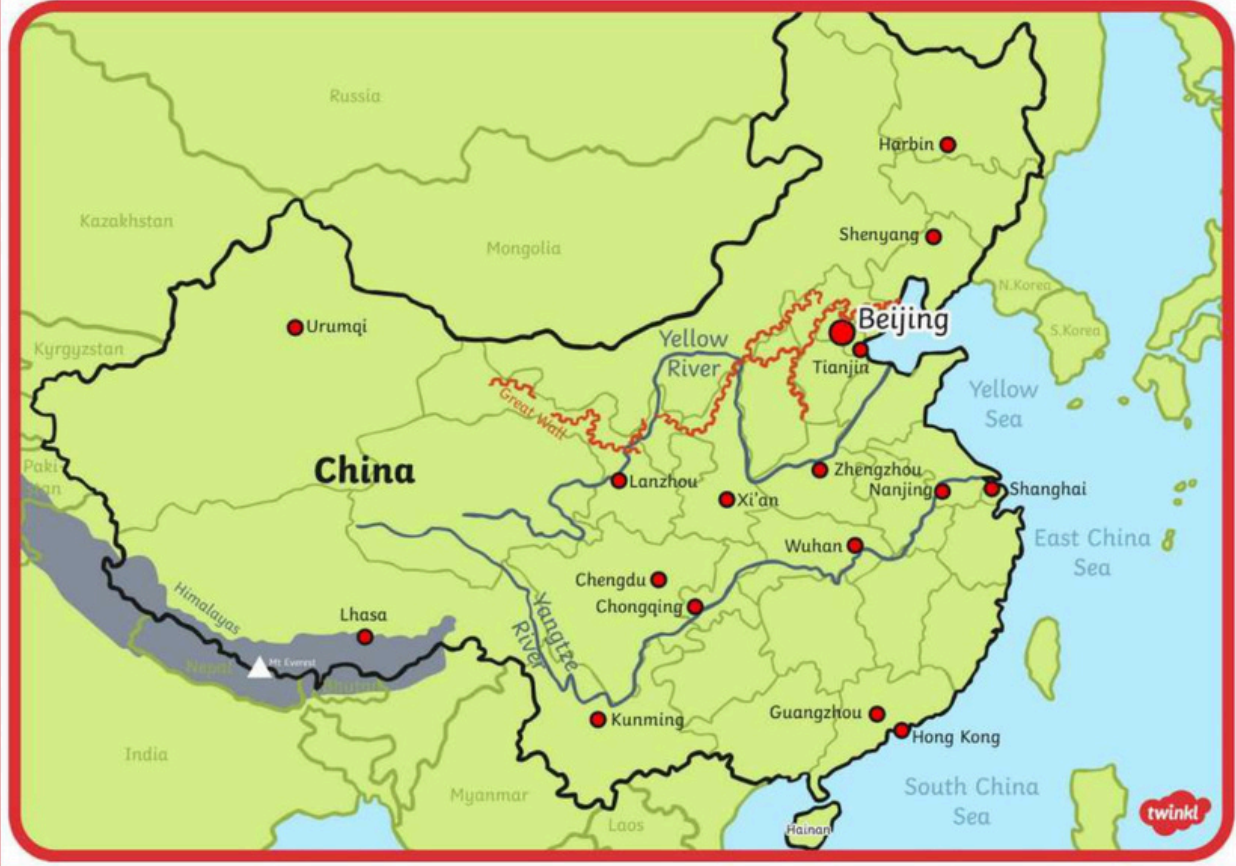
**Chinese New Year**

<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](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=leMFXiEq_ow)





## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:campse-in-2-group.co.uk)

[IN2CARE.MAGICBOOKING.CO.UK](http://IN2CARE.MAGICBOOKING.CO.UK)