

# PRIORY COMMON SCHOOL

## SUMMER 1 NEWSLETTER 2025

We take **Pride**, we **Care**, we are **Successful**

### Message from Head of School

Dear Priory Common School community,

What a whirlwind these past five weeks have been! Despite the brevity of this half term, punctuated by two Bank Holidays, we've managed to pack in a remarkable array of activities and achievements.

I'm thrilled to share that construction has begun on our new Autism Spectrum Condition Unit. This exciting development marks a significant step forward in our commitment to inclusive education, and we eagerly anticipate its grand opening in the next academic year. It's a testament to our school's dedication to supporting all pupils, within Milton Keynes, and their diverse needs.

Your generosity never ceases to amaze me. Through the Active Kids charity event, our community raised an astounding £935! This remarkable sum will be split, with 40% supporting the charity's vital work and the remaining 60% being reinvested directly into our school, benefiting our wonderful children. Your support truly makes a difference, and I couldn't be prouder of our collective effort.

The VE Day celebrations were a resounding success, and I was delighted to see so many families and friends join us for the afternoon. Your presence made the event truly special, creating a warm atmosphere of community and remembrance. These moments of coming together are what make our school community so strong and vibrant.

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events on the horizon. This Thursday, we have the honour of welcoming a Paralympian to our school. They'll be working with all our pupils and delivering an inspirational assembly, which I'm sure will be a memorable experience for everyone. Additionally, our children will be participating in a Mini-marathon – an excellent opportunity for them to challenge themselves and promote physical wellbeing.

As we approach the next half term, our calendar is brimming with activities and important dates. I encourage you to carefully review the dates provided at the end of this Newsletter to ensure you don't miss out on any upcoming events.

In closing, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and engagement. It's your involvement that makes Priory Common School such a special place.



As we move forward, let's continue to work together, celebrate our achievements, and create even more wonderful memories for our children.

Here's to another exciting chapter in our school's journey!



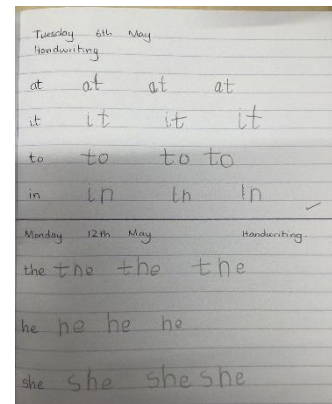
With warmest regards,  
Gill Cash  
Head of School

## Improving the Quality of Education

As we begin to reflect on a wonderful year of learning we wanted to take a moment to celebrate the incredible writing your children have produced in class. From imaginative stories to factual reports, our young authors have been busy building confidence, creativity, and core writing skills in the classroom.



Our Reception children have been working hard on their muscle development for correct letter formation. Through fine motor activities, handwriting practice and plenty of opportunities to write, the children have been learning how to hold a pencil with control and comfort, form letters correctly and consistently and write neatly on the line with appropriate spacing. These foundational skills set the stage for confident and legible writing in all subjects.



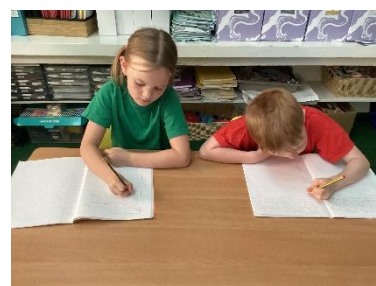
Our Year 1 writers have focused on developing the essential building blocks of writing that will support their communication skills for years to come. Throughout the year, they have consolidated their understanding of basic sentence structure and learnt to write complete sentences that start with capital letters and end with a full stop. As writers, they have also focussed on practising the spelling of high-frequency and tricky words to enable them to write more fluently and independently. Their writing journey this year has also seen them explore how nouns, verbs, adjectives and punctuation work together to make writing clear and interesting



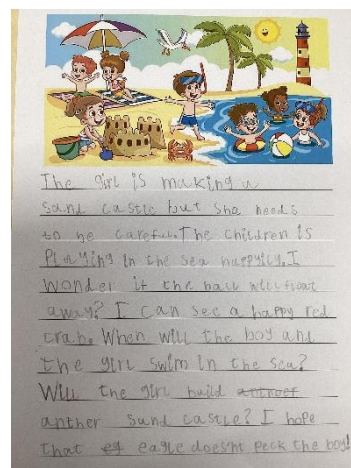




One of our big focuses this year for our Year 2 children has been developing their writing stamina and encouraging the children to write for longer periods with growing independence and focus. This has helped them to



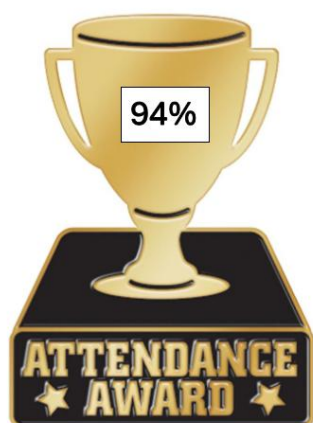
express more detailed ideas and build confidence in their writing abilities. It has been wonderful to see the level of excitement from all children when tasked each week with their own 'free write' session, giving them license to write about subjects of their own choosing! We have certainly seen our Year 2 authors flourish in these sessions. Another vital skill the children have been learning to implement is the ability to self-edit their written work. The children have been taught how to re-read their writing for clarity and sense, check the accuracy of punctuation, spelling, and grammar and make simple improvements to their work independently. All of this helps them take pride in their writing and see themselves as capable, thoughtful authors.



Through our writing curriculum, your children have developed and embedded a wide range of new skills that will support them well into the future and your encouragement at home, from practising handwriting to listening to story ideas has made a huge impact. Thank you for helping us make this a successful and creative year of writing.

Thank you for your continued support in nurturing our young writers. For those eager to learn more about our Writing Curriculum, I encourage you to explore our Writing overview, [here](#), where you'll find a more detailed look at the learning journey our pupils are on.

## Behaviours and Attitudes



I'm delighted to share some wonderful news about our school's attendance. Thanks to your incredible support and commitment, we've seen a significant improvement in our overall attendance figures. Since the end of the Spring Term, our attendance figure has continued to rise and is now 94%. We're inching closer to our goal of 95%, and I'm confident that with your continued cooperation, we'll achieve this milestone soon.

I'm particularly proud of our Year 2 and Reception pupils, who are leading the way with an outstanding 95.2% attendance rate. Your dedication is truly commendable! Year 1 parents, I'm pleased to

report that your children's attendance remains above 90%, currently at 90.8%. Let's work together to boost this figure even further.

Remember, regular attendance is crucial for your child's learning, wellbeing, and overall development. Every day at school counts, providing opportunities for growth and new experiences. Thank you all for your ongoing support in making Priory Common School a place where pupils thrive. Let's keep this positive momentum going and ensure every child has the best possible start to their educational journey.

## Personal Development



### SUMMER TERM 1 2025 – April & May 2025

Whole School	Assemblies	Class Based
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Newsround – daily</li> <li>❖ Values – love</li> <li>❖ Makaton signs – sit, louder, Hedgehogs, Squirrels, Badgers, stand</li> <li>❖ Healthy me</li> <li>❖ Faith day – Judaism</li> <li>❖ Listening calendar – Escape into a world of music</li> <li>❖ VE day celebrations</li> <li>❖ Sewing and weaving club</li> <li>❖ Singing and signing club</li> <li>❖ Geography – maps and directions club</li> <li>❖ Mini-marathon</li> <li>❖ Charity – Active Kids UK</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Weekly values assembly – love</li> <li>❖ Weekly welcome assembly</li> <li>❖ Weekly singing assembly</li> <li>❖ Weekly listen to a story – author/ illustrator of the half term assembly – Oliver Jeffers</li> <li>❖ Weekly celebration assembly</li> <li>❖ British Values</li> <li>❖ Paralympian assembly</li> <li>❖ VE day</li> </ul>	<b>Key Stage 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ 23/5 St George's Day</li> <li>❖ 4/5 World Laughter Day</li> <li>❖ 5/5 May Day</li> <li>❖ 15/5 International Day of Families</li> <li>❖ 23/5 World Turtle Day</li> </ul>

## Calendar Dates

- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Last day of half term
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May – School holiday (no school)
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Pupils return to school
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June – assessment week including Phonics Screening
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June – September 2025 intake parent/career meeting
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June – whole school picnic lunch
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – INSET day (no school)
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June – SEND coffee morning
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Bradwell Village School Year 2 transition picnic
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June – Sports day (weather permitting)
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Bradwell Village Year 2 transition day
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July – September 2025 intake picnic
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Sports day (back up option 2- weather permitting)
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July – End of year reports
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July – open evening
- Monday July 21<sup>st</sup> – Year 2 leavers celebration
- Tuesday July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Year 2 leavers party
- Wednesday July 23<sup>rd</sup> – INSET day (no school)
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August – Summer holidays (no school)
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September – INSET day (no school)
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – INSET day (no school)
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Children return to school for new academic year

## Message from our Executive Headteacher

Well done everyone! A short but busy term where we have seen great strides in our pupil progress, attendance and development.

VE Day was celebrated across our Federation of Schools, and it was marvellous to see that we remembered an iconic time in our history and the sacrifice made, by so many, for us today.

The building works for the ASC Units at Priory Common School and Bradwell Village School has started, and we hope they will be completed and ready to open for September 2025.

Thank you to everyone for their patience, understanding and support during this time.

Our Schools go from strength to strength, and we are currently focusing on reviewing the Curriculum and ensuring that our children get the best provision they can.

I continue to be grateful for all the support we have from our Governors, parents and carers who really do help us to be ambitious and achieve more for your children.

I wish you a happy and peaceful half-term break.

With love,



Executive Headteacher  
Inclusive Learning Federation

(Bradwell Village School, Priory Common School, Romans Field School)

