



Dear Parents and Guardians

14 April 2023

I hope you have enjoyed the Easter break and the transition to Spring weather conditions. I'm sure the gardeners amongst you are enjoying getting outside once again.

Looking ahead to the summer term, we have Tuesday Talks booked in for the Cats Protection and for Melissa Pinfield-Wells who is well known in the Island equine community. Melissa will talk to interested pupils about show jumping, dressage and other horse-related topics. May I extend an invitation to any parent or contact of a parent who would like to talk to the pupils about a particular interest or occupation. The Talks are great for inspiring our pupils to seek challenges outside of academia.

May I also encourage you to follow the school on social media. We use Facebook and more recently, Twitter, and we try to post items of interest on a regular basis. We also use the various platforms to advertise staff vacancies and events. Please note that we are holding a **Junior School Open Morning** on Wednesday 7 June, between 9am and 12pm. Parents of current pupils as well as those considering Priory School are very welcome to attend. **Please feel free to pass this information on to relevant families.**

Last term we said farewell to Mrs Akers and Mr Haywood. Mrs Akers is retiring to enjoy travelling with her husband in their campervan, and Mr Hayward moves on to new challenges elsewhere on the Island. Both colleagues have been fabulous at Priory School and will be sorely missed by pupils and staff. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Akers and Mr Hayward the best of good fortune in their new endeavours.

I am delighted to inform you Mrs Neale joins us at the beginning of the summer term and will teach Modern Foreign Languages. We are fortunate to have many talented staff, teaching and non-teaching, and we hope to be joined by a new teacher of English and/or Drama at the beginning of the new academic year.

Reports:

1. Mon 27 Mar Y5/Y6 Girls' Netball Tournament, Southampton Sports Centre
2. Mon 27 Mar Y6 PGL Information Evening
3. Tues 28 Mar Tuesday Talk "Eco Monitors"
4. Tues 28 Mar Easter Egg Hunt
5. Tues 28 Mar S1/S2 Boys' Basketball Tournament, Medina College
6. Tues 28 Mar Y5/Y6 Girls' Rural League Football Final, Gurnard Primary School
7. Wed 29 Mar Easter Service, St Mildred's Church
8. Wed 29 Mar Y5/Y6 Girls' Netball Island Cluster Competition, Ryde Academy
9. **Wed 29 Mar Spring/Easter Term Ended (12.15pm)**
10. Thurs 30 Mar IOW Sports Awards, Medina Theatre
11. Wed 12 Apr S4/S5/6th Form A Level Biology Beach Survey, Players Beach, Binstead

Future Dates & Events:

1. Mon 17 Apr Y5/Y6 Mixed, Bikeability (Group 1)
2. **Tues 18 Apr Summer Term Begins**
3. Tues 18 Apr Y5/Y6 Mixed, Bikeability (Group 1)
4. Tues 18 Apr GCSE English Spoken Language Exam
5. Wed 19 Apr S3 VESTAS Competition (Launch & Tour)



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| 6. Thurs 20 Apr | Online Safety Meeting (with parents) |
| 7. Thurs 20 Apr | Y5/Y6 Mixed, Bikeability (Group 2) |
| 8. Fri 21 Apr | Ice Cream Friday! This popular PSPA event restarts Friday afternoon |
| 9. Fri 21 Apr | Y5/Y6 Mixed, Bikeability (Group 2) |
| 10. Fri 21 Apr | S4/S5/6 th Form Chelsea Football Stadium & Science Museum, London |
| 11. Sat 22 Apr | S3/S4 D of E Bronze Day Walk, Carisbrooke Castle area |

Achievements:

Maya Bennett, S4, in the final week of the IOW Dance Festival, won 2 Bronze, 2 Silver and 1 Gold Medal for various ballet, tap and modern groups and duets.

Mai MacKay, S3, recently competed for Ryde Rowing Club at the Southampton Rowing Club Head Race over a 5,000-metre course on the River Itchen. Mai was cox for the Men's Coastal Junior Four and they finished second in their section behind host club Southampton in a time of 21 minutes 13 seconds.

Henry Hibberd, S2, received particular mention in the County Press for his strong performance for Vectis U13 rugby team. Henry's team beat Havant 25-5 in the Waterfall Cup Bowl Final.

David EJJ Lloyd
Principal