



We honour God through our actions
www.priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk

Priory RC Primary School

Telephone: 01803 328480

E-mail: admin@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk

PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

15th January 2010

Dear Parents/Carers and Friends of our school

After an interesting couple of weeks due to weather conditions, we are thinking about how we can improve our communication with you, especially when we need to contact you urgently. There are many times when we go to contact parents by mobile only to discover that the number does not work and they have forgotten to give us the new number. It would be really helpful to us if all parents with email access would send an email to admin@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk including your child's name, class teacher, in order that we may set up a group to send you weekly newsletters and other information. This way we can save a lot of paper and guarantee that you get the letters and any other important information as soon as possible.

Below is a list of our class teachers' email addresses. If you send an email to your child's teacher/s also, they will be able to email you the weekly homework, class news and any details about visits or cancellations of clubs etc.

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| jthomas@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk | Reception |
| cayles@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk | Class 1 |
| jtickell@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk | Class 2 |
| lhill@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk | Class 3/4 |
| clowry@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk or
shopkins@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk | Class 5 |
| pgodwinbrown@priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk | Class 6 |

Hopefully the worst of the icy weather is behind us, but please stay in touch with local radio and news or click on the links on our school website for updates on the situation www.priory-primary.torbay.sch.uk .

Torbay Council

www.torbay.gov.uk/index/education/schools/schoolclosures.htm

Heart radio www.hearttorbay.co.uk

Palm FM Radio www.palm.fm

FREE COMPUTERS

As previously notified the Home Access programme will give an opportunity for approximately 250,000 low income families across the country to gain grant entitlement to a computer, connectivity for one year, service and support, parental controls and, where appropriate, assistive technology.

In Torbay this may be as many as 1500 families.

This programme went live yesterday so you may find the following helpful.

Eligibility

If a parent believes they are eligible (see quick checklist below) for a Home Access grant they simply call the Home Access Grant Helpline on **0333 200 1004*** to get an application form.

Quick eligibility check

They may be able to qualify for a Home Access grant if they:

- Answer yes to three questions in Section one AND
- Answer yes to at least one question in Section two

Section One:

Are they a parent or guardian responsible for and living with a child.....

...who is in school years 3 to 9?

...who attends a state-maintained school in England full time?

...who has not already had a computer from a Home Access Grant or similar programme, such as Computers for Pupils?

Section Two:

Do they receive at least one of the following?

- Free school meals for your child
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income support
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and an income of less than £16,040
- Guaranteed Pension Credit (not Savings Credit)
- Income-based Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

There is no catch!

The scheme runs until March 2011 and it is anticipated that the funding will be sufficient to meet the target group in full, but whilst there is little likelihood of the funding drying up, the sooner our young people in



DIocese of PLYMOUTH

Our SEAL target this week is 'I am taking responsibility for when things go wrong.'

Torbay have access to additional tools for learning and raising their aspirations, the better.

There will be additional guidance to the Local Authority in the coming weeks on the application of this scheme to children in care.

Further information for families:

<http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/>

*Inevitably, as the programme has gone live today, the Home Access Helpline is likely to be very busy in the first week or so. Applicants should not be put off by this!



ATTENDANCE CUP

Week Ending 8th January 2010

Reception 100%

Class 1 96.0%

Class 2 89.7%

Class 3/4 90.3%

Class 5 96.7%

Class 6 100%

Well done Class 6 & Reception

Uniform Teddy Award = Reception

Number Smart Award = Holly in Class 6

House Points – Blue = 262 points

TORBAY DEANERY – WORLD YOUTH DAY

QUIZ NIGHT at St Joseph's Church Hall, 96 Queen Street, Newton Abbot on Friday 29th January 2010 – 7.30 until 9.00 ish. Teams to be no less than three and no more than six. Please bring a plate of food and a drink to share – Everyone Welcome.

SCHOOL NURSE – Our school nurse, Rachel, will be very pleased to see any parents who wish to see her on her visiting day, Mondays from 8.30 – 9.30 am.

SWIMMING – Every Wednesday for Classes 1 and 2. Please make cheques payable to Priory School Association.

ACADEMY SOCCER – Coaching after school on Wednesday until 4.25pm.

FOOTBALL – After school on Tuesdays with Mr Ayles and Mr Godwin Brown (weather and pitch permitting) NO PRACTICE IF A MATCH BEING PLAYED SAME WEEK.

BRASS INSTRUMENT TUITION – For any parent interested in private tuition for their children, we have information available in the school office. Mr Stephen Young is a qualified instructor who has demonstrated at one of our school assemblies. He teaches trumpet, cornet, French horn, baritone, trombone, euphonium & tuba.

FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN

This **Saturday, 16th January**, the children will meet in the SCHOOL HALL from 9.30 until 12 noon. The monthly parents meeting is on **Thursday, 21st January** in the Church at 6pm as usual.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a funeral at church on Friday 22nd January, so no parking on that day please.

Classes 5 & 6 : A letter has been sent home this week regarding a visit to a LIFE Exhibition at Upton Vale Baptist church, next week. Please return consent slips asap to the office.

Advice about Swine flu

Torbay Care Trust's Flu Information Line, on 01803 217222. The Line is open every day from 8am to 8pm. Outside these hours, please contact NHS Direct on 0845 4647

Dates for the diary:

Parents Evenings

MONDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY – Classes 6, 5 & 2

TUESDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY – Classes 6, 5 & 2

WEDNESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY – Reception, Classes 1 & 3/4

THURSDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY – Reception, Classes 1 & 3/4

Letters to follow next week.

Spring Term

Half Term Monday, 15th February to Friday, 19th February inclusive

Last Day in School Thursday, 1st April 2010

Summer Term

Starts Monday, 21st April 2010

Half Term Monday, 31st May to

Wednesday, 9th June inclusive

Last Day in School Friday, 23rd July 2010

Best wishes

Sarah Barreto



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