



Priory Rise School Newsletter

Inspiring a passion for learning



Monday 11th September 2023

Value of the Month: Respect

Dear Parents/Friends,

A huge welcome back to EVERYONE and welcome to another new and exciting year at Priory Rise! We do hope that you have had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed spending time together with family and friends.

We have already enjoyed an excellent start to the new school year, and we have been delighted to see all the children and staff full of excited anticipation at the start of the school year. It has been lovely to see our children so happy, settled and thriving in school.

Enormous Thanks!

**THANK YOU
SO MUCH**

YOU ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

As already stated in my letter sent out to everyone last week, I would like to express our enormous thanks to the whole school community in supporting our procedures for the children entering and exiting the school site at the start of this school year.

Already these procedures have become more and more fluid and embedded as children, staff and families become more familiar with their new systems.

To further support our new protocols, please can I remind families of the following when dropping off/picking up children at the beginning and end of the school day:

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Headteacher: Ruth Seagar

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- Please arrive on time - children who arrive late for their allocated slots create further congestion for the next allocated classes that are entering the building.
- If you do arrive early, please either wait well away from the front of the school gates, or in your car until the allocated time for your child's class to enter/exit the building.
- Please can only one adult family member drop off/pick up children to/from the school – this avoids any further congestion at the school gates.
- Once children are dropped or collected, please can families swiftly move away from the gates and along the pavements at the front of the school.
- Children with bicycles must take their bikes to the bicycle store at the rear of the school building. This ensures less congestion at the front of school and also ensures extra security for the bikes as the gates for this part of the school are locked during the school day. The store at the front of the building is a pram store.

We are delighted that our families have been working together with us to ensure that all our systems have been working well. Our families have been extremely supportive in making these new protocols work. Enormous thanks to everyone who has supported us in helping us settle the children into these new routines.

Bear Week



We enjoyed a truly fabulous 'Bear Week' together in school last week, where children spent time reading a range of 'bear' stories and used this as inspiration for their writing and other learning across the curriculum.

On Friday, children and staff carried on the fun, enjoying dressing up in their creative 'bear' inspired outfits and

sharing learning from across the whole school. In our morning assembly – we shared our bear outfits, another bear story and used this as an opportunity to celebrate our differences. Just wonderful!



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Vision and Values



As you all know, our school values are well embedded into the daily workings of our school and hugely support our Priory Rise ethos and culture.

Our value of the month for September this year is **'Respect'** and we are focusing on this important value in our assemblies and in part of our Personal, Social and Health Education sessions.

The values for the whole of this school year are as follows: respect, appreciation, forgiveness, peace, self-confidence, loyalty, tolerance, patience, generosity, hope and freedom. We look forward to exploring these values with the children as the year progresses.

Uniform

It has been so great to see our children returning to school taking such pride in wearing their school uniform. Many thanks to our families for supporting our children in wearing our school uniform so smartly – including the PE uniform. We thank our parents in advance for support in maintaining high standards of school uniform across the school.

Maintaining high standards of uniform reflects the high standards that we have of all our children in all aspects of their work at the school. With that in mind, we do remind children about this if we see standards in our school uniform are not being upheld.

Fruit and Healthy Snacks and Water

Just a reminder that we are very pleased that children in Foundation and Key Stage 1 are provided with a healthy fruit or vegetable snack during the school day. In keeping with our Healthy Schools Policy **all** children are also encouraged to bring their own healthy snack to enjoy during morning break – this should be fruit, vegetables or dried fruit. **(Snack bars or any other sort of biscuit/crisp snacks are not permitted. Please do remember that we are a nut free school – this includes products that contain nuts.)**



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We also ask that parents supply a suitable, named water bottle for their child to have in school. For hygiene reasons water bottles will need to be taken home at the end of each day for washing. Please ensure that bottles are **clearly named**.

Helping and Supporting Your Child at Home

Year leaders will provide more specific details in their Curriculum Newsletters about how you can help support your child in their classes with their learning in school. In the meantime, we greatly appreciate your support in particular in the following areas.

- Listening to your child read **every day**. For children who are not yet reading this is a good opportunity to share a book together. The more children can read the more quickly they will learn to read, so reading at home to an adult every day will be a huge help.
- When children come across new words, explaining their meaning with examples of how the word can be used in other sentences.
- Children from KS1 upwards will have spellings to learn and investigate. Parents can support their children by helping them to learn these.
- Set homework – children in Years 3 - 6 upwards also have a set homework each week and parents' support is greatly appreciated in completion of this.



In addition, children can also extend their learning by researching aspects of the curriculum they are following in school.

Attendance and Punctuality

I would like to remind everyone that it is not possible for headteachers to authorise holiday leave. It is only in **particularly exceptional circumstances** where leave may be granted and examples of these are given on the Attendance Policy which can be found on the 'Policies' section of the website.

I would like to thank you in advance for your understanding and support in ensuring good attendance and punctuality for your child, which we know positively impacts of their outcomes. Thank you!

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Safeguarding Snippet – Cycling to School



For safety reasons we do ask parents to complete a form if their child will be cycling to school. Parents are also asked to ensure that their child is wearing a suitable helmet, have a roadworthy bike and have had basic instruction in cycle/road safety. **Children up to the end of Year 4 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.** If you would like your child to cycle to school please ensure that we are informed in writing or via a form from the school office.

Please may I also remind children that there is a cycle shelter **at the back** of the school where all cycles/scooters should be stored.



Dates for your diary for this half term

Please see below the dates in your diaries for this term:

- Monday 11th September – 5.30pm – Local Governing Board Meeting
- Wednesday 20th September – 6pm – Friends Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the school staffroom
- Thursday 21st September – 5pm – Phonic Information Evening
- Wednesday 27th September – 5.30pm onwards – SEND information evening
- Monday 9th October – 5pm onwards – Open Evening for prospective new families and an opportunity for all families to come and see the school
- Friday 13th October – Harvest Assembly – and donations to Milton Keynes Food Bank
- 17th, 18th and 19th October – Parent Consultations – remote – for parents of children in Years 1 – 6
- Friday 20th October – children break up for October half term



School year September 2023 - July 2024

	Open morning of	Close at the end of the afternoon session on
Autumn Term 2023	Friday 1 September 2023	Friday 20 October 2023
	Monday 30 October 2023	Friday 22 December 2023
Spring term 2024	Monday 8 January 2024	Friday 16 February 2024
	Monday 26 February 2024	Thursday 28 March 2024
Summer term 2024	Monday 15 April 2024	Friday 24 May 2024
	Monday 3 June 2024	Monday 22 July 2024

Inset Days for Priory Rise will be:

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Monday 30th October 2023

Monday 3rd June 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

And finally...

As you can already see, it is going to be a busy half term!

Once again, thank you all so much for supporting your children in an extremely happy and successful start to the new school year! Here's to another fabulous year at Priory Rise – our 16th year open as a school!

Best regards as always to you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruth Seagar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'g'.

Ruth Seagar

Headteacher

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