



Priory Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday, 19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been such a pleasure to welcome you all back to school and we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year. Our Value this month is **Perseverance** which is a great focus to help pupils understand how hard work and courage will move them forwards. Please notice when your child is persevering and not giving up!

On our first day back, the children had a wonderful experience in their classes - another of our Triple E Days (Essential Elements Experience), doing a special project based on our focus continent of South America. This time we also linked the learning to science learning - children explored everything from habitats, wildlife right through to the impact of deforestation in the Amazon. What incredible learning on day one of our new school term!

I also would like to join Mrs Roberts in congratulating families on a much improved attendance and punctuality. We are nudging closer to our target and currently have a whole school average attendance of 93.5%. Children attending less than 90% are considered Persistent Absentees.

Finally I hope you have noticed and enjoyed your children's successes with our new reading projects. Coming up soon is National Storytelling Week. Please dig around at home for your favourite stories, or maybe you just want to remember the stories told to you in your childhood and start telling them again to your children. Telling stories to children is very good for their learning - please join in with us!

Kind regards

Mrs Fraser

(Head Teacher)



Attendance Cup



Week 1	Year 6
Week 2	Year 5
Week 3	Year 6



Punctuality Award Winners



Week 1	Year 2 & 5
Week 2	Year 5
Week 3	Year 1

Neil the Sloth is awarded to the class that has the best record for arriving on time each day



**Thurs 4th Jan - Fri 16th Feb and
Mon 26th Feb - Thurs 28th Mar**
**NO HOLIDAYS TO BE TAKEN
DURING TERM**

Weds 24th Jan

Year 5 Parent Meeting about Frontier Centre residential trip - 3.20pm

Mon 29th Jan - Fri 2nd Feb

National Storytelling Week

Tues 30th Jan

Bedford Fire & Rescue visit - Year 2

2.30pm & 7pm Anti-Bullying Information Evening

Mon 5th Feb - Fri 9th Feb

Children's Mental Health Week

Fri 9th Feb

Shine Bright Wear Bright - Fundraising for CHUMS

Tues 13th Feb

Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Races

Thurs 15th Feb

Anti-Bullying Assembly KS2 parents

Fri 16th Feb

Anti-Bullying Assembly KS1 & Reception parents

**Mon 19th - Fri 23rd
HALF TERM BREAK**

Mon 26th Feb

**PUPILS RETURN TO
SCHOOL**

Triple E Day Whole School

Tues 27th Feb

Trip to Rockingham Castle - Year 4

Thurs 7th Mar

World Book Day

Fri 8th Mar

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Fri 15th Mar

Red Nose Day & Reports Go Home

Tues 26th - Thurs 28th Mar

Frontier Centre Residential - Year 5

Thurs 28th Mar

Higgins Museum Trip - Year 3

Last Day of Term

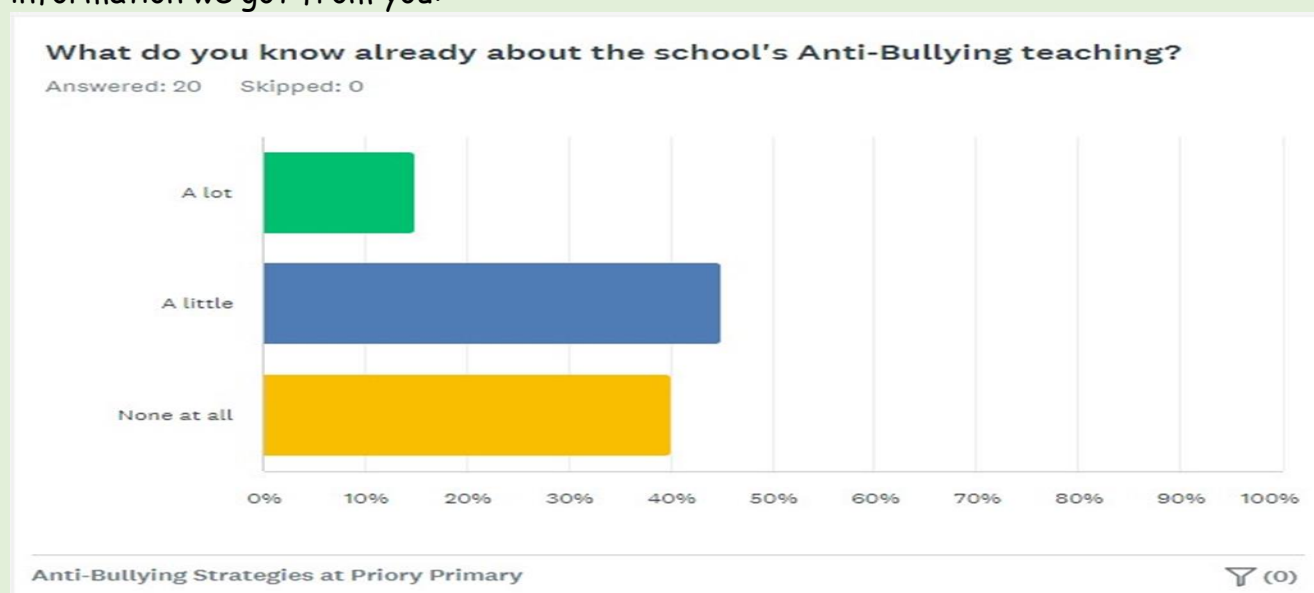
**29th March - 12th April
EASTER HOLIDAY**

Tues 16th April

**PUPILS RETURN TO
SCHOOL**

Anti-Bullying Parent Survey

Thank you to those who responded - we had 20 replies. Here is an example of the information we got from you:



Please click on this link to see more results:

https://uk.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-DUNXCXdHXckvn0xZ5Ctb9A_3D_3D/

Next Steps:

You said: You would like to know more about our Anti-Bullying teaching, and about the difference between 'falling out' and 'being bullied'

We say: Come to a parent / carer meeting on **Tues 30th Jan 2.30pm** in the School Hall or 7pm online.

You said: You would go to the website to find out more information

We say: Yes - please read the policy here: <https://prioryprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Anti-Bullying-Policy-2022.pdf>

You said: You would also ask your children for information

We say: please come to one of our special assemblies, when the children will tell you more!
For Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 - **9am on Thurs 15th Feb** and for Reception, Year 1 & 2 - **9am on Fri 16th Feb**

You said: Some children told you they do not know what to do if they see a child being bullied, and some children told you they do not feel safe from bullying at school.

We say: We must address this - the two things are linked - and both are part of our anti-bullying teaching, so we will go back over the learning during Children's Mental Health Week 5th - 9th February. Watch out for a Quiz coming home as well, to help with this.

If you would like to attend any of these meetings and / or assemblies, please fill out the form attached to the newsletter.



Please fill in the form and return to the school

Tick the box beside the meeting that you would like to attend

Anti-Bullying Teaching for Parents and Carers

Tuesday 30th January 2024 - In school hall ☐

Tuesday 30th January 2024 - Online ☐

Special School Assemblies

Thursday 15th February 2024 (Year 3, 4, 5, 6) ☐

Friday 16th February 2024 (Reception, Year 1 and 2) ☐



Support for Parents - Triple P Online Courses

The current climate has raised new parenting challenges for everyone. The Triple P - Positive Parenting Programme gives you simple, practical strategies that have been proven to work around the world, helping parents raise happy, confident children, to set family routines and rules that everyone can follow and to balance work and family life with less stress.

<https://www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/get-started/online-parenting-course-toddlers-to-tweens/>

These online courses put you in control:

1. Choose the strategies that fit your family
2. Do your course anywhere, anytime - available 24/7
3. Work at your own pace
4. Completion certificate available to download and print

If you would rather be part of a group, there are also some great courses, some online and some at Queens Park Family Hub (Marlborough Road), such as 'Developing Good Bedtime Routines' or 'Hassle Free Mealtimes'.

Follow this link to find out more:

<https://localoffer.bedford.gov.uk/kb5/bedford/directory/site.page?id=k4xvsuAWE6k&localofferchannel=0>





LATENESS IS RUDE AND CAUSES:

- *Disruption in the office
- *Disruption in the classroom
- *Disruption for the teacher and other children

IT ALSO:

- *Impacts your child's learning
- *And it is very disrespectful to staff, other parents and children



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new school term! This is a quick note to say that it is encouraging to note that punctuality has improved in the first two weeks of the term. I would like to say A BIG THANK YOU to all the parents who are ensuring that their children are getting to school on time - it helps them to settle in and with getting started for the school day; it helps with their learning and it also helps with their social interactions. Being punctual prepares them for life after they leave school and is a good discipline to have when they start work.

There are still some parents who persistently bring their children to school late. I would like to take the opportunity to ask you to be intentional in getting your child to school on time. In the long run it is for their benefit.

Kind regards,

Mrs Roberts

Celebrating 100% Attendance

Every week we recognise and reward the class which attained the highest percentage of attendance the week before. The names of the children who attended school every day the previous week are put in a draw and they all have the chance to win a small prize.

Every half term the children who have attained 100% attendance that term, receive an attendance certificate. If they attend 100% the two half terms that make up a term, they also receive a wristband inscribed with a praise (**YOU ARE A STAR; YOU ARE AMAZING OR YOU ARE A LEGEND**) – this is a 'badge' of honour and meant to be worn with pride. Each of the children are presented their certificates and wristbands and honoured at an assembly before the whole school. At the end of each academic year, children who have attained 100% attendance for the whole year are also honoured before the whole school

Last term we had '**The Twelve Days of Christmas Attendance**', whereby every child who achieved 100% attendance the last twelve days of term were eligible to be entered into a draw to win a hamper of goodies – one child from KS1 and one child from KS2. There were also several other prizes with the opportunity for one child from each class to choose a prize. It is encouraging to see the number of pupils who make it in to school every day, and to them we say **WELL DONE!**



The 12 days of Christmas attendance hamper for KS1 was won by:

Mahfuj (R)

And the hamper for KS2 was won by:

Kingdavid (4)

A very well done to both of them!



Local History

We would like to remind you that there was an email sent out to you earlier this week regarding a history project that we would encourage parents to do with their children. This is to help your child with our history curriculum which has a strong focus on local history. The reason for this is two-fold, first to help your child to acquire some knowledge about local history, and second, we intend to have school 'Houses' and will name each House after one of these historical figures.

Kindly help your child to find information about a local historical character that they find interesting - who they were and what they did; why they are important in history; what values you think they represent; and why you feel it would be good to name one of the 'Houses' in the school after them.

Please submit your research and ideas to your child's class teacher by **Monday, 5th February 2024.**



WELCOME

BACK TO
SCHOOL