



Priory Primary School

June 9th 2023

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a special information edition of the newsletter.

First is to remind you that starting next week, we have an important eSafety meeting for every class.

The pupils will be in assembly while the teachers meet you. Please arrive at school with your child and wait outside the classroom (or inside if we have space). If you have children in different classes, you only need to come to one meeting.

Next, we have feedback to parents about homework. There is a summary in this newsletter and also the whole policy is attached.

The policy starts in September 2023, but teachers may already be doing these activities, now, so don't be confused if there isn't much change!

A BIG thank you to all the parents and carers who used the survey to tell us your thoughts and feelings about homework.

Finally, we have put all the calendar dates in this edition, through to the end of the school year. It is SUPER busy -but we look forward all the amazing activities planned!

Kind regards,

Mrs Fraser

(Head Teacher)



Keep Your Children Safe Online

Priory Primary School Parent / Carer Meeting



All Parents / Carers are asked to attend **one** of these meetings as a matter of importance:

All meetings are **9 - 9.20 am** in the classrooms; during assembly time, (pupils will not be present).

Mon 12th June - Yr4

**Fri 16th June - Yr2 &
Reception**

Tues 13th June - Yr1

Mon 19th June - Yr6

Thurs 15th June - Yr3 & Yr5

Important dates to put on your...

CALENDAR

JUNE	
Mon 12 th - Fri 16 th	Year 6 Trip to Germany
Mon 12 th	Year 4 eSafety Parent Meeting 9am Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming
Tues 13 th	Year 1 eSafety Parent Meeting 9am Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming
Thurs 15 th	Year 3 & Year 5 eSafety Parent Meeting 9am
Fri 16 th	Year 2 & Reception eSafety Parent Meeting 9am
Tues 13 th & Weds 14 th	Year 5 St John's Ambulance First Aid training
Mon 19 th - Fri 23 rd	Healthy Schools Week
Mon 19 th	9 - 10 am Parent Workshop - how we teach reading, writing & maths Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming
Tues 20 th	Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming
Thurs 22 nd	Early Years Sports Day - in the morning at Priory Primary School Year 1 - 6 Sports Day - in the afternoon at Livingstone Primary Sports Field
Mon 26 th	9 - 10 am Parent Workshop - how we teach reading, writing & maths Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming
Mon 26 th & Tues 27 th	Year 6 St John's Ambulance First Aid training
Tues 27 th	Year 5 ESU Debate Competition at the University of Bedfordshire Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming

JULY	
Mon 3 rd	9 - 10 am Parent Workshop - how we teach reading, writing & maths Year 6 Trip to Brighton Year 5 Booktastic Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming
Tues 4 th	Year 6 TRANSITION DAY Year 5 Booktastic Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming
Weds 5 th	Nursery Family Trip Year 4 Booktastic
Thurs 6 th	Year 4 Trip to Warwick Castle Cyber Challenge Prize Day, Cranfield STEM Fair, Biddenham
Fri 7 th	Year 3 Booktastic
Mon 10 th	9 - 10 am Parent Workshop - how we teach reading, writing & maths Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming
Tues 11 th	Year 5 Trip to The Globe Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming
Weds 12 th	Move Up Day
Thurs 13 th	Summer Fayre
Fri 14 th	Reception Trip to Shepreth
Mon 17 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Swimming
Tues 18 th	Whole School Music Performance Year 3 and Year 4 Swimming
Thurs 20 th	Leaver's Show
Fri 21 st	Last Day of Term SUMMER HOLIDAYS



Homework

Thank you to parents and carers for your feedback about homework. Here is a summary of your views and what we have done about it:

You said:	We did:
<p>Most parents feel positively about their children's homework (36.4% very positive, 39.4% positive - total 75.8%)</p>	<p>Refreshed our homework policy and will explain it clearly to everyone.</p>
<p>The top reasons why you like homework are: <i>I like to know what my child is learning at school (66.7%)</i> <i>I can help my child do better at school (54.5%)</i></p>	<p>Decided to give parents a Homework File (for pupils in Y2 upwards) so you can have more control over the work your child does at home, and have an ongoing record of their learning. This way your children will also understand that you are leading on their homework.</p>
<p>24.2% of parents feel that homework can take time from other things we have to do in our home life</p>	<p>Our New Policy: Makes it clear how much time should be spent on the basics of reading at home and practising maths fluency / spelling. Makes it clear that beyond that, it is at parent / carers' discretion how much homework is done. At Y6, pupils take responsibility for preparing themselves for Secondary School homework expectations.</p>

You said:	We did:
<p>72% of parents want MORE homework</p> <p>18% want LESS homework</p> <p>10% want NO homework but optional ideas of homework that is not marked</p>	<p>This shows we cannot meet everyone's hopes for change. We have agreed on a policy that works for most people. Most importantly it gives parents / carers the control over children's additional homework (for those who want more). We will provide the work ideas, but parents will manage the time and the marking.</p>
<p><i>Maybe homework for Reception could include some fun activities in art, history, music to do at home with carers / Homework would be better if fun and educational</i></p>	<p>All year groups will be offered a homework 'grid' of ideas - these will have different ideas - we hope at least one of them will be seen as 'fun' by your child! This work will not be marked by teachers but teachers will be delighted if you want to share pictures on SeeSaw and bring your Homework File to parent consultation meetings.</p>
<p><i>More support with the children understanding their homework / Whatever homework is set I would like my child to understand and know what they have to do at home / Not give them hard questions in their homework</i></p>	<p>All 'expected' homework will be going over learning they have already done, eg maths work from the previous unit, spellings already introduced in class, practising times tables that are appropriate to their age group</p> <p>The homework 'grid' (optional additional homework) may contain new ideas but will be explained clearly by the class teacher; there will be no time limit so parents can always ask via SeeSaw if they / their children are unsure</p>

You said:	We did:
<i>Online</i>	TT Rockstars and NumBots is an online activity. We will also recommend other online learning via our school website.
<i>If possible let parents know which method they use in class, I would be grateful if I can help them at home / Refresher courses for parents</i>	Starting on Mon 19th June 9 - 10am for 4 weeks, we will run Parent / Learning Workshops to explain the methods we use for teaching reading and mathematics. If there is enough interest, we will also do after school / early evenings in September.
<i>Replacing books more often</i>	Our parent workshops (above) will explain why we expect pupils to read the same book several times, and how to develop the skills with each reading. In September 2023 we begin a new scheme called Accelerated Reader (Y2 upwards) which moves children on to the next book once they have answered a comprehension test on the last book.

If your specific comment has not been answered here - or in the following policy, please do not hesitate to speak to Mrs Fraser.