



## Value of the Month: Love

### 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 enjoyed a wonderful summer break and enjoyed spending time together with family and friends in the sunny weather.



We have 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 happy and thriving in school.

### Enormous Thanks!



As already stated in my letter to everyone on Monday of this 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.

As the week has progressed 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:

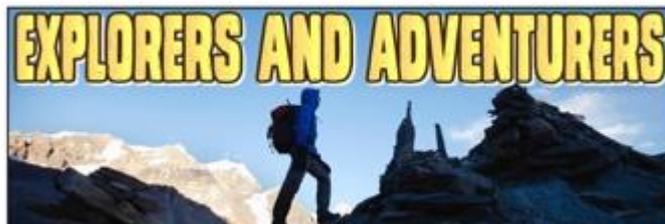
- Please arrive on time – this is so very important - children who arrive late for their allocated slots create further congestion for the next allocated classes that are entering the building.
- If you do arrive early, please either wait well away from the front of the school gates, or in your car until 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 bike 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 really 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 and that 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.

## Explorers and Adventurers

We have enjoyed a truly fabulous 'Explorers and Adventurers' week together in school, where children have been spending time learning about a range of explorers and adventurers, including Neil Armstrong, Amelia Earheart and Captain Cook.



Today children and staff carried on the fun, enjoying dressing up in their creative 'Explorers and Adventurers' inspired outfits and sharing learning from across the whole school in our morning assembly – where we learnt about the story of the British explorer, Percy Fawcett. Just wonderful!

## 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 core value of the month for September is '**Love**' 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: Love, honesty, kindness, trust, resilience, care, courage, empathy, positivity, responsibility and happiness.

## 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.

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## 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.)**



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**.

## 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.

## Helping and Supporting Your Child at Home

Teachers will give more specific details on their Curriculum Newsletters about how you can help support your child 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

BBC Bitesize

### Top tips to support your child's reading at home

1. Take breaks while reading
2. Build reading into your child's daily routine
3. Encourage your child to follow their interests
4. Use technology together
5. Encourage your child to be the author
6. Chat to them to build their language skills
7. Share stories using the pictures in the book instead of the words
8. Play games using letters, sounds and words

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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!

## Remembering Her Majesty the Queen

Our thoughts are with the Royal Family following the death of Queen Elizabeth II yesterday.

As a school, we came together this afternoon for a short assembly to remember her and marvel at her incredible life and 70 years of service to our country as a role model to us all.

As you all know we have entered a period of national mourning that will continue until the end of the state funeral and we will inform everyone of any changes that we may need to put in place as news develops.



### And finally...

As always, it's going to be a busy half term! Please note that the school term dates are at the end of this newsletter and on the calendar on our school website. We will always let you know of any changes via ParentMail and post these on the school website.

Once again, thank you all so much for supporting your children in an extremely happy and successful first week back! Here's to another fabulous year at Priory Rise – our 15<sup>th</sup> year!

Best regards as always to you all,

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Ruth Seagar

## School Term Dates 2020 to 2021

	Open on the morning of	Close at the end of the afternoon of
Autumn Term 2022	Monday 5th September	Friday 21st October
	Tuesday 1st November	Friday 16th December
Spring Term 2022	Wednesday 4th January	Friday 10th February
	Monday 20th February	Friday 31st March
Summer Term 2022	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Friday 26th May
	Tuesday 6th June	Friday 21st July

Please note that all staff training dates are included in the above dates. The school will also be closed on Monday 1st May for the May Bank Holiday.

### Staff Training Days:

Thursday 1st September 2022

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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