

Name:

Class:



December 2016
ST. NICHOLAS PRIORY NEWS



Winter Newsletter

Welcome from the Head Teacher....

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are approaching the end of the Autumn Term I would like to express thanks on behalf of myself and Mr Little for your continued support. We very much value working together with parents to ensure the best possible opportunities for learning and hope that you will join with us in celebrating what children have achieved this term.

Please can all parents support school in ensuring that the children follow the school uniform policy so that they are smartly presented. If any parents have concerns then please just ring the school office and speak to a member of staff.

On behalf of the children and staff and Priory let me take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year. We very much look forward to seeing the children again on the 5th January 2017.

Maria Grimmer,
Acting Head Teacher

Sports News

This term we have completed in three Inter-school competitions.

In October, seven Year 1s represented the school in a KS1 football tournament at Caister Junior School. They were playing against mostly Year 2s and the size difference was noticeable! However, all seven children played incredibly well, celebrated their goal with enthusiasm and were a credit to the school in their first tournament.

Also in October a team from Years 5 & 6 went to Ormiston Venture Academy for a basketball tournament. Both teams equipped themselves well and won several games.



Priory Orange team won the basketball tournament.

We took two teams to the Premier Sport Dodgeball Competition at Ormiston Venture Academy in November. Priory White team played well in their four games and were unlucky to win just one after some very close matches. Priory Orange team did fantastically well, winning five of their six games in the tournament, culminating in beating Ormiston in the final. It was the second year in a row that the KS2 Dodgeball team had won this tournament. Well done

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Year 1

Year 1 have had an exciting half term and have been learning about Pokémon! We have learnt the classic children's story "We're Going On A Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen and have adapted it for our own books called "We're going on a Pokémon Hunt!" The children have also designed their own Pokémon creatures.

As the weather is getting worse, the children need to make sure they have warm clothing each day. Lots of learning happens outside and so children require a coat in school. Children without a coat aren't able to go outside and are missing valuable learning opportunities because of this. A hat, gloves and scarf may also be necessary when it is particularly cold. A set of wellington boots is also a good idea for the children (especially when it has been raining or we are experimenting with water!) so children may wish to bring a set of named wellingtons in as well. These can be kept on their peg.

PE lessons also take place outside (unless it is wet) so children need a winter PE kit. The children will need a black sport jacket/jumper, a pair of black tracksuit bottoms and a pair of trainers (plimsolls get very wet on the playground when it has been raining).

It is vitally important that all children have their PE kit in school on PE day. PE is an essential part of the curriculum and is compulsory for all children.

PE kit needs to be:

- Plain white T-shirt (a small logo for the make is acceptable but no slogans)*
- Black shorts, leggings or tracksuit/jogging bottoms (patterned leggings are not acceptable).*
- A black jumper or sweatshirt (a small logo for the make is acceptable but no slogans)*
- trainers*

Our PE days are:

Year 1 - Friday

Year 3 - Thursday

Year 4 - Wednesday

Year 5 - Tuesday

Year 6 – Friday

On Christmas Eve this year there is a re-telling of We're Going On A Bear Hunt on Channel 4 at 7:30pm. The children will love watching this and joining in as they watch! Make sure you catch it.

Please remember to hear your child read over the Christmas holidays. We know you may be very busy but regular reading for 10 minutes with your child will make a huge difference. Thanks.

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Year 3

This half term has been very exciting with our continued topic of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Thank you to all of the children that have completed the task of designing a new room in the chocolate factory with a diorama, if your child hasn't brought this back please bring this in so others can enjoy seeing it.

Mrs King and myself are so proud of how far the children have come since they joined in September. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year.

ATTENTION ALL YEAR 3: Watch this space as we have an amazing new topic starting in January.

We hope you will all be as excited about it as we are!

Year 4

Our project about space end this week with an exhibition on Wednesday 14th December. Many children have brought in their home-school projects and we have seen some impressive work already. It'd be lovely to see as many parents as possible during the morning. Our next project is called, 'Who did the most for us? Romans or Greeks?'

Year 5

We are now completing our project called, 'Could we survive another Ice Age?'



In our next project we shall be studying Saxons and Vikings. We have an exciting trip planned to Norwich Castle in February.

In the autumn term each class learnt their class prayer that they will present in collective worship in front of the whole school. Perhaps your child will be able to say it to you...

Next half term's R.E project poses the question 'Can one person change the world?'. We shall be exploring influential figures around the world and see what impact their beliefs have had. Since the weather turned cold we are now enjoying our sports activities at the Marina Centre rather than the Wellesley Sportsground. This has proved to be a great success with children more engaged in P.E. than ever before. Please remember to provide your child with the correct P.E. kit which is a white top and black shorts. We wish to show members of the public how smart Priory pupils are. Thank you to Miss Howes and other staff who have made this a success.

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Year 6

Year 6 pupils and staff are working hard in preparation for next year's National Curriculum tests and many children are now attending our after school Buddy-Study sessions. Pupils now have specific books to use to help them do well in arithmetic, mathematical reasoning and English. Thank you to those staff, and parent volunteers, who have helped to get this up and running.

Our next project is called, 'What makes a civilization successful?' The intended outcome of this is to produce a book with a 'quest' story.

Maths Café :

Maths Café returns after the half term break on Wednesday 2nd November. It will be in our school dining room. Why not come along and try some maths games and puzzles you can try at home. There's no cost and refreshments are provided. Maths Café is open to years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and starts at 2.30.

We are hoping to open maths café to year 1 later.

Contact Details:

Have you changed your mobile phone number recently? It is vitally important we have up to date contact details for you and **any other people you wish us to contact in an emergency.** Please help us to keep your child safe by keeping our phone records up to date. If you change numbers please ring our office on 01493843552.

Uniform Reminder:

We would like to remind parents and carers that we can allow pupils to wear boots to and from school but pupils must wear appropriate black school shoes in school. Trainers can be worn at break and lunchtimes if parents and carers wish their child to keep their school shoes smart.

Staff Training Days:

The following days are staff training days;

Wednesday 4th January 2017

Monday 24th July 2017

Parent Drop-In

Parent drop-in is now open every morning in the dining hall, 8.30 'til 9.00. The chat, coffee and tea are free!

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We are a church school!!

The Minster Preservation Trust's Christmas Tree Festival has been running from the 9th December and finishes this Sunday 18th. Why not pop in and enjoy the fantastic tree display? The Children's Society Christingle and Nativity takes place on Christmas Eve at 3 pm. Many of our children attend this magical event but there's plenty of room at the Minster for more!

Other services at the Minster you may enjoy

Sunday 18th December – at 6.30 pm: A traditional carol service

Christmas Eve – at 11.30 pm: Midnight Mass

Christmas Morning – at 10.30 am: Sung Eucharist

We recently decorated our classrooms in preparation for Christmas and pupils have been practising for our Christmas service at the Minster on Wednesday 14th December at 2 pm. We hope as many parents and friends of Priory can join us for this wonderful celebration.

Remember to wrap up warm!

Maths News

Many pupils have made significant progress in maths this term as teachers have been using new and exciting resources to develop children's understanding. We have been running Maths Café on Wednesdays for several weeks and many parents are now enjoying playing our interesting maths games and puzzles. Thank you to Miss Bollington and Mr Catchpole, who is a parent volunteer, for helping to make this so popular.

We are also now running parent forums for maths. The next one takes place on 10th January and will be about subtraction. Why not pop along and learn how we teach this at

Priory? More details will follow.

And finally...

Some parents have been asking if we are having a Christmas Jumper Day. This is on December 16th, our last day at school this term. Go to (<https://christmasjumperday.org> for more details. This is a national fund raising event for Save The Children. We are asking children to donate 50p on the day.