



DECEMBER 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the December newsletter. I do hope that you enjoy looking at some of the photographs of events in school. I know that the teachers are working extremely hard to ensure that the children have an exciting Project based curriculum which allows them to not only develop their key skills but to present their learning to a wide range of audiences.

We welcome parents in school as visitors and volunteers and are very much hoping that parents will continue to support the activities we are providing such as phonics training for reception children. If there is anything that you would like some training in then please contact Mrs Shephard who is our member of staff with responsibility for community or our parent governor Mrs Sharon Mramba.

We have had a real focus on behaviour this term as it is essential that all children are allowed to learn in an environment which is supportive and also free from any kind of violence or aggression. We also expect children to respect all adults and their peer in school as we respect them. As from November we have a new behaviour policy and lots of staff in school available to discuss your individual child's needs. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with this and only by working together as a team can we ensure that your children are happy, safe and learn at school. The policy is available on the school website and a paper copy on request.

Thank you also to parents who are ensuring that children come in the correct uniform. We have sent out several reminders about what is appropriate and details are on the website.

Mrs Wells is continuing to follow up on attendance which we are trying to improve rapidly to meet the target of 96.5%. Only by being in school every day can they learn as much as they can. Our current school attendance is 94.4%

We have our carol service on the 13th December at 2pm and always appreciate parent support. It really makes a difference to the children. Lots of parents, carers and family came to the Harvest Festival and the children and staff really enjoyed seeing you there. Thank you.

We are looking forward to welcoming Mr Dan Rust as the Deputy Head Teacher for Key Stage 2 from January 2018 and are delighted that Mr James Little will be continuing his senior leadership role but specialising in developing teaching and learning. Linda Dyble has taken the role of Deputy Head Teacher for Early Years and Key Stage 1.

On behalf of myself and all the staff at Priory I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and safe Christmas. The children will return on 4th January

Maria Grimmer

DATES AND EVENTS

Drop in daily at 08.40am in the dining room with Mrs Hazell – for parents

Christmas Dinner is on 14th December

Christmas Jumper Day is on 15th December. Please pay a pound in aid of Save The Children

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON IN SCHOOL TO MAKE IT EVEN BETTER

- We want to ensure that every parent, member of staff and child knows what it means to be a church school
- Ensuring That when we assess children it helps us to know exactly what the next steps are for every child
- Set high expectations for behaviour and take action where these are not followed.
- Ensure that teaching and learning is the best it can be
- Ensure that we give opportunities to develop leadership at all levels in school. Please remember that every year group has a standards lead. We also have a Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 deputy head teacher and a Lead Practitioner who is an expert in teaching and learning
- We are looking into developing accelerating the skills of children in maths
- Ensure that children are building on their reading skills. – There are lots of ways parents can be involved with this. Please come and talk to us about hearing readers or volunteering
- Meet 96.5% attendance

