



Newsletter

05/12/2025 Autumn Issue 6

#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,

I hope you've all had a lovely week. As we continue into this busy autumn term, I'd like to share a few friendly reminders and thank-yous.

Although we are proud to be a non-uniform school, we do ask that children do not wear jewellery to school. This is to help keep everyone safe during play and learning. Bracelets, necklaces, and rings should be left at home, and earrings need to be simple studs or small hoops only. Thank you for supporting us with this.

A big thank you to all who joined the PTA coffee morning last week. It was wonderful to connect with some of our newer families. There were lots of great ideas about how we can run community events and also raise funds for the school. Building on that positive energy, we'll be trying out **parent class reps** from January — a great way for parents to be involved in communication and supporting some of the PTA's fantastic work. Please have a think about whether you might like to take on the role for your child's class. More details will follow soon.



And finally — cake lovers, get ready! Our festive **cake sale** is on **Wednesday 10th Dec**. This is the amazing annual tradition where Year 6's run their own market stall and sell cakes to office workers out buying their lunch. Donations of cakes and treats will be gratefully received. All funds raised help us subsidise school experiences like our much-loved trip to the panto. We'll be out on Whitecross Street over lunchtime, so do stop by for something tasty. **Choir Weston will also be singing festive songs at our stall**, which I know will make the day feel wonderfully seasonal — we'd love to see you there cheering them on!

Wishing you a safe and happy weekend.

Fiona 😊

Head Teacher



Dates for your Diary

December 2025	
Tuesday 9th December	Music Masters Winter Concert @ Plaisterers' Hall Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
Wednesday 10th December	Whitecross Street cake & bake sale Donations needed
Thursday 11th December	Years 5 and 6 trip to the Cinderella Pantomime at The Hackney Empire 1pm
Friday 12th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 12th December	Christmas Lunch
Monday 15th December	AM Cinderella Pantomime in the Hall Early Years - Year 1
Wednesday 17th December	Festive Performance - 2pm start Including children from Nursery - Year 6
Thursday 18th December	Festive Performance - 10am start Including children from Nursery - Year 6 PM—Class Parties
Friday 19th December	End of school Term 2pm finish



Celebration Assembly

14th November 2025

Our shining stars were:

Barbican - Lilly & Hajime

St Pauls - Karim & Elias

Piccadilly - Aavya & Muna

Kew - Indianna & Jayden

Parliament - Hala & Maverick

Tower - Omar & Weiping

Westminster - Ismail & Timur

The ARP - Zaidan

Celebration Assembly

21st November 2025

Our shining stars were:

Barbican - Nai'Lah & Kareem

St Pauls - Alex R & Nathan

Piccadilly - Alaa & Jamie

Kew - Freddie & Oliver

Parliament - Parker & Maya

Tower - Zara & Mireily

Westminster - Antonia & Said

The ARP - Nadra

This week's Shining Stars results to be announced today. See next edition.

Weather appropriate clothing

As the days are getting colder and wetter, please send your child in with the appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather each day.

As more children start to bring in hats, scarfs and gloves, please ensure these are labelled by sewing or sticking in a name tag or writing your child's name in them. This will help to identify the owners of any lost items a lot easier and quicker.



Issues in Fortune Park

With the days getting shorter and the weather quickly getting darker and colder, you may well be spending less time outdoors. However, you may still be using the park for as long as you can. As with any issues that might occur externally, please do note whilst we will support where we can, the school does not have the capacity to manage disagreements that may take place in Fortune Park. If you do experience issues, you may wish to contact the parks or community police directly. To report antisocial behaviour, you may find the following link useful:

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/physical-activity-parks-and-trees/parks-and-green-space/managing-parks-and-green-space/tell-us-about-a-problem-in-a-park>



Lovely Letter



14th November 2025

Jamie

WHAT A PLEASURE IT IS TO HAVE YOU IN THE CLASS.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELL BEHAVED AND KIND TO OTHERS IN THE CLASS.

YOU ARE ALWAYS THOUGHTFUL AND POLITE, AND TRYING REALLY HARD WITH YOUR WORK.

YOU HAVE BEEN TRYING TO FORM YOUR LETTERS CORRECTLY AND WRITING ON THE LINE.

IN MATHS, YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING INDEPENDENTLY TO COMPLETE ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION QUESTIONS.

FINALLY, YOUR SUNNY DISPOSITION IS A JOY TO BEHOLD AND YOUR SMILE IS SO INFECTIOUS.

A WELL DESERVED AWARD, JAMIE.



21st November 2025

Adem

ADEM IS A KIND, CONSIDERATE, AND HARD-WORKING MEMBER OF THE CLASS.

HE ALWAYS TRIES HIS BEST IN EVERYTHING HE DOES.

IT HAS BEEN WONDERFUL TO SEE HIM GROW IN CONFIDENCE OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS, AND HE IS NOW MUCH MORE EAGER TO SHARE HIS IDEAS AND ANSWERS DURING CLASS DISCUSSIONS.

I ALSO LOVE HOW PATIENT AND SUPPORTIVE HE IS WHEN HELPING HIS PEERS WITH WORK THEY FIND CHALLENGING.

ADEM, YOU ARE A REAL ASSET TO KEW CLASS, AND YOU SHOULD BE VERY PROUD OF YOURSELF.

WELL DONE!



Iced Chocolate with the Head Teacher



Ritaj: Parliament - Ritaj has been working really hard on her reading and is making great progress. She is always happy to help her classmates and is a wonderful role model in the way she treats others, her behaviour and looking after others. Keep it up, Ritaj!

Hirad: Kew - Hirad is our role model student this week. He is one of the kindest and most considerate children I have ever met. He always tries his absolute best in every area of his learning and is genuinely open to feedback so he can keep improving. His determination and positive attitude show me that he is someone who will go very far in life. Hirad, I am very proud to be your teacher. Well done!

Nisan: Parliament - Nisan consistently displays good behaviour, setting a positive example for others. She is showing increasing confidence both inside and outside of the classroom, which has been noticed and praised by other adults. Through her actions, she demonstrates responsibility, respect, and maturity. As a result, she is becoming a strong role model for her peers. Keep aiming high, Nisan!

Iced Chocolate with the Head



14th Nov George: Tower - George has been showing such a mature attitude since starting in Year 6. He is keen to do his best in all areas of learning and has been aiming outside of the class in his extracurricular efforts too. He also has lovely manners and is always polite to adults around the school.

14th Nov Amelia: Westminster - Amelia is one of the most helpful people I have ever encountered. She not only always volunteers but anticipates what might be needed. She is kind and patient to all members of our class. Her work ethic is excellent and she is always focused.

26th Meherajul: Westminster - Meherajul has been a ray of sunshine in class. I've loved seeing his perseverance and dedication to his work, even when it's not his ideal task. He is consistently polite and well-mannered and a pleasure to talk to.

17th Alhaji: Westminster - I think it is near impossible to find a person as nice, helpful and patient as Alhaji. He is always thinking of others and never fails to volunteer to help with things. He always focuses, always pushes himself and always shows exemplary behaviour. What a Superstar!

Year 5 Visit Shoreditch Fire Station

Our Year 5 pupils had an unforgettable day at Shoreditch Fire Station, filled with excitement, curiosity, and hands-on learning. The children were warmly welcomed by the firefighters, who gave them a fascinating tour of the station. They explored the tools and equipment used in real emergencies and even had the chance to practice using a fire hose. One of the highlights was watching a firefighter slide down the iconic fire pole, ready to respond to an emergency.



Year 5 Visit Shoreditch Fire Station

Pupils climbed into the fire engine, tried out the driver's seat, and experienced what it feels like to be part of the crew. With helmets and gloves on, they got a taste of the protective gear firefighters wear every day. Throughout the visit, the children asked thoughtful questions and enjoyed engaging conversations with the firefighters. The trip was not only fun and interactive but also gave Year 5 a deeper appreciation of the bravery and dedication of our local heroes. It was a truly inspiring experience that they will remember for years to come.





Free toothbrushes!



We all know how important oral health is and to celebrate and support this, there is now a box in the entrance where you can find free toothpaste for your children.

Please help yourself to one toothpaste for each child so there is enough for everyone.

These were donated to the school for our families to encourage a healthy oral health care routine in children as early as possible.

Prior Weston book table



Do not forget that we have our wonderful book table in the entrance for all families. If you have appropriate children's books to donate, please bring them to the reception desk and we will ensure that they get displayed on the table for people to take.

If you see a book that you or your child likes, please help yourself and enjoy your story time. Thank you to all the wonderful families that have already donated books for other families to share and enjoy!



Bikes and Scooters Security



Please remember to secure any bikes or scooters left in the bike parking area with a chain or padlock. We do not want anything going missing.

Anything left in this area is done so at the owners own risk. School cannot be responsible for any losses or damages to property left in this area or within the school.

Please do not leave any bikes or scooters in the bike park at weekends or over the holidays as this area is unsecure and encourages intruders on to the site.



Towel & Umbrella Donations



Babies and Toddlers rooms in The Children's Centre are in desperate need of some big, clean towels for their water play areas and still need umbrellas.

If you have any you can spare, please drop the off to the Reception desk. They will be very gratefully received!



Spare Winter Coats



Inside the foyer of the Fortune Park entrance, there is a cupboard where families can donate or take jackets and coats for their children or for themselves. There are also spare gloves, hats, scarves and shoes.

As the days are starting to get colder, please have a look and see if there are any jackets or coats that will fit your child or you before you head off to the expensive shops to buy them.



Every Day Counts: The Importance of Good Attendance



This year the attendance team will be Touvonna and Bev working with Fiona to improve our whole school attendance and punctuality.

At Prior Weston we know that regular attendance makes a huge difference to your child's learning, confidence, and happiness at school.

Every day counts, and every lesson missed is a chance lost to build on skills, make progress, and join in with their classmates.

Children who attend school regularly are far more likely to achieve their best, both academically and socially. For example:

- Missing just one day every two weeks adds up to nearly 20 days across the school year – that's almost a full month of learning lost.
- Attendance that drops to 90% (just one day off every fortnight) means a child misses the equivalent of half a year of school by the time they leave primary.
- National studies show that children with attendance above 95% achieve better in reading, writing, and maths, and are more confident learners.

Good attendance also helps children develop routines, build strong friendships, and take full advantage of the exciting opportunities our school provides.

Last year our average attendance for the school was **88.9%**. The national average was **95.5%**. As a result we are now a focus school for the local authority who will be monitoring our attendance.

We have set a whole school target for the end of the year for our school average to be 93% (above would be even better!)

Of course, we understand that children are sometimes unwell and need to stay at home. But keeping absences to a minimum makes a huge difference to their progress. If you're ever unsure whether your child is well enough for school, please get in touch—we're here to help.

Together, let's make every day count and give our children the very best start in life!

What sort of start is your child getting?

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per year
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year

Does your child have a chance of being successful?

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but.....

If your child misses....	That equals....	Which is....
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year
1 day per week	40 Days	8 weeks
2 days per week	80 Days	16 weeks per year
3 days per week	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

School Bags for Sale

Just a reminder that we sell a selection of Prior Weston school bags.
We have Rucksacks, book bags and PE bags all available through Parentmail.

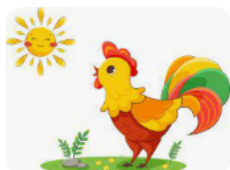
It can help with that morning mayhem that we all face to have different bags already packed and ready to go for PE, swimming or forest school day, or just having reading books and homework all in one place and easy to find.

Any bag can be used for school, however, with a branded bag there is more chance of having it returned should it be left in the park or on the bus if it has the school name on it.

Please remember that whatever bag your child brings to school should have their name and class on it so it can be reunited as quickly as possible with its owner.

PE bags—£5:00
Rucksacks—£10:00
Book bags—£5:00





Extended Day Programme



Extended Day

Our Extended Day provision is currently compiled of Early Birds breakfast club, Night Owls after school club, Enrichment clubs and Holiday play-schemes.

Opening Times

Monday to Friday (term time only) – excluding bank holidays and school INSET days.

Early Birds Breakfast Club; **8:00am – 8:45am**

Night Owls Afterschool Club; **3:30pm – 6:00pm**

Parentmail

All booking and payments for Early Birds and Night Owls can be made directly through our Parentmail booking form or alternatively you can contact the extended day coordinator directly via email; Extendedday@priorweston.islington.sch.uk.

Please note, we do require at least 2 working days' notice before bookings can be processed.

If you have an emergency situation and you need your child to attend either of our extended day options at short notice, we are very happy to allocate you a space but you will incur an emergency fee. This can also be booked directly via Parentmail or email but please inform a member of staff beforehand. Please be aware that if all of our allocated spaces are taken we may not be able to accept any further short-notice bookings.

Early Birds breakfast club

To start the day off in the right way we offer a fantastic breakfast club! Early birds breakfast is **open from 8am** for children in Reception to Year 6. Your child can get involved with crafts, art, sports or games in addition to eating a healthy breakfast to prepare themselves for the school day at 8:45am. The cut off time for breakfast is **8:35am** and the **last drop offs are at 8:40am** to give the children enough time to prepare for the busy day ahead.

Night Owls after school club

At Prior Weston, Night Owl's is our after school provision for children whose parents are unable to make the usual pick up time.

We have a bustling range of exciting, focused and also less structured activities for the Night Owls to take part in.

We are committed to providing this service not only to help support families but to also enrich our children's day outside of normal school hours.

The sessions run from **3:30pm till 6pm**, with pick up any time before 6pm.

We do provide hot food and snacks at around **4:45**, so pick up just before or just after is recommended





Once again this year, Pines and Needles have committed to generously donating a 6 foot Christmas tree to Prior Weston and the Golden Lane Campus for free.

Staff from the Premises & Admin Team have also offered to collect the tree in their own time so it is thanks to them that it has arrived so quickly!

As well as this, Pines and Needles are also offering a **discount of 10%** off any Christmas trees that our families buy from them. All you have to do is tell them the following code to get your discount.

'SCHOOL10'



Our families have already been enjoying our beautiful, donated Christmas tree.



Our partnership with Earth Restoration Service

We are proud to support Earth Restoration Service as our primary charity partner. Their inspiring work in educating children about native species and promoting the rewilding of natural spaces makes a meaningful impact on our environment and future generations.





School Wellbeing Service

School Wellbeing Service Update

Dear Prior Weston families,

This Academic Year has been off to a busy start!

I am pleased to continue to be the School Wellbeing Practitioner (SWP) allocated to Prior Weston. I am here on Monday afternoons.

This year we are planning a **series of workshops** to support you and the wellbeing of your children. We will be offering three workshops.

The first one will be aimed to understand and learn about the importance of sleep and how to create healthy sleeping habits!

This workshop will be at the beginning of next term.

Please look out for further information from the school about the day and time. I am looking forward to meeting many of you then!

You can find out more about the School Wellbeing Service (SWS) and what we offer here <https://londonwaitingroom.nhs.uk/icamhs-sws>

Kind regards,
Liliya



Understanding and Managing Sleep in Primary Aged Children

INFORMATION SHEET

In the workshop we will:

- ✓ Explore why sleep is important and how much sleep children need
- ✓ Discuss sleep habits and bedtime routines
- ✓ Discuss common sleep problems in children
- ✓ Share tips and provide time for questions and answers

