



THE PRIORY SCHOOL

D O R K I N G

Headteacher: Mrs J Trimnell



8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been wonderful to see everyone back in school today. Students have settled back into school life very well, and we are proud of how they have adapted.

I would like to provide a final update regarding last week's events and share what we have done to support our students during this time. I hope this helps answer any questions or concerns you may have had.

The electrical issues we faced were complex and required the expertise of several electricians. As one professional described at the beginning, it was like "finding a needle in a haystack." To identify the root cause, we had to test multiple possibilities, which meant repeatedly restoring power and monitoring the system. Unfortunately, this prevented us from installing a temporary generator earlier, as doing so would have masked the underlying fault. Once the severity of the issue became clear on Tuesday, closing the school was unavoidable, despite the disruption this caused for our community.

On Thursday, the likely cause was confirmed. Due to the damage identified, the school will now be operating using a hired generator while UKPN keeps the main power supply switched off for repairs.

Over the weekend, Mr Mills (Site Manager) and Mr Thresher (IT Support) worked tirelessly to ensure the site was safe and ready for everyone's return today.

During the closure, staff and students adapted quickly to online learning. While most engaged well, a small number of students did not meet our expectations for behaviour. These cases were addressed through calls and emails home, and staff will follow up this week. Managing behaviour remotely is challenging, but we appreciate your support in reinforcing expectations.

To ensure access to learning, laptops were delivered to families who needed them. Mrs Knight and Mrs Bullen also carried out daily home visits and calls with Heads of Year to support students who were not attending lessons. Additionally, Mrs Chart organised provision for children entitled to Free School Meals, so they continued to receive their allocation at home.

Two Year 11 Hospitality and Catering groups were due to complete NEA assessments at the start of last week. Thanks to the support of the examination board and The Ashcombe School, which kindly provided a classroom, these assessments were successfully completed on Friday. Our students showed great resilience and adaptability throughout.

TRANSFORMATIONAL • ASPIRATIONAL • FLOURISHING

01306 887 337



enquiries@priorycofe.com  
www.thepriorycofe.com



West Bank, Dorking  
RH4 3DG



2.

Year 11 mock exams were postponed by one week and will now run into the final week of term. While this is not ideal, we believe it is important to complete them before Christmas, given the hard work students have put into their revision during the lead up. Exams began today, and students approached them with maturity and dedication.

Teachers will continue to consolidate and build on last week's learning in lessons.

As the end of term approaches, there is much to look forward to. Please see below for upcoming events, and we hope to see you at our Carol Service. Unfortunately, due to last week's disruption, the following events have been rescheduled:

- Year 7 & 8 Disco
- Music Showcase

We will share new dates for these soon.

Finally, if you can contribute to our Christmas Hampers this week, donations can be left at the school reception and will be warmly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this challenging time.

### Upcoming Key Dates:

08 December	Flu vaccinations
8-14 December	Geography inter-house competitions
10 December	Carol Service at St. Martin's Church, 6.00pm
11 December	Christmas Jumper Day Year 7 & Year 10 Reports to Parents
17 December	Christmas Lunch
19 December	Term Ends – 1:00pm finish
5 January	INSET Day
6 January	All students return to school

Best wishes,



Mrs Trimnell  
Headteacher

 Instagram: [@dorkingpriory](https://www.instagram.com/dorkingpriory)

 Facebook: [@PriorySchool](https://www.facebook.com/PriorySchool)

TRANSFORMATIONAL • ASPIRATIONAL • FLOURISHING

 01306 887 337

 [enquiries@priorycofe.com](mailto:enquiries@priorycofe.com)  
[www.thepriorycofe.com](http://www.thepriorycofe.com)

 West Bank, Dorking  
RH4 3DG

