

# The Priory Press

30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

As we move through the term, we continue to be proud of our pupils' hard work and the wonderful community spirit across our school. Your partnership makes a real difference, and we'd love to hear your thoughts. Please take a moment to complete our [Parent Survey](#)—your input helps shape our priorities and improvements. This will be open until **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**.

With warmest wishes, Ms Laver.

## Pride of Priory

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

Britto – Henry W

Hepworth – Hallie and Lydia

Kusama – Rafe and Phoebe

Matisse – Jackson and Oakley

Ringgold – Rose and James

Warhol – Sophia, Jack and James

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

Britto – Grayson and Alfie

Hepworth – Fred and Albie

Kusama – Callum and Anais

Matisse – Albie and Emily S

Ringgold – Riana and Ted

Warhol - Tate and Joshua

## Visit from Essex School Effective Partner



We were delighted to welcome Ceri Daniels, our School Effectiveness Partner from Essex, on a recent visit to Priory. Ceri was very complimentary about the purposeful learning environment across the school and commented on how wonderful it was to see pupils actively engaged in their learning.

She was particularly impressed with how confidently all children could talk about feeling ready, respectful and safe, and how these shared values are used throughout the day to support positive behaviour.

We are proud of the strengths she highlighted and will continue building on this positive feedback.

## Road Safety



On Tuesday, Reception and Year 5 took part in road safety sessions to help keep them safe and confident near roads.

Year 5 listened to a road safety talk, then took part in practical roadside training, learning vital skills for safe travel.

Reception parents & carers attended a short road safety talk with helpful tips for everyday journeys. They then enjoyed an interactive road safety session, learning through fun activities and discussion.

Thank you to Tara from Essex County Council for delivering the session and teaching the children to build safe habits on the roads!

### NSPCC NUMBER DAY



Next Friday, 6th February, we will be taking part in the NSPCC Number Day, joining schools across the country in celebrating the fun of maths while raising money for a fantastic cause. Throughout the day, children will enjoy a range of number-themed activities across the school.

We are inviting pupils to come to school in **non-uniform with a number** theme – this could be a favourite number on a T-shirt, numbers on accessories, or a creative number-inspired outfit. Please ensure numbers are included somewhere on their clothing.

If you wish to support the NSPCC, donations can be made via [Just Giving Page](#)

Thank you for helping us support this important charity while making maths fun!

### PTA Disco



Next Friday is also the school disco!

PTA School Disco - Friday 6th February  
£5 A ticket in advance or £6 on the door

- EYFS, Y1, 2 & 3 - 3.30pm - 4.30pm

- Years 4, 5 & 6 - 4.45pm - 5.45pm

Please could we reiterate the importance of children bringing any snack money in a purse/wallet or a named, sealed envelope to help avoid any loss of money.



## Potholes



Potholes along the throughfare between the bottom car park and the public top car park remain an ongoing concern for car users. As the bottom car park is jointly overseen by the school and the Parish Council, and the top car park is a public facility, the question of responsibility for repairs is complex. Our Governors continue to work positively with all partners to agree a fair and timely solution. We appreciate your patience as we navigate this situation.

## Reminder: Please Bring a Raincoat



As part of our commitment to outdoor learning and regular fresh-air breaks, we aim to go outside at lunchtime even if there is light drizzle.

Please ensure your child brings a raincoat to school each day so they can enjoy outdoor time comfortably and safely.

Fresh air and movement play an important role in supporting wellbeing

and learning—thank you for helping us make this possible!

A great 'window' into our school is our Facebook and Instagram pages. Please consider following us.

@prioryprimaryschoolbicknacre



## Attendance

*Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results. DfE*

**Attendance below 96% is a concern and is monitored by the school.**

Class attendance this week:

Britto – 91.2%  
Hepworth – 95.4%  
Kusama – 96.9%  
Matisse – 89.4%  
Ringgold – 95.9%  
Warhol – 88.9%

## Nut-Free / Tree Nut-Free School Policy

A friendly reminder that our school is a **no nut / no tree nut** environment.



For the safety of all students, **any type of nuts and tree nuts are not permitted on school grounds**. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Peanuts
- Tree nuts (such as almonds, walnuts, cashews, pistachios, hazelnuts)
- **Pine nuts**
- Any foods containing nuts or nut products (such as chocolate spreads, pesto spreads and etc.)

We ask that you carefully check ingredient labels on snacks, lunches, and treats sent to school.

## Support Our School – Every Contribution Counts!

You can now donate to Priory Primary School via ParentPay.

No amount is too small – every penny goes directly towards enriching pupil learning and enhancing educational experiences.

Thank you for your continued support.



## Thank you for Supporting Our School Through Our Amazon Wishlist!

Thank you to everyone who has purchased items from the school wish list. We are so pleased with the wonderful support we have received and very grateful the items when they arrive.

 Click here to view the wishlist:  
<https://amzn.eu/5PPZDjp>

Thank you for your continued support!



## Arbor – Parental Consent & Personal Details Update

We kindly ask all parents and guardians to log in to their **Arbor** account to review and update **personal details, medical information** and **parental consents** for their child(ren).

Keeping this information accurate is essential for ensuring we can communicate with you effectively and provide the best care and support for your child. It only takes a few minutes and helps us stay compliant with data protection and safeguarding requirements.

## **Term Time Holidays – Important Information for families**

We understand that travelling during term time is more affordable for families. However, please be aware that there is no legal entitlement for any pupils to take holidays during school time.

Under the School Attendance Regulations 2024, headteachers may only authorise absence in exceptional circumstances—and the desire for a holiday, at a less busy time, is not considered exceptional.

The Department for Education's national framework now requires schools to consider issuing a Penalty Notice after 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-week period. These sessions can include any unauthorised absence, including lateness.

### **◆ Penalty Notice fines:**

First offence: up to £160 per pupil, per parent (£80 if paid within 21 days)

Second offence (within 3 years): £160 per pupil, per parent

Please note: fines are issued and retained by Essex County Council, not the school.



## **Safer Internet Day – 10th February 2026**

We're pleased to be taking part in Safer Internet Day 2026 on Tuesday 10th February. This year's UK theme is "Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI."

Children across the school will explore how AI and smart technology can be used safely and responsibly, and learn the skills they need to make confident, informed choices online. The UK Safer Internet Centre provides free resources to help schools and families talk about topics such as voice assistants, chatbots, and the ethical use of AI.

We encourage families to get involved at home by discussing how children use technology and ways to stay safe online.



Families can also find a wide range of advice and support through the Essex Safeguarding Children Board, which offers guidance on online safety, apps, gaming, social media, and how to report concerns. Their online safety section includes resources for parents, carers, young people and professionals.



# Dates for your diary

- **6<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Number Day - Non-uniform with a number theme
- **6<sup>th</sup> Feb** – PTA Disco
- **9<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Y3 DT Helping Hands –Y3 Parents/Grandparents welcome to help 9am
- **10<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Safer Internet Day
- **10<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Open Afternoon (tbc) 3pm – 4pm
- **11<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Y4 Superstars
- **12<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Y3 & Y4 Parents Multiplication Workshop 9am – 9:40am
- **16<sup>th</sup> Feb -20<sup>th</sup> Feb** – **HALF TERM**
- **23<sup>rd</sup> Feb** – Pupils Return
- **24<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Teddy Lympics (info to be sent)
- **5<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day
- **13<sup>th</sup> March** – Y3/4 Viking Day
- **18<sup>th</sup> March** -KS2 Cross Country Event (info to be sent) 3:30 – 5pm
- **20<sup>th</sup> March** – Red Nose Day – Crazy Uniform Day
- **20<sup>th</sup> March** – Rocksteady Concert 2:20pm – 3:15pm
- **24<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent Consultation Evening
- **26<sup>th</sup> March** - Parent Consultation Evening
- **27<sup>th</sup> March** – **Last Day**
- **30<sup>th</sup> March -13<sup>th</sup> April** – Easter Break / Inset Day
- **14<sup>th</sup> April** – Pupils Return
- **21<sup>st</sup> April** – Group Class Photos
- **22<sup>nd</sup> April** – Earth Day – Recycling Fashion Show (info to be sent)

