

PRIORY COMMON SCHOOL

SPRING 1 NEWSLETTER 2025

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

Message from Head of School

Dear Priory Common School community,

As we draw the curtain on another bustling half term, I find myself reflecting on the vibrant energy that has filled our corridors and classrooms. It's been a joy to witness the enthusiastic participation in our newly offered clubs. The Drawing, Science, and Dance Clubs have been a hit, with pupils eagerly embracing these opportunities to explore their interests and talents beyond the regular curriculum.

A significant event this term was our Ofsted inspection. While we await the publication of the report, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our entire school community for their support and cooperation during this process. We look forward to sharing the report with you as soon as it becomes available.

Once again, I've been thoroughly impressed by the dedication and spirit shown by both our pupils and staff. The way everyone has pulled together, striving to be the best version of themselves, fills me with immense pride. It's this collective effort that makes our school such a special place.

I'd like to extend a warm thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to complete our questionnaires from last half term's newsletter. Your input is invaluable, and we've taken your suggestions regarding club offerings to heart. I was also touched by the lovely comments about our Christmas performance – it's wonderful to know how much you enjoyed it.

As we move forward, we're keen to continue improving and evolving. This half term, we're reaching out again for your thoughts on what we're doing well and areas where we can enhance our provision further. You'll find a Forms link at the end of this newsletter under the 'Parent/Carer Voice' section. Please do take a moment to share your views – they truly matter to us and play a crucial role in shaping our school's journey.

Together, let's continue to nurture an environment where every child can thrive and every voice is heard. Here's to another fantastic half term ahead, of growth, learning, and shared successes!



With warmest regards,
Gill Cash
Head of School

Improving the Quality of Education

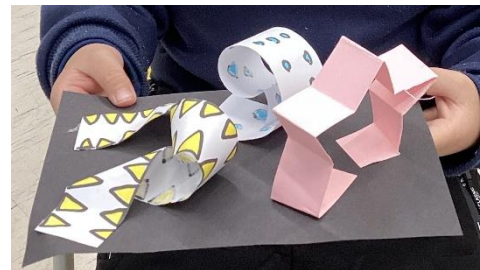


As we embrace the vibrant colours of spring, I'm thrilled to share the wonderful artistic journey our pupils have embarked upon this half term. Our focus on Art has brought a splash of creativity and joy to every corner of our school.

Our Reception children have been on a sensory adventure, exploring paint in myriad ways. Their little fingers have danced across paper, creating masterpieces that capture their innate creativity. Music has been a source of inspiration, with our youngest artists expressing their feelings through colour as melodies filled the air. The celebration of Chinese New Year saw the creation of clay snakes, while lessons on love and kindness resulted in beautiful heart sun catchers. It's been heartwarming to witness their enthusiasm and growing skills.



Year 1 pupils have delved into the world of sculpture and 3D paper play. They've shown remarkable dexterity in rolling paper tubes and securing them to bases, making thoughtful choices about arrangement and colour. Their Paper Strip Sculptures have transformed flat surfaces into captivating 3D drawings. The pièce de résistance has been their 'tree of life' sculptures, showcasing a variety of paper-shaping techniques. It's been particularly pleasing to see their collaborative skills blossom as they worked together on these projects.



Our Year 2 artists have been mixing it up with painting and mixed media. They've become quite the colour theorists, confidently naming primary and secondary colours and making predictions about colour mixing outcomes. Their keen eyes have been put to the test as they described colours and textures in detail. The exploration of texture has been fascinating, with pupils experimenting with different tools to recreate surfaces and deciding which worked best. Their ability to identify various textures in collaged artwork demonstrates their growing artistic awareness.



As I walk through our corridors, I'm constantly amazed by the explosion of creativity on display. From finger-painted masterpieces to intricate paper sculptures and textured mixed media works, the artistic growth of our pupils is evident at every turn.

This focus on Art has not only developed new skills but has also fostered self-expression, problem-solving, and teamwork. It's a joy to see our pupils so engaged and proud of their creations. As we move forward, I'm excited to see how these experiences will continue to shape their learning and development across all areas of the curriculum.

Thank you for your continued support in nurturing our young artists. Together, we're painting a bright future for every child at Priory Common School. For those eager to learn more about our Art Curriculum, I encourage you to explore our Art 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 positive news about our School's attendance. Thanks to your tremendous support and collaboration, we're making strides in the right direction. While we're still working towards the National figure of 94.8%, our whole school attendance has risen to 93.3%.

Our Reception and Year 2 pupils have shown remarkable improvement since the Autumn Term. Year 2's attendance now stands at an impressive 95%, with Reception close behind at 94.6%. We're particularly keen to support our Year 1 pupils in boosting their attendance from the current 89.3%.



Every day at school counts, and we're committed to helping each child achieve their best. If you feel we could offer additional support to improve your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can ensure every pupil has the opportunity to thrive at Priory Common.

Personal Development

SPRING TERM 2025 – January - February 2025

Whole School	Assemblies	Class Based
❖ Newsround – daily ❖ Values – self-belief	❖ Weekly values assembly – self-belief	Key Stage 1 ❖ 4/12 Wildlife Conservation Day

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Makaton signs – sit, louder, Hedgehogs, Squirrels, Badgers, stand ❖ Dreams and Goals ❖ Faith day – Buddhism ❖ Listening calendar – Escape into a world of music ❖ Drawing club ❖ Dance club ❖ Science club ❖ Charity – Food Bank, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Weekly welcome assembly ❖ Weekly singing assembly ❖ Weekly listen to a story – author/ illustrator of the half term assembly – Korky Paul ❖ Weekly celebration assembly ❖ British Values ❖ Reception class assembly ❖ Year 1 class assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 10/12 Human Rights Day ❖ 04.01.25 World Braille Day ❖ 18.01.25 Winnie the Pooh day ❖ 21.01.25 Red Squirrel appreciation day ❖ 29.01.25 Chinese New Year (The year of the snake) ❖ 06.02.25 Time to talk ❖ 11.02.25 Safer Internet Day
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Calendar Dates

- Friday 14th February – INSET Day – school closed to pupils
- Monday 23rd – Friday 3rd January – School holiday (no school)
- Monday 24th February – Pupils return to school
- Thursday 6th March – World Book Day
- Monday 24th March – Parent / Carer consultations
- Tuesday 25th March – 9am Year 2 class assembly for friends and family
- Wednesday 26th March – Parent/ Carer consultations
- Friday 4th April – last day of half term
- Monday 7th – Monday 21st April – School holiday (no school)
- Tuesday 22nd April – Pupils return to school

Message from our Executive Headteacher

Yet again, the Schools in the Inclusive Learning Federation keep on performing with high expectations and standards!

It's cold this time of year, but I am warmed by reading the wonderful achievements of our children!

This term we have had an Ofsted Inspection of Priory Common School, and Bradwell Village School had their Local Authority Annual Evaluation, and I am delighted that the outcome of both of these is incredibly positive!

We will be able to publish the Ofsted Report for Priory Common School as soon as we receive it!



The SEND ASC Units for Priory Common School and Bradwell Village School will begin work soon (hopefully March 2025!) and be completed before the end of the Academic year. We hope for minimum disruption but please bear with us, as the positive outcomes for so many children, will be worth it. Thank you for your patience.

If you would like to be a Parent Governor – please let the School Office know and I will be able to meet you to help.



Have a wonderful half-term – stay safe and enjoy!

With love,

Executive Headteacher
Inclusive Learning Federation
(Bradwell Village School, Priory Common School, Romans Field School)

Over to you - Parent / Carer voice

We value your feedback!

Please share your thoughts on our performance by giving us **two stars** - highlighting areas where we're excelling, and **one wish** - suggesting an aspect we could enhance. Your input is invaluable in our continuous efforts to provide the best educational experience for our pupils.

<https://forms.office.com/e/MpyyGrYUzp>

