

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

A very warm welcome to our Spring Term newsletter and what a very busy term it has been. It never ceases to amaze me just how much learning we can pack into each and every day as well as ensuring that our children get the very best opportunities to engage in trips and visits. I do hope that you enjoy reading all about our news.

At St Nicholas we are passionate about creating opportunities to engage in a wide range of different experiences where they are able to positively contribute and make a difference. This term we have continued to support pupil groups for Parliament, RE, Eco Crew and Reading and added in the Clean-up Crew. The children also get an opportunity to do public speaking to act, sing and dance and even take part in our new orchestra. We believe that by providing the children with a wide range of opportunities they are developing personally and learning skills for life.



On the 31st January I was lucky enough to accompany Ms Jarney and our Priory Parliament to the Palace of Westminster which was an incredible experience. We toured both the House of Lords and Commons and even saw some famous faces. The children were a real credit.



A huge thank you to all our parent supporters who helped enormously with the Christmas Fair. What a success. It is particularly important to us that children have an opportunity to share their ideas and to engage in social action projects. As a result of the partnership between our children and Priory Family Friends association the amount raised was £964, topped up to meet our target of £1000 due to a generous donation. The money will be shared between the Moroccan Appeal, Marie Curie and also resources for our school. I am very excited to see where this partnership will lead and the group have already come up with some brilliant suggestions moving forward.



We continue to ensure that we are an outward facing school, seeking the best professional development for all our staff in order to develop the best opportunities for learning. We are part of a local cluster group, a Norfolk school improvement group, linked with the UEA and also travel to see best practice.

We appreciate all of your support with attendance. As you are aware we want all of our children to enjoy coming to school every day and on time, but this term has been particularly challenging. There have been many coughs and colds, not to mention the weather. However, it is vitally important that we encourage the children to come to school ready to learn and on time.

As always, our focus is on ensuring that every child is provided with opportunities and resources which are not causing an excessive financial burden on families. We do hope that you will join in with forthcoming events.

I look forward to working with you and continue to be grateful for all your support

With best wishes and kind regards

Maria Grimmer



really brave and even went into the prison cells!



Miss O, Anastasia, Kira, and Mia I in the Tolhouse Gaol!

News from Year 2

Year 2 have had a great half term learning all about the History of Great Yarmouth. We looked at the differences between what Great Yarmouth is like today and what it used to be like in the past. We learned about Sarah Martin who used to work at the Tolhouse Gaol and we took a trip there. We were lucky enough to have two trips and also go to the Time and Tide Museum where we looked at the old Herring Industry and got recruited to be Fishermen and Fisherwomen. Some of us were

In Geography we have been exploring the continent of Africa – looking closely at how Nairobi in Kenya is different to where we live. We have had the chance to explore a small world Savanna in our small world play. We also looked at Gambia in Africa through our book "One Plastic Bag " and the problems that they have with pollution. We took inspiration from this and wrote some instructions on how to recycle a plastic bag into a super cool plastic friendship bracelet.

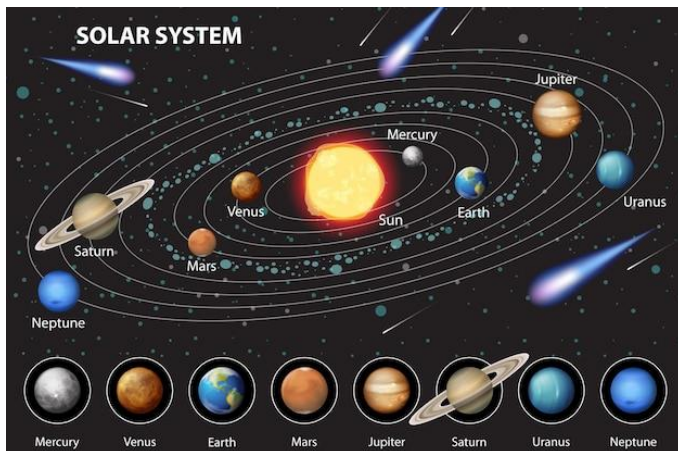
In maths, we have been learning to divide and share equally. We have also started looking at kilograms. We explored different types of scales and had the opportunity to weigh our own objects in the afternoons.



The Goal House in Great Yarmouth, one of the UK's oldest gaols, dating back to the 12th century

News from Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to 2024. They started the year by taking part in a project about Earth and Space, which they absolutely loved! Some of the children already knew a number of facts about this topic and became our 'Space Experts'.



They have also enjoyed lessons based around food preparation, exploring how diets are influenced by the region of the world in which we live, as well as the influence of different cultures. During February, the year group has also looked at the development of Great Yarmouth through the diverse culture in which we live and the reasons for the migration of members of different communities due to a number of economic and social factors. Finally, they created some amazing piece of 3-D art, through the use of papier-mache.



Sculpture created by covering an armature (a cup) and then removing it to leave a free-standing papier-mâché model

Priory at Parliament



Priory Parliament in Westminster Hall

Westminster Hall is a large medieval great hall which is part of the Palace of Westminster in London, England. It was erected in 1097 for William II, at which point it was the largest hall in Europe.

It was also used to host coronation banquets until 1821, and since the twentieth century has been the usual venue for the 'lying's in state' of state and ceremonial funerals.

It is reported that at least 250,000 people filed past Queen Elizabeth II's coffin in Westminster Hall to pay their respect, over the four days of the 'lying of state' in September 2022.



News from Year 1

This term we have been lucky enough to be able to take the children outside to experience snow. For some of the children this was the first time they remembered seeing it. We enhanced this learning experience by carrying out an experiment to see how quickly the snow would melt in different locations. The children were fascinated by the puddle of water and soil in the classroom the following day.



In science we have been studying the parts of plants, and thanks to our new flowerbeds, we were able to do some gardening, making sure we carefully planted some different herbs and plants, including Miss Horspole's Christmas tree!

We'd like to say a BIG thank you to all our families for the support you are giving your child in completing their homework, learning spellings and listening to them read. It is making such a difference to the children. They're proud of the work they are completing and excited to change their books when they come in to school which is really lovely to see.



Priory Parliament by The Elizabeth Tower.

The Elizabeth Tower is the clock tower of the Palace of Westminster in London. It contains the Great Clock, a striking clock with five bells. The tower is nicknamed "Big Ben", which was originally a nickname for the largest bell (named the Great Bell). The tower was officially called the Clock Tower until 2012, when it was renamed to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.



Priory Parliament by the Emmeline Pankhurst monument.

This statue of Emmeline Pankhurst was erected as a tribute to her courageous leadership of the movement for the empowerment of women.



Children in Year 1 gardening

News from Year 3

During spring term 1, Year 3 explored counties, countries and regions of the UK in geography, mechanisms and how to create a catapult in DT and pattern and design in art.

In writing, we have explored the similarities and differences of Trinidad and Great Yarmouth in our comparison text and how to protect animals in our information text.

In PE we have enjoyed gymnastics with Miss Wheeler and explored our sense of balance! We have also developed our knowledge and expertise within fitness with Mrs Scupham and worked hard to improve our balance, strength, speed and agility.

During the last week, we had a visit from East Norfolk Sixth Form College and took part in a Lego education session. We worked in teams of 4 or 5 to build a Ferris wheel using an iPad for instructions and then programmed it to make it turn and light up. We had a great afternoon working together as a team, taking it in turns and helping each other.



Children in Year 3 using the Lego to build a Ferris wheel

Science show!

The science show will be returning on Wednesday 13th March at 5:30pm - 6:30pm. All are welcome! The show is called Energy Live and will include lots of exciting experiments. The loading bay gates will open at 5:15pm so please arrive promptly as the show will start at 5:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



Big Norfolk Holiday Fun 2024 - Music Makers and Body Shakers!



Norfolk Music Hub in partnership with Norfolk County Council's Holiday Activity Fund are delighted to bring to Great Yarmouth a fun couple of days of musical fitness activities entitled Music Makers and Body Shakers!

The 2 days aim to bring young people from across Norfolk together to engage in musical opportunities including singing, movement and dancing.

The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun – Active Norfolk scheme is being run by Norfolk County Council and is free to all families with children aged 5-16, who are eligible for means-tested free school meals.

When do these sessions take place?

Wednesday 3rd April – Thursday 4th April 2024. You need to attend both days.

Where are these sessions taking place?

Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, Suffolk Rd, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, NR31 0ER

What age does my child need to be to attend

Age between 5-11 years old

What will my child do each day?

- **10am:** Register
- **10.05am – 10.30am:** Wake and Shake with Andrea Howes
- **10.30am – 11.15am:** Workshop 1 with music facilitator for the day
- **11.15am – 11.30am:** Fruit and break
- **11.30am – 12.15pm:** Workshop 2 with music facilitator for the day
- **12.15pm – 1pm:** Lunch
- **1pm – 1.30pm:** Workshop 3 with music facilitator for the day (share your skills)
- **1.30pm – 2pm:** Work out and wind down with Andrea Howes
- **2pm:** Sign out

Activities each day:

Each day young people will work with the workshop leader on songs. At the end of day 2 a short performance will take place at each venue for families at 1.40pm for the young people to showcase their work.

Does my child have to attend all the sessions?

Once registered your child will be expected to attend the 2 sessions they have registered for.

What are times of the sessions?

Registration is at 10am each day and pick up is at 2pm

Can any young person attend?

Those who claim means-tested free school meals can claim free spaces on the activities.

How many young people will be attending?

Places are strictly limited to 25 places, so sign up as soon as possible to secure your place

Book your place here -

Complete the online Registration form on the link below



<https://www.norfolkmusichub.org.uk/site/big-norfolk-holiday-fun-2024-music-makers-body-shakers-registration/>

Do I need to send my child with a packed lunch?

All children taking part will receive a nutritious free hot meal as part of the offer or a healthy pack up. You can choose from the menu offered each day on the registration form. There will also be a fruit, water and cereal bars available.

News from Reception

Last half term was an exceptionally busy time for us in reception. The children have been making exceptional progress in their reading. We want to thank everyone for their contribution to this amazing achievement.

We also went and explored the churchyard, the children really enjoyed walking from school to the church and seeing the landmarks of our local area.

The children also got a special visitor, Mrs Dyble brought her dog; Matilda, in for the children to see. The children learnt lots about how to care for our pets.



Mrs Dyble and camera-shy Matilda

We also rather excitedly had snow a couple of days last half term, we gathered some snow for the children and we showed the children how snow melts and freezes.

The children also had a lot of fun going out and seeing the snow as well.



Reception children playing in the snow

Lastly, we received some new sports equipment like a basketball hoop which children have absolutely loved.

News from Year 4

It has been a very successful start to the new term in Year 4 and all of the staff have been very pleased with the efforts from all of the children. We have been looking at structures in our DT lessons, specifically looking at which shapes are the strongest and provide most stability. We are continuing with our swimming lessons this term; all of the children are doing an excellent job in these lessons and we are very proud of them.



News from Year 6

This term has been another busy one for year 6. As we get closer to our SATs in May, the children are working very hard across all of their subjects. We are very lucky to have some extra support from Ash, Mrs Whyatt and Ms Sessa who have been working with the children in English, Maths and Writing.

Some of our year 6's competed in a dodgeball competition and a football competition. Both were extremely successful with them winning the dodgeball competition and coming joint second in the football competition- well done Priory!!

We were also lucky enough to have Alexei Popyrin, a professional tennis player, visit and answer some of our questions. The children are now producing a story based on Alexei's next adventure!



Year 6 with Alexei Popyrin, a professional tennis player



DT lesson, Dexter is testing the structural strength of cylinders.

This term we are learning all about the Vikings and their impact on Britain. We will also be writing diary entries as Viking children. The children's enthusiasm for this new learning is incredible. We are very pleased with how hard the children are working on their Times Tables, ahead of the Multiplication Tables Check in June. Keep up this hard work!





Half-term holiday: Monday 27 - Friday 31 May 2024 – **school closed**

Monday 3 June - Friday 19 July 2024
- **school open**

Staff training days

The school will be closed to pupils on these days

Monday 4th Sept 2023

Friday 1st Dec 2023

Wednesday 3rd Jan 2024

Monday 15th April 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024



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Primary School

Term Dates

Spring term

Thursday 4 January - Friday 16 February 2024
– **school open**

Half-term holiday: Monday 19 - Friday 23
February 2024 – **school closed**

Monday 26 February - Thursday 28 March 2024
– **school open**

Easter holiday: Friday 29 March - Friday 12
April 2024 – **school closed**

Summer term

Tuesday 16 April - Friday 24 May 2024
– **school open**

(Monday 6 May is a Bank Holiday)
– **school closed**