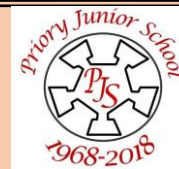




## Priory News October 2020



Dear Parents,

*That first day back to school doesn't seem so long ago, but already we are only a couple of weeks away from the half-term break. I am sure that your children will be ready for a rest when we get there – getting back to the routines of school can be a little tiring.*

*The routines we have put in place for everyone are working smoothly, and the change of the gates for exit and entrance are working well now. Thank-you for working with us on getting this running well.*

*It is likely that the measures we have had to put in place are going to be in place for a little while yet – so that we can return to more 'normal' school routines in the future.*

*Behind the scenes, we are busy preparing in case we face any bubble closures or more – thank-you to everyone who has returned our technology at home survey, and our key worker questionnaires. If you haven't done this yet, please return them to the office by October 23<sup>rd</sup>. We really hope we won't need to use any of this information.*

*In the coming week, we are looking forward to our Harvest Assembly – this will take place using Zoom Webinar – there are only 100 places for each one, but we aim to place a video of the assembly on the website if you aren't able to get a 'live' place. While it won't be the same as our usual hall-filled assembly, we hope you will enjoy it. Thank-you, in advance, for your donations.*

Warm Regards,

Tracy Keefe

### Diary Dates

London Marathon Primary Schools Event	October 5 <sup>th</sup> – October 19 <sup>th</sup>
Black History Month	throughout October
Harvest Assemblies	15 <sup>th</sup> October
Parents Evenings	various weeks from 19 <sup>th</sup> October – 13 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>
Dan the Skipping Man Workshops	3 <sup>rd</sup> / 4 <sup>th</sup> November
Flu Vaccinations	9 <sup>th</sup> November
Children in Need Day	13 <sup>th</sup> November
National Anti-Bullying Week	16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>End of Term</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>Spring Term Starts</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> January</b>

### London Marathon Primary Schools' Event

*We are delighted that the Daily Mile track has now been fully repaired, following the accidental damage caused to it by our grounds maintenance company.*

*To coincide with this, we are taking part in the 40<sup>th</sup> London Marathon event for primary schools – all children have been invited to complete 2.6 miles on the track – over the course of the next two weeks. In return, they will earn themselves a special official London Marathon certificate of participation, along with a great sense of achievement.*



### ***Black History Month***

*As part of Black History Month, our assemblies this month will be focusing on significant individuals from history and making links to the Black Lives Matter work we have seen grow in 2020.*

*During the assemblies, there will be time for children to reflect and talk about their understanding and experiences too. Our first assemblies will focus on the lives of Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King and Mary Seacole.*

### ***Meet and Greet Videos***

*The videos for our Meet and Greet sessions are now on our website. We hope you find them informative.*

### ***Parents' Evenings***

*You should now be able to book your parents' evening appointment with your child's class teacher, using our usual booking system.*

*If you are not sure how to do this, please watch the video on the school website: [www.priory.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.priory.cambs.sch.uk)*

*Our booking system provider has developed video appointments, and we are delighted to be trialling this. We very much hope it works well, and will be a good way to hold our appointments this year.*

*Appointment times will be between 4pm and 5.30pm each day of the week.*

*Class weeks are as follows:*

*Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> October: EW3, JE3, HW3, KB4*

*Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> November: JB4, MC4, CS5, AI5*

*Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> November: TR5, AG6, HR6, DF6*

*Please be aware that when your appointment time ends, the system will automatically close the appointment.*

### ***Skipping Workshops***

*On 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November, we will be hosting 'Dan the Skipping Man' workshops for all our classes. There will be opportunities to learn new skills and innovative tricks during the days, along with seeing the demonstration of some brilliant skipping techniques.*

*Skipping is a great activity to build fitness, improving both physical and mental well-being. It also has a level of enjoyable challenge and is an ideal activity during these socially-distanced times. We are looking forward to getting the whole school skipping.*

### ***Flu Vaccinations***

*Flu vaccinations will be taking place in school on 9<sup>th</sup> November for all those who booked a vaccination for their child via the NHS link in the letter sent home during September.*

***A reminder to all Year 6 parents to ensure you have submitted your Secondary School Application.***

***You must do this by 31st October.***

### ***Children in Need Day***

*We will be taking part in Children in Need day on 13<sup>th</sup> November, including some events during the week leading up to this.*

*Children may come to school dressed in spots on this day – in return for a contribution to Children in Need of £1. We are aiming to go cashless for this – and will let you know how to make your contributions in the near future too.*

### ***Coats and Spare Shoes....***

*We are keen for our children to be able to spend time outside as much as possible. This is particularly true at lunchtimes, where the chance to play outside is very important, allowing children to have a change of environment from their classroom.*

*As such, we have 6 play spaces outside – 3 of which are on the school field. As Autumn arrives, the grass will be wet, and we don't wish for this to prevent classes from being outside. Therefore, to help this to be able to happen, and your children not to have muddy school shoes, or bring this back into the school building, we would really appreciate your child having a spare pair of shoes to be able to play on the field. This can be your child's trainers for outdoor PE. They will keep them in their locker, and we are more than happy for them to bring them into school each day, or leave them safely in their locker too.*

*Please also make sure your child has a coat with them each day, so that they are not cold / wet at playtimes.*

### ***Mentally Healthy Children***

*We have been living through the most extraordinary time, with so much change and uncertainty. We all find ourselves in different situations, with different experiences. Our children are also experiencing the same situation, and some of them may well be experiencing anxiety.*

*Attached to this newsletter is a useful overview for parents who find their children are experiencing anxiety at this time, with some strategies to help too.*

### ***Absences***

*If your child is unwell for any reason, please inform the School Office as soon as possible, along with the reason for the absence – this can be done using Pupil Asset or by leaving a message on the telephone system: 01480 226730.*

*Should your child be experiencing any symptoms related to Covid-19, please do not send them, or their siblings into school unless you have had a negative test. Without this, your child should remain at home for 10 days.*

*Symptoms are:*

*a new, persistent cough*

*a high temperature*

*or a sudden loss of sense of smell or taste.*

*Should anyone in your household be experiencing symptoms, your child should not come into school and should self-isolate for 14 days.*

### ***Half-Term Holidays***

*Should you have a half-term holiday already booked overseas that has quarantine restrictions on return to the UK, please inform the school office of this, so we can plan for your child's absence.*

*Finally, please all keep well and stay safe.*