



THE PRIORY SCHOOL

D O R K I N G

Headteacher: Mrs J Trimnell

27 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to say that all our staff and students returned from their ski trip safely and smiling. It is great to see this trip up and running again post COVID.

Staff experienced a very valued and impactful INSET day last week, which was amongst other staff within the Enlighten Learning Trust, the Academy we will be joining.

Congratulations to Year 9 students who experienced their first set of formal examinations last week. They all rose to the challenge admirably.

Thank you for your patience concerning the recent issue we had with our phone system. Unfortunately, there was a BT fault outside of school, which affected us significantly and has continued today. Thank you to those that reported their child's absence via the Edulink as required.

SIAMS Inspection 28 February/1 March

Please see attached letter from Andrew Wilcock, SIAMS Inspector.

Attendance

Congratulations to 11A2 for having the highest attendance before half term.

House Points

Congratulations to 9A1 for having the most improved amount of house points before half term, and 7B2 for having the most improved amount of house points last week.

Strike Action Update

The next National strike for the NEU is scheduled for Thursday, March 2nd, however the Government are currently in talks so the strike has not yet been confirmed. I can confirm that if the strike does go ahead, only Year 11 will be expected in school that day. There will also be invitations sent to parents and carers for an additional small group of students.

Safeguarding/Wellbeing information

Please see attached information.

We have also been made aware of a new viral challenge circulating on TikTok using variations of the hashtag 'foopah'. A play on the phrase 'faux pas' (*an embarrassing public act*), the trend encourages users to upload 'blink and you'll miss it' nudity. This aims to get around the platform's detection and moderation by being hidden in plain sight. Using screens, mirrors, and other reflective surfaces are just some of the ways people have taken part in the challenge.

The content itself ranges from those who are sharing more obvious sexually explicit content to suggestive but subtle imagery of themselves. The trend also creates an allure for young people who are taking to various platforms to 'react' to the challenge or discuss it with others online.

The challenge originated from one TikTok user as a way of promoting her Only Fans account. Her initial video, which included the subtle flashing of her breasts, gathered 2 million views in 24 hours. As with most inappropriate or banned hashtags, different variations in spelling tend to appear as the platform detects and removes it, prompting the creation of another. The #foopahh hashtag was viewed more than 7 million times, but has since been removed. It was quickly replaced by #foopa, which now has over 30 millions views.

2.

DorkingMinds has places available on the next MHFA training: timings 10-4.30.

It's a brilliant course for £60 (heavily subsidised- the course usually sells for £300.) This is made possible by community help: a grant from MVDC and we have had generous donations from the musicians behind

Westival and the village event WESTFEST so we can offer an excellent resource at this ridiculously good value price. It is certificated, so very good for CVs, professional development and just being a useful human being! Once completed the participants received a link to a dedicated, ongoing support App. Please share this far and wide with folks you feel would benefit. This link will take you to Eventbrite registration <http://bit.ly/3XXOhtk>
Venue: The Ashcombe School.

Upcoming events for this half term:

- 27 Feb-3 Mar - Book week
- 28 Feb-1 Mar - SIAMS inspection
- 1 March - Year 9 visits to Reigate/East Surrey Colleges (TBC)
- KS4 visit to "Woman in Black" Theatre trip to London
- 2 March - World book day
- 9 March - Spring concert
- 13-17 March - Science week
- 23 March - Year 8 and 9 reports sent home
- Year 9 Options Evening
- 24 March - FOTPS quiz night
- 27 March - Year 10 exams begin
- 31 March - Last day of term
- 17 April - Start of summer term

Best wishes



Mrs J Trimnell
Headteacher



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