

St Nicholas Priory C.E.V.A. Primary School



Christmas Newsletter

Our Vision Statement

We aim to welcome and celebrate the diversity of all God's children and provide a safe, caring space in which they can achieve their best academically, spiritually and pastorally whilst learning to serve others.

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come together at this time of year, it is always a good time to share our school vision which is one of being of service to others. Although we are a Christian school we are here for everyone. Those of all faiths and no faith. Everyone is welcome to become part of our Priory family.

This has been an incredibly busy time for all our staff and children. We are forever increasing our wider community connections which considerably enriches our curriculum offer. We are so proud that so many of our children are attending Into University sessions which are free and provide the children with an amazing opportunity to think about what they would like to do in the future. The link has also provided some excellent learning for our older children who have been on special visits and even experienced graduation.

In order for all of our children to get the best out of school they need to be here every day. You will have seen that attendance is an issue raised by many in education and by politicians nationally. Thanks to your support, our attendance is significantly improving and we believe that together Priory can exceed the national averages. Please continue to work with us as it is very much appreciated.

As always, the Priory school family is exceptionally grateful for the support of our parents and we are especially delighted to announce the creation of the Priory Family Friends Association A group of parents who have volunteered to ensure that we provide the absolute best for the children in our care.

Their first project is the Christmas Fayre but we also have lots of ideas moving forward into next year. I know I speak on behalf of everyone in school when I say that we are thrilled to see this moving forward and would like to thank those parents who have put their names forward.

As we approach the holidays and think about our value of 'Service' we want parents and carers to know that we are available to help in so many different ways. For example, if you are experiencing hardship, if you need help with a child with special educational needs, if you need help with writing application forms or just directing to other services. Please just ask.

Finally, on behalf of everyone in the school Priory family I would like to extend the warmest of wishes to you and hope that you have a lovely Christmas holiday. Everyone is welcome back on the 4th January 2024



Keeping Children Safe

Parents who drop off or collect children from the St Nicholas road entrance (Year 3 and Year 4) may have noticed a new barrier in the road.

The banner (sponsored by Perfect Pixel Plus) has been supplied by PC Barry, Great Yarmouth Police, to encourage car drivers that drop off and collect children, not to park on the yellow zig zags.



Mr Rust (KS2 Deputy Head), PC Stiles and Mrs Azevedo (PTA) with the new barrier.

PC Barry often patrols St Nicholas road and reminds drivers of the dangers of stopping on the zig-zags and reminds drivers about the free parking on the Market Place for school drop off and collection.

The Zig-zag and double yellow lines are currently faded but are due to be repainted by the council in the next few weeks so if you are dropping off or collecting children please be aware that there is **no parking on St Nicholas road, on either side of the road** – please use the free Market Place car park.

Is it illegal to park on zig-zag lines outside schools?

Yes, it's always illegal to park on yellow zig-zag lines anywhere. Rule 243 of the Highway Code indicates that motorists must not park or even stop to drop off or collect passengers on yellow zig zag lines. Parking outside a

school specifically may obstruct visibility for parents and children trying to cross the road and is thus highly dangerous.



What is the penalty for parking on zig-zag lines?

It depends on which body issues the penalty. If caught by the police, although it's a non-endorsable offence, drivers could face a fine of between £50 and £100

Rights Respecting Schools Award.

St Nicholas Priory welcomes everyone. As part of our commitment to this we are currently in the process of applying for a Rights Respecting Schools Award. We want to ensure that all of our children become world aware, that they can become global citizens of the future and that they know their rights and responsibilities. We do hope that our community will support us on this journey to achieve this accreditation.



News from Year 2

The children in year 2 have settled into the year group beautifully. They have been learning all about the Artist and Illustrator Beth Krommes in Art and exploring our creative imagination by making art in response to music.

The children have explored different habitats for animals and investigated which animals live there. They also looked at life cycles of animals and we investigated how to stay healthy through food, exercise and hygiene.



Kira hunting for minibeasts in a microhabitat.



Clea hunting for minibeasts in a microhabitat.

We have been learning about place value in Maths and splitting numbers into tens and ones. We have also been looking at measuring using cm, lines of symmetry and properties of 2D shapes.

We have been blown away by their amazing writing where we were describing tranquil and sinister forests.

We have been working on our prediction and retrieval skills in reading and have also been enjoying our class novels Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and The Giraffe, the Pelly and Me.

News from Year 1

Autumn term saw an exciting visitor come to speak to the children. A beekeeper brought in various implements used for keeping bees and some local Norfolk honey for the children to sample. This proved very popular amongst the children (and staff). Ben said he had a fantastic time learning about bees and liked trying on the suit but it was very warm inside it.



News from the Pod



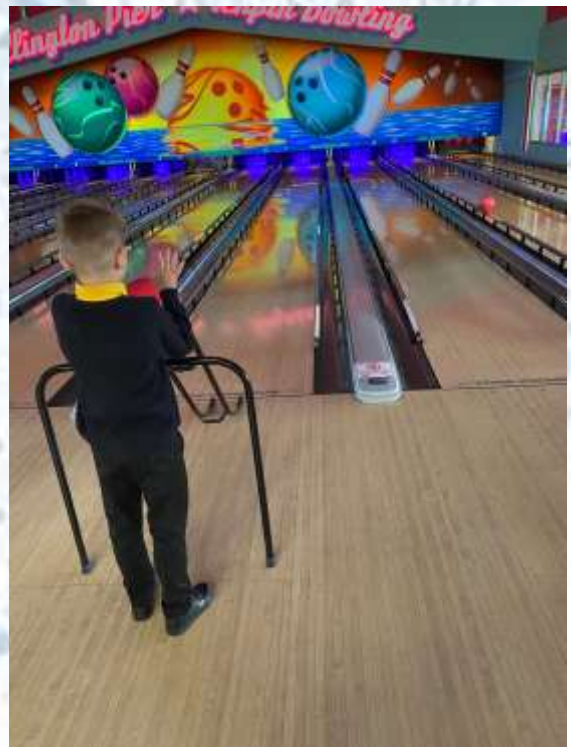
Ben in a bee suit ready to inspect the bees



After learning about how plants grow, where vegetables come from and writing about The Enormous Turnip, Mrs Ball made the children some vegetable soup to try. Jasmine said she really liked the soup and thought it tasted delicious.



Jasmine give it a 'thumbs up' for approval



Rojus carefully lining up a strike

Some of the children in The Pod entered a bowling competition at the Wellington Pier and displayed the most impeccable behaviour as well as some great bowling techniques. They walked to and from the bowling centre and were a real credit to Priory!!



Daniel rolling in a great shot

News from Year 5



Mayarah, Rania and Kaitlyn making their 'egg parachute'

The year started well, with the children settling quickly into their classes and groups. On their first day at school, the children joined in with team-building activities. Their favourite task was making 'egg parachutes', which they tested by releasing them from an upstairs window and saw how many eggs survived the impact ... they loved the sticky mess which ensued!



Sara, Yara and Brooke discovering if an egg will float in a solution of salt and water

In addition to their normal lessons, they have participated in The European Day of Languages, learning about the variety of languages spoken throughout Europe. They have also been looking at the properties of materials, by conducting science experiments!



Laura, Scarlett, Alice-Mae, Nicholas and Domelio finding out which language is spoken in different European countries



News from Year 3

This half term we have written stories about protecting different habitats and written instruction texts to help people prepare for Christmas with tasks such as making cards and wrapping presents. In the wider curriculum, we have explored humans and animals and the importance of healthy eating in science and linked this knowledge to our practical food and nutrition in DT. In art, we explored printmaking and were lucky enough to receive a personal message from Neil Bousfield whom we had learnt about!

We have also been involved in an art project in conjunction with Rerezent and Great Yarmouth to create a 7m Angel that is to be displayed in the Great Yarmouth Minster allowing the children to develop their creativity and work with local artists and give back to the community.

Year 3 have also worked incredibly hard on improving their reading skills and have enjoyed the cosy reading areas in their classes where they have explored a variety of books and share their pleasure for reading!

Well done Year 3! You have all worked super hard this half term.

Christmas Lunch

This year we will be serving the Priory Christmas lunch on Thursday 14th December. There will be a traditional roast turkey lunch or the vegetarian option of a veggie sausage roll. There will be no other lunch choices on this day.

The price of the dinner will be £2.30 for those families that generally pay for meals and free to children who receive free school meals.



no



Christmas Activities and Dates for your Calendar

Tuesday 5th December – Sounds 4
Christmas Y1 and Y2 – 6pm

Wednesday 6th December – Y3, Y4,
Y5 and Y6 Minster rehearsal - 1.30pm - 2pm
(for those performing only)

Wednesday 6th December - Y3, Y4,
Y5 and Y6 GYSMA rehearsal - 9.30am -
2.30pm

Wednesday 6th and 7th December
- Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 GYSMA performance –
7pm

Thursday 7th December - Christmas
jumper day– children can wear a Christmas
jumper to school to raise money for Save The
Children.

Miss Jarmey will open her Christmas Jumper
Swap Shop on the day
for any children
who do not have a
Christmas jumper.
The Swap Shop
has a limited
stock to loan on
the day.



If anyone has any Christmas jumpers the
children have out grown Miss Jarmey would
gratefully accept any donations – please
leave at the main school office.

Friday 8th December - Santa Dash -
The children and staff can wear either a
Santa hat or some tinsel ... let's get them
trotting like Father Christmas's reindeer for
15 minutes!



Tuesday 12th December - Reception
and Year 1 and Y2 Nativity – two
performances am (more information on class
dojo to follow)



Tuesday 12th December - Christmas
Service at The Minster - for Y3, Y4, Y5 and
Y6 at 2pm



Wednesday 13th December -

Reception and Y1 and Y2 Nativity – performance am & pm

Wednesday 13th December - Civic

Carol Service – Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 – 7pm

Thursday 14th December -



Christmas lunch - please see menus above – only Christmas Dinner (meat and veggie option) will be available on this day or you can send a home packed lunch

Friday 15th December - Reception to

Panto at St Georges Theatre to see Robin Hood - 9.30am - 11.30am - picnic lunch in unit on return. Lunch for rest of school as normal

Friday 15th December – Cosy Café –

9.30am – 10.30am

Friday 15th December - Christmas Fair

- 3.30pm - 5pm - Parents will need to collect their children and then form a queue at the small playground gate for entry.

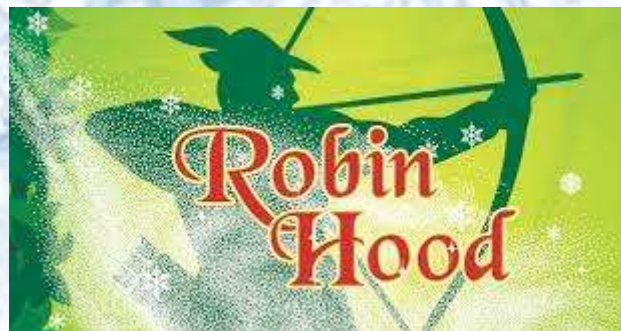
Monday 18th December - Christmas

Disco – Reception, Y1 and Y2 - 1.30pm - 3pm, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 - 3.30pm - 5.30pm



Tuesday 19th December - Pod, Y1, Y2

and Y3 to Panto at St Georges Theatre to see Robin Hood - 9.30am - 11.30am - normal lunch time on return



Tuesday 19th December - Y4, Y5 and

Y6 to Panto at St Georges Theatre to see Robin Hood - 12.30pm - 2.30pm - early lunch - all packed lunches

Wednesday 20th December – Pod

Christmas performance – 11.30am – 12pm

Parents Evening

Thank you to all the parents who came to see their children's teachers. We hope the meeting was a valuable insight of how your child is doing at Priory and get some advice about how to support them at home.

If for any reason you were not able to attend the Parents Evening but would like to speak to your child's teacher, please speak to them on the gate at the end of the day or message them on class dojo. Teachers may be able to arrange a quick meeting after school one day.

Parent evening prizes

The prizes for the Shopping Change Challenge and the Guess the Weight of the Rice Challenge are as follows –

Winners from 18th October

Shopping change from £10 was £6.80 – Winner, Wendy Gordan £6.50

Guess the weight of the rice was 300g and would feed 4 people – Winner, Gemma Hunter 300g and 8 people

Winners from 19th October

Shopping change from £10 was £6.80 –
Winner, Tara Galsworth £6.50

*Guess the weight of the rice was 300g and
would feed 4 people –* Winner Inga Tolaiكية
300g and 4 people

The winners can choose a shopping voucher
from the following –

Love2shop,
Morrisons,
Asda,
Sainsburys
or Aldi



Church School Update

This half term we have explored the value of 'hope' within collective worship and amongst our learning. Children have reflected on bible stories surrounding the theme and reflected on their own meaning of hope through reflection and prayer.



We have also begun our journey to explore our own spirituality starting in collective worship. KS2 Children have been introduced to the concept of spirituality and the idea that it is unique to all of us and does not have to be rooted in a belief, religion or faith. KS2 children have been exploring the idea that spirituality is a moment of awe and wonder, a

moment to reflect, a moment to question or a moment to discover themselves and who they are.

Our spirituality journey has enabled us to explore spontaneous prayer in collective worship allowing KS2 children to say a prayer, wish or hope from their heart spontaneously and KS1 children to learn the concept modelled by the teaching adults.



We have also worked hard across KS1 and KS2 to prepare for Christmas celebrations with KS1 in rehearsals for the nativity and KS2 practicing songs to sing and acts for the Christmas candle lit service.



Spooky Minster Service

This year saw the first 'Spooky Service'. Held at the Minster, this service invited all KS2 children to arrive in a spooky mask they created beforehand and saw Father Tracy being tormented by a mysterious character that was finally scared away by the light. Children learned the true meaning of Halloween - All Hallows Eve and its connection to the saints and to God.



Some of the Halloween masks made by year 3



More information to follow soon.

Priory Servers

In the spring term we are offering an amazing opportunity for children in year 4-6 to become a Priory server at Great Yarmouth Minster.



This role will predominantly take place before and during the Sunday services and will also see children help out with Minster activities throughout the school year.

Breakfast Club and Song School

Many of our children come to Breakfast Club or Song School in the mornings. This sets the children up for a good day with a selection of breakfast foods available and some time to join in activities or join in with singing in Song School.

Children need to arrive by 7.30am as it is not always possible for staff to leave the room immediately to collect late children, as they are serving breakfast. If you arrive late (after 7.30) you will need to press the kitchen buzzer (buzzer labelled) on the loading bay gate, and wait with your child for the staff to arrive.

MONDAYS: Please remember Monday's is reading morning so please remember to send children with their school reading books.

Print Off and Keep - School Dates

St. Nicholas Priory C.E.V.A. Primary School - Term Dates School Year 2023 - 24

~~| September 2023 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
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~~| October 2023 | | | | | | |
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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April 2024						
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June 2024						
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July 2024						
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August 2024						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Key: White dates - schools open to pupils
 Yellow dates - pupil holiday
 Red dates - bank holiday

Please note some of our training dates will be different to other schools in County.