



Curriculum Newsletter



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#shineatpriorweston

Virtual tour @ <https://bit.ly/32RoLWi>

#unitedagainstbullying

We aim high * We are resilient * We are curious learners * We value diversity * We are respectful

Dear Prior Weston families,

Welcome to our first curriculum newsletter of the year. The children have had a great start to the year and have been incredibly busy already.

As I'm sure you're aware, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum at Prior Weston with lots of opportunities for learning to come to life for the children.

So far this year, we've had Year 6 go off to Devon on their farm trip and then began their forest school sessions. Year 5 (Parliament) have started their STEAM workshops with The Local Village Network where they learn about a range of occupations within the STEAM industries. Our Year 4 class have begun their block of swimming lessons and are thoroughly enjoying themselves.

The rest of school have been busy settling into their new classes and getting stuck into all of their learning and amazing lessons.

Our curriculum offer for each year group is available on our website alongside some other resources for you. Please do have a look <https://www.priorweston.islington.sch.uk/learning/curriculum>

In this issue, our curriculum leaders would like to share a little bit about their subject area and share their pictures in case if you ever wish to speak to them.

Bev oversees the curriculum for EYFS-Y1 and I oversee Y2-Y6 and we're always happy to help as well.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Aoife

Assistant Head



Our Curriculum Leads—English

Hello, I am Asma, I am the English lead at Prior Weston. At our school, English is not only the medium or tool with which all our pupils communicate and access all their learning - it is also taught as a core subject.

At PW, English and the teaching of English is the foundation of our curriculum. The overarching aim of English in the national curriculum is to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with a strong command of the spoken and written word and to develop a love of literature through widespread reading for pleasure.



English equips pupils with a uniquely powerful set of tools to understand and engage with the world. These tools include the ability and confidence to communicate clearly and effectively using both spoken and written words, to listen with understanding and to be responsive, knowledgeable readers.

At PW, we place great emphasis on high-quality core texts that help inspire, engage and fully equip our pupils with the language skills needed to excel as readers and writers. Our English Curriculum teaches the following stands and skills: Reading, Writing, SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar), and handwriting.

Writing: At PW we aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum for English with a focus on a core quality text- both modern and classic- as well as film clips and other mediums. These rich, quality stimuli are used as inspiration for writing as well as providing the best opportunities to broaden and improve children's understanding of vocabulary. Every child at PW should not only leave being able to confidently and competently read, write and speak aloud but to also love doing so.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling throughout the school is vital to ensuring that our pupils leave with a solid understanding of how to use English within the correct context, both orally and in written forms. At PW, we teach our pupils the core skills explicitly weekly within English lessons that will then feed into their writing throughout that week's writing sessions so that every child is able to confidently understand and apply the key concepts of writing.

Handwriting is a key skill for all our pupils to use and develop fluency throughout the school. Handwriting is taught explicitly with teachers modelling how to use the correct strokes, join ascenders and descenders. We use the Nelson Handwriting format that allows pupils to learn the fundamentals and importance of handwriting and the develop their own neat and joined style.

Our Curriculum Leads—English

Hi, my name is Hannah Perkins and I lead on Maths at Prior Weston.

Our goal is for everyone to feel confident and positive in Maths lessons and to develop a love for the subject. I found Maths daunting at school myself and now I love the subject and I want all children to have the opportunity to feel like this too.

We use lots of different strategies to support this in our lessons including a variety of physical resources and images. We use a government-recommended scheme called White Rose Maths which supports children in developing a mastery of the subject. This means they have a depth of understanding that can be applied in multiple mathematical scenarios rather than just memorising facts.

All children have Times Table Rockstar accounts where they can battle each other and even have whole year group tournaments. We celebrate children's rockstar progress in assemblies and have a whole school celebration of Maths annually on NSPCC Number Day. We take the time to ensure every child feels supported and gets the individual help they need, both in and out, of Maths lessons.

I love talking about Maths! So please come and talk to me with any queries you have.



Our Curriculum Leads— Science

Hi, I'm Aoife and I'm the Science Lead. My role is to ensure that science education is engaging, challenging, and accessible to all students. I oversee the planning, delivery, and assessment of science lessons, working closely with staff to ensure a consistent and high-quality approach across the school. We use the Kent Scheme of Work to guide our curriculum, which provides a structured framework that ensures progression and builds on key scientific concepts year on year. This approach helps to develop both scientific knowledge and the skills necessary for inquiry-based learning.

Beyond the classroom, we offer a range of exciting opportunities for our students to deepen their love for science and engage with real-world applications. Keep an eye out for our STEM club that will be coming in the next term and the activities that we will be partaking in for British Science Week.

By combining a solid curriculum with extracurricular opportunities, we aim to nurture the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators, helping them develop both their academic and creative potential.

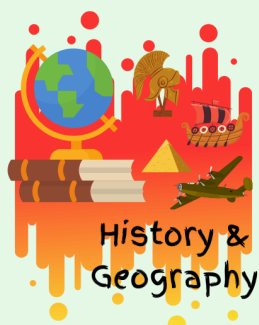
I'm looking forward to sharing lots of the children's work and experiences with Science over the coming year.



Our Curriculum Leads—History, Geography & Art & DT

Hello! I'm Keneisha, and I'm excited to lead the History and Geography departments at Prior Weston. As we embark on this new academic year, I can't wait to explore the fascinating stories of our past and the diverse landscapes of our world with our students and their knowledge.

History and Geography not only help us understand where we come from but also shape how we see our place in the world today. I look forward to engaging discussions, hands-on projects, and discovering the connections between different cultures, histories and across the curriculum.



Hello everyone! I'm Cristina, and I lead the Art and DT subject here at Prior Weston. As we kick off this academic year, I am so excited to see all the creative projects that children will be diving into as the year progresses.

Children will have plenty of opportunities to develop a range of skills including, creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking, and working collaboratively.

I'm looking forward to sharing all the amazing work they'll create over the coming months, so stay tuned for updates and highlights.

Here's to a fantastic year filled with creativity and inspiration.



Our Curriculum Leads—Music & PE

I am the music liaison for the school with Music Masters. Along with the office team I work with Ashley who is the Schools Programme Manager for Music Masters.

The whole team are fully committed to providing as many musical experiences for our children. We have got off to a great start with Hana Chang coming to perform on her violin for the children in Y2-6.

In October we will welcome Sterling Elliot and his cello back to school for some workshops with our children on the Pathways programme. We are also busy making plans for the end of term Winter concert.



Find out more about Ashley here <https://musicmasters.org.uk/artist/ashley-roye/>

I am also the liaison for PE. We work with Team KickStart and our coach William has been with us for 3 years. He works with all the classes from Nursery up to Y6 so he gets to build a great relationship with the children. This means he is able to see the strengths and where focus needs to be given.

The ethos behind our PE programme is to have a holistic approach.

Rather than teach specific sports we have a skills based curriculum. Through these we focus on skills such as working together, challenging yourself & including others.

Outside of school William is a keen football player and enjoys a wide range of sports. He has won the staff race each year at sports day since joining us.



Our Curriculum Leads—Computing and More Able & Talented

Hello, my name is Carla, and at Prior Weston, I lead on computing. We follow Islington's computing scheme, which ensures that we provide our children with detailed and structured lessons.

It is a core computing curriculum which teaches children how to safely interact with technology in the Digital World and focuses on the 3 main strands of Computing: Computer Science, Information Technology, and Digital Literacy

We aim to use technology, where possible, across the curriculum to support and develop the learning of all pupils.



At Prior Weston, we are committed to supporting our pupils to achieve high academic standards and develop their talents. We treat our pupils as individuals and get to know them so we are able to develop their confidence and personalities and achieve the best they can.

I work with staff and subject leaders in order to implement challenge across the curriculum based on the needs of the children.

As a school, we have been accredited by and work with NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education). This allows us to continue to develop our own skills and knowledge in order to best support our children.

For more information and resources please do visit our More Able & Talented page on our website <https://www.priorweston.islington.sch.uk/learning/more-able-talented>

