

8TH JANUARY 2026

ISSUE 15

PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

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Headteacher's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all. It has been a first week back – thank you for your continued support and partnership.

This half term, we are excited to launch Hope as one of our core school values through our new mascot, Nadine the Butterfly. Nadine's story reminds us that even in tough moments – when the work feels hard or the weather feels rough – brighter days return when we hold on to hope.

Inclusion & Community

At Priory, we continue to be proud of the family-like, inclusive community we share. Our values – Hope, Opportunity, Trust and Curiosity – and our behaviours – Kindness, Courage and Determination – guide us in everything we do. Nadine will feature in assemblies, classrooms and school communication throughout Spring 1.

Cold Weather Safety

As temperatures drop, please help us keep children safe by ensuring they:

- come to school with a warm coat every day,
- wear hats and gloves when possible, and
- avoid playing on icy or slippery surfaces before and after school.

We also remind families that if weather conditions become extreme, we will communicate any changes or closures directly through the Arbor App, text or email.

Parking & Site Reminder

A polite but important reminder:

Please do not park on Orchard Avenue up to the car park exit. This blocks the flow of traffic, prevents safe access for families and staff, and creates unnecessary risk during peak times.

We thank you for supporting safe and respectful movement around our school site.

Please also be mindful where you leave your car to ensure that you are not blocking a drive or the car park entrances or exits.

Looking Ahead

We have a wonderful term ahead, filled with opportunity and enrichment for pupils, including STEM learning, performances and pupil voice sessions and trips.

Here's to a bright 2026, filled with hope, learning, and good days ahead..

Warm wishes,
Mrs Foster

Important dates:

[Click here](#) to link to the school calendar

[Click here](#) to see term dates for 2025-2026

Leaflets and letters:

Please [click here](#) to go to our leaflets page on the website and choose external providers

Signs of the week:

No sign this week

Attendance

Weekly attendance percentages
W/C 5th January

Whole School - 94.46%

Year 1 - 94.5%

Year 2 - 93.1%

Year 3 - 95.2%

Year 4 - 95.2%

Year 5 - 96.2%

Year 6 - 94.0%

Congratulations to 1Jeffers and Nursery PM with
100.0% attendance this week!



Peek at the Week

Reception – 9th January 2026

Important Dates / Reminders

Parent phonic workshops –

Monday 12th January 2:30pm – 3pm

13th January 8:45am – 9:15am

Multicultural day - 16th January

(Children can wear clothes representing their cultures and faiths)

SLT Tea with the parents – 3rd February TBA

Learning together week – 9th February TBA

End of term – 13th February, children finish at 3:30pm

PE – Every Thursday – Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit.

We will be sending reading books home every Wednesday, please ensure your child brings their book bag on this day.

Homework

- Please read with your child for at least 15 minutes a day.
- Focus core math skill: **Number** – we will be using the vocabulary: **0-6, I can see up to 5 without counting, I can then add one more to make 6.**

As the weather is getting cooler and the rain has started to arrive, please can you ensure your child comes to school with a rain coat or jacket as we will be continuing our busy learning outside.

Please can we ask that your child brings in a named water bottle every day. Additionally can we ask all school uniform is named.



Thank you for your support!



A huge welcome back to our reception children and all their families. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable break. We wish you all a very happy new year!



Our Learning - This week:



Communication and Language Development:

As we continue our Little Wandle Journey, the children have beginning to understand diagraphs – 2 letters that make 1 sound. This week we have been reading words with the following sounds: ff – fluff, puff ll – bell, fell, ss – hiss, kiss

We have also been focusing on blending our sounds to read words and even short sentences!

Please continue to read with your children at home, it really does make a difference.

Maths:

This week we have continued to look at number. The children have been practicing subitising – being able to look at a group of objects and knowing how many without counting. We be introducing the concept of knowing there are 5 objects and adding 1 more.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

This week have been settling back into routines and remembering our class charter. The children have been invited to add any new rules they think would help our classroom environment.

We have also met our school mascot **Nadine the Butterfly** who represents **hope**.



Reception Stars of the Week:

R Rupert: Yusuf

R Paddington: Jake



Reception song of the week: Solar system Song

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F2prtmPEjOc&list=RDF2prtmPEjOc&start_radio=1

Contact us: reception@priorschool.com

01628 600300

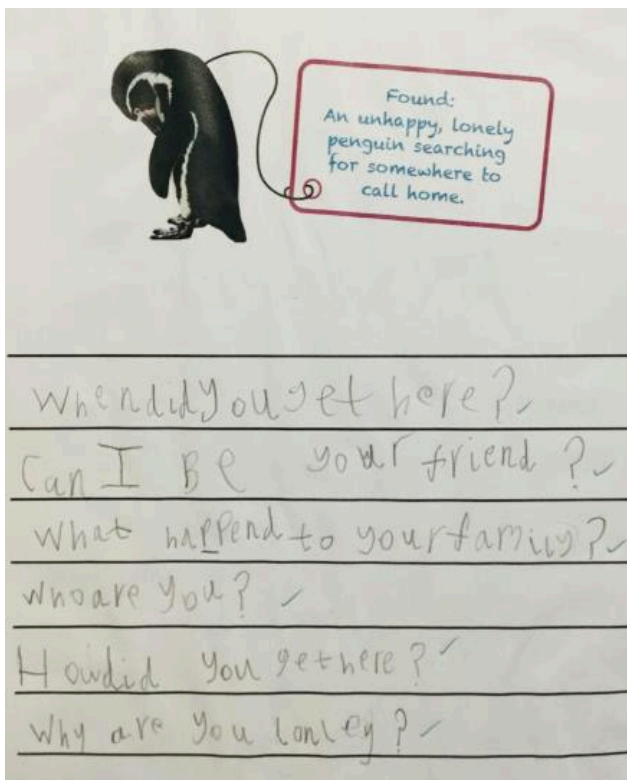


Peek at the Week - Year 1

Friday 9th January 2026

Important Dates / Reminders

- Wednesday 14th January
Phonics workshop for parents
- Friday 16th January - Multicultural Day



Our Learning

Welcome back! This week we have started our Spring topic - Where in the World! Our key texts this term will be *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers and *The Emperor's Egg* by Martin Jenkins. In English, we learned a lost penguin had turned up in our classrooms and the teachers did not know why. We looked at question words and thought of all the questions we could ask the penguin to figure out where he came from. The children then wrote a list of questions - which we hope will be answered soon!

In Science, we have been exploring animal groups.

The children learned about characteristics which can sort animals into the following groups: mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

We were very excited to see snow on Tuesday! The outdoor area turned into a winter wonderland, with lots of ice to explore. It led to some fantastic discussions about weather, what causes water to freeze and how we can melt ice.



Stars of the Week

1 Donaldson - Hiba

1 Jeffers - Ajunee



Words of the Week: mammal

reptile

amphibian

Contact us: year1@prioryschool.com

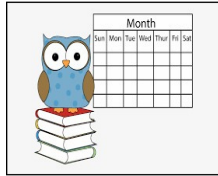
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Peek at the Week Year 2– 9th January 2026

Important Dates / Reminders

Please read with your child every day and discuss what you are reading. Once the children have used their phonics to decode the words in the book, please re-read the book several times over the week to help them build up their pace and fluency.



Spellings are sent home on Fridays with a spelling quiz the following Friday. Please practice writing these spellings daily if possible.

Please send your child in the correct PE uniform on Wednesdays.

Please also send your child in with a coat daily as we are outside learning in our Year 2 garden for part of every day.

Our Learning

This week in English, we discussed the problem of 'littering' in our local area and explored how this could be harmful to animals, people and the environment. We also started our new text: *The Secret Sky Garden* and wrote thought bubbles to describe what the main character was thinking.

In maths, we recapped subtracting 1-digit numbers from numbers up to 100 using a blank number line and went on to subtract multiples of 10, using the same method.

In the garden, we have loved using messy play to explore what sorts of minibeasts may live in and around a pond/garden!



In PSHRE, we worked together to make a garden of dreams and goals - full of beautiful birds and insects as well as a sentence to share our own personal dream and goal.

Next week, we will be writing a character description of Funni in English. In maths, we will be moving on to subtracting teen numbers and then any 2-digit numbers using a blank number line. In science, we are moving on to the topic of Plants and Growth. In computing, we will be starting our topic on creating digital music.



From the Year 2 Team

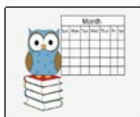


Peek at the Week

Year 3– 9th January 2026

Important Dates / Reminders

16.01.26 Multicultural Day–non uniform day



HOMEWORK

Please encourage your child to read for at least 15 minutes every day and to record this in their reading record. You can access the children's online library by following this link:

<https://www.collinshub.co.uk/login/>

Please also spend 10-15 minutes a day on TTRS to practise times tables:

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each **Monday**.

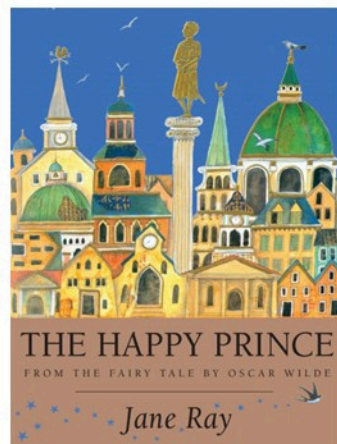
Only fruit is allowed for a break time snack.



The Year 3 and 4 children have begun rehearsals for their phase performance of Disney's 'Frozen Kids'!

Our Learning

This week, we began work on our new English topic inspired by the retelling of Oscar Wilde's 'The Happy Prince' by Jane Ray.



We also began a unit in our geography lessons learning about how rivers are formed and the water cycle.

In French, we have been learning how to read and write dates.

Next week, we will be continuing to read 'The Happy Prince'. In computing lessons, we will be learning how to sequence sounds using Scratch.

In geography, we will focus on the importance of rivers and how settlements grow up by them.

We will also be starting to learn some of the songs that we will be singing in the Year 3 and 4 performance of 'Disney's Frozen Kids'. In March, we will perform this to the school and also be inviting parents and carers in to watch us.

Information regarding costumes and the dates of performances to follow soon!

Word of the Week: special

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year3@prioryschool.com

01628 600300

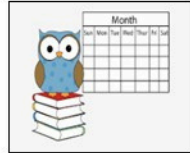


Peek at the Week

Year 4– 9th January 2026

Important Dates / Reminders

16.01.26 Multicultural Day–non uniform day



HOMEWORK

Please encourage your child to read for at least 20 minutes every day and to record this in their reading record. You can access the children's online library by following this link:

[Login - Collins Hub](#)

Please also spend 10-15 minutes a day on TTRS to practise times tables:

[Times Tables Rock Stars: Play](#)

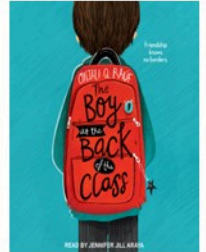
[MTC - Multiplication Tables Check - URBrainy.com](#)

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each **Wednesday**.

Only fruit is allowed for a break time snack.

Our Learning

This week, in English, we have begun a unit of work inspired by the story, 'The Boy At The Back Of The Class' by Onjali Q. Rauf.



In Maths, we have been continuing to work on learning all of our times tables and division facts up to 12 x 12.

In Science, we have started to learn about classification by looking at the characteristics of the different vertebrate groups.

We are very excited to announce that Year 3 and 4 will be starting to rehearse for their joint performance of Disney's 'Frozen Kids'. This week we started to learn some of the songs and took part in auditions. Details about costumes needed and the dates of performances will follow soon.

Next week, we will be learning about warm and cold blooded animals in science and how to use scientific keys to classify living things. In French, we will learn how to read and write dates.

Maths lessons will continue to focus on multiplication and division.

Word of the Week: special

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: [*www.morningchallenge.co.uk/*](http://www.morningchallenge.co.uk/)

Contact us: year4@priorschool.com

Tel: 01628 600300



The Year 3 and 4 children have begun rehearsals for their phase performance of Disney's 'Frozen Kids'!



Year 5 Peek at the Week

9th January 2026

Important Dates / Reminders

Tuesdays: Wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.

Multicultural Day –Friday 16th January

Science Museum Trip: Thursday 26th February

We became solar system experts in English this week after completing research about our planetary system.



My Solar System Booklet

name: _____

Our Learning

Happy New Year!

This week, we began our new topic: Exploration, Environments & Empires. This half term, we will focus on exploring space and our solar system before looking at our planet and the impact us humans have had on it's environment.

In maths, we enjoyed warming our brains back up by practising our timetables on Timetable Rockstars. Please encourage your child to practise these as much as possible at home.

In English, we created our own planets and wrote about them.

This term in PSHRE, we will be looking at Dreams and Goals. Here we will focus on the values of hope and trust.

Next week, we will continue our Science topic focusing on Space. In particular, we will look at astronomers and discuss white-washing this area of history and science.

In maths, we will start our new top of multiplication, where we will be exploring new strategies to multiply 4 digits by 1 digit and 2 digits by 2 digits.

In English, we will begin to watch One Small Step- a story about a girl called Luna- and will eventually retell this narrative in our own words.

Child of the Week

5Dawe: **Farzan** 5Maple: **Aisha** 5Ofili: **Savan**

Remember to read 3 times a week and practise your timetables on Rockstar Maths.

Contact us: year5@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Year 6 Peek at the Week

Friday 9th January 2025

Important Dates /Reminders

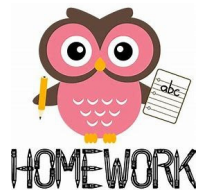
16.01.26: **World Religion Day: non-school uniform**

10.02.26 – **Learning Together Morning**

Thursdays: Wear the correct PE uniform to school. Please bring in a water bottle.

Homework due:

- Reading record x3
- Spellings x1



Times tables practice on TTRS

Our Learning

This week, in history, we finished off our unit on the British Monarchy with a lesson on Queen Victoria and The British Empire. We discussed the impact it had on Britons and people living in the colonies, both the positives and the negatives.

In English, we started to explore a narrative poem called *Moth* by Isabel Thomas. This links to our science topic and is a great way of introducing the concept of evolution – we enjoyed making our own animals and thinking about how they were adapted to their habitat.

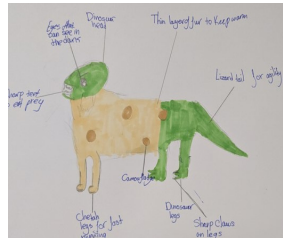
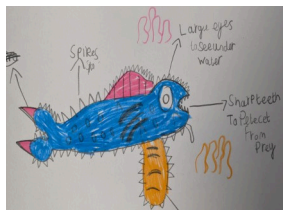
In maths, we started to explore an exciting new topic: decimals! We learned about place value within 1 and decimals greater than 1.

Next week, in science, we will start our next topic on evolution and inheritance, starting with inherited and environmental characteristics.

In English, we will write effective sentences for our poem that include a range of poetic devices and descriptive language about the evolution of the peppered moth.

In maths, we will focus on mastering the skills of rounding decimals, as well as adding, subtracting, and multiplying decimals by integers.

English : Adaptation, variation & survival



PSHRE Focus: Dreams and Goals.

In PSHRE this term, we will understand the difference between realistic and unrealistic goal-setting. We will be able to identify our learning strengths and the steps we need to take to achieve our goals. We will share our dreams for the world by identifying problems and discussing our concerns with other people. We will understand how to work with others to help make the world a better place. Lastly, we will be able to recognise and celebrate our own achievements when our goals are met.

Child of the week:



6 Attenborough: Lisan 6 Anning: Aayan 6 Darwin: Vanesa

Word of the Week: exaggerate

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year6@priorschool.com 01628 600300



The Orchard–Peek of the Week

Weekcommencing: 05/01/2026

Important Date

TVAP- CherryClass Wednesdays. Please bring pack lunch.

Swimming- Plum Class- Fridays. Please bring in swimwear and a towel

Community trip- Pear class- Mondays. Please bring in £2

Our Learning

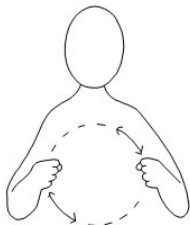
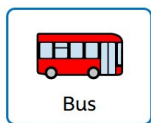
In English the children enjoyed going on the Yellow School Bus in the snow and singing the story. The children then organised the images in sequence.

In Maths the children have been exploring the concept of one and lots using snowballs and they have used their adding skills to feed the penguin.

In Art, the children have had lots of fun mixing Primary colours in sensory bags and mixing the colours with cars. They enjoyed getting messy mixing the paints.



Makaton sign:



Contact us:

sen@priorschool.com
01628 600300

Star of the week:



Plum Class- Avraaj for being a good friend
Pear Class- Aizah for patiently waiting during snack and lunch time
Apple class- Henderson for verbally communicating in Literacy
Berry class-Lalit for trying hard in phonics
Cherry Class- Isiah for doing great talking in good morning session and in phonics
Strawberry class- Rosie for engaging well in her activities





Eco Council News!



Head over to the school website to access updates from Priory's Eco Council Team.



You will find the Eco Council page under the pupils tab. Scroll down for any updates and read all about what we are working on!



A Special Thank You

A big thank you to Mr Turner and Mr Letton who helped Miss Snowden this morning with her broken down car in the car park!

Miss Snowden would like to say thank you to everyone who had kindly offered her and her son a lift home





Priory School (Foundation)

Orchard Avenue, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 6HE
www.prioryschool.com
 Head teacher: Mrs H Foster

8th January 2026

World Religion Day

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Sunday 18th January, we mark World Religion Day – a global interfaith event that promotes harmony and understanding between all religions and beliefs. To honour this important day, we warmly invite our school community to take part in a Heritage Dress Celebration on:

Friday 16th January 2025

This celebration gives children the opportunity to express pride in culture, identity, and heritage – whether their own, or one they admire. We want every child to feel they can take part in a way that feels right for them.

The key message is choice, pride, and celebration.

Families can support this celebration by encouraging children to wear one of the following:

- Cultural or traditional dress that reflects their heritage or nationality
- Non-uniform in colours that represent their culture or country
- Regular non-uniform if they prefer

Additional details:

- This is a learning celebration rooted in respect, curiosity, kindness and unity
- We ask that all dress and colours are worn in the spirit of pride, respect and togetherness

At Priory, we believe our community is strongest when we celebrate together, learn from one another, and honour diversity with kindness and understanding.

"We celebrate culture to bring us closer together, and ask that all colours and dress are worn in the spirit of pride, respect and togetherness."

Yours sincerely

Hannah Foster
Head Teacher

Contact: Telephone: 01628 600300
office@prioryschool.com



WE CELEBRATE CULTURE TO BRING US
CLOSER TOGETHER

WORLD RELIGION DAY

