



Priorsford Newsletter

March 2024

'Supporting each other to grow and learn together'



Priorsford Primary School, Marmion Road, Peebles, EH45 9BE, 01721 721236

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to my March newsletter. It has been lovely to meet so many parents/carers this week at our parent consultations. Discussing your child's progress and next steps as identified in the written report will allow you to reinforce learning at home. Please ensure you return the feedback enclosed with the report. I value your feedback to ensure you understand and support the content of the report. Next term, all classes will be working towards the next steps in their learning. Can you please make sure all jotters have been returned to support this.

March has been a month of celebrations! We had a wonderful celebration on Friday 8th March to mark our achievement of the Scottish Book Trust's Reading School Gold Award. Priorsford is the first school in the Scottish Borders to be awarded this accolade. We are so proud of all the events that contribute towards this award and congratulate our Reading Ambassadors and Mrs Palmer on this wonderful accomplishment. Primary 7 had a great week in Dalguise. The children joined in and supported each other throughout the week and all of them challenged themselves and achieved great personal goals.

I joined our Cross Country team at Netherdale to see them win the Scottish Borders Cross Country event on 21st March. A tremendous achievement to all our athletes. This is another great athletic achievement adding to our East of Scotland Sportshall Athletics Champions trophy that we won in February.

Both Primary 4 classes delivered a super Easter assembly in the school this week. They did so well to tell the Easter story through their dramatisation of the book, The Three Trees.

We had a great Dance festival at The Gytes this morning. This showcased our PE dance lessons where each year group performed their creative dance as well as our P7 Dance Club presenting too.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a lovely Easter break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 15th April.

Susan Woodyer
Headteacher

Tesco Stronger Starts Project

We have been successful in applying to Tesco for a project to enhance our outdoors. Our application was successful, but to receive the money it must now be put forward to a customer vote in store.

From the first week in April until the end of June '24, our project - Priorsford's 50th Year Outdoor Fun will be one of the three projects on the voting unit at Peebles, Tesco store.

We are hoping for this project to enhance our outdoor area for the children to enjoy throughout the school day to boost their mental and physical wellbeing.

The project with the highest number of votes will receive up to £1500. Second place £1000 and third place £500.

We hope that families and friends of Priorsford PS, who shop in Tesco, will pop their tokens in the voting unit. Spread the word to make sure customers ask for the tokens to make your vote.

We look forward to hearing from Tesco in July, to find out how much we have secured.

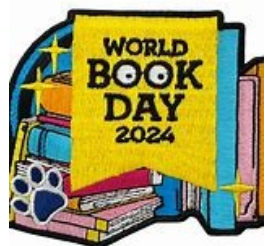
**Stronger
Starts.**

World Of Work Fortnight

We would like to thank all the volunteers who came in to school over our World of Work fortnight to talk about their jobs. The children were really enthused to find out the daily tasks involved in the different jobs. They loved to hear about the career path people have taken to achieve the role they are currently working in. All our classes asked relevant and thoughtful questions. Many of our visitors have commented on how well the children engaged with the activities. Our P7 children had an informative visit to the local business of Holland & Sherry to see the design and production line. A big thank you to Mrs Clark for co-ordinating and organising all the World of Work visitors.

World Book Day

We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 7th March with a variety of activities to engage our children with books to encourage them to read more.



Our Reading Ambassadors and Mrs Palmer organised several events including a very popular book swap. Classes decorated a lantern which are now all on display in our school library. There was a Gruffalo Trail, Author's Live and a Treasure Hunt.

In addition to all of these activities, we held a few competitions with winners receiving book tokens, book vouchers and certificates to celebrate their efforts.

We saw some amazing book characters represented as a potato. So many wonderful creations and designs that made the judging so difficult. The winners were decided by our Reading Ambassadors.

ELC, P1, P2 & P3 Overall winner - Emily

P4 - P7 Overall winner - Rowan

Well done to all our finalists!

All children received a World Book Day token which can be exchanged for a book or can be used towards the cost of a book.

Please follow '[Priorsford Reading for Pleasure](#)' Page on Facebook to see many more ideas and recommendations of what to read.

Dates For Your Diary

Thurs 28 th March	School finishes 3.25pm for Easter break
Mon 15 th April	All staff and pupils return P7 Beltane letters to be returned
Wed 17 th April	P1 trip to Jupiter Artland, Edinburgh
Thurs 18 th April	7pm - PTA meeting in school staffroom - all parents/carers welcome
Sat 20 th April	Cross Country Championship at Kirkcaldy High School
Tues 30 th April	Class Photographs

Red Nose Day

On Friday 15th March many of our pupils came to school wearing something red. We were supporting and raising money for Red Nose Day. Thank you to all our families who donated towards this cause. We raised a tremendous £245.89! This has already been donated to Comic Relief. Well done to everyone!



Food Waste in our lunch hall

We have noticed a huge increase in the amount of food waste at lunch time. To try to reduce this, please can we ask parents/carers to check the food options available each day, to ensure that your child will eat the selected option. More and more often, children are telling the catering staff and the dining room supervisors that they do not like the meal that has been chosen. The catering staff can only prepare meals according to the numbers ordered, this is to reduce food wastage. Unfortunately, they are unable to provide alternative meals despite some children throwing away a lot of their lunch. We will continue to monitor the amount of food waste. Please speak to your child to ensure they are getting the meal of their choice and we will continue to encourage the children to eat as much as they can.

PTA

Our PTA are busy planning and organising their next fundraising event - the Summer Fayre to be held on Saturday 11th May. Be sure to sign up on the Facebook event page 'Priorsford School Summer Fayre'

The meeting on Thursday 18th April will be finalising the plans for Fayre and discussing ideas for fundraising events next session.

If you have any new or tried suggestions that we could incorporate into our calendar next year then please pop along to the meeting. If you are unable to attend speak to Lucy, Lyndsey or Samantha to ensure your ideas are passed on.

The Spring Discos managed to raise £478.50. At the moment the PTA are hoping to have a shed in the school grounds that will house preloved uniform. This is at the planning stages and hopefully we can bring more news about this in due course.

Parent Council

We have a representative from each stage of the school that help to communicate relevant information between the school and parents/carers.

Our current reps are -

Nursery: Sarah Howie

P1: Vacancy

P2: Laura Alymer

P3: Caroline Skea

P4: Katie Gibson

P5: Nicola McLellan

P6: Gillian Foley

P7: Rachel McGeoch/Stephen Crombie

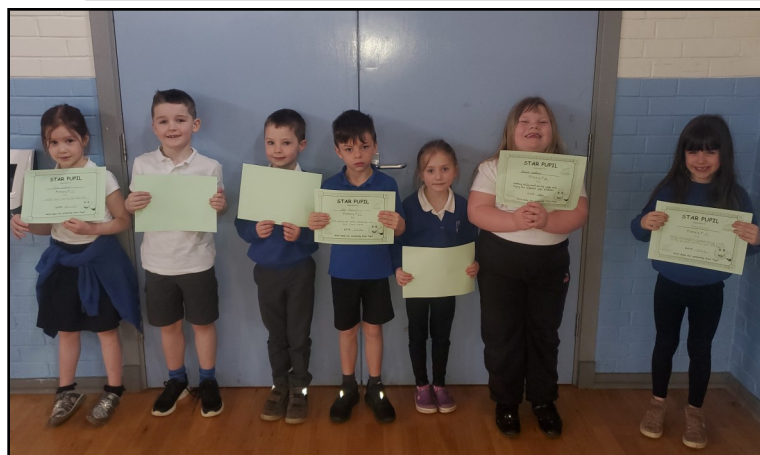


There is a vacancy for a Primary One parent to be the representative and the point of contact for other parents/carers. Please contact our joint chairs: Nicola McLellan or Stephen Crombie, or Kate Gibson by emailing

pcpriorsfordprimrmyschool@scottishbordersnpfs.org.uk

There is still an office bearer vacancy as the Parent Council Secretary. If anyone would be interested in this position please contact the team using the email above or get in touch with Mrs Woodyer.

Star Pupils



Pupil Achievements



Acrobatic Arts



Skiing



Biking Cross Country



Highland Dancing

Gymnastics