



REIGATE PRIORY JUNIOR SCHOOL

Bringing learning to life both inside and out!

Newsletter No. 6

3 February 2012

Dear Parent,

The first cold week of winter – please make sure your children have named coats, fleeces and other appropriate clothing in school.

Thank you to all those last minute entrants to our 50/50 club. Your contributions will go towards paying the £1300 mini bus insurance costs. Please see the lucky winners at the end of the newsletter.

News, Information and Reminders

1. SPACE WORKSHOP

On Thursday, 12 January the Year 5 children were taken on a voyage through our solar system and off into deep space! With Jo and Matt from 'Spacefund' the children explored the planets and stars, starting their Space Topic with a big bang. The wealth of background knowledge from the children impressed Jo and Matt as they asked some insightful and probing questions about space. The fun and interactive presentation of facts really caught the children's imagination, and they have applied much of their knowledge in their creative Space Topic work.

2. CYBER REIGATE PRIORY

January saw the launch of our 'cyber school': an online, virtual Reigate Priory. Year 5 have been the first 'cyber pupils' to enter our online school and have done so with great excitement and enthusiasm. Thank you to all the Year 5 parents who attended an information meeting and special congratulations to Lauren Koster (5RW) who was the first to write a book review on the forum. Keep checking for new updates Year 5!

Don't worry Years 3, 4 and 6 – virtual Reigate Priory will be coming your way soon!

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3. WRAY COMMON CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

After school on Thursday 26 January, a team of 16 children accompanied Mr Moses and Miss Marshall to a sunny but chilly Wray Common to participate in January's Cross Country Event. With eight schools from the District sending teams, it promised to be a competitive event over a short but demanding course.

Over the four races every member of the team produced fine performances giving some first class finishing positions:

Lower School Girls: 1. Lily Grant 2. Jasmine Hoad, 3. Pippa Roessler

Lower School Boys: 1. Theo Lewis 4. James McDowall 6. Patrick Brown 11. Conor Mitchell

Upper School Girls: 1. Katriona Brown 2. Poppy Wardley 3. Ella Woods 5. Charlotte England 6. Megan Walker

Upper School Boys: 2. Leo Alleway 3. Tom Ives 11. Gabriel Chalmers 16. Louis Marshall

Overall this meant that both our boy and girl teams triumphant in the team competition. Well done to all!

Special mention to Lily Grant and Thomas Ives who both competed in this year's Surrey Championships held in Priory Park on Saturday 21 January. Congratulations to both for running so well over the long and challenging course and achieving commendable finishing positions.

4. WORLD WAR 2 JEEP

On Friday 27th January, the Year 6 children were treated to the rare but amazing opportunity of examining a World War 2 jeep on the grass outside Somers Court. This was thanks to Mr Corden, father of Alice Corden in 6JC and Tom in 3AW, who owns the jeep and was happy to share and discuss its workings and background. The children should be congratulated on their questioning skills and for the real enthusiasm and interest shown on the day. Mr Corden also brought along some World War II artefacts he owned including a gas mask, soldier's hat, bayonet and digging tool, that were used to dig 'foxholes' and search for mines. This gave the children a real insight and 'hands on' experience that should hopefully enhance their learning and understanding of their World War II topic.

A huge thank you goes to Mr Corden for giving us his time and knowledge.

5. PARENT CONSULTATION EVENINGS

A reminder that our mid-year consultation evenings are next week on **Tuesday 7th February** and **Thursday 9th February**.

6. INSET DAY

A reminder that Monday 12th March is an INSET day and school will be closed to children. The staff will be learning about developing their subject leader skills.

7. YEAR 4 PARENTS

Please let us know if you are coming to tea with Mr Moses and I on **Thursday 23rd February** at 2.30pm.

8. SKI AUSTRIA 2012

At lunchtime on Saturday, 21 January, fifty-seven of our Year 6 children safely returned from their week long ski adventure to Saalbach, Austria.

The group experienced a superb week of skiing conditions with record amounts of snow fall and plenty of sunny blue skies to match. Over the six days, all the children persevered at the challenge of controlling their snow plough and parallel turns. By the end of the week absolute beginners had become competent skiers and competent skiers had evolved into experts - an amazing accomplishment!

Despite the inevitable bumps and bruises, there were lots of laughs! The group enjoyed an evening of traditional Austrian dress, dance and music and met a unique local fellow 'Hanns'. They even had the opportunity to attend a freestyle ski show. Everybody was thrilled to watch the 'pros' hurl themselves off a huge jump, performing the most amazing tricks – something for them all to aspire to!

As always we are very proud of our children and their achievements. Mr Moses and his team received countless compliments from the general public, instructors, hotel staff, pilot and flight crew, on the children's politeness and positive attitude.

I and Mr Moses would like to thank the children and staff for another successful Priory residential and look forward to refreshing the memories and singing at the Ski Reunion, date to be announced soon. See some pictures and excerpts of children's diaries by visiting the 'Latest Updates' page of www.reigate-priory.co.uk and clicking on the 'Residential Blog' tab.



A message from Luke 'Sky Walker' Greenland (6LB)

"The trip to Saalbach was amazing. It was a once in a lifetime experience. The snow there this year was really good for skiing on.

I was a beginner to skiing, but now our instructors told us that we are 'intermediates'. I only really had to spend a day and a half on the nursery slopes before I was on the proper mountain. It was awesome!

I would tell you more but I do not want to spoil it for those in Year 5. Thank you to the staff Ski Team for taking us."

9. REDHILL & REIGATE SWIMMING CLUB

This club, based at Donyngs Leisure Club, is offering a 'try out' sessions on a Friday night at 7.00pm. The club is looking for swimmers who are over seven years old and can complete at least 400 metres. For more details please contact Dale Simpson on: chiefcoach@gmail.com

10. PTA NEWS

Film Night

Thanks to all those parents who helped and made sure that 200 children enjoyed Mr. Popper's Penguins.

Cake Sale

Thank you to Fiona Page who organised today's Year 5 Tea & Cakes. The next one is on Friday 16th March at 3.00pm where we hope Year 4 parents will provide cakes.

'Grown Up' Film Night

The 'flicks' and fish & chips, for a grown up evening out, on Friday 2nd March - more details to follow.

Children's Film Night

The following Friday, 9th March is the next film night for children – more details to follow.

PTA Committee's AGM

Please come and support your PTA's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 28th Feb at 3:45pm in the Holbein Hall. There's a crèche available and don't be put off by the 'AGM' bit! It's just a chance for you to come along and find out more about the PTA, meet other parents and staff, see some of the valuable extra equipment and resources the PTA has funded, and how we raise the money. Money that is ploughed straight back into the school to provide extra equipment, facilities and events, that the Priory would not otherwise have. This directly benefits your children and the school. For example PTA funds have recently bought art supplies, sports kits, projectors, and funded the Life Bus, just to name a few. We are also looking to raise funds for the renewal of the mini-bus.

So please come and support your PTA. More information will be circulated. If you'd like to find out more, or if you can't make the AGM but want to come along to the next PTA committee meeting (you'll be made very welcome). Please contact:

Paul Swain (Sophie 6TP) Tel: 01737 226486 Mob/Text: 07961 937916 email:paul@gradwick.co.uk

Class Rep Role

The Class Rep role at the Priory is just an informal way of allowing the parents of the class to keep in touch. If you are already the rep for your child's class, can you please let Paul Swain (Sophie, 6TP) of the PTA Committee know. Contact info is below.

And if your class doesn't have a rep, why don't you step forward and become the rep? There are no rules or job descriptions, and it's a great way to get to know the parents of your class. Some reps arrange simple social events for their class, like just meeting up at someone's house or at the pub, some coordinate any joint class gifts or cards for teachers, it's entirely up to you. Once you've put together the contact list and email addresses, it will make it easy for parents to keep in touch with one another.

If you have any questions or thoughts about becoming a class rep and you'd like to know more, please do get in touch with me.

Paul Swain (Sophie 6TP) Tel: 01737 226486 Mob/Text: 07961 937916 email:paul@gradwick.co.uk

11. HALF TERM

We break up for half term on **Friday, 10 February at 3.30 pm** and school re-opens on **Monday, 20 February at 8.50 am**.

12. AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

A reminder that the 'teacher run' after school clubs, return to the finishing time of **4.30 pm** after half term.

13. PARENTAL SUPPORT GROUPS

Cindy Morris, the Home School Link Worker, runs a number of parental support groups that may be of interest:

ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) Clinic - What to do if a child has a meltdown.
1.00-2.00pm Thursday 9th February 2012 at St Matthews Church Hall
Led by Nancy from the ASD Studio in Dorking

ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) Clinic – Anger Management
1.00-2.00pm Thursday 8th March at St Matthews Church Hall
Led by Educational Psychologist Linda Bollard

For further information contact Cindy Morris on: Hslw-cindy.morris@rrmpartnership.org

14. REIGATE PRIORY MUSEUM

The first event of the year for the Reigate Priory Museum Society will be an illustrated talk by local author, Ros Black on 'Lady Henry Somerset and Duxhurst' on Saturday, 25th February in the Holbein Hall at 2.30pm.

Lady Henry Somerset, known for her philanthropic work, owned Reigate Priory in the late 19th Century and founded Duxhurst Village as a sanctuary for women and children.

Parents and children are invited to attend. Please pay on the day.

Admission:	Society Members	Free
	Adult Visitors	£2 (to include tea)
	Children	Free

Entrance via Priory School Main Entrance

15. 50/50 CLUB - February Winners

£60.00	-	Mrs Fiona Page (Alice Page 6LC)
£30.00	-	Mrs Catherine Peck (Madeleine Alcock 4KA)
£20.00	-	Mrs Carol Scopes (Codey Scopes 3CS)

Yours sincerely,

N. F. Lellman

Mr. N. F. Lellman
Headteacher

REPLY SLIP - CLASSTEACHER

I have read Newsletter No. 6.

Comments:- _____

Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____