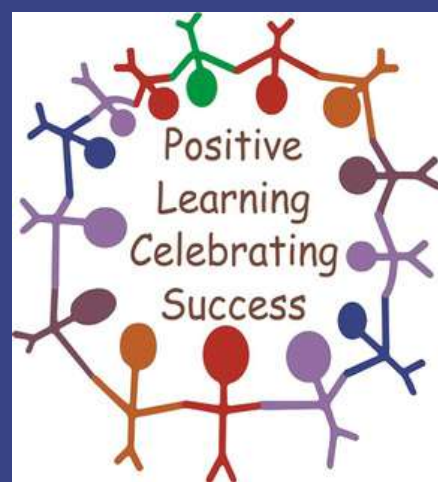
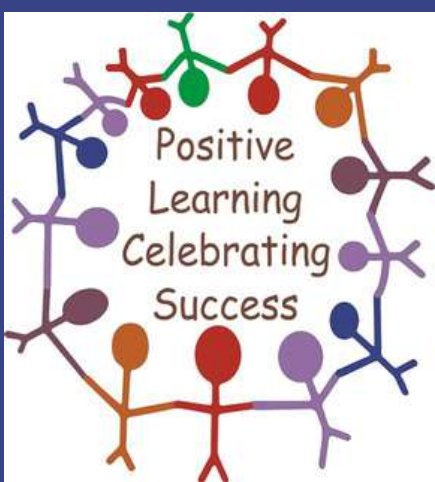




Priory Lane Community School

Autumn 1 Newsletter

A message from Mrs Leighton

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. What a busy start to the new academic year we have had. Welcome to all of our new pupils and their families. It has been our pleasure to welcome you to Priory Lane this half term. Thank you all for your support with the changes to the morning routine and entry into school. Having a staggered entry into the classroom between 8.40am and 8.50am has helped us have a much calmer start to the school day and lessons are starting promptly at 8.55am every morning. Just a reminder that if your child is signed in through the front office at 8.50am or after they are marked as late in the register and this will affect their overall attendance at the end of the year. Lateness also impacts on pupils' learning as they miss crucial teacher instruction about the learning tasks and spend most of their lesson trying to catch up. Our breakfast club and after school 'tea club' are open to all pupils and can often support punctuality and establishing a consistent routine. Breakfast club is open to all pupils and is free from 8.15am. If you would like more information about this please come and ask at the school office. One of our admin team will be more than happy to help.

Earlier this term we were delighted to receive our Silver Eco School Award. Such a collective achievement. Here is some of the feedback that we received 'Your bottle top collection through My Group's School Cycled scheme has clearly captured the imagination of your entire school. Collecting over 66.82kg is no small feat, and the fact that it translates into 16,705 Earth Tokens is a testament to the collective effort and enthusiasm across all year groups. Exchanging your tokens for a mud pit and recycled furniture for the nursery classroom is the perfect way to close the loop. children will see the tangible results of their actions, and it reinforces the message that waste can be transformed into something wonderful.' Thank you to every one who saved their bottle tops for us and to Miss Kirk for her commitment to this initiative. Next we are going for gold!

At the end of the half term we said goodbye to Mrs Barber our senior midday supervisor who has left us to begin a very well deserved retirement. Mrs Barber has worked at Priory Lane for 35 years and has looked after generations of families across lunchtime. There were tears and cheers when she blew her whistle for the last time on Friday lunchtime. A true Priory Lane icon and the end of an era.

My highlights of this half term have undoubtedly been welcoming so many parents to our autumn term parents evening and the Halloween discos. It was a pleasure to meet so many of you on parents evening as I walked around school. The children have all worked very hard in the first half term (as have the teachers) and I know that they shared their work with you with a well deserved sense of pride. The Halloween discos were a Spooktacular success - so many wonderful costumes! Huge thanks must go to our very own Moneybees for their help and support in organising the events and all of the staff who stayed and joined in with the dancing and fun.

There is much to look forward to in school as we begin the countdown to Christmas. We will share dates of Christmas events in the next few weeks including the date for a Christmas Fair.

This week our Celebration Assembly has moved to Thursday 6th November. This is because on Friday 7th November all of the children will enjoy a 'Get Glowing' Disco and Dance event. Our hall will be out of use all day while each class has their chance to glow, sparkle and shine. Celebration assemblies will return to a Friday morning from Friday 14th November.

Thank you for your continued support. Mrs Leighton

Early Years Foundation Stage



During this first half term, we have been learning about ourselves and each other. We have discussed and compared our appearance, our families and houses, developing our understanding

that everyone is different and this is what makes us special. We have also been taught new

vocabulary to help us to understand and express our feelings.

As part of our creative development, we have been practising our cutting skills. We have learnt to keep our thumbs on top and tuck our elbows in. We have recreated the artwork of Kandinsky and Mondrian.

Pat, a dental nurse, came to school to teach us about the importance of brushing our teeth. She gifted us our own toothbrushes, and since her visit we have brushed our teeth every day at school. When it has been one of our friend's birthdays, we have helped them celebrate by baking birthday cakes. Although, we need to keep practising cracking the eggs!

Following our visit to Normanby Hall, next half term we will be learning about the season autumn during our topic 'Beneath the Branches'. We will look at autumn treasures and discuss how the weather, trees and days are changing. A visit from the local hedgehog rescue centre will teach us about hibernation and how to care for animals in the colder months.



In keeping with our autumnal theme next half term's recommended read is The Leaf Thief by Alice Hemming

You can also listen to this story on You tube by searching for The Leaf Thief.

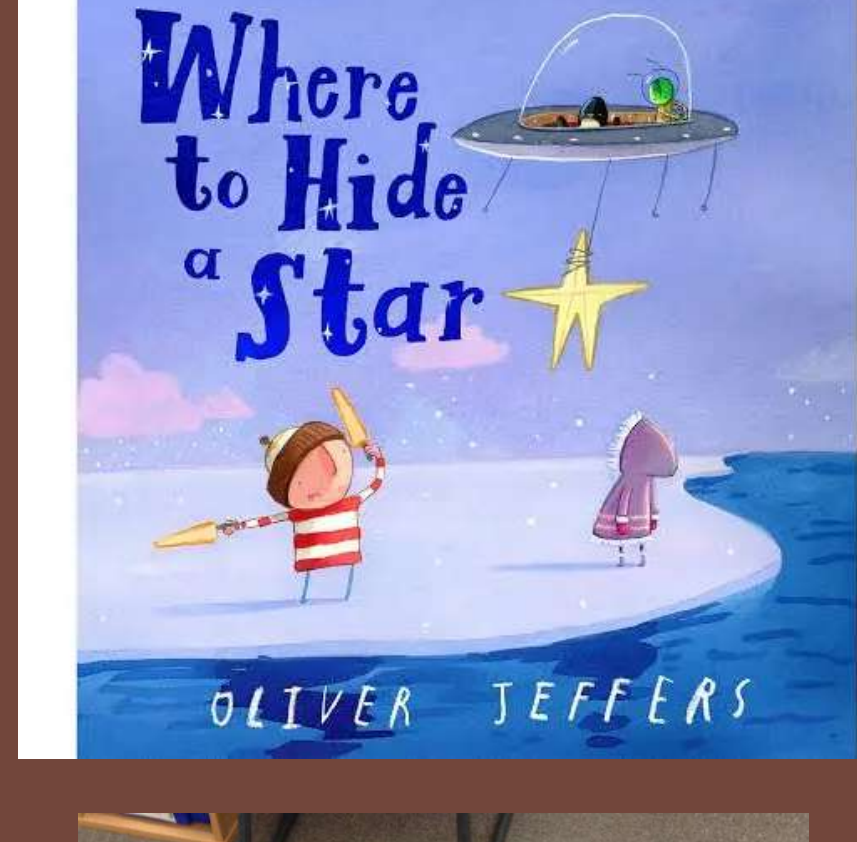
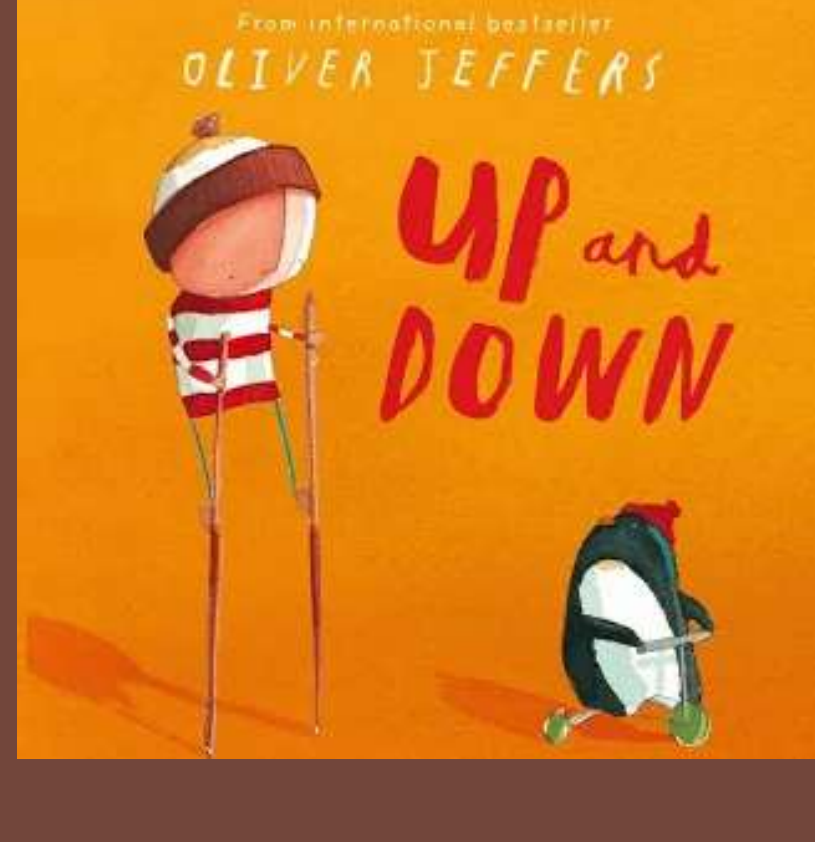
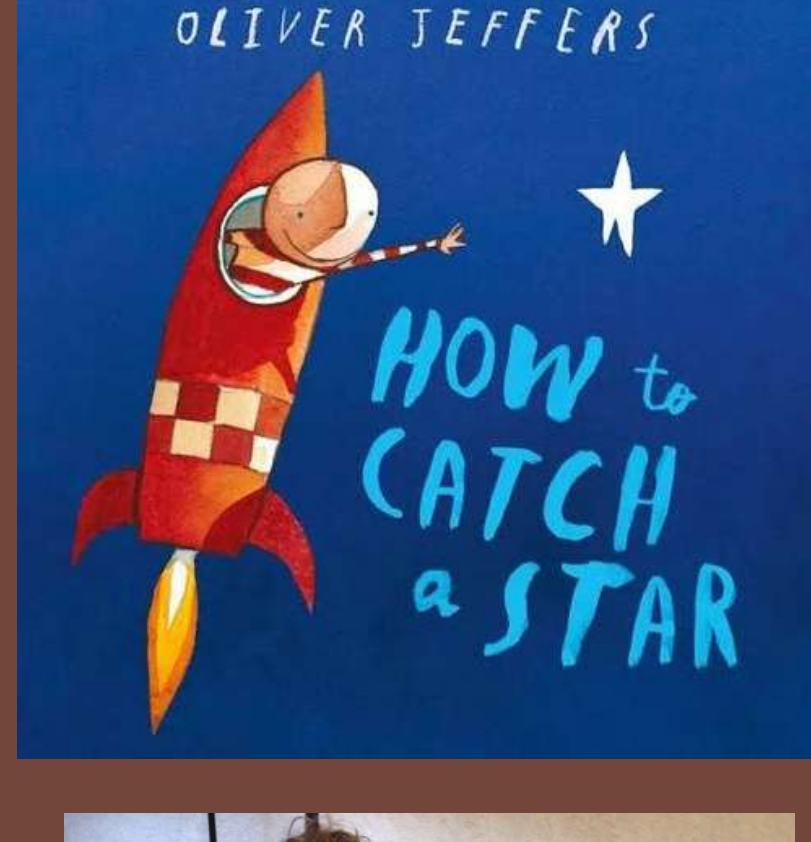
Enjoy!



Year 1

What a wonderful start Y1 Penguins have had to this new academic year. They have all settled really well into new routines and expectations. I am very proud of all of them. In English, the children have produced amazing, independent writing based on the Oliver Jeffers book 'Lost and Found'. Our display outside the classroom showcases this writing process and the children have copied this into their 'Publishing Book'.

We have listened to many of his other stories during Story Time too. Here are a few recommendations



All of the children have enjoyed our Art lessons. We began exploring different types of lines and pressure. We then focussed on colouring and ensuring that we keep in the same direction and within the lines. All of this hard work has resulted in fantastic portraits inspired by abstract artist Paul Klee.



Next half term in History we will be exploring toys through the ages. We are also going to be looking at structures in Design and Technology with the end product being a pencil pot. I cannot wait to get started with these topics.



Please be aware, next half term outdoor PE will be on a Tuesday and indoor PE will be on a Friday.

As always, thank you for your continued support, Mrs Keighley

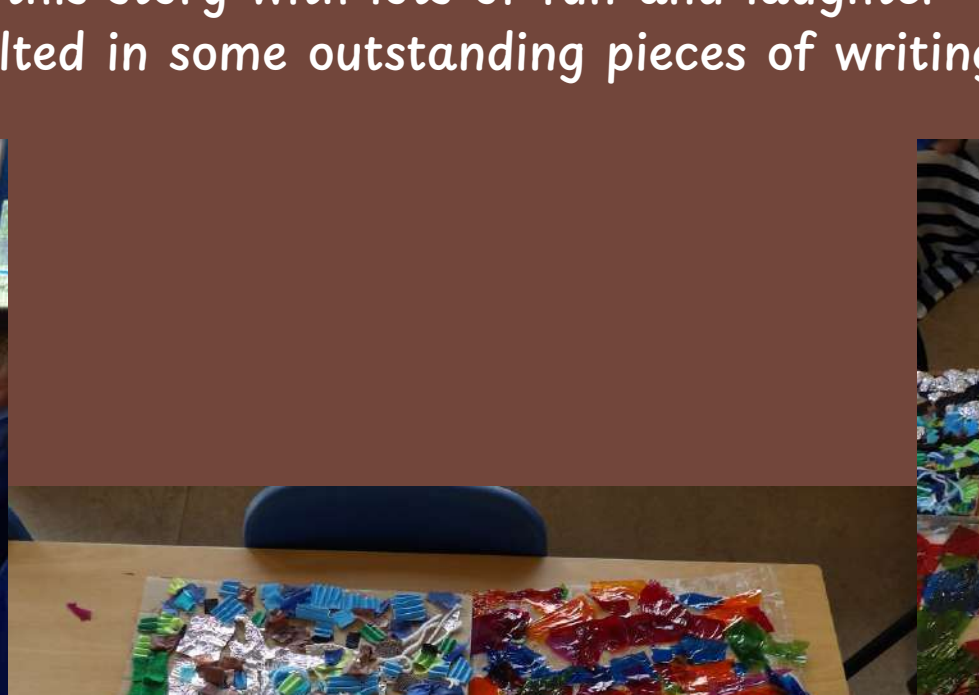


Year 2

What a busy half term it has been in Y2 Dolphins!

The children have settled brilliantly and I am bursting with pride at how hard they have worked.

In English, we have been looking at the book Look Up! by Nathan Bryon. We fully embraced this story with lots of fun and laughter - we even went to space! This resulted in some outstanding pieces of writing - well done, Dolphins!



In Art, the children have produced several amazing pieces of work, all based on maps. They began by drawing a map, before going on to create a collage, a stained glass window, and a print inspired by their original design. The children explored the elements of art and fully embraced their creativity throughout the process. Mrs Leighton, Miss Kirk and Mr Renney attended our gallery experience, and they were super impressed with our remarkable work!



The children have also worked incredibly hard across all other areas of the curriculum.

Next half term, the children will be taking part in Design and Technology lessons where they will be exploring structures. I can't wait to get going with this - it's going to be fabulous!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Franco



Year 3

In the first part of the Autumn term, Year 3 have been extremely busy. They have settled well into their new classes and have learned the new routines and expectations.

In History, the children have learned about prehistory – the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They have learned about where people lived, their tools and weapons, trade and conflict, and religion. They have ended the half term writing a non-chronological report comparing life within these periods of time.



In Design and Technology, the children have been learning about seasonal foods. They have used atlases to research where the foods they eat come from and have learned about the foods in season in the U.K. They then had the opportunity to taste and evaluate different seasonal vegetables, such as pumpkins, cabbages and cauliflower. This allowed them to decide which vegetables they wanted to include in their final product – a seasonal tart. The children practised the bridge and claw chopping techniques, before creating and tasting their final products. This was definitely a highlight of the half term for Year 3!



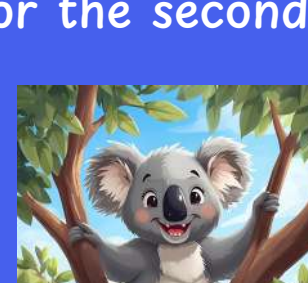
In Science, the children have been learning about skeletons, muscles and nutrition. They have learned the names of many bones within the human body, as well as the function of them. The children created bones from paper in order to be able to discuss these functions. They have also learned about vertebrates and invertebrates. Year 3 children demonstrated good understanding of a balanced diet when they designed their own healthy meal. In the final week of the half term, the children learned about food chains and enjoyed creating food chains in small groups. They especially enjoyed writing on the tables!



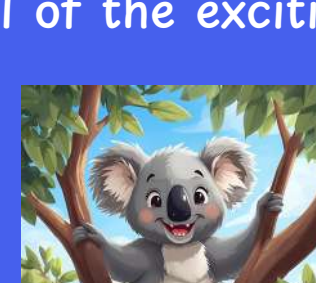
In PSHE, the children have enjoyed using the new Jigsaw scheme. We have been introduced to our Year 3 mascots: Jigsaw Jino and Jerrycat. These help us both in PSHE lessons and in our everyday life within school. We have been learning about rights and responsibilities and our role within the school. This has helped us to think about our behaviour choices and consider how our behaviour affects other people.



We are very excited for the second part of the Autumn term, and for all of the exciting learning opportunities we have planned.



Year 4



This half term, the Koalas have been on an incredible learning adventure! Our key text, Counting on Katherine, has truly inspired the children. Through Katherine's story, they've discovered the importance of perseverance, never giving up on their hopes and dreams and learned valuable lessons about equality and treating everyone with respect.

In Science, the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the fascinating world of teeth and digestion. They investigated the different types of teeth found in both humans and animals, and discovered how our digestive system works through a series of fun, hands-on experiments.

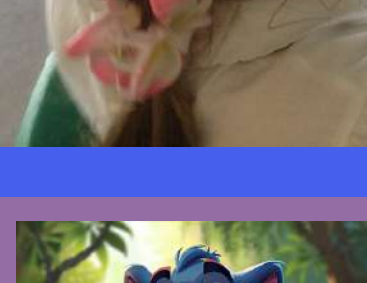


Design Technology has been another huge highlight! The Koalas learned all about air resistance before working in teams to design and build their very own buggies. Once completed, the classroom transformed into a racetrack as the children put their creations to the test in some thrilling buggy races!



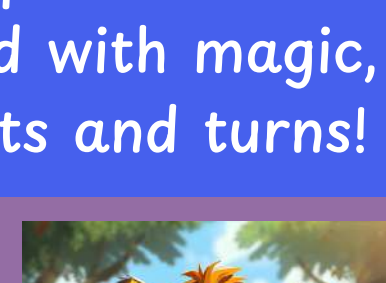
Next half term promises even more exciting learning opportunities. In History, we'll be delving into the world of Roman Britain; in Science, we'll be investigating the States of Matter; and in Art, we'll begin a new topic called Fabric of Nature, exploring textures, patterns, and creativity.

Our new class text will transport us to a circus-themed adventure, filled with magic, mystery, and unexpected twists and turns!



Year 5

It's been a busy and exciting half term in Year 5!



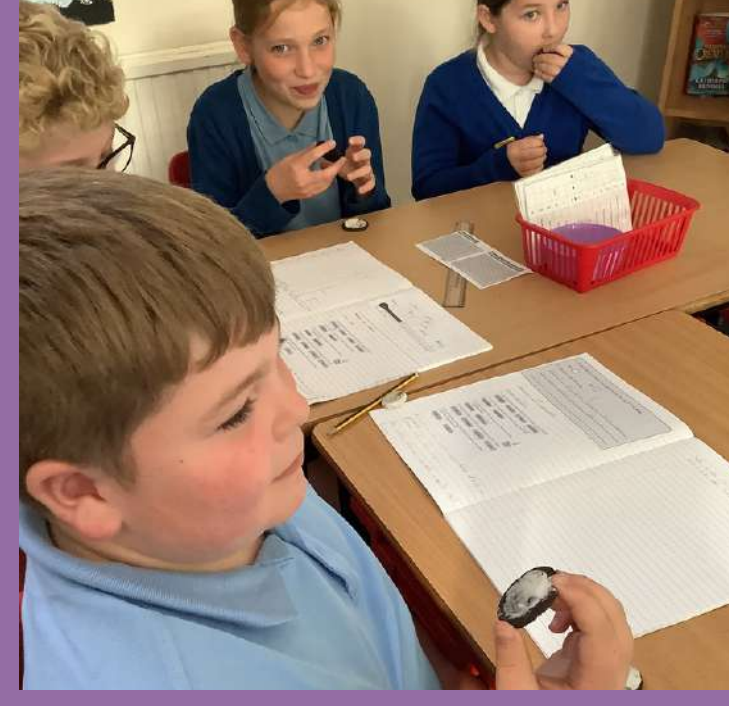
In DT, the children have been designing and creating their own doodlers — exploring how simple circuits and mechanisms can be combined to produce movement and creativity. They've loved experimenting with different materials and seeing their designs come to life!



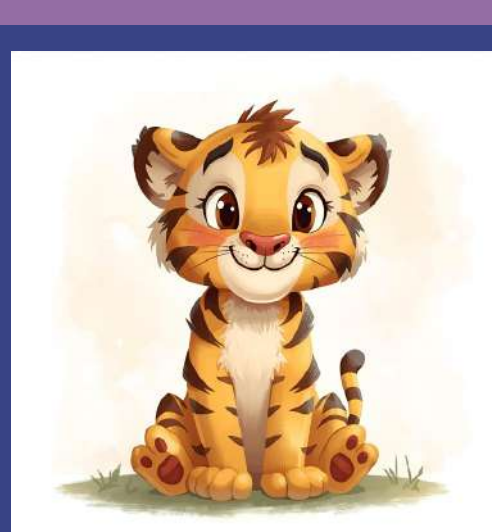
In Geography, we've been learning all about Asia — exploring its vast human and physical features, understanding where its boundaries lie, and discovering how it connects to the rest of the world. This led us into an introduction to tectonic plates and how their movement shapes the Earth. We've now begun investigating natural disasters such as earthquakes and volcanoes, and we'll continue this exciting topic after half term.

In Science, our topic has been Earth and Space. The children have explored the Solar System, learning about the planets, the Sun, and the Moon. We've also investigated how the rotation of the Earth causes day and night, helping us understand why different parts of the world experience daylight and darkness at different times. A highlight was using Oreos to model the phases of the Moon — a fun (and tasty!) way to understand how the Moon changes shape in the night sky.

It's been a wonderful term full of curiosity and creativity. We're looking forward to continuing our journey of discovery after the half term break!



Year 6



The Lions and Tigers have had an extremely busy start to the year, and we appreciate all of children's hard work and determination to succeed! In English, we have loved reading Anthony Browne's interpretation of King Kong. We have enjoyed writing our own endings to the story creating tension and atmosphere. All of the children have been extremely proud of their work and presented it beautifully using their bubble writing.

In science, we enjoyed our topic of light where we had fun investigating shadows and learned how an illusion can be created using refraction.



Within our history topic, we have been learning about the Ancient Greeks and how they influenced the world.

This half term in art, we have had fun exploring digital art and recreating our own interpretations of Edvard Munch's: The Scream.

