

The Priory Press

7th March 2025



It has been a fantastic week of learning at Priory. World Book Day saw classes buddying up to share stories and staff moving around sharing favourite stories. We do hope you have had a look at our Facebook page to see images of the day.

Don't forget to use your voucher in local shops.



Pride of Priory

Last week the following children have been celebrated for their learning in class.

Britto – Belle and Amos
Hepworth – Ronnie and Rafe
Kusama – George S and Harry
Matisse – Seren and Rose
Ringgold – James and Ollie
Warhol – Henry and Cameron

This week the following children have been celebrated for their learning in class.

Britto – Amelia and Aveda
Hepworth – Leo M and Amelia
Kusama – Mason and Imogen
Matisse – Teddy and Angel
Ringgold – Poppy and Evie
Warhol – Harry C, Elijah and Teddy

Whole School Educational Visit

We are delighted to have booked a school trip for the whole school. On Monday 16th June, all pupils (and most the staff!) spend the day at the Chatham Green Wilderness Foundation Project. Our learning will be linked to different areas of the Science curriculum. More details to follow.....

News from the PTA

Today we have taken delivery of twelve wooden sleepers to rebuild the staggered seating in the garden.

We have also been delighted to have received a set of rechargeable Beebots and much needed art and craft supplies. Many thanks to all the members of the PTA for their hard work and donations from families.



Red Nose Day 2025

On Friday 21st March we are celebrating Red Nose Day – Children can wear some red. Please make a charitable donation via Just Giving [Click Here](#)



Meet a Governor



Tina Ring has been a member of the governing body since February 2021. She is currently responsible for Health & Safety, Music, Geography & GDPR. Tina lives in the village and you will likely see her walking her dog, Max, on Priory Fields.

Happy School Bag Collection

We are delighted to announce that our school will be holding a clothing collection with the Happy School Bag Fundraising Scheme on Monday 31st March & 1st of April- AM



Punctuality

Thank you everyone. This week has seen a huge improvement to our punctuality data as a school and more importantly, children are maximising their learning time. Well done to Warhol Class – you are the most punctual in the school.

**5 MINUTES
LATE PER DAY**
Adds up to 3 days
lost school time!





Spring DISCO

Friday 28th March

Reception, Years 1 & 2	16:30 - 17:30
Years 3 & 4	17:45 - 18:45
Years 5 & 6	19:00 - 20:00

£5 per Ticket

Sweets and Glowsticks sold seperately

**Entrance School Office Main Entrance
Pick-up Keystage 2 Gates**



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a 'Forwarded many times' label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – 'Secret Code' – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't reopen them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out. For example, however, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

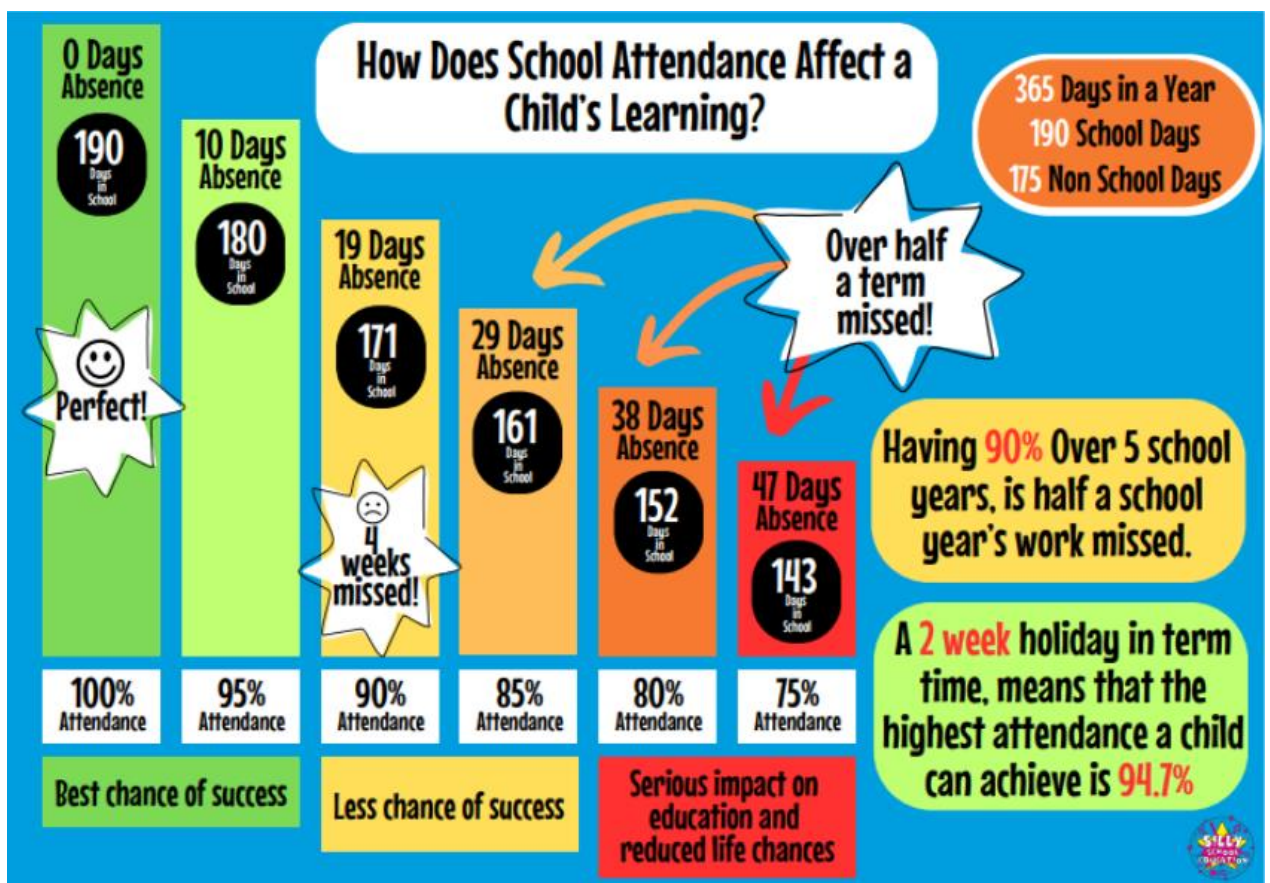
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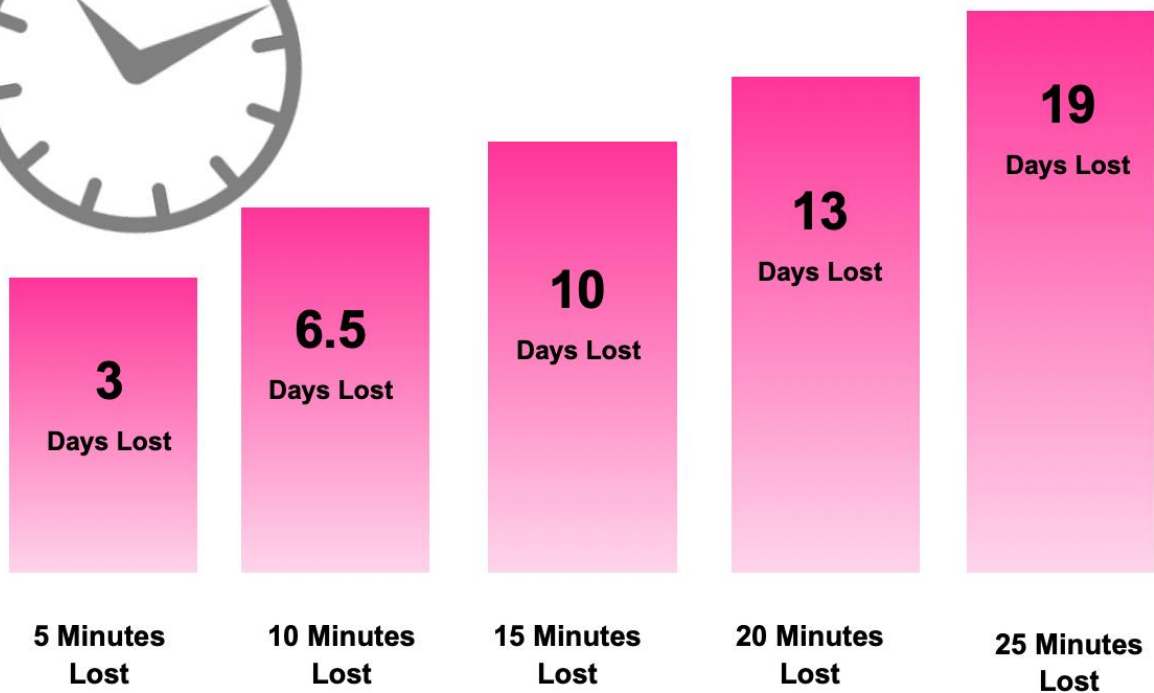
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@wake.up.weds

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... being in school, on time, every day, ready to learn.



Dates for your diary

- **13/03/2025** – Parent Online Workshop EBSA (Emotional Based School Avoidance)
- **21/03/2025** – Red Nose Day – Wear uniform and something red
- **24/03/2025-28/03/2025** – PTA Mother's / Carers Day Sale
- **28/03/2025** – PTA School Disco
- **31/03/2025- 01/04/2025(am)** – Happy School Bag collection
- **01/04/2025** – Class Photos
- **01/04/25 & 03/04/25** – Parent Consultation Evening
- **02/04/2025** – Year 3 Swimming starts (details to be sent shortly)
- **03/04/2025** - Parent Consultation Evening
- **04/04/2025** – Rocksteady Concert **2.15pm-3pm**
- **04/04/2025** – Last Day (School finishes at **3pm**)
- **07/04/2025-21/04/2025** – **HALF TERM**
- **22/04/2025** – **Inset Day / Non-Pupil day**
- **23/04/2025** – EYFS & KS1 Transport Workshop
- **12/05/2025-16/05/2025** – SATS Week
- **19/05/2025-23/05/2025** -Walk to school week
- **30/06/2025** – Year 2 Minigames
- **27/06/2025** – Summer Fair
- **09/07/2025** – Sports Day
- **11/07/2025** – Y6 Leavers Disco