



Priory Rise School Newsletter

Inspiring a passion for learning



Thursday 28th March 2024

Value of the Month: Tolerance

Dear Parents/Friends,

Yet another half term has flown by and here we have arrived at the Easter break! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our families for your continued support over the course of this busy term. Here we have the latest news and school updates at the end of this term.

Priory Rise 'Sing Off'



Today in school we hosted our third ever Priory Rise 'Sing Off'. All classes enthusiastically took part with their own rendition of their chosen song. Classes had rehearsed, demonstrating a range of singing skills, choreography and harmonising. These events were truly amazing – demonstrating many of our school values including collaboration, tolerance and individuality – too name but a few!

I am delighted to announce that our Foundation Stage winners were the wonderful Fireflies Class, who sang their very own rendition of Natash Beddingfield's beautiful song, Unwritten.

The victorious Key Stage 1 winners were Murphy Class, who sang their wonderful version of 'When I Grow Up' from the 'Matilda' musical.

The Key Stage 2 competition took place this afternoon and the winners for Lower Key Stage 2 were Wilson Class with their amazing performance of 'Faith' by Stevie Wonder and Ariana Grande. The Upper Key Stage 2 winners were Rowling Class, who performed 'Counting Stars' by One Republic so brilliantly.

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Almost every child in the school took part in this event – and there was so much joy, fun, enjoyment and warmth in evidence – whilst raising the profile of singing and performance across the school.



Huge congratulations to the winning classes – and to **ALL** of our wonderful children who took part and contributed so enthusiastically to this fabulous event! You are all winners!

Friends of Priory Rise – Easter Disco Success



Once again, this week, our Easter discos proved to be a roaring success with everyone – attended by a huge number of children from across the school. Both children and staff enjoyed a boogie or two and was supported by a great number of our Friends of Priory Rise team.

Once again, many thanks to the 'Friends' for their organisation and support of this great event, and particularly Anna and her team from Ragdolly Anna, who provided the amazing discos, dance support and choreography of dances for our children.



Just wonderful!

Reception Ramadan Assembly Thanks

Huge thanks to Mrs Nida Shamiyal and Mrs Maheera Abdul Kadar for visiting school last week to deliver an assembly to our Reception year group, all about Ramadan. Our reception children were such a good audience too. The ladies explained all about what was happening during Ramadan and brought artefacts to show the children - some clothes, pictures and a beautiful Ramadan calendar that can be filled with treats for children. Most importantly, the ladies shared how this time brings families and friends together, through love, respect, faith, reflection and charity, which aligns perfectly with our school values. We are incredibly grateful for their valuable time, thank you.



At the end of Ramadan Eid Al-Fitr is celebrated, we will be celebrating this in school on Monday 15th April with a non-uniform day.

Wedding News



We are delighted to inform everyone in our school community that, Miss Leigh Kent will return to school after the Easter break known as Mrs Leigh Reynolds – as she is getting married in the Easter break! I know that you will all join with us to wish her the

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very best special wedding day and a lifetime of happiness together with her lovely new husband. How wonderful!

This also means that we will have two Mrs Reynolds on the staff team!

Premier Camp

Premier Education will again be holding a holiday club here at Priory Rise School during the Easter holidays from Tuesday 2nd April. For further details or to make bookings, go to www.premier-education.com.



Safeguarding Snippet – helping a child with anxiety

Realising that your child may be struggling with their mental health and experiencing anxiety or depression can be hard to accept. Sometimes parents can feel like it's their fault or want to know why their child is struggling with a mental health problem. This is completely understandable, but the most important thing you can do is to reassure your child and not judge them for how they're feeling.



Ways to help a child who's struggling include:

- letting them know you're there for them and are on their side
- try talking to them over text or on the phone if they don't feel able to talk in person
- being patient and staying calm and approachable, even if their behaviour upsets you
- recognising that their feelings are valid and letting them know it's okay for them to be honest about what it's like for them to feel this way
- thinking of healthy ways to cope you could do together, like yoga, breathing exercises or mindfulness
- encouraging them to talk to their GP, someone at their school or [Childline](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/depression-anxiety-mental-health/). Especially if they're finding it hard to talk at home.
- take care of yourself and get support if you need to. Try not to blame yourself for what's happening and to stay hopeful about your child's recovery.

If parents are looking for some additional advice with their children who are experiencing or showing signs of anxiety, visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/depression-anxiety-mental-health/>

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HAF – Spring Offer

The Milton Keynes Spring Activities and Food programme will be taking place **Monday 8 April to Thursday 11 April 2024** – providing over 8,200 free activity and food sessions for children, young people and their families who are in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals. The programme will go live on **Monday 19 March** via the [online booking system here](#).



More information can be found on the [MKCC HAF webpage](#).

The spring offer will take place in 55 locations across MK, including 11 locations with dedicated support for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

How do eligible families access provision – what do schools need to do?

To access these session, families should use vouchers through Wonde [Holiday Activities platform](#) to enable those on benefit related free school meals to access the HAF programme. Eligible families can view the HAF programme and exchange their vouchers for up to 4 days of activities and food through the [online booking system](#).

If you have any questions, please do contact the HAF team HAF@milton-keynes.gov.uk

School Uniform Reminder – Black Trainers



Please can I remind all our families that as part of our school PE uniform, children should wear **wholly black trainers**. These are easy to find at reasonable prices online and in shops. If you are thinking of buying new trainers for your child's PE kit, please bear this in mind and avoid any subsequent difficult conversation about this.

Many thanks to everyone in advance for supporting us in keeping our school uniform standards high and children wearing all aspects of their school uniform with pride.

Latest Sporting Updates from Mr Neal and Mr Smyth – Cross Country

The school cross-country team competed in the MKSSP schools championships at the weekend, with great success.

The Junior Girls team of Maddy, Sofia H, Emma and Arianna won bronze medals as a team in the 'ultra schools' section. On top of this Sofia H won the Junior Girls race against over 100 over children. A superb achievement and definitely a first for a PR student.

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Well done to all the runners:

Robert, Fletcher, Albert, Matthew, Ishaan U, Leo T, Maddy, Sofia H, Emma, Arianna, Zara, Edie, Valeria, Nerea G, Muhammad, Freddie, Ollie E, Evan, Dexter.



In addition, over 80 children participated in our Years 3 and 4 football tournament, at school last Monday. Some fantastic play and teamwork were on show throughout the afternoon. The eventual winners were England in 2 categories and the Brazilians came out on top in the third one.

Many congratulations to all our sporting participants!

And finally...



Following another incredibly busy and enjoyable term, may I take this opportunity to wish all our families a very happy and restful Easter break.

We look forward to welcoming our children back when **school re-opens on the morning of Monday 15th April.**

Best regards as always,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ruth Seagar'.

Ruth Seagar

Headteacher

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