



Value of the Month: Kindness

Dear Parents/Friends,

We have started this half term off at a pace, with lots happening across the whole school, and have so much planned for the rest of the Autumn term. Before I get into anything else, I would really like to share with everyone the following great news!

Sharing Excellent News - Local Authority Monitoring

On Monday 7th November, the school was subject to our Annual Evaluation review by the Local Authority. This was an extremely robust monitoring of our curriculum, systems, structures and safeguarding procedures, involving meetings with staff, governors and children across the school.



Once again, we are delighted to inform everyone in our community that we continue to be graded as being a **'Green Plus'** school (the categories are Red, Amber, Green and Green Plus). This judgement has been officially verified at a moderation meeting this week with all the School Improvement Partners from the Local Authority across the city.

The summary headlines about the school are that:

- The school's nurturing, values-based ethos is intertwined through all that the school does
- Relationships at all levels are extremely strong
- Pupils at Priory Rise are extremely happy and well cared for
- Pupils demonstrate extremely positive behaviours for learning because of the highly consistent application of the schools' behaviour policy
- Pupil conduct is exemplary: pupils are interested and curious, highly motivated and extremely well engaged in lessons
- The quality of education, effectiveness of leadership and governance, safeguarding, financial stability and other key factors are highly secure
- Leaders have high ambition for all pupils and have ensured that the curriculum meets the needs of different groups of pupils
- Senior leaders are highly ambitious and reflective. They challenge each other to review practice to provide the best educational offer to pupils.
- Leaders demonstrate a very strong capacity for self-improvement
- Leaders and staff have strong potential to add value beyond their own school which they are beginning to do through their work with the 5 Dimensions Trust.

As a school, we are thrilled with this report and once again, I must commend every one of our incredible staff team who support, live and model our school vision and values every day. I feel hugely privileged to work alongside such quality individuals, who share a thirst for providing the very best in educational provision for our children. They are truly amazing!

Friends of Priory Rise News

Hot on the heels of the fabulous FoPR Fireworks success, our wonderful volunteers have been busy at work planning Christmas events:

Christmas fun with Friends!

'Friends of Priory Rise' are pleased to announce the return of our fantastic Christmas raffle! We already have some fantastic prizes donated including a family ticket to Woburn Safari Park as well as beauty and treatment vouchers. We will also have a top cash prize of 10% of the funds we make on ticket sales, so the more sales we make, the more the top prize will be!



Tickets are £1 and can be purchased online through www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofprioryrise

and are available from now until Friday 9th December.

If you, or you know of someone or a company willing to donate a raffle prize, please get in touch via friendsofprioryrise@gmail.com We will promote all our donors and the prizes given on our social media pages!

We will also be asking for voluntary class donations towards the raffle this year. Our team of fabulous volunteers will be available on the gates for morning drop-off between Tuesday 29th November and Friday 2nd December to take your kind donations into school.

Details for each year group donation day and what to donate is below. We are so grateful for your support with this. All funds raised from the raffle will go to FoPR and ultimately back into supporting our amazing school and our children.

DATE & TIME	YEAR GROUP	ITEMS
Tuesday 29 November - AM	Years 1 & 2	Alcohol/wine/spirits
Wednesday 30 November – AM	Years 3 & 4	Chocolates, sweets, biscuits
Thursday 1 December – AM	Years 5 & 6	Beauty products, gifts
Friday 2 December – AM	ALL	For any final donations

Carols By P-Light

This year, for a number of reasons, and one being that as a school we recognise that times are difficult for families and not wanting to host an event where we are hugely asking families to pay out, **we have made the decision to not host a Christmas Fair this year.**

Instead, our FoPR will also be hosting (weather dependent), a FREE evening of carols for our Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) pupils and families on Friday 9th December from 3.30pm – 5pm on the bottom playground. This will involve



Inspiring a passion for learning!

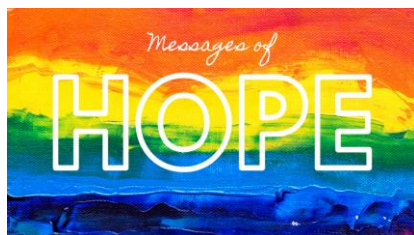
2

both our school choirs singing and will provide the opportunity for us to come together and spread some Christmas magic. We will be selling mince pies, drinks and you will be able to make your last minute raffle ticket purchases!

Our Foundation and Key Stage 1 families will be invited into school for various Christmas events – see the dates for your diaries below, and so **this event is specifically for our Key Stage 2 families.**

The Friends of Priory Rise will be making their annual donations to each class to receive their class gifts from 'you know who' at the end of term.

Student Council – Messages of Hope



This year, our student council will once again be taking part in the 'Message of Hope' with the Milton Keynes Food Bank. This involves the children decorating labels with their own 'messages of hope' to be hung on a tree at the food bank - to send positive messages for families who will be making use of this very important service at this time of year. Our school representatives from Student Council will be taking the labels to decorate the tree at the food bank in a dedicated slot before Christmas.

Every tag on the trees equates to the number of food parcels that are distributed to families.

This is a wonderful initiative that fits so very well with our school values of kindness, hope and care.

Safeguarding Snippet - Safeguarding Awareness for Parents & Carers (Football Association)

We are acutely aware that many families support their children in after-school football – in fact every week millions of children play football, many of them in organised clubs and organisations. As part of its safeguarding response, the Football Association has created a safeguarding course for parents.



The course is designed to help parents make informed choices about the football settings where they enrol their children. The course helps parents recognise best practice and see where there may be concerns, so that they can report them quickly and effectively.

This free course can be found here: <https://learn.Englandfootball.com/courses/safeguarding/safeguarding-awareness-for-parents-and-carers>

Children in Need

Our children (and staff!) were a sea of spots today, as we all participated in the 'Spotacular' theme for Children in Need. Thanks to your incredible generosity, we managed to raise **£635.50** for this amazing charity. Thank you.



inspiring a passion for learning

Priory Rise School, 160 Bronte Avenue, Tattenhoe Park, Milton Keynes, MK4 3GE. Telephone 01908 502572.

Headteacher: Ruth Seagar

Email: office@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Phonics Evening Thanks



Many thanks to everyone who attended our recent parent information evening on how we teach phonics at Priory Rise and introducing our newly adopted phonics scheme – Little Wandle. We hope this gave you some really useful insight into our methods of teaching phonics with our wonderful children, which can really reinforce learning at home. Thanks also to our wonderful Mrs Truan who presented to families, supported by members of our Foundation team.

Resources are available on our website for those of you who were unable to attend the meeting.

Years 5 and 6 Production – Beauty and the Beast JR

Huge congratulations to our children who participated in the hugely successful production of 'Beauty and the Beast Jr' this week. Parents of children in Years 5 and 6 have been hugely complimentary of this exemplary performance – many sending congratulatory emails into school to share their enjoyment and joy.



We are so immensely proud of the children, displaying such talent and confidence on the stage – and thoroughly enjoying themselves too. Just wonderful! Excellent work from our Years 5 and 6 teams, ably supported by the fabulous Mrs Horwood.



Staffing News

Mrs Natasha Cooper, who has worked at the school as a teaching assistant and, more recently, in the last few years as a Learning Mentor for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, has been successful in securing a position working for the police service and has now left Priory Rise to take up this position. We thank Mrs Cooper for her excellent work at the school and wish her the absolute best in her new position and all the very best for the future.



That said, we are delighted to inform everyone that Miss Lucy Ashby, currently Teaching Assistant in our Foundation Stage has successfully been appointed to the role of Learning Mentor for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 and that she will be taking up this role from Monday next week. She will be starting her role at 8.30 in the morning, greeting the children as they come into school at Gate 7.

Inspiring a passion for learning!

4

Priory Rise School, 160 Bronte Avenue, Tattenhoe Park, Milton Keynes, MK4 3GE. Telephone 01908 502572.

Headteacher: Ruth Seagar

Email: office@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Following Mrs Laura Pry's sad news that I shared with everyone in a separate message earlier this week, we are looking forward to her returning to school on a phased return from Monday 5th December. We are all looking forward to seeing her back at work and adding her excellent contributions to the work of our wonderful school. I know that everyone will welcome her back into our Priory Rise family with open arms and support her.

Attendance Reminder

We do all we can in school to encourage good attendance at Priory Rise. Regular attendance at school is vital to help children achieve and get the best possible start in life. Children who frequently miss school often fall behind and there is a strong link between good school attendance and achieving good results – which is what we wish for all our children.

In our weekly Rising Star assemblies, we celebrate when classes achieve 100% attendance in the previous week and at the end of each term, children who have been at school every day throughout the term, receive a 100% certificate. We look forward to handing lots of these out at the end of this term.



Please may I remind parents that leave for holidays or special birthday celebrations **cannot** be granted in school time and unauthorised leave of more than 5 days within a period **will be** subject to a fixed penalty notice.

Please be aware that, unless there are exceptional circumstances, we are not permitted to grant leave in term time. Thank you in advance for your understanding of this.

Road Safety



Once again, I have to inform you all that we have had a number of parents, staff and children report that some cars are still not being driven or parked safely around school at the start and the end of the school day.

Once again, please can I remind all parents - with some urgency - to take great care when driving and parking around the school site. **This is in the interests of everyone's safety.**

May I remind everyone to remember to park considerately and in appropriate parking bays and to not park in the dedicated residents' car park adjacent to the school – or in the dedicated disabled parking bays at the front of school that are needed for some of our families. Thank you!

In addition, please may I remind families that when dismissing children at the end of the school day, for safety reasons, staff will not release children to adults who are waving from the other side of the road. Thank you all for your support in keeping our children safe at the start and the end of the school day.

Inspiring a passion for learning!

5

Priory Rise School, 160 Bronte Avenue, Tattenhoe Park, Milton Keynes, MK4 3GE. Telephone 01908 502572.

Headteacher: Ruth Seagar

Email: office@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Sporting Updates



The Year 6 basketball teams have been busy winning 2 recent tournaments and, in the latter, they qualified for the finals of this competition which will take place later this month.

Many congratulations to the squad who are: Theo-Jude, David, Shay, Jaiden K, Brianna, Marla, Jiya, Aanvi, Jonah, Kai, Brody, Francesco, Sarah, Sophie, Anna.

The Years 5 and 6 boys football team drew one match and lost one match, so far in the boy's football league.

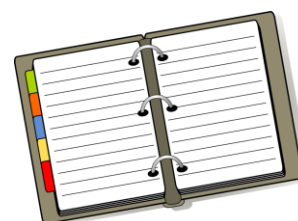
Great teamwork and collaboration in the squad from: Jenson, Sophie, Brody, Ollie, Finley, Kwame, Jonah. Well done everyone.



Dates for Your Diary

Please see below a number of key dates for the rest of this term:

- 28th, 29th, 30th November and 1st December – Nursery and Foundation Stage parent consultation evenings
- Thursday 1st December – 9am – Foundation Stage Christmas Songs
- Thursday 1st December – 1.30pm - Prospective parent tour
- Friday 2nd December – 9am – Nursery Christmas Songs – Small Hall
- Friday 2nd December – 2.30pm – Nursery Christmas Songs – Small Hall
- Monday 5th December – 9am – Foundation Stage Christmas Songs
- Wednesday 7th December – 2.15pm – Year 1 Christmas Showcase Assembly
- Friday 9th December – 3.30 – 5pm – KS2 Carols by P-Light
- Wednesday 14th December – 9am – Year 2 Nativity
- Wednesday 14th December – 5.30pm – Year 2 Nativity
- Thursday 15th December – Christmas Jumper Day – Christmas Lunch and party afternoon
- Friday 16th December – Children break for Christmas holidays
- Tuesday 3rd January – Staff INSET day
- Wednesday 4th January – Children return to school for the start of the spring term



And finally...

As always – thank you all so much for your wonderful support and ongoing commitment to the school.

Best regards as always to you all,

Inspiring a passion for learning!

6

Priory Rise School, 160 Bronte Avenue, Tattenhoe Park, Milton Keynes, MK4 3GE. Telephone 01908 502572.

Headteacher: Ruth Seagar

Email: office@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk



Ruth Seagar

Inspiring a passion for learning!

7

Priory Rise School, 160 Bronte Avenue, Tattenhoe Park, Milton Keynes, MK4 3GE. Telephone 01908 502572.

Headteacher: Ruth Seagar

Email: office@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

www.prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk