Dear Parents and Carers,

2020 is well under way as we speed into February and the days, little by little, become a bit longer and lighter. There is still plenty of chilly, wintry weather about and alongside this, our typical sniffle and flu season is upon us. Please ensure your child is suitably attired for the time of year and help us keep the germs at bay by supporting our message in school and echoing the information shared within this newsletter on children’s personal hygiene. Any and all help with this is gratefully appreciated.

For our fearless Year 6 skiers their snowy adventure came to a close on the last Saturday of January, all arriving home safe having enjoyed a week of learning to ski on the slopes of the Italian Alps. The children were exemplary ambassadors for Reigate Priory, demonstrating all our values and receiving much commendation from those adults around them. I know, with other residential visits soon to arrive, more children will benefit from these important Priory experiences and create life long memories to cherish.

Be sure to read into this newsletter to get the latest news and updates on opportunities and events coming up including Online Safety Day, World Book Day, Readathon, Year 5 Raiders and Traders Day, Sport Relief and the District Sports Practice Cross Country Race which is open to all and any child that would like to represent the school.

Finally, included in the newsletter are some key ‘signpost’ details for families to take into consideration should they require any advice or support on matters that are beyond Reigate Priory’s educational scope. Modern life can get tricky so it is important the correct contact is made to offer the best help.

Kind regards,
Mr O Moses

Thank you to Hamptons International

We are delighted that Hamptons International Estate Agents are continuing their sponsorship of our school for the coming year. Over the past two years, Hamptons’ support of our FSA events has been invaluable. Hamptons have also increased the amount they will contribute to the school from property sales or lettings. For every property they sell or let for Priory School parents, or family and friends of parents, they will donate to the school:

£750 per completed sale / £250 per completed let

If you are considering selling or renting your property, please contact Hamptons Reigate to arrange a free valuation and don’t forget to mention Reigate Priory School!
HALF TERM
A reminder that we break up for Half Term on Friday 14 February at 3.30pm and re-open again on Monday 24 February at 8.50am.

INSET DAY
Monday 9 March is an INSET Day and school will be closed to all children.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE
Just a reminder to all parents / carers that if you remove your child from school without the Head’s permission for 5 or more days (10 sessions), you will be liable for a penalty notice. Currently the amount due under a penalty notice is £60.00 if paid within 21 days, rising to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after this period, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent / carer per child. For example, 2 parents / carers with 2 children will receive a total of 4 penalty notices.

Please be aware that the Inclusion Officer has been monitoring closely the unauthorised absence at the school and has recently been issuing fines.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING REMINDER
In this unpredictably changeable weather, please ensure your child attends school with the suitable outdoor coats and clothing.

APPOINTMENTS / ABSENCE
Please note that if you are planning to collect your child for an appointment, you must inform the School Office in writing otherwise it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Absence as a result of illness must be telephoned through to the absence line.

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST VACANCY
We are currently recruiting for a Part Time Receptionist. If you are interested in applying please visit the eteach website https://www.eteach.com/
HEALTH AND HYGIENE UPDATE

As ever, when we enter into this typically ‘fluie’ time of year, we become a little more aware of the need to keep the germs at bay.

To help with this in school we regularly disinfect all door handles, light switches, handrails etc.

In Year Group assemblies this week Mrs Dean has been reminding the children of the need to regularly wash their hands, with soap, especially, before eating. We ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home.

SICKNESS AND DIARRHOEA

Please be reminded that children who have/are vomiting or diarrhoea must remain off school for 48 hours after the last episode to stop the spread of infection to other children and staff.

ALLERGY UPDATE

For us to have the most up to date information on record, if your child has a known allergy please ensure that you communicate this, along with any treatment plan, to the school office. Please see the termly Healthy Kids Spring Recipe Update which will be sent out by ParentMail shortly.

JEWELLERY REMINDER

Jewellery, watches, fitness devices and any form of wrist band are not part of our uniform and are not allowed in school. Simple stud earrings are acceptable (please see photo) but must be removed for P.E. and swimming lessons (or not worn on that day as the school cannot take responsibility for lost jewellery). The taping over of earrings is not permitted. Parents are advised to have their child’s ears pierced at the start of the Summer Holidays to allow maximum healing time.

Challenge

‘we challenge ourselves to progress’
RECYCLING

As part of our ongoing efforts to be more sustainable, we have now installed recycling bins to encourage children to recycle.

These new bins enable the children to recycle paper and plastic separately from general waste.

The School Council are working on a whole school eco charter to define the School’s direction in this important responsibility going forward.

ONLINE SAFETY UPDATE

Coming up on 11 February is Safer Internet Day. This is a National day where children and adults discuss the world of online safety with the tech that is relevant to them. Your children will spend some time over the next few weeks considering the importance of staying safe online and how we can make the internet a better place by working together. Some of the online worries - particularly around friendships - were discussed on our Friendship day.

All the research shows that the best thing you can do for your child is to open an honest and frequent dialogue around their online safety use. Helping children to become digitally resilient and knowing who to ask for help are the best ways to protect them.

There are a variety of web links on our school website that provide support for parents and carers around online safety. Here is a quick 30 second video to help you start the conversation: https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2020/i-am-parent-or-carer/film-how-can-parents-talk-children

Here are 6 steps to a better Digital Life:

1. **Sensible Screen Time** Consider what content they are accessing and how long for.

2. **Bold Boundaries** Consider where the tech lives in your house, what apps they are allowed to access? who they are allowed to contact? Be clear and consistent with this.

3. **Don’t Pull the Plug** Consider giving them reasonable warning time about coming off the technology.

4. **Keep Talking** Around 60% of children say their parents do not discuss issues around digital life.

5. **Engage in their World** Take a healthy interest, find out about their favourite apps, bloggers etc.

6. **Bedtime Bans** The NHS recommends 9-10 hours of sleep a night. Remove temptation and improve their sleep quality by ensuring that all tech charges outside of their room.

Please find below link to a BBC article on children’s online and viewing habits that may be of interest:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-51358192
WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 5 MARCH

On Thursday 5 March, Reigate Priory will be participating in World Book Day!

We are really looking forward to being part of this global event and have planned a day of special activities to bring our whole school community together in appreciation of the brilliance of books and the pleasures their stories can bring.

To add a bit of magic to the day, we ask that children come into school dressed as a favourite book character and bring either that character’s book or another favourite book into school with them. As usual, we will have our traditional costume parade to admire everyone's creations and there will be an opportunity for children to talk about and share their favourite story.

We ask that children bring in a minimum contribution of £1 to dress up with all of the money raised going towards new reading resources for our School Library.

Children will hopefully come home extra enthused to read or explore new tales and stories but will also have a special World Book Day Book Token – so be sure to check bags!

We look forward to welcoming some favourite characters into our school for the day and watch out for those members of staff who I am sure will not miss the opportunity to dress-up!

READATHON!

For World Book Day this year we will be running a sponsored read raising money for the charity Read for Good. Read for Good provides a regular supply of brand new books along with storyteller visits to brighten up the days of children in all of the UK’s main children’s hospitals. Children unable to leave their beds can choose books from our specially designed mobile bookcase which wheels right up to their bedside. Because they are brand new, the books are safe for those at high risk of infection.

We will be running our sponsored read from Friday 14 February until Friday 6 March, so children will have half term to start reading. Your child will decide on a list of material they wish to read, or listen to, throughout these three weeks and can choose anything they like! Please support your child to find sponsorship for the ‘Readathon’ among family and friends and to encourage them to keep reading their chosen material during this time. You can sponsor online at www.readforgood.org/sponsor and this site is available to family and friends too.

Please support and encourage your child’s sponsored read as much as you can. They’ll be helping kids in hospitals get books, as well as helping themselves and enjoying new stories and books. And our school receives free books worth 20% of our grand sponsorship total – so there really is something in it for everyone.
USEFUL CONTACTS

Please see below some useful guidance and advice available to support families;

**Surrey Family Information Service**

The role of the Family Information Service (FIS) is to connect families with the information and support they need. They do this by:

- Enabling families and practitioners to self-serv through the FIS website and Directory and the SEND Local Office.
- Helping families and practitioners find what they need through an enquiry service assessed online, by email or over the phone.

FIS works closely with internal and external teams, organisations and partners including the Early Help Coordination Hubs and MASH to provide an information and advice offer for families and practitioners. Their aim is to ensure that there is a consistent information and advice offer across the County so that all families get the right information at the right time.


**Parent Info**

Parent info provides high quality information to Parents and Carers about their children’s wellbeing and resilience. This service is free and ranges across a wide range of subject matter, from difficult topics about sex, consent and relationships, mental health, self-harm to the internet and ‘Teens on Tinder’. For information, please visit their website:


**The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) - Parent Hub**

RoSPA’s Parent Hub provides an easy guide to keeping children safe, from birth to school age. You can visit their website via:

YEAR 6 MAYAN LEARNING

As part of our Ancient Maya topic, Year 6 were visited by a time traveller who took us back thousands of years to the Ancient Mayan civilisation. We were able to use our role-playing and improvisation skills to live the lives of many different types of people - from kings, to warriors, to sculptors. We built mighty pyramids and walked the streets of Palenque and Chichen Itza, meeting astronomers and a strange old lady who we had to educate in the ways of the Mayan people.

We are pleased to say that we are all now official time lords and ladies ourselves and we learnt a lot more about the everyday lives of the Mayan people than we knew before.

YEAR 5 RAIDERS & TRADERS - VIKING DAYS

A reminder about the Year 5 Viking Days next week for which children are invited to come into school dressed in Anglo Saxon/Viking clothes. Costume details are available on WisePay with swords and shields being encouraged and used for an activity during the day:

Tuesday 11 February—5EA and 5JC
Wednesday 12 February—5EP, 5HM and 5JL

We look forward to seeing some Vicious Vikings and Angry Anglo Saxons at Reigate Priory next week for a full Viking invasion!

YEAR 5 MEETING FOR YEAR 6 TRIPS

We would like to invite you and your child to an information meeting on the residential choices your child has in Year 6. At Reigate Priory we are very proud of the comprehensive residential programme we provide, the visits within Year 6 representing the pinnacle of this programme. These visits build on the activities and experiences gained throughout the school, while providing the perfect springboard to those in secondary school. It may seem rather early to be considering your child’s residential for next year, however, for us to take full advantage of the most competitive prices, keep monthly instalments at a reasonable level and to ensure we secure the best possible dates and locations, we need to obtain a better idea of participant numbers. The meeting is the first step to achieving this and will be at 6.30pm on Wednesday 26 February in the Gym.
Saturday 18\textsuperscript{th}: the beginning of an unforgettable journey. Saying goodbye was hard, but as soon as Italy approached us, we knew that this was going to be a blast.

Once we had unpacked, eaten our food and had a good night’s sleep, the slopes stood before our eyes. Letting our skis guide us down the slopes was the best feeling ever - even for the experienced skiers.

After a tiring day, it was always a treat going to soiree, which was a time of singing, dancing, acting and reflecting on the fun times that day. On one of the nights we had an amazing talent show with 13 acts, which varied from magic to singing. We jotted down notes in the blog/diary to help us remember these special moments later on in life.

The octopus was introduced to everyone on Monday, and then was placed in the hands of Mr Shepherd for the day. Unfortunately, the octopus didn’t last long and was quickly replaced with our new penguin.

For lunch there was always a new and unique flavour. Some of our favourites included: the pasta, the soups, and the carrot and turkey. For our last night we went to the local pizza restaurant. The pizza was delicious and the ice cream was even better.

The staff were all understanding considering there were 64 kids plus the adults. The instructors were also patient and kind. We are really grateful that they improved our skiing.

The chairlifts we went on rose up high on the mountains, providing indescribable views of the snowy white peaks. Before we knew it, we were skiing to France, enjoying one of our final moments being surrounded by the pure fresh snow.

Overall, we experienced something that will never be forgotten. We are hugely grateful to the people – at home and in Italy - that allowed us to enjoy such a wonderful time. The best part of the trip was the independence that we were given - including the choice of a shopping trip or fun in the snow.

Abi, Summer, Matilda and Evie (6LP)
‘France was incredible. I enjoyed going to the snow park and doing the ramps and jumps, which Mr Morris fell over on.’

Rosie 6LP

‘I enjoyed everything on the ski trip, but my favourite part was definitely the skiing. I’ve always liked skiing, but having the opportunity to ski with my friends made it even better!’

Bella 6LP

‘I think the ski trip really helps make you into a more adventurous person.’

Walter 6ST

‘I’ve never been skiing before, so I didn’t know what to expect, but I really enjoyed it. I never thought we would go down as many steep hills as we did, and I’m really proud of myself for doing them. It’s made me feel like I should give more new things a go.’

Heidi 6FC

I liked going down the slopes because I had never skied before and I enjoyed doing it with all my friends. At first I thought it would be scary, but it turned out to be really fun. My instructor was really nice and gave lots of helpful advice.’

Tom 6DW
BOOK EXCHANGE IS BACK!
The last Thursday of each month after school by the Eagle Gates or in 3PF if it is raining
Bring a book that is in good condition and suitable for children aged 7 – 11 to read.
Exchange it for a token then look to see which book catches your eye.
Exchange your token and enjoy a good read!
Thursday, 27 February
Make sure you ask your parent’s permission before you bring in a book to exchange and also that it is not a library book!

Future Dates
Thursday, 26 March
Thursday, 30 April
Thursday, 21 May
Thursday, 18 June

SCHOOL COUNCIL / LOVWORKS DONATION DAYS
The School’s Council have joined up with Loveworks and will be organising a donation day to help support families in need in our local community. The School’s Council wanted to help families throughout the year rather than just at Harvest Festival so they will be holding Donation Days on the last Monday of every half term.
There will be a collection point in the playground on these dates at 3:20pm-3.45pm but if you would like to bring in donations of food or other household items there will also be a Foodbank box in the school reception area. We hope you will support us in supporting families in our community.

Donation Days
Monday, 10 February
Monday, 30 March
Monday, 18 May
Monday, 20 July

REMINDERS
Please encourage your children to write letters to School Council if they have any suggestions or ideas to help improve our school. All letters will be properly discussed and decisions made will be fed back either individually or in whole school assembly.

Sports News
SPORT RELIEF
On Friday 13 March we will be celebrating and raising money for Sport Relief, one of our designated charities. For a minimum donation of £1, children may come to school dressed in their choice of sporting or athletic attire OR the kit or clothing of the team or club they play for. This could be their weekend football or cricket team, or maybe the tracksuit of their swimming or gymnastic club. Our usual policy of no adult, professional football or rugby shirts will still apply. On the day there will be a Sport Relief Assembly in the afternoon and throughout the week there will be other sporting activities to participate in. All money raised will go to Sport Relief. We look forward to a fun and enjoyable day supporting a worthwhile event!
DISTRICT SPORTS PRACTICE CROSS COUNTRY RACE

All children are welcome to represent Reigate Priory School in the District Sports ‘PRACTICE’ Cross Country race in Reigate Priory Park on Tuesday 25 February. Children have the choice either to run purely for enjoyment or to run competitively to contribute to their chance to represent the school. There are four races:

1. Girls - Year 3 and 4
2. Boys - Year 3 and 4
3. Girls - Year 5 and 6
4. Boys - Year 5 and 6

At 3:20pm children will get changed in their classrooms before taking all their belongings to the Holbein Hall. The team will then go out to the park for a warm-up with the races starting as near to 4:00pm as possible, finishing by 4:45pm (approx.). You are more than welcome to come and watch! Once your child has run and if you wish to take them home before the end of the event then please ensure your child says good bye to one of the supervising teachers and takes ALL their belongings from the Holbein Hall - please use Holbein Hall door at the front of the building (Sunken Garden park side) for access. Any children remaining after the event will available for pick-up from the main reception from 4:45pm. Parents of children attending T Club 6 must inform a T Club 6 member of staff before their departure.

The actual ‘Championship’ event, with a true competitive edge, will take place in the park on Wednesday 11 March. Arrangements regarding the races will remain the same, however, the race rules only allow a pre-determined number of participants in a team for each race. Therefore, unfortunately only children who have been selected and have received a confirmation letter in the days after the practice, will be able to participate. Selection for the Championship event will not solely be based upon performance in the Practice race.

All athletes will need:

◊ School PE kit
◊ Warm tracksuit
◊ Either trainers or running spikes. (No plimsolls or football boots!)
◊ Water to drink

If you would like your child to participate in the ‘PRACTICE’, then parents must access their child’s WisePay account and complete the ‘Purchase’ transaction which will be considered an authorisation of your consent, before Monday 24 February. There will be no charge!
THE BIG QUIZ 2020

As we wave a firm farewell to the January blues, our eyes turn to our next big event - this year’s **Big Quiz on Friday 13 March** with ‘**A Night at the Movies**’ theme sponsored by Hamptons. Last year’s quiz sold out quickly, so get ready to book your tables at **1.00pm on Monday 10 February**. With our fantastic (and highly entertaining) Governors as our quizmasters once more, you can be guaranteed a great night. Once again, there will be prizes for the best dressed table, so pay tribute to your favourite screen stars or go large on the glamour – don’t hold back! You can book tables for up to 10 people on Wisepay, but we will also make sure that any singles, couples or smaller groups can join forces to make up larger tables.

**The BIG Quiz 2020**

**NIGHT AT THE MOVIES**

**Friday 13 March 7-11pm**

**Tickets: £8.50 on sale from 1pm on Monday 10 February via Wisepay**

**Proudly sponsored by**

![Hamptons International](image-url)
FSA AGM

We are planning our FSA AGM and drinks/social on Wednesday 22 April from 7.45pm to 9.00pm which includes election of the Committee for 2020/2021. All are welcome but we need all class representatives to attend or to send a named substitute as we will vote in the new Committee for 2020/2021 and gather your feedback for next year’s planning. We will have two co-secretary vacancies from September, so please get in touch with Kate Oake (6ST) if you are interested in finding out more about the role. The rest of the Committee are standing again, but they need your votes, so please do come along!

Our next ‘regular’ FSA Meetings are on the following new dates: Wednesday 25 March 7.45pm-9.00pm and Friday 5 June 9.00am-10.15am.

Finally, a huge thanks as always to Kelly Kennedy and Vicky Bamforth and all their helpers at last week’s Film Night – we’re still totting up the takings but Toy Story 4 certainly helped round off January in style and with a smile … the final Film Night for 2020 will be on Friday 24 April.

Amazon donate 0.5% of the net purchase price for every eligible purchase you make.

How?
Log into your usual Amazon or Amazon Prime account at smile.amazon.co.uk Select ‘Reigate Priory School Families & Staff Association’ and continue shopping as normal.

REIGATE PRIORY SCHOOL
Bell Street
Reigate
Surrey
RH2 7RL
(01737) 245065
info@reigate-priory.surrey.sch.uk

Stamptastic make personalised stamps usable on most fabrics, metal, wood and even some plastics. No more sewing or ironing on labels. Now you can just stamp everything!

Reigate Priory FSA has registered as an affiliate member and will receive the commission! This means you can make school life easier and help support the FSA at the same time!

Just click HERE to link to our page

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/reigateprioryfsa/
PRELOVED UNIFORM SALE
If you’ve run - or grown - out of Priory kit, then Jo Picardo and team will be running the next Preloved uniform sale on Wednesday 11 March. Clare Blay is also in the process of organising an Easter Wreath Making evening, as the Christmas event was so popular. More info soon…

SUMMER SOIREE
Our Summer Term will be one to remember with a number of great events coming up, including the Summer Soiree on Friday 12 June – more details soon from coordinators Madeleine Speke and Georgie Twigg on how to book for this gorgeous, relaxed evening social in the Courtyard and Holbein Hall.

PRIORY ROCKS FESTIVAL
Our recent call for a team to coordinate this year’s Priory Rocks Festival on Saturday 4 July has been answered, so a big thanks goes to Emma Tumer (6LP) for coordinating the event team: Gemma Barton, Emily Barton, Helen Delaney, Mel Harcourt, Hannah Machin, Charlotte Hutchinson, Katherine Viera, Ali Baldock and Tania Barr.

A huge thanks to you all for stepping forward to organise our biggest event of the year. If you’re not familiar with it, it’s an event where Priory children and their families chill out in front of a music stage and enjoy a host of activities such as giant inflatables, karaoke sessions, silent discos, festival hair and beauty, craft, sport, teacher soakings and much more. If you would like to help please do get in touch with Emma or one of the team above as there will be plenty to do.

Proud to be Priory!
Help us continue to support Reigate Priory School

Hamptons Reigate is proud to continue to support Reigate Priory School.

We are always aware of the ever growing need for schools to generate additional funds to cover increasing costs. We are offering you the possibility of helping us generate that much needed assistance.

For every property that we sell or let for the parents or family and friends of parents of a child at Reigate Priory School, we will donate £750 per completed sale or £250 per completed let to the school. *

To qualify, present this flyer when you instruct Hamptons Reigate to be sole selling or lettings agent for your home. The donation to the school is to be made upon completion. For more information please contact us.

* The promotion runs from 1 May 2018 to 30 April 2020. For full terms & conditions ask in branch or visit hamptons.co.uk/terms-conditions.
WHAT WILL YOU FIND IN THE WOODS?

Book 5 places & get 10% off!

“The first words out of my daughter’s mouth were ‘best day ever, can I go again tomorrow?’ Brilliant.”

Activities may include:

- Den building
- Tracking & trailing
- Survival skills
- Storytelling
- Wild art
- Killer Frisbee
- Craft skills
- Fire lighting

Wild Play holiday club in Reigate

Spring half term & Easter 10.00-4.00. Ages 5 and over £40/day
Priory Park, Bell St, Reigate RH2 7RL

For more details or to book a place visit
www.wild-learning.net