

Year 6 newsletter



Summer Term 1

Welcome back!

Welcome to the summer term at Priory Rise – the last full term of school here for your child! We hope that you had a restful Easter break and enjoyed spending time with your children – we are so glad to see them back in our classrooms! ❤️

Our Spring Term Two Topic: World War Two (continued)

In **English**, we will be continuing our learning around our History topic of WW2. To begin with, we will revisit how to write an explanation text based on instructions. Together, we will look at 'how to survive a desert island' before the children will use their knowledge of The Blitz to write instructions on 'how to survive an air raid'. After this, we will move on to look at how to write an effective biography. Together, we will explore the life of Alan Turing, a code-breaker who worked at Bletchley Park. After this, the children will have some time to practise their research skills to find out about the life of Anne Frank before writing their biographies on her.

In **Maths**, we are going to be starting the Half Term off by revising to prepare for the upcoming SATs, which commence on Monday 13th May. Once we have completed our SATs, we will return to whole-class learning to explore key areas such as timetables and money to support the children's transition to their new schools in September.

In **Science**, our topic is called 'Evolution and Inheritance'. We will be learning about the key concepts surrounding inheritance, whilst developing our understanding of some key terminology such as: inheritance, variation and selective breeding. For lesson 1, we will invite the children to bring in a family photograph to share with the class to support our understanding of inheritance.

In **D.T.**, we will be building upon the children's sewing skills from Year 4. Our project will be based on 'Make Do and Mend' with the children making soft toys using recycled textiles. If you have any old, unwanted clothes at home, we would love to have them in school to support us with this topic! Please could any donations of clothes (or other textiles including bedding, curtains etc) be brought into school by Friday 3rd May. You may wish to help your child with their sewing skills at home by practising threading a needle, using running and backstitch and finishing using knots.

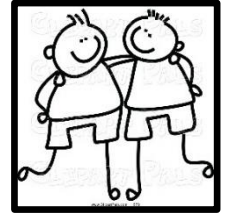
In **History**, we will be continuing our learning on WW2. This half term, we will explore how the war impacted our local area as well as the role Bletchley Park had to play.

In **Music**, the children will be beginning their unit of work on musical theatre. This will involve using songs, drama and games to develop skills that are needed for musical performances.

In **Computing**, we are going to begin to look at using Spreadsheets on Google Sheets, following our Purple Mash scheme of work.

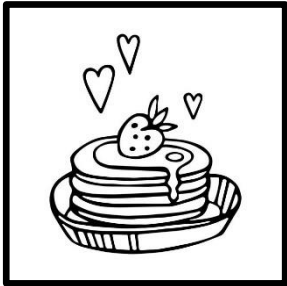
In **R.E.**, we are going to be exploring how religious beliefs influence actions, with a focus on Sikhism, Christianity and Islam.

In **P.S.H.E.**, we will be looking at the value of the month for April – 'patience'. Our next value, for the month of May, will be 'generosity'. We will also be continuing our 'Jigsaw' scheme of work, with our next unit 'Relationships'. This unit will give us the opportunity to explore key concepts, such as the importance of mental health and well-being, love and loss. If this may be difficult for your child, please contact your child's class teacher.



SATs Week

As you know, our SATs week is fast approaching. We are extremely proud of the revision that the children have been undertaking and their continued hard work and focus leading up to the tests.



As a part of this week, the children are invited to school at 8:15am every morning of the week beginning 13th May to have breakfast in school. Please let your child's class teacher know if your child will not be attending the breakfast each morning so that we know not to expect them! The SATs breakfasts provide the children with a time to socialise before their assessment and we have found that this greatly reduces any anxiety surrounding the papers. If your child would prefer to have breakfast at home but still join us in school for 8:15am, they are of course still welcome!

If you have any questions about the SATs, please do not hesitate to ask.

Year Six Residential Visit

It will soon be time for us to go on our residential visit to the Peak District – we are so excited!

As a part of our preparation for this, we are going to be holding an information meeting for parents on Monday 20th May. A letter with details on this has already been sent out.. During this meeting, we will share the itinerary, staffing arrangements and a suggested packing list.

Consent forms for the trip have also been sent out in preparation for our visit to the Peak District. Please ensure these are filled in and returned to school by Friday 17th May.



WW2 Day

As part of our WW2 topic, we will be having a theme day in school on Wednesday 22nd May. For this day, we invite the children to come in dressed in WW2 attire (perhaps as evacuees) for a day of activities to celebrate the end of our topic. A letter on this will follow on Arbor soon.

Online Safety

At Priory Rise, we regularly speak to our children about the importance of online safety and their role in being respectful users of technology and the internet. If you are worried about your child being online, you may find these links useful:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#guides>

We Love Reading!



Here are our top book recommendations for this Half Term. Many of these are in the book corner can be borrowed!

Mrs Willison recommends 'Turtle Moon' by Hannah Gold

Silver Trevelon's parents aren't happy. They haven't been happy since the nursery they decorated started gathering cobwebs, waiting for the baby brother or sister that never came. So when Silver's dad is invited to paint at a turtle rescue centre in Costa Rica, she hopes it'll be just the adventure the family needs. Under the hot tropical sun, Silver settles into life at the animal centre. She even witnesses a rare sighting of a leatherback turtle nesting on the beach. But when the turtle's eggs are stolen, events take a dark and dangerous turn. Can Silver and her new friends track them down before it's too late? It'll mean journeying into the heart of the jungle and uncovering long-buried secrets.

Miss Kent recommends 'I, Spy: A Bletchley Park Mystery' by Rhian Tracey

I loved this book! It is based at the start of WW2, which I really enjoyed reading about following our WW2 topic. The story takes place at Bletchley Park, so I found it really interesting to read about what happened there during WW2, as it is so close to our school. The story follows a girl named Robyn, as she gets used to life during the War at her home in the grounds of Bletchley Park. Robyn soon finds herself caught up in a world of secrets and mystery, as she gets to grips with her new job, and aims to solve the mystery before it is too late.

Mrs Jank recommends 'Sky Song' by Abi Elphinstone

The snowy kingdom of Erkenwald used to be a place of harmony between the Feather, Fur, and Tusk Tribes, but now that it's ruled by the cruel Ice Queen, its people are in hiding - full of fear and distrust. Can a young girl and a secret inventor bring joy back to the land? Part mystery, part quest, this book uses magic realism to tell an absorbing story about friendship and courage. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book; I just couldn't put it down!

Mrs Goode recommends 'The Girl Who Stole An Elephant' by Nizrana Farook

Chaya is an outspoken, confident girl who spends her time stealing from the rich in the city to give to the poor in the villages. One day, she ventures into the King's palace to see what lies inside but when she steals the Queen's jewels and escapes on the King's prized elephant, Chaya not only puts herself in danger but also the life of one of her best friends. Join Chaya on this exciting adventure through the jungle and find out if they manage to escape or if stealing the jewels was one step too far.

Mrs Dobson recommends 'The Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah

This story is all the more incredible as it is true. It revolves around a boy, Leonard, who travels to England from Jamaica. His head is full of questions: Why are we leaving? What will life be like in England? Will I make friends? The life he has been promised isn't the life he finds when he arrives in Southampton. This is a story of grit, resilience and self-confidence. A definite read.

Dates for your Diary for Summer Term 1

13/5 – SATs (GPS papers 1 and 2)

14/4 – SATs (Reading paper)

15/5 – SATs (Reasoning paper 1 & arithmetic)

16/5 – SATs (Reasoning paper 2)

17/5 – Residential consent forms due

20/5 – Residential briefing at 5:30pm

21/5 – Music concert

22/5 – WW2 Day

24/5 – End of term



Communication

If you have a message for your child's class teacher, please record this in your child's Home-School Link book. Alternatively, you can email the Year 6 teaching team on the following email address:

year6@priorityrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

All of the Year 6 teachers are able to access this email address and will respond outside of teaching hours when they can. Please note, the Year Six inbox is not checked on a weekend or during the school holidays.

Thank-you for your support

The Year 6 Team