



**2023 - 2024 Edition Seven (06.02.2024)**

### **Half-Time!**

Where does time go, Christmas only seems like yesterday, yet we find ourselves already in February half way through the academic year. Due to being a short term it's been incredibly busy. The first week saw the vast majority of KS2 children trek over the bridge to enjoy the West End performance of Aladdin in Cardiff. Week Two saw the Science Dome set up in the hall for Year 3 and 4 to find out more about Volcanoes and Year 5 and 6 took a journey into Space. EYFS donned woolley hats and coats and enjoyed the sights of Noah's Ark in Bristol, whilst Year 1 and 2 went digging for fossils as well as meeting a pair of baby dinosaurs as part of their Dinosaur topic. Before we had time to draw breath, week three saw Year 3 and 4 visit a mosque in Bristol as part of their RE topic this term. With the last two weeks seeing the children use all these experiences in their work back in the classroom. We couldn't begin to offer these experiences without your contributions, so if you haven't made Term 3's payment, please go onto ParentPay and make a contribution. Thank you.

### **Join Your Child @ School Sessions**

Thank you to all you that have attended the 2 sessions this term, it was fantastic to see you enjoying some time in the classroom undertaking some Art and Science activities alongside your child. Can I just remind you that these are times to find out a little about what we do in the classroom, not a time to try and speak to the class teacher about other things. If you have any questions please catch the teacher at the end of the day or use the [ask@priestley.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ask@priestley.wilts.sch.uk) email.

### **School Uniform**

Just a quick reminder that a massive part of being 'Priestley and Proud' is taking pride in wearing the school uniform. I appreciate costs continue to rise but we have worked hard with our uniform suppliers to keep prices down and most of the supermarkets have affordable uniform. Santa was obviously kind this year and we've started to see fancy trainers creeping into school, black or brown footwear only please. We will be speaking to the children encouraging them to make sure they are all wearing the team colours next term.

### **Tag Rugby Club**

After a successful taster day in school, we are trialling a 'pay & play' Tag Rugby club. I would like to take a moment to remind you all that 'The Sports Project' are a separate organisation from the school and are just using Priestley as their venue for the sessions. All arrangements, ie any medical requirements and communication will be between yourselves and 'The Sports Project'. I am aware of the clash with Dodgeball Club, however, should this be a success we will look to try and ensure they are not on the same day in the future.

### **Careers Fair**

Our annual Careers Fair is creeping up on us and I look forward to welcoming some regular attenders back this year as well as welcoming some new faces. It looks like it will be another fantastic afternoon for the children in Years 4 to 6, which allow them to begin to explore the possibilities that might lie ahead of them out in the big wide world post education. This sowing the seeds of ambition are so important in developing the intrinsic motivation that the children will require to successfully move through the education system and enjoy their occupation of choice in later life. We have a few stalls left for this year's fair and would like to offer the opportunity to other trades, careers, and business's this year. Therefore, if you think you'll be able to add to this year's event on Thursday, 29 February, please do not hesitate to contact the school office to find out a little more.

### **Booking School Lunches**

All School lunches must be booked through ParentPay and can be booked in advance up to the end of March, this is the responsibility of you as parents and still needs to be actioned even if you have Free School Meals. The office is having to make an increasing amount of phone calls to parents who have forgotten to order their child's lunches for the week and requests for lunch boxes that have been left at home.

A helpful hint, if you are ordering more than one week of lunches, you need to save each week individually (scroll to the bottom of the screen) or the choices won't register on the system.

### **Smoking on Site**

Just a reminder that the entire school site, (from the road gate through to the back Rec gate) is a no smoking area. This ban also includes Vapes.

### **Dates**

**Monday 12 – Friday 16 February – School Holiday.**

**Monday 19 February – TD Day, School closed to all pupils.**

**Tuesday 20 February – First Day of Term 4**

**Thursday 29 February – Careers Fair.**

**Friday 15 March – Comic Relief**

**Tuesday 19 & Thursday 21 March – Parents Evenings**

**Tuesday 26 March – Priestley & Proud Session**

**Thursday 28 March – Last day of Term 4.**

**Friday 29 March – Friday 12 April – School Holiday.**

**Monday 15 April – First day of Term 5.**

**Wednesday 17 – Friday 19 April – Yr3 & 4 Skern Lodge Residential.**

Priestley & Proud

*A Marsh-Ballard*

A Marsh-Ballard  
Headteacher