

Spot the Difference – Priory Class

Just shy of a week, we have seen our new classroom evolve in many subtle and some obvious ways. Can you spot the difference between Tuesday's and Friday's photos?



Working in a new and modern space is a great way to kickstart our learning for the year. We have been delighted with the way in which years 5 and 6 are responding to the large number of adjustments that they have been required to make on their return to school. In fact, our plan for next week is for the children to become incredibly slick at building in new routines, so that we can maximise our learning opportunities on any given day. We have also witnessed multiple glimpses of greatness over the past week, from individuals and the class as a whole - we work as a team - and this gives us so much hope and positivity for the year ahead.

The class has now been introduced to our new text, 'Here We Are', which is being studied across the whole school. This book has already given us the chance to see the positives from the past 6 months. We have talked about our existing relationships and why these might be even more precious than before, how much we value the opportunity to return to school and the impact that COVID has had on our environment. Our remit, in years 5 and 6, is to write poetry and undertake letter writing, but we will share more about this with you as the term unfolds.

In maths, we are looking at place value; our Base-10 number system is the structure that sits behind everything that we know and understand about number. This will continue to be our focus for the term, although we are starting small, by focusing on numbers up to 10 million!

Science is all about Earth and Space this term and while we have explained to the children that although I might not be teaching them about things like black holes, there is no reason why they can't use their time outside of school to find out more. Please encourage that curiosity at home, whatever the subject, as that interest might very well become their area of interest or specialism as an adult.

In terms of the everyday practicalities, please ensure that your child is provided with a named drink bottle each day. Our new classroom is really rather warm... even with the windows open... and it's important that we all keep hydrated to keep the lethargy at bay. Our **PE lesson, next week (7th September), will be on Monday, although this may change** – please bear with us as we fine-tune our arrangements. We would ask that jewellery is not worn to school on PE days, where possible, as we do not have measures in place to safely look after it.

Finally, we would like to say thank you - your support and positive encouragement means a lot. We're very keen that we focus on the positives of each day, and we promise that there's plenty of conversations to have around this at home! As the class has already heard, when my daughter was at primary school, she always came home telling me about what went wrong in the day, so I changed the approach – she needed to tell me 3 positive things before anything negative was mentioned. I can assure you that this approach produced a highly desirable outcome!

Here's to a great year ahead – it's one that we're really looking forward to.

With best wishes,

Mrs Flower and Mrs Davis