

Diary Dates

It was great to see our footballers compete on Wednesday of this week against a dozen or so local school teams at Eastwood FC. My thanks to Mr Cannon for organising the team and to Mr McDaid for helping. Overall, The Priory came second – with winning lots of games and drawing two. The team did not lose and played with great spirit and enthusiasm. Well done to: Alex Hudson; Blake Shaw; Vincent Lopinto-Worrall; Oscar Robinson; Zain Ali-Jackson; Owen Green; Alfie Yallop; and, Liam Dixon.

October 2021

Friday 1st: Mr Brogan (Headteacher at Saint John Houghton) is visiting Year 6 pupils today as part of our transition programme with our partner secondary school. Celebration awards presented in individual classes today.

Friday 8th: Celebration awards presented in individual classes today.

Monday 11th: (IEP Review Week) your child's Classteacher will contact you this week to make an appointment to see you regarding their IEP work.

Monday 18th: (Parents' Consultation Week) your child's Classteacher will contact you this week to make an appointment to meet with you. These meetings may take place over zoom or physically in school – as children's work will be available for you to see. Two days have been set aside.

Wednesday 20th: Parents' Consultations – these may be conducted electronically

Thursday 21st: Parents' Consultations – these may be conducted electronically

Friday 22nd @ 9.15am: Mass at church to celebrate Harvest – please send donations of tins and dried food which will go to Eastwood Food Bank.
Break up for half-term – school open again on Monday 1st November

Due to the virus being on the rise in school, our parent consultations may be conducted electronically, over zoom or Microsoft teams. Will we update you in good time if this changes.

There will be no celebration assemblies taking place whereby parents can attend this side of half-term. We will hopefully be in a position to invite parents back into school in November.

November 2021

Monday 1st: All Saints Mass at church – starting at 9.15am

Food for thought: "It's the first day of autumn! A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallow evenings, and, best of all, leaping into leaves!" (Winnie the Pooh; Pooh's Grand Adventure)

God bless – Anthony Harrison

The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy



Newsletter

October 2021

Dear Parents, thank you yet again for your help and support as we journey together towards a full and normal return for our school community. There are still challenges and hurdles to overcome as we enter into autumn.

Sharp rise in cases – mostly amongst pupils: These are the measures being undertaken in school in response to a sudden sharp rise in COVID19 cases:

- We are now reverting to class bubbles as case rates rise - so that pupils must work, play and eat together until further notice.
- Mrs Bradley has adjusted the hall and lunch times accordingly.
- Each Friday, certificates will be awarded in classrooms.
- Mr Holmes has undertaken additional cleaning of specific classrooms and work areas; he will do the same each week in our battle against this sudden spike in cases at school.
- Mr Holmes continues to ensure that all hand sanitizers are filled – classteachers and TAs continue to teach and build in time for pupils to wash and sanitize their hands.
- Windows and doors will continue to be open to allow for increased ventilation.
- Parents are no longer allowed into the school building – volunteers may continue; if they wish, they can wear a face covering as can anybody working in school if they wish to.
- Harvest Mass is now postponed until Friday 22nd October and assemblies are also postponed in their current form.

Thank you one and all for your continued support and commitment. We are constantly reviewing these procedures – once we assess that it is safe to return to normal practices, we will email out to let you know about parents being allowed back into the school building in order to join us for assemblies and coming into school to meet with members of staff.

Risk Assessment Update of Advice for all families: I sent a very detailed update of our risk assessment measures in my last newsletter. Please read the September edition for this update. If you or your child tests positive or is unwell and you are unsure of next steps, then please email your queries through to us at school – or phone Miss Cottrell in the school office.

Talk Homework and our Statements to live by: Next week's statement is: **Live simply, like a child, to enjoy and enter God's Kingdom**

Other statements to be explored up to October half-term and beyond are:

Mon 11th Oct: **Live simply – share your gifts to inherit the Kingdom of God**

Monday 18th October: **Live simply – serve others to inherit God's Kingdom**

Monday 1st November: **Love your neighbour as yourself**

Monday 8th November: **I know I am happiest when I act to please God**

Mass Times in our parish: Our Lady of Good Counsel Eastwood –Saturday 5.30pm and Sunday 10.15am. Furthermore, our next whole school Mass will take place on Friday 1st October to celebrate Harvest. Please send in donations for the poor and needy of tinned and dry food next week.

Staffing: I would like to acknowledge the hard work and resilience shown by Mrs Scrimshaw – who helps run our Breakfast Club. As you may be aware, Mrs Scrimshaw has been absent from school as she has been fighting cancer. I have wonderful news to report – her latest round of operations has been hugely successful. We hope to see her back in school serving breakfast at some point in the coming months – we wish Mrs Scrimshaw all the best as she continues her journey to full health. In the meantime, Mrs Judd is sadly leaving us after years of help and support – as a cleaner, and as a member of the breakfast club team. We wish her well as she leaves to spend time looking after her granddaughter. Congratulations again to Miss Ocean Bradley who has joined Mr Holmes as part of our cleaning team. Not to confuse the children in school – but we now have Miss Bradley (part of the cleaning team) and Mrs Bradley – our school cook. Finally, please also remember Mrs Williams who is on maternity leave from school, with her beautiful baby girl. Mrs Williams is due to return sometime next year as the Classteacher in Year 4.

Vacancies: If you – or you know of anybody who is a TA and is looking for a job – then please do consider the roles that are currently being advertised for us by the Academy Trust. Further information is provided here – for all four roles. Do pass this information on to friends and family members.

Job adverts: If you wish to find out more about our vacancies – and go straight from the academy trust website, then the link is as follows: [Teaching Assistant x3 - The Priory Catholic Voluntary Academy | St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust \(srscmat.co.uk\)](https://www.srscmat.co.uk)

Otherwise, a summary of each position is offered on this page. In addition, if you experience any difficulties in downloading these documents, then Miss Cottrell (in the school office) will be only too glad to help and advise you accordingly. She can be contacted in the morning at the school office – or by phoning or emailing: office@priory-pri.notts.sch.uk

Post 1: Teaching Assistant – 28 hours per week, 39 weeks per year – Full time equivalent £19,698 - £20,903 per annum. Part time equivalent £12,799.60 - £13,582.60 per annum. This is a permanent position.

The ideal candidate for this post will have experience of working in the classroom with SEND pupils and have a good understanding of the complex needs of some pupils within the EYFS setting. Duties will include supporting pupils' learning activities, working mostly with individuals and small groups. In addition, you will be expected to contribute to the achievement of pupils by encouraging learning and positive behaviour in the classroom and across the school. The successful candidate will assist the Class teacher(s) to plan, differentiate and prepare intervention strategies in line with individual education plans to improve learning for specific pupils and to monitor progress against their targets. They will then plan and implement further strategies as required.

Post 2: Teaching Assistant – 30 hours per week, 39 weeks per year – Full time equivalent £19,698 to £20,903 per annum. Part time equivalent £13,713.86 - £14,552.79 per annum. This is a permanent position.

The ideal candidate for this post will have experience of working in the classroom with SEND pupils and have a good understanding of the complex needs of some pupils within the Key Stage 1 and EYFS setting. Duties are the same as in Post 1, however, in addition, you will be expected to contribute to the achievement of named SEND pupils across the Key Stage and in the EYFS setting.

Post 3: Teaching Assistant – 25 hours per week, 39 weeks per year – Full time equivalent £19,698 to £20,903 per annum. Part time equivalent £11,428.22 - £12,127.33 per annum. This is a fixed term post and will end when either the funding from the LA stops or the pupil leaves the school. The main duties within the role will be:

- Supporting a child with Autistic Spectrum Difficulties (ASD) through 1:1 support
- Helping the child progress academically through targeted support in class
- Following the child's individual targets in line with their Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Delivering bespoke intervention programmes around Speech, Language and Communication, Structured teaching approaches, phonics, numeracy and social skills.
- Assisting the class teacher with the delivery of maths and English session

The school are looking to accept applications from people with:

- A teaching assistant qualification or relevant degree
- At least one years' experience working with children
- An understanding of working with pupils with additional needs
- Reliability, excellent attendance and punctuality records
- The ability to act as a positive role model to pupils across the school
- An understanding of the primary school curriculum

Post 4: Breakfast Club Assistant - Grade/SCP: Band 2, SCP 3-5

Salary: Full time Equivalent - £18,562 - £19,312 per annum.

Part time actual salary – £2,692.29 - £2,801.07 per annum.

Hours: 6.25 hours per week, 39 weeks per year.

Contract: Permanent The main duties and responsibilities are:

- Have a flexible response to the school's needs – and work as part of the whole staff team, supporting the school's Catholic ethos, vision, aims and mission.
- Serve breakfast to pupils ensuring their conduct and behaviour is of the high standards expected in the school –maintaining good order and discipline in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- Undertake food preparation, ensuring appropriate hygiene standards are met; helping to maintain eating and food preparation areas.
- Help to supervise pupils in the area in which they eat their breakfast, being aware of safety and security at all times.
- Keep abreast of specific dietary needs for some named children and ensure that these needs are met.
- Administer basic first aid to pupils if required to do so.
- Carry out other such duties as may be required from time to time.

Timescale: The above Teaching Assistant Roles have a closing date of Thursday 14th October. The governing body is looking to conduct interviews by the end of the last week before half-term. Shortlisting results will be communicated to applicants by Friday 15th October. The Breakfast Club position is advertised for one week earlier. However, as the school has so far had limited interest in this post, then governors are free to extend the closing date to the same time as the three TA positions. If this is the case, a message will be sent out to you to confirm that this post will run alongside the same timescales as the other posts. Governors hope to be in a position to employ new people to our team – so that all new personnel start here at school on Monday 1st November 2021.

Governor Vacancy: Finally, if you feel that you would like to be part of our team in a different capacity, then you could consider joining our governing body. This vacancy has arisen due to the resignation of Mr Richard Sherratt who had served on the board for eight good years – overseeing three Ofsted inspections and supporting the school to improve in all aspects. We wish Mr Sherratt and his family all our best wishes as they locate to another area and school within Nottinghamshire. They are already missed by our school community.

In light of Mr Sherratt's resignation, if you would like to stand for election please read the information below – ***“Could you become a Parent Governor?”*** If you think so, please complete and return the attached form to the school office by 12.00 noon on Tuesday 2nd November. Another parent/carer of a child at the school must sign the form in support of you. If you are successfully elected/appointed to become a parent governor you will be required to undergo an DBS check prior to your appointment being confirmed. Check that you are eligible by reading the information contained in the Declaration of Eligibility Form.

The Declaration of Eligibility form requires two signatures from yourself, one in Section A and one in Section B. By signing the form, you will have agreed that you have read the declaration and have agreed to undergo an enhanced DBS check.

Section C is for verifying proof of identity.

Only the reasons stated on the eligibility form determine your suitability to become a governor. Minor offences, not listed on the eligibility form, may not necessarily affect your eligibility to become a school governor. The school will confirm new appointments once this check has been completed and send out welcome packs to new governors. If the school receives only one nomination, then that person will be elected. Only parents/carers of children registered at the school are entitled to stand or vote in the election. Each parent/carer will be sent one ballot paper regardless of how many children they have at the school, and each parent/carer will have **one vote per vacancy**. The ballot will be secret and you will be notified of the result as soon as possible afterwards.

If you would like to be nominated to be a parent governor, you need to:

- Complete the nomination form obtained from the school office;
- Have your nomination seconded by a parent who is eligible to vote in the election;
- Include a few details about yourself and why you would like to become a governor,
- Not exceed 100 words (on the Nomination Form);
- Ensure your nomination is received at the school by 12.00 noon on Tuesday 2nd November 2021.

It may be delivered by hand, sent with your child, or by first class post; and should be sealed in an envelope marked: 'Nomination for Parent Governor'. ***Please mark it for the attention of Miss Cottrell.***

May I take this opportunity to thank you for considering this most important of positions at school. Please do think seriously about putting in your application – or even initially spending some time speaking with myself or another school governor about the time and commitments of undertaking this role.

If you have any questions about whether or not you are eligible to stand or vote in the election or about anything else contained within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me or another governor via Miss Cottrell in the school office.

Declaration of Eligibility to Serve as a School Governor

The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003 state the eligibility criteria for school governors; (Schedule 6).

In order to serve as a governor, you **MUST**:

- be aged 18 or over (at date of election or appointment)
(Age limit does not apply to an associate member of the Governing Body)

You **MUST NOT**:

- Be an un-discharged bankrupt
- Have a mental disorder and are liable to be detained under the Mental Health Act 1983
- Have in the previous 5 years (or since becoming a governor) been sentenced to 3 months or more in prison (whether this was suspended or not) without the option of a fine (in the UK or elsewhere*)
- Be a person who has at any time been convicted of any offence and has had passed a sentence of imprisonment for a period of not less than five years;
- Have within the last 20 years, been convicted (in the UK or elsewhere*) and received a prison sentence (whether suspended or not) of 2½ years or more
- Have been convicted and fined within the last 5 years under Section 547 of the Education Act 1996 (nuisance and disturbance on education premises) of an offence which took place on educational premises or other educational facilities provided under Section 508 of the Act (for example, Outdoor Education Establishments)
- Have been disqualified within the past 12 months for failing to attend Governing Body meetings for a continuous period of 6 months without the consent of the Governing Body
- Have been adjudged bankrupt or have arranged with creditors which has not yet been discharged
- Have been subject to: The Education Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986: Amendments to Disqualification Provisions (England) Regulations 2004:

Amendments to Disqualification Provisions (England) Regulations 2004:

- (a) A disqualification order or disqualification undertaking the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986
- (b) A disqualification order under Part 2 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1989
- (c) A disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, or
- (d) An order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under county court administration order).
- (e) As of 28 January 2005, this exclusion has been extended to people who have given a disqualification 'undertaking' not to act as a company director. These amendments close a loophole created by changes made to the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 by the Insolvency Act 2000 and the Insolvency Act 2000 (Company Directors' Disqualification Undertakings) Order 2004

- Have been removed from a charity trusteeship by the Charity Commission or High Court on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement, or under Section 7 of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990 from being concerned in the management or control of any body
- Be included on the DfES's DBS List (List 99) which prohibits or restricts teachers or other people from working with children or young people
- Refuse to an application being made to the Criminal Records Bureau for a criminal records certificate
- Have been disqualified by the Secretary of State from being the proprietor of an independent school or teacher or other employee in any school or academy
- Have been disqualified from being a teacher or other employee in any type of school
- Be the Clerk to your own Governing Body
- Already hold a governorship in the same school/academy