



5th July 2024

St Mary's Priory Catholic Infant and Junior Schools'

School Newsletter

'Love one another; Always do our best; Take care of ourselves and the world around us'

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an action-packed week filled with excitement and learning!

Our Sports Week was a smashing success, featuring a visit from basketball player Joe Hart and fun sports days for each class, where parents enthusiastically participated. I'm sure you'll join me in thanking Mrs. Murphy and the PE coaches for organising and hosting the fantastic sports day activities. It was wonderful to see our pupils have FUN whilst showcasing their gifts and talents in the various sporting events.

Year 6 began their Bikeability course, mastering essential safety skills and completing challenging drills. This important program, which teaches pupils how to ride their bikes safely and confidently, will continue the following week, ensuring our Year 6 pupils are well-prepared for cycling on the roads.

We also enjoyed the wonderful company of parents joining us for lunch again this week, fostering a sense of community and giving parents a glimpse into their children's school day.

This week has truly been a fantastic blend of activity, learning, and community spirit!

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Have a lovely weekend.

Warm regards,

Ms Joseph

Deputy Headteacher

Attendance winners!	
Infant School:	Junior School:
Woodpeckers 100%	3C 99.38%
Punctuality winners!	
Dove 2 lates	4B & 5D 2 lates

School calendar:

When:	What:	Who:	Where:	Time:
Summer 2 half term	Come dine with us! See Timetable on the next page!	All parents		11.30am
11th July	French Day- non-uniform day (dress in red, white and blue!)			
15th July	Year 6 party	Year 6 pupils	School	5-7pm
17th July (provisional date)	Year 6 mass	Year 6 pupils and parents	School	5pm
18th July	Reception Celebration	Reception parents	Hall	9am
18th July	New Reception (2024.25) Parent meeting	Parents and children starting in Reception in September	Reception	11am





Dear parents and carers,

We would like to invite you to 'come dine with us'!

What you need to do:

Complete this form by the sign up deadlines (see below) stating that you would like to eat lunch with your child:

<https://forms.gle/YAd1KdnJHBnz7Se67>

Cost: £3 which will be added to your child's Arbor account for you to pay after the meal

Arrive to the school office at 11.25am.

When:	Class	Where:	Time:	Sign up deadline
4th June	Penguin Class	Hall	11.30am	24th May
5th June	Owl Class	Hall	11.30am	24th May
10th June	Dove Class	Hall	11.30am	3rd June
11th June	Woodpecker Class	Hall	11.30am	3rd June
12th June	3C	Hall	11.30am	3rd June
13th June	3M	Hall	11.30am	3rd June
19th June	4B	Hall	11.30am	10th June
20th June	Robin Class	Hall	11.30am	10th June
25th June	5D	Hall	11.30am	17th June
26th June	6J	Hall	11.30am	17th June
3rd July	6B	Hall	11.30am	24th June
4th July	5S	Hall	11.30am	24th June
16th July	Nursery	Hall	11.30am	1st July



Stars of the Week



Owl Class	Grace	Sabaobthe
Penguin Class	Leon	Daniel
Robin Class	Szymon	Marlene
Woodpecker Class	Ava-Marie	Ignacy
Dove Class	Aron	Josselyn
3C	Kevin	Kuzey
3M	Pa-Biram	Toprak
4B	Joshua	Caleb
5D	Chloe	Isabella
5S	Rayan	Shammah
6B	Joshua	Valentina
6J	D'Naiezha	Maja

Congratulations to our Stars of the week!
These pupils have worked exceptionally hard
to stand out amongst their peers. Well done
everyone!



Sports Week



A message from Mrs Murphy...

What a wonderful and eventful 'Sports Week 2024' the whole school had! We started off, on Monday afternoon, with an inspirational visit from professional basketball player Joe Hart. He spoke to the children about his journey to being a professional sportsman and then completed a fitness workout with every single child from Nursery to Year 6. **All the children worked out really hard and managed to raise over £500 for Sports Champions UK.**

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, all of the children took part in their own Sports Days and what an impressive display of athletics from everyone. It was great to see all the children excel in the various different events especially the Tug Of War...I don't know who enjoyed it more, the children or parents!

Sports Week 2024 was finished with a skipping workshop for the whole school. It was great to see each class getting active and learning new skills. I want to congratulate all of the children and I want to say well done to this year's Sports Day winners, **St Therese**. Lastly, a big **Thank You** to all of the parents and carers who came along to support the children throughout the week.



This week at SMP...

Year 6 pupils engaged in an exciting geography lesson, exploring the boundaries of Great Britain through detailed map work.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

PROMOTING PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Physical activity isn't only beneficial for our bodies; it also plays a role in promoting mental wellbeing. With both the Euros and the Olympics this summer, it's an opportunity to engage young people in regular exercise which can reduce stress, improve mood and boost self-esteem. Despite these benefits, many children face barriers to participating in physical activity.

1 MAKE IT FUN

Incorporate activities that children enjoy, such as playing games or dancing. Encourage participation in team sports or group activities to foster social connections and a sense of belonging.

2 MIX MOVEMENT WITH LEARNING

Educational settings can incorporate movement breaks and physical activities to enhance focus, concentration and cognitive function. Embedding exercise into the curriculum can also reinforce learning and stimulate creativity. 'Revision walks' with podcasts and flashcards can benefit older learners.

3 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

Provide clear chances for physical activity throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. Schools can encourage active play during breaks and at lunchtimes, while limiting screen time at home can help keep children up and about.

4 PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

Praise and encourage children for their efforts and achievements in physical activity. Recognise their progress and celebrate their successes to reinforce positive behaviours. Educators could do this in several ways, such as applauding their efforts at assemblies or celebrating their accomplishments in newsletters.

5 VARIETY IS KEY

Introduce a selection of physical activities to keep children engaged and prevent boredom. From swimming and cycling to yoga and martial arts, trying different types of exercise can help children to discover what they enjoy most.

6 ENJOYMENT OVER COMPETITION

Encourage children to focus on the enjoyment of physical activity rather than winning or achieving perfection. Emphasise effort, improvement and having fun rather than outcomes, to minimise the amount of stress that children can sometimes associate with sports and other competitions.

7 SET REALISTIC GOALS

Help children set achievable physical activity targets based on their interests, abilities and preferences. Celebrate their progress and successes to maintain motivation and enthusiasm.

8 MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE

Ensure that children have access to safe, suitable spaces for exercise at home, at school and in the community. Advocate for inclusive environments which accommodate diverse needs and abilities. Be a change maker in your community if facilities aren't already available.

9 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Parents and carers can be positive role models by prioritising their own exercise and involving children in their fitness routines. Gentle walks, bike rides or sports activities can be wonderful opportunities for bonding and staying active together.

10 ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE

Help children develop resilience and perseverance by encouraging them to overcome challenges and setbacks in physical activity. Teach them the importance of perseverance and the value of effort in achieving their goals.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is a learning and development specialist who, as well as working for Minds Ahead, is associate vice principal for personal development at a large secondary school in Barnsley. He was asked to be part of an expert research group for the Department for Education, one of only three school leaders to be asked to do so.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Our Gifts and Talents

Heavenly Father,

We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the gifts and talents You have bestowed upon us. Each of these abilities is a reflection of Your boundless love and generosity, and we thank You for entrusting them to us.

Lord, help us to recognise and appreciate these gifts, knowing that they are meant to be used for Your glory and the good of others. Grant us the wisdom and courage to develop and share our talents, so that we may contribute to the building of Your Kingdom on earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.