

St Nicholas Priory C.E.V.A. Primary School Autumn Term Newsletter



The Priory Way

‘I come not to be served
but to serve’

Matthew 20:28

A message from Mrs Grimmer

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge welcome to the first newsletter of the academic year! Your children have navigated their ‘new normal,’ brilliantly, they have adapted to their new environments with such resilience and courage. We are so very proud of the start they have made in their new year groups – well done, everyone!

As I am sure everyone will appreciate there have been some necessary changes to the systems in school particularly how the children enter the building in the morning and exit in the afternoon.

Thank you to parents for being patient and understanding whilst we refine our systems to ensure that all children come in to and out of school as quickly and safely as possible. Please continue to follow government advice to maintain social distancing.

Governors and staff have worked hard to ensure that your child is safe in school and we want to reassure parents that everything is being done to maintain this. Please do not send children to school with anything other than a water bottle and lunch box (if appropriate).

As a school we recognise that this can be a very challenging and worrying time for parents and children but there is a lot of additional information on our website. The children themselves are really enjoying being in school with their friends and familiar staff and so we are able to provide a great deal of in school support.

As we are not able to have our usual ‘meet the teacher’ arrangements in place, all teachers will be contacting parents in the first few weeks of term to provide an update as to how children are getting on. You can communicate with the class teacher via Class Dojo. All parents would have been sent an invitation to join. Please do this as soon as possible as class information is shared through Class Dojo too. Please feel free to contact the school office should you have any further questions (01493 843552).

As a church school we feel that it is extremely important for children to learn about the values that support their personal development. We are very pleased to be supported by the Minster staff in holding our collective worship.

Over the course of the academic year we focus on different values here in school and this term our first value is ‘aspiration’ We are working hard with children to ensure that they talk about their plans for the future and it would be great if you could support us with this by speaking to your child about this

Thank you for your continued support.
Take care and stay safe

Yours sincerely

Maria Grimmer

Head Teacher



School Uniform

It is lovely to see so many children returning to school, looking so smart in their school uniform. However, to complement this smart appearance, we also expect that children will attend school with suitable haircuts. Extreme haircuts, for example tramlines, patterned styles, Mohican cuts etc... are not permitted in school.



Please ensure you write your child's name on all uniform and PE kit.



The correct PE kit must also be worn to school on their PE day – Yellow school logo T-shirt (no sports tops) and plain black shorts or jogger bottoms (no markings or brand names), black football socks.

PE days

Y1 – Friday

Y2 - Friday

Y3 - Thursday

Y4 - Wednesday

Y5 - Friday

6K - Monday and Wednesday

6B - Monday and Friday

If you have any questions about uniform please speak to the class teacher who can provide you with a uniform guide.



Child Protection

The Governors, Head teacher and staff of St. Nicholas Primary are legally bound, in our duty of care, to make referrals if we have a reason to be concerned about a safeguarding issue. Do let us know, for any reason, if your child is upset or distressed when s/he comes to school.

Your child's safety is of utmost importance to us and as such all parents / carers MUST contact the school office if there is a change, to who will be collecting your child (we will not let your child go home unless we are notified).



School Meals

From the 21st September, there will be a limited selection of cooked dinners (£2.30) available. School packed lunch (sandwich, fruit, crisps and a drink) is also still available (£2.30).

Children in YR, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to a free school meal funded by the government. If your child is in Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 and you think they may qualify for a free school meal please contact the main office (01493 843552)

For children who choose to have a packed lunch from home, please ensure it contains a healthy balance (with no fizzy drinks, chocolate or nuts).

Breaktime snacks

Children in KS1 will be provided with a healthy snack for morning break.

Children in KS2 can bring in a small healthy snack for breaktime



Mobile/Internet Safety

As your children become more and more reliant on the Internet for both school work and entertainment, we must all, as a community, be more aware for the need to monitor the sites your child visits. In school, through classroom activities and discussion, we highlight positive uses of technology, but also ways in which we can all keep safe through responsible use of the internet, our mobile phones and social media (eg WhatsApp, Facebook etc...).

At home you can ensure the security systems on your computers, tablets and mobiles are up to date and also, please talk to your child about the dangers of accessing unfamiliar sites, or giving parents' e-mail/Facebook/Twitter etc.... details to strangers.



Behaviour

Our motto from behaviour is

Ready, Respectful, Safe

School staff really appreciate parents support with developing good behaviours for learning. We understand that sometimes children find it difficult to make good choices but it is extremely important that school and carers work together to ensure that children receive a consistent message as to what is and isn't acceptable.

Our Behaviour Blueprint (displayed in every classroom and working area) shows our rules, our routines, our phrases, our behaviour steps, shows how we manage moments and how we repair and rebuild.

News from Reception

All the staff here in reception are excited to meet the new children that are starting with us this week. We have been working really hard to get the classroom ready to welcome the children.

We just want to remind the parents that this year you will need to say goodbye to your children at the gate when they arrive. We understand this may be not be ideal and when this current situation has eased we would be delighted to show you round our classroom and reception unit. However, for now please talk about this positively with you child as this will help to allay any fears they may have. I'm sure once the children see the exciting learning environment we have created for them they will be pleased to come to school every day.



Spare clothes for Reception children



We would be grateful if you could bring in a change of clothes in a **named** bag. This will be left at school in case it is required. However, please note during the current COVID

situation children are not allowed to bring any other school bags or book bags to school. They may bring a **named** water bottle but please note, school policy is that **only water** is allowed to be brought into school, no squash or fizzy drinks.



Photos for Reception children

Please don't forget to bring photos of any adults that you give permission to collect your child. Unless we have photographs with permission from parents we WILL NOT release children to any other adults other than those who have dropped them off and had their photos taken by their teacher.

We are all looking forward to meeting you and welcoming your children to our wonderful setting. Please

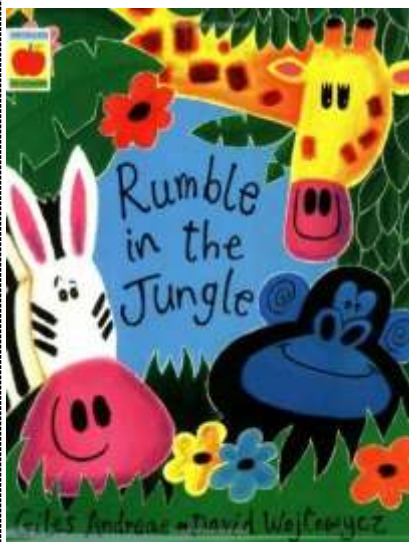


give your child the best possible opportunity to settle in well by talking to your children daily about starting school, show them photographs of school from the website, Facebook and any other publications you have, reassure them that they will have super fun and of course learn a lot too!



News from Year 1

Last week we welcomed back our wonderful Year 1s, they were extremely brave and have slotted into 'big school' life seamlessly. Since returning to school we have been getting back into school life by practicing our spellings, remembering our sounds, starting P.E. and counting as high as we can!



We have been enjoying our class book 'Rumble in the Jungle' and learning about lots of animals. We look forward to a fantastic year ahead!

News from Year 2

The children have made a fantastic start back at school and we are incredibly proud of the way they have adapted to the new normal. We are doing work around Peter Rabbit and have had a lot of fun already trying to sort out some of the muddle Peter has created in our classrooms.



All parents have been sent an invitation to join Class Dojo. It is incredibly important that you sign up to this as we will be using this app to send home information, homework, messages as well as sharing your child's learning with you.

If you haven't already done so, could you please connect with your child's class as soon as possible.

Homework:

All year 2 children will receive spellings on a Monday that will need to be learnt for a spelling test the following Monday. These spellings will also be put onto Class Dojo.

Reading books will be sent home on a Friday and need to be returned on the following

Monday. Please make a note in the reading record when you hear your child read. It doesn't need to be long, just a brief note of how they did and the date.



At the front of the reading record are your child's log in details for Purple Mash and Prodigy. We will be uploading work on these websites for the children to do as part of their homework.

PE day



PE will take place on a **Friday** so please make sure your child comes to school dressed for PE on those days. They will stay in their PE Kit all day.

The Year 2 team really appreciate your support with learning spellings and reading at home. These two activities

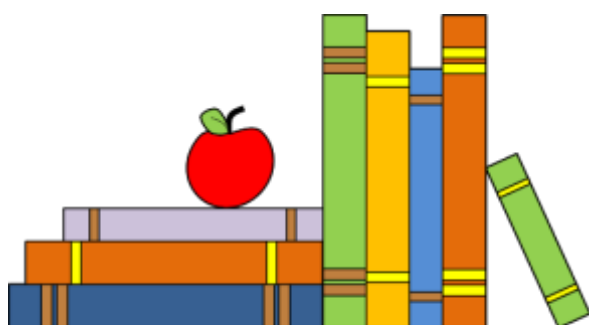
have such a positive impact on your child's progress.

News from Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic two weeks. The children have been amazing since returning from the Summer Holidays and it is almost as though they have never been away! Thank you so much for all of your support and patience whilst we have been embedding our 'new normal', especially with the drop-off and pick-up times.



During this half-term we will be looking at life in Britain under the rule of the ancient Romans. The children already know some amazing facts about the ancient Romans and we have even had coins brought into school which are from that period - thank you Isis! We will be participating in a 'Roman day' during the week of the 28th September ... more details to follow!



Back To School

News from Years 5 and 6

All teaching adults have been extremely impressed with how Y5 and Y6 have settled back into school. We have started our Maths and English groups, with all children working hard and showing us what they know.



Thank you for your help with lining children up at the start of the day and for lining up to collect your child at the end of the day. This has been great and ensures the safety of all children.

To communicate with Y5 and Y6 teaching adults please speak to us at the gate, alternatively we will continue to use the lockdown phones so you can phone or message those numbers. You can also use **Class Dojo** to send a message please speak to your child's teacher, if you would like help signing up to this.



We will continue to use Google classroom for homework and home learning when needed. Please ensure children know how to login to this at home, we are practicing at school. We have also been using Times Table Rockstars and Bedrock vocabulary. We will remind children of their passwords so that they can use these at home as they wish.

Please get in touch with any questions or queries.

Mrs Richardson and the Y5 and Y6 team

Dates For Your Diary:

School term dates 2020-21

Autumn term

Monday 7th September - Wednesday 21 October 2020

Half-term holiday: Thursday 22 - Friday 30 October 2020

Monday 2 November - Friday 18 December 2020

Christmas holiday: Monday 21 December - Friday 1 January 2021

Spring term

Monday 4 January - Friday 12 February 2021

Half-term holiday: Monday 15 - Friday 19 February 2021

Monday 22 February - Friday 26 March 2021

Easter holiday: Monday 29 March - Friday 9 April 2021

Summer term 2021

**Monday 12 April - Friday 28 May 2021
(Monday 3 May is a bank holiday)**

Half-term holiday: Monday 31 May - Friday 4 June 2021

Monday 7 June - Wednesday 21 July 2021

Summer holiday: Thursday 22 July - Friday 3 September 2021

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