

Newsletter



Comic Relief 2019

Priory Woods giggled and laughed our way through Red Nose Day 2019, raising money for Comic Relief.

Comic Relief is a UK charity which aims to create a just world free from poverty. Pupils and staff made a sea of red with t-shirts, boppers and red noses taking over our school!

With help from our fantastic parents we held a bake sale, did a dance-a-thon, a box-a-thon and even a splat-a-thon where pupils got the chance to soak some of our hardworking staff.

We ended the day with a funny talent show and prize giving assembly. As well as having lots of fun we raised a massive £429 which will help to make a difference to so many lives. As ever thank you so much for your support.



Message from Janis

Time for another end of term newsletter.

As always, it has been a busy term for children and young people and staff as you will see from this newsletter.

Now that we are two thirds of the way through the year, it is wonderful to see the progress our students are making. Our Reception children are very settled and our leavers are planning their Prom and in between, there have been lots of exciting learning experiences for everyone including sporting events, theatre visits, charity events, World Book Day, enterprise challenges and so much more.

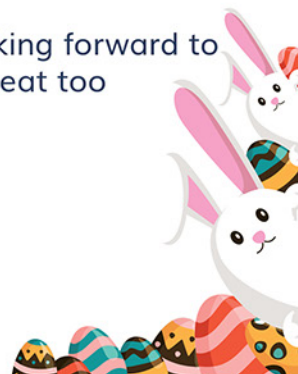
This term we have been sad to say goodbye to one of our Teaching Assistants, Myra Robinson, who has retired after fifteen years with us; we wish her all the very best. Richard Walker left right at the end of last term and is off to pastures new. Again, we wish him all the very best for his future career.

Please may I take this opportunity to thank all of our staff whether in classes or as part of our support staff, for their continued hard work day in, day out? May I also thank the PTA for organising the Easter Eggstravaganza, giving families the opportunity to meet up and enjoy some time together.

Last but not least, a huge thank you to all of our families for supporting your children and working with us to help them achieve the best they possibly can. One of the nicest parts of my job is when we get feedback from people we have worked with who contact me to say what fabulous students we have and how their behaviour and attitude is exemplary, so thanks to all of our families as we couldn't make this happen without your support.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter break and looking forward to the new term which begins on 23.4.19. Don't eat too much chocolate!

Kind regards
Janis





Northern Ballet

Lower School had a visit from Northern Ballet. A dancer came in to work with us and look at the story of Puss in Boots. Each class had a workshop and everyone enjoyed the day. We are going to see a Northern Ballet production of Puss in Boots in April.



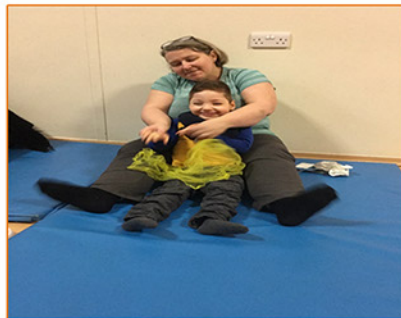
World Book Day

Lower School all enjoyed World Book Day. Our story this year was "Monkey Puzzle" everyone dressed up as different animals. We spent the day doing all sorts of animal themed activities. The sensory room and the rebound room were transformed into jungles



Yogabugs

Throughout the academic year, we have been taking part in weekly Yogabugs sessions which have sought to promote positional improvement and relaxation. Most recently the children have been completing a variety of Yoga positions linked to the Down in the Jungle story.



Paws, Claws and Whiskers

Our topic this half term has been Paws, Claws and Whiskers. Alison brought her pet rabbit in to meet everyone. He was really popular, everyone enjoyed stroking him.



Upper School

G1 Navy Project

The students in G1 have been working hard on a Royal Navy project this term. They were asked to design an aircraft, which would be suitable for the future Royal Navy. They enjoyed taking part in lots of research, and speaking to people who work in the Navy. This afternoon we went to the presentation to see which school had won the competition. We were extremely proud when the students were awarded with a runner up trophy and certificate.

Their final designs were fantastic, Well done!



G2 'Scrumdiddlyumptious'

G2 have had great fun exploring our 'Scrumdiddlyumptious' theme. We watched the old version of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and read the story. We made models of parts of the factory and displayed them in the library. We made scrumdiddlyumptious treats in cookery, and then used them to do some Smartie Cake maths.



G4 Easter Fair Stall

G4 students have been really busy planning and organising their stall for the Easter Fair. They have decided what their own challenge will be and wrote shopping lists, made posters and planned costs for their stall. They have also been practising talking to customers ready for the fair. The students are already excited for their next stall in the summer!



WHOLE SCHOOL

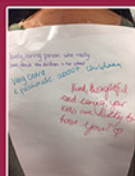
THRIVE in Middlesbrough

At Priory Woods we have embraced the Thrive approach to support all children's emotional and social learning through improving their understanding of neuroscience, how their brains work and what helps them to be resilient, regulated and happy.

The approach has been helping the families, staff and pupils at Priory Woods for a few years now and we are excited to announce that this year we became a training school for Thrive in the North East.

Eleven fantastic delegates from schools across Middlesbrough have just successfully completed a ten day training programme qualifying them as accredited Thrive practitioners! Using a mixture of theoretical and practical activities staff can now offer whole school training alongside whole class, small group and individual support to pupils that is personalised and targeted through the Thrive Online programme to meet the unique needs of their pupils.

The delegates were an absolute pleasure to teach and we know they will be fantastic taking Thrive into their own schools. To find out more information about Thrive please contact Kathrine Hughes or Lynn Stainthorpe.



Problem Solving Day

Priory Woods had a wonderful problem solving day this term. They took part in lots of different activities, such as animal patterns, bush tucker trials, the crystal maze, chocolate challenges and escape room. We all had lots of fun!!!



Art Celebration Day

Lower school – Paws, Claws and Whiskers.

Friday 29th March

A chance for invited guests to see art work, dance, drama and music pieces as well as an animal mask making activity, a visit to a 'live' drama session and the opportunity to take home a framed piece of art.

Timings for classes are as follows;
Pink and Red classes; 9:30-10:30am
Yellow and Green classes; 11:00-12:00am
Blue, Orange and Gold classes; 1:00-2:00pm
Silver class; 2:00-3:00pm



Open Orchestra

Our Newly formed Open Orchestra have recently performed twice at Middlesbrough town hall.

The feedback from each audience has been amazing. We are having our end of year performance on Tuesday the 18th of June alongside Beverley students.

We hope to see some of you there.



The Rockets

The Rockets were explosive when they performed a dance piece called Bookworm at the Durham Gala Theatre as part of the Best Foot Forward festival by Tin Arts.



Once Upon a Wall

Upper school have been working with Fully Booked Theatre Company, helping them to explore and create ideas and for their upcoming show 'Once upon a Wall'. Which will be performed in school next term. We have drawn a forest of food, rapped about how we rock, built a human wall and danced like superstars.



Singing Stars

The singing choir dazzled an audience with their ever growing repertoire at Marton Methodist Church.



'Shakespearians'

The Royal Shakespeare Company have been in school working with our 'Shakespearians'. The group will perform Romeo and Juliet in the summer term.



Bamboozle, Down to Earth



Bamboozle theatre company performed a piece called 'Down to Earth' which was performed for our PMLD students and was an interactive, multi-sensory production inspired by the land army girls of World War II.

Singing Workshop

Students have been working on improving their singing skills in a singing workshop masterclass.



Urban Kaos

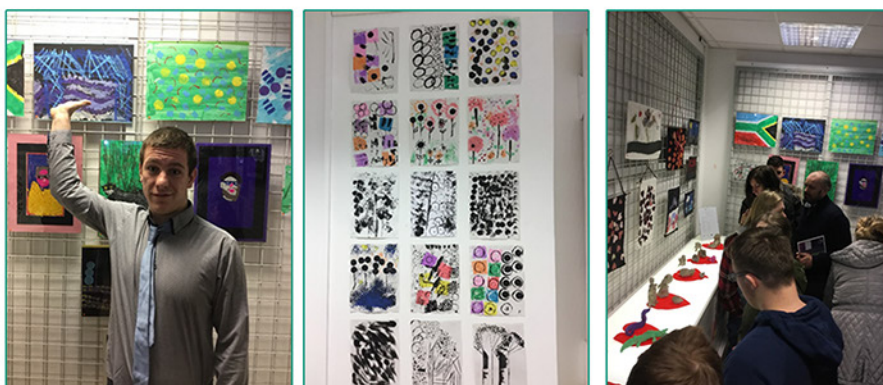
Dance company, Urban Kaos have also been delivering sessions to students.



POST 16

Post 16 Art Exhibition

Post 16 students took part in a workshop afternoon with 4 local artists, working with photography, 3D clay work and printing. They then made their own pieces which were exhibited in Gallery TS1 in Middlesbrough. It was very exciting seeing their work at the opening event.



POST 16 PE

The students from P16 loved trying out something new in PE. They visited Black Dragonz kickboxing and Amy Simpson's fitness.



'NAME IT'

Post 16 'name it' enterprise entered a competition for best trade stand at the Metro Centre. We were really proud that our students gave up their Sunday to take part.

The competition not only involved selling goods to members of the public, it also included an interview by a judge.

Our students smashed it and gained themselves a well deserved second place.



2nd Place

ENTERPRISE

Please click on and like our Priory Woods Enterprise facebook page to keep up to date with the gifts our Enterprise groups make which includes the following;



And also includes sweet cones and personalised chocolate bars, perfect for party favours!

www.facebook.com/PrioryWoodsEnterprise