

Priority Newsletter

February 2014

Did you know....just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the school receives extra money?

If you are in receipt of certain benefits your child may be eligible for Free School Meals. For more information please enquire at the school office, call the Free School Meals Team on 01782 236813 or visit the Stoke on Trent City Council website: <http://www.stoke.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/education/schools-and-nurseries/school-meals/> Please note that all enquiries are confidential, but if you would prefer a private discussion with our School Business Manager, please call the office on 01782 233 585.

Late Gate

Our Education Welfare Officer visited school on Friday 31st January to monitor the number of children arriving late to school. We had 7 children arriving late on the day. Over the whole week, there were 22 late arrivals. We will continue to monitor late arrivals and hope that you will support us in trying to reduce these numbers. Our school day begins at 8:50am for years Reception to Y6 and 8:55am for the Nursery. Children arriving after these times will incur a late mark. Please make every effort to arrive on time.

Uniform

Puddle Suits for Nursery and Reception Children

The development of our outside area was highlighted as a priority by Ofsted in their inspection last year and the children have access to these areas on a daily basis. We are unable to limit this access. Please can all children in Nursery and Reception have a pair of *wellies* and a *puddle suit* in school at all times. These must be named and will be kept in a bag on your child's peg. *Puddle suits are available from a range of shops including Tesco Direct, Asda, Primark and a range of outdoor stores such as Trespass. They can also be found online at Amazon and eBay.*

Winter Footwear

If your child comes to school in wellies or boots during the winter months, please ensure they bring suitable **shoes** to change into at school.

Safety First!

Scooters and Bicycles

If your child rides a scooter or bicycle to or from school, may we please ask that they do not ride them whilst on school premises. Please ensure that your child alights at the gate and walks with their scooter/bike to the shed and refrains from riding until they have left the premises at the end of the day.

Dogs

We have noticed that some parents are still bringing their dogs onto school premises and even leaving dogs unattended just outside the school gates. Several children have been seen stroking dogs which have been tied to the school fence. Please urge your children not to approach unattended dogs and may we please remind you that dogs should not be brought onto the school grounds. Anyone bringing a dog to school must remain with it at all times **outside the school gates**.

Snow Procedures

In the event of snow we will take into account **EACH DAY** the severity of weather conditions and number of staff who are able to travel to school safely. If we do decide to close we will inform **Signal Radio AND Radio Stoke** by 8am **ON THE DAY**. If possible we will send out text messages confirming closure but please **DO NOT** rely on this service as last year some messages did not reach parents due to high volumes of texts being sent. You may also check the Stoke on Trent School Closures Notification website:

<http://public.klp.rm.com/establishments/8610000/SchoolClosureNotification/Pages/default.aspx>

We will always aim to keep closures due to bad weather to an absolute minimum. Please do not assume that school will be closed in the event of snow, even if it was closed on the previous day.

Headlice

We have had several classes with recent outbreaks of headlice. If you would like advice on dealing with and preventing headlice, please refer to our First Aid Policy on the school website: http://www.prioryceprimary.org.uk/?page_id=11 Alternatively, one of our parents has kindly set up a Facebook page offering advice to parents on effectively dealing with headlice. Please feel free to visit her page:

<HTTPS://www.facebook.com/pages/Lets-eradicate-NITS/542087589207395?ref=hl>

Key Stage 2 Break Snacks

Children in Key Stage 2 are able to purchase snacks at morning break time. The following are available for a small cost:

Toast	25p	Fresh Fruit	30p	Milk	20p
Crumpet	30p	Tea Cake	30p	Fruit Juice	sm. 25p / lg.30p

Please ensure that money for break snacks is sent in a clearly named purse.

Fundraising

Cancer Research

Thank-you to everyone who sent in donations on our recent non-uniform day. A total of £360.40 was raised for Cancer Research Below is a note of thanks from Emma Phillips:

I would just like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you. Fridays non uniform day raised an absolutely staggering £360.40. I'm totally overwhelmed by the support I've received not just for the donations, but also the words of support and messages I've received as well. These are the things that keep me going on tough training sessions, and will no doubt give me the strength and determination to run 26.1 miles in 7 weeks time. If anyone would like to follow my progress then please feel free to browse my Just Giving page at www.justgiving.com/EmmaPhillips1978where I update regularly. Once again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Sainsburys Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers again this year. There is a collection box for the children to post their vouchers in the main entrance hall outside the school office.

Food Bank

Our school is a Rights Respecting School and we would like your help to support a worthy cause. By donating food to the Stoke-On-Trent Food Bank we will be giving people who are less fortunate than ourselves the chance to be safe and healthy. In promoting our values, TOGETHER, please help Priory to help others. All donations will be generously thanked and gratefully received. Each Year group has been allocated a week when they can donate foods:

Year 6	w/c 24 th February	Year 5	w/c 3 rd March
Year 4	w/c 10 th March	Year 3	w/c 17 th March
Year 2	w/c 24 th March	Year 1	w/c 31 st March
Reception and Nursery	w/c 7 th April		

Nursery and Reception Outdoor and Creative Areas

We are appealing for donations of the following items to help with the improvements to our Nursery and Reception outdoor and creative areas:

Pots and pans, wooden or metal spoons / Washing up bowls, plastic jugs, sieves, spoons, / Pestles and mortars and even potato ricers! / Baking tins / Tyres / Plastic crates / Wooden pallets / Plastic bottles (cleaned) / Plastic shelving / Plastic drawers and plastic vegetable baskets / Buckets for water play / Plastic planters which we can turn into instruments / Unwanted garden furniture / Floristry ribbon

If you are able to help with any of the above, please bring them in to school as soon as possible.

Year 6 Enterprise

In order to raise funds for their prom, Year 6 will be selling refreshments and bookmarks at the book fair during parents evening on Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th February.

Diary Dates:

Half Term	Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st February
Parents Evening 5-8pm	Tuesday 25 th February
Y6 Enterprise & Book Fair During Parents Evening 5-8pm	Tuesday 25 th February
Parents Evening 4-6pm	Wednesday 26 th February
Y6 Enterprise & Book Fair During Parents Evening 4-6pm	Wednesday 26 th February
Mock SATS and Whole School Assessment Week	Monday 17 th to Friday 21 st March
Easter Church Service for Pupils	Tuesday 9 th April
End of Term	Friday 11 th April
European Elections (school closed to pupils)	Thursday 22 nd May