



Priory Rise School Newsletter

Inspiring a passion for learning



Friday 15th March 2024

Value of the Month: Tolerance

Dear Parents/Friends,

Wonderful World Book Day 2024

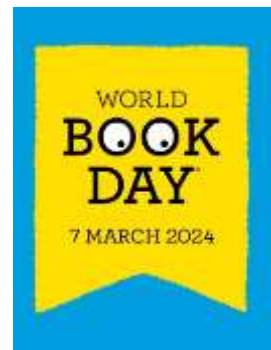
Every year we try to vary the activities that take place in school on World Book Day and this year was no exception. This year we decided to go 'all in' and ask children and staff to choose what they would like to come to school dressed as on the day, either a book character, a word or just as themselves! It certainly was a day to remember!

Everywhere we looked we saw children immersed in either reading stories and books, writing about stories or books or talking about stories



or books. Children brought books into school to share and were encouraged to share their special favourites. School staff also shared their favourite books and stories, and children across the school took part in book walks, book talks, book trails and book detective activities.

Staff across the school told stories and read a wealth of stories together with their children. In the afternoon, we shared a wonderful World Book Day assembly, where children took part in our traditional World Book Day quiz. It was a wonderful day of celebrating reading and books together. Thank you to all our families who supported children in their contributions and for your fabulous ongoing support – we very much appreciate your support for these events in school.



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School Book Fair



And while on the subject of books and reading, many thanks to everyone who came to visit the Book Fair that took place on 7th, 8th, 11th and 12th March in the school library. It was wonderful to see so many families visiting the fair and buying books to add to children's collections. We are delighted to report that the book fair took a total of £1273.15, meaning that as a school we are able to buy additional books for the school to the value of £700! This is a wonderful amount.

Many thanks to our fabulous office team and support team who organised and facilitated these book fair sessions for the school.

Music Festival Success

On the 6th March some of our woodwind and brass students took part in the Milton Keynes instrumental festival, run by the music hub. It was a really enjoyable morning, where the children had the opportunity to perform and listen to performances from other primary schools in Milton Keynes. Everyone played confidently and Priory Rise won two awards:



- the 'outstanding performance' award for Jimmy and Emilie on their trumpet and euphonium
- the 'presentation award' for all of our fabulous flute players.

It was a great event, where the children also took part in an orchestral performance with over 200 other children, which sounded amazing! This morning in assembly, we were delighted that Jimmy and Emilie were able to share their excellent performance with the rest of the school.

Many congratulations to all the pupils who took part in this wonderful event.

Bikeability in Year 5



Our Year 5 children have once again benefitted from Bikeability Training, where they learnt how to keep a 'health check' on their bicycles as well as the correct and safe procedures for riding their bikes on the road. Children went out and about in the local area, with 'Bikeability' professionals and were



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trained how to make key, important manoeuvres and safe choices when riding their bikes.

Well done to all our Year 5 children who participated in this course and achieved their Level 1 or Level 2 badges. Great work Year 5.

Priory Rise 'Sing Off'



It is that time of year again! Across the school there is an excited buzz of singing and rehearsals, as all classes are working on their entries for our whole school singing competition that will be taking place in school on Thursday 28th March. Classes have now chosen their song entries and are busy practising and refining their performances. We are all looking forward to this exciting event that always raises the profile of singing and provides lots of end of term entertainment and fun for everyone across the whole school.

Friends of Priory Rise – WE NEED YOU!

PFest is in Danger!

As you all are aware our Friends of Priory Rise do an incredible job in providing events for families and children to attend and in raising money to support the children in school with resources and equipment. Our wonderful annual P-Fest and our annual fireworks events are just two of the huge successful events that take place in school and over the years has raised significant vital funds to provide additional resources for children in school.



However, the Friends of Priory Rise team are finding it harder and harder to gain parent support to run events and this really does have an impact on what they are able to provide. Once again, may I encourage everyone, if you are able to support the Friends of Priory Rise in any way possible, please share this with the school office and we can pass this information onto the FoPR committee, who will welcome you onto the 'Friends' team. We are really keen to support new parents onto the committee or to encourage additional support at events that are run by the Friends.

The next events that the Friends have organised are the Easter discos that are almost upon us. This year we are hosting discos on two days – Tuesday 26th March for Year 1 and 2 children at 4.15 – 5.15 and later on that day, for Years 5 and 6 between 5.30 – 7pm. In addition, on Wednesday 27th March for the Years 3 and 4 children between 4.30 – 6pm. These are eagerly awaited events for the children where we know our children will have lots of fun together.

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Mothers' Day Breakfast Success

It was lovely to welcome many of our mums and grandmas at our recent Mothers' Day breakfast event in school. So many ladies attended these events with their children, and it was wonderful to see children enjoying these events too. We also received positive feedback from our families that the morning events seem to suit working families better and thanks for this consideration. As always, we are happy to adapt our provision so that we are able to support our families.



Thank you also to the wonderful support and work of the catering team led by Bev Atkinson and Lydia Osae for this event – they are truly an amazing team and always deliver everything they do with a smile. Thank you, ladies!

Parent Consultation Evening Success



Last week, we enjoyed hosting and welcoming families into school this week for the face-to-face Parent Consultation Evenings for Nursery, Beetles, Honeybees and Fireflies Classes.

Many thanks to all our families who came to share information about their children in school. Teachers have reported an excellent response from families attending and that it has been such a pleasure sharing information about their children's progress.

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 – updating contact details



Please can all families support us in school by ensuring that all telephone numbers, addresses and email addresses are accurate and up-to-date. This really supports us in ensuring that we can contact families swiftly, should there be an emergency with your child in school. Many thanks to everyone for supporting us with this in school.

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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 sessions, 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

Litter Picking

Across Key Stage 2 we are fortunate enough to have such conscientious children who have been caring for our school environment by litter picking across the site. They have been incredibly dedicated to ensuring the school site looks the very best it can.

Special mentions go to Saskia, Lily B, Ellie D, Emma and Anoushka who have shared their enthusiasm which has encouraged others to join. It is reassuring to know the future of our environment is in such safe hands, demonstrating they are prepared to take action to combat littering.



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Women in Leadership Roles in Engineering



On Women's International Day we were lucky enough to welcome Mrs Maheera Abdul Kadar into the whole school assembly. She spoke passionately about her role as a senior leader in an engineering company. The children listened intently as she spoke about women in leadership in huge global companies, about how there is still a lack of women in leadership roles, creating an imbalance between male and females who hold the most senior roles, in career choices like engineering. Mrs Abdul Kadar gave inspiration to many of our girls to aspire to be whatever they choose to be. We are incredibly grateful for her time and effort in presenting to the children. Many thanks.

Red Nose Day today



Today we celebrated Red Nose Day once again in school, raising a wonderful £622.72 in total. We all came to school wearing our pyjamas, which was great fun for all of us, and we enjoyed a special assembly where we shared the reason why Red Nose Day takes place and how the money can make a difference to other people's lives. Many thanks to children, families and staff for supporting this event and for donating to this wonderful cause.



Sporting Updates from Mr Neal and Mr Smyth

There has been lots of sporting activities happening across the school since our latest newsletter. Here is the most up-to-date round-up:

The Years 3/4 and Year 5/6 gymnastics teams competed in the MKSSP gymnastics festival, where they each had to remember and perform 2 routines and attempt the vault. The team were brilliant on the day and showed off their skills to a very high standard.

Squad: Maddy, Arianna, Amabelle, Alina, Kialah, Maya, Zara, Millie, Eliana, Charlotte, Irene, Kiyana.

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Our Year 3 and 4 boys football team have been playing some brilliant football but not quite getting the results their performances have deserved. Recently they have seen 2 narrow defeats, followed by an impressive 4-2 victory in their last 3 outings. Well done boys!

Squad; Harry, Ethan, Maison, Jenson, Matthew, Robert, Fletcher, Anvith, Ayden.



Our Year 5 and 6 girls represented the school in the Girls EFL Cup. In an all-day event we narrowly missed out on qualification to the semi-finals by finishing 3rd in our group: winning 4, drawing 1 and losing 2 along the way. The team will get some more action after the Easter break when their League campaign starts.

Squad; Lili-Mae, Amy, Ellie, Taiasa, Savannah, Neriah, Rachel, Daniella, Valeria, Miami.

Many congratulations to all our sporting participants!

Dates for your diary until the end of this term

19th March – Kings and Queens Day – Year 1

19th, 20th and 21st march – School nurse visiting – Foundation Children

20th March – Parent Consultations for Fletcher Class – 1 – 4.30pm

21st March – World Poetry Day

22nd March – Parent Consultations for Fletcher Class – 2.45 – 4.15pm

26th March – 4.15 – 5.15pm – Years 1 and 2 School Disco and 5.30 – 7pm – Year 3 School Disco

27th March – 4.30 – 6pm – Years 3 and 4 School Disco

28th March – FS and KS1 'Sing Off' - am and KS2 'Sing Off' - pm

28th March – Break for Easter Holiday



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Courteous Parking Please!



On Wednesday this week I was sent a picture from a neighbour of the school, illustrating where a parent of children at Priory Rise was parking in a specific parking space that is clearly allocated for the houses on Bronte Avenue and is an obvious inconvenience.

One of our core values at Priory Rise is respect and one which we share and revisit with the children regularly. Please can I urge all families to demonstrate this respect for our Priory Rise neighbours when parking – and refraining from parking in specific allocated parking spaces that are clearly for people who live in the houses on Bronte Avenue. Thank you.

And finally...

That's about all the news and updates so far in this half term. Please look out for further enrichment pictures and posts on our school Facebook page. There is always so much activity taking place across the school.

Once again, thank you so much for your wonderful support and continued commitment to the school.

Best regards as always,

Ruth Seagar

Headteacher

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