

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome to the start of 2023-24 school year at Priory Junior School. It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school and be joined by our new children to the school last week. They have all made a fantastic impression and we are looking forward to a successful year ahead. Please congratulate your children on the fantastic start they have made.

We have also welcomed two new members of staff to our teaching team this term—Mrs Prentis and Mrs Day. They have enjoyed their first week with their new class. We eagerly await the news of Miss Pannell's baby, who we hope will arrive in the near future!

Alongside this, we have welcomed Mrs Queen, who is our Learning and Wellbeing Mentor. This is a new role in our school, and one that we are all excited about. She will be offering support to children and families.

By working together, we aim to support the children in our school to be the very best they can be. Please let us know if there are any changes to circumstances that might affect your child, so that we can ensure the right support is in place.

Take Care,

Mrs Keefe

Playtimes

Please remember:

- Children should not bring any balls to school. We provide balls that can be used at playtimes—ensuring they are safe for play in a busy environment.
- Snacks should be healthy—**fruit and vegetables** please.
- **No nuts please**—we are a nut-safe school and have a number of children who have allergies. Please help us to keep them safe, by ensuring you do not send any nut products into school.

Family Worker / Pastoral Support

Within school, we provide ways of supporting both families and children.

A family worker from the St Neots locality team provides support to families and holds face-face sessions for support. You will also receive regular information about wider support on offer. To arrange to meet with Charlotte, our family worker, please call the school office to make an appointment.

We also have a pastoral support team who are able to support children if required. If you feel your child would benefit from support in this way, please mention this to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Diary Dates

Friends of Priory AGM	13th September
Meet and Greet	21st September
Year 5 Science Centre Visiting	28th September
Harvest Assemblies	5th October
Year 6 Viking Day	6th October
Whistle-Stop Tour Workshops	9th October
World Mental Health Day	10th October
LF5 Class Assembly	11th October
LP6 Class Assembly	18th October
Half-Term	23rd—27th October
Half-Term Starts	30th October
Parents Evenings	1st / 2nd November

Meet and Greet Sessions

These sessions will be taking place on Thursday, 21st September—please see the letter sent home last week and sign up for a session.

They are a chance to come and meet your child's new class teacher and find out about the routines in the class (and year group). It will also provide you with a chance to see your child's new classroom too.

Summer Holiday Work

A lot of work took place over the summer holidays as we continue to ensure the school building is modernised. Two classrooms were refurbished, the hall floor re-sanded and playground markings put down.

Mr Shaw has also been busy—he is laying a paving in our garden area, which we intend to use as an outdoor classroom learning area.

Free School Meals

Are you entitled to free school meals? If so, you could save yourself at least 450 a year. Please click the link here to find out more: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>

Jewellery

The only jewellery permitted in school is a watch and stud earrings. Earrings cannot be worn for PE, including newly-pierced ears—this is county policy. Earrings are not allowed to be taped over for this purpose.

Please ensure your child is able to remove their own earrings for PE, or not wear them on PE days.



FRIENDS OF PRIORY JUNIOR SCHOOL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER
7.30PM
SCHOOL STAFF ROOM**

**We would love to see you
there**

Please email
friendsofpriory@virginmedia.com if
you have any questions

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK (Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases>). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

Other illnesses

Follow this advice for other illnesses:

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/cough/) or common cold (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/common-cold/). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

High temperature

If your child has a high temperature (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/fever-in-children/), keep them off school until it goes away.

Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/cold-sores/).

Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/conjunctivitis/).

Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

COVID-19

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school.

Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-symptoms-and-what-to-do/) and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

Ear infection

If your child has an ear infection (Link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/ear-infections/>) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease/) but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

You can treat head lice and nits (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/) without seeing a GP.

Impetigo

If your child has impetigo (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/impetigo/), they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics.

Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment.

Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

Ringworm

If your child has ringworm (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/ringworm/), see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP.

It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/), they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/slapped-cheek-syndrome/) because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat (Link: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/sore-throat/>). But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/tonsillitis/).

Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/).

Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting (Link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/) should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



Make Friends

PRIORY PARKSIDE FC WILDCATS SOCCER SESSIONS

We're proud to run a FA Wildcats Centre and we'll be running 10 mini soccer sessions for girls of any ability. Spaces are limited. The 10 sessions are payable in advance (£32).

To register, scan the QR code below.

Interested in coaching?

We are run by parents and volunteers, and without this help there would be no club. If you would like to get involved with coaching, email: prioryfcsecretary@gmail.com



Ages

Year 1 (age 5) up to Year 6 (age 11)

Dates (Saturdays)

September: 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

October: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

November: 4th, 11th

Registration

Priory Park, St Neots at 9.45am

Coaching 10am – 11am

www.prioryparksidefc.com



Open Training Sessions



Our Girl's Teams below have a number of places available for the 2023/24 season. Training sessions are on Tuesday evenings from 6-7pm at Priory Park for players interested in joining the teams.

U8 White (Year 3)

U9 White (Year 4)

(School Year in September in brackets)

If you would like to attend, please email
sarahrowlinson.prioryparkside@gmail.com (U8 White)
VickyLinford.prioryparkside@gmail.com (U9 White)

