

13 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a real pleasure to welcome students and staff back to school after the Easter break. As with every new term, we begin with a renewed sense of purpose and a strong commitment to ensuring that every member of our community can thrive and succeed.

This term also brings an exciting new development: you will notice that our school has introduced a refreshed logo. The new design is modern and forward-looking, while remaining firmly rooted in our identity as a Christian school committed to strong academic achievement. This change is about much more than a new logo—it represents a clearer expression of who we are and what we stand for. Our rebrand strengthens and reinforces our core values of **Wisdom, Dignity, Community, and Hope**, helping to build pride across our school community and providing a clear, confident sense of identity for our students as they move forward in their education.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Figaro Brands** for their expertise, support, and hard work in designing the new logo and ensuring that the rebrand has been delivered at minimal cost to the school. The new logo will be **phased in gradually throughout the term**. You will begin to see it on school communications, including this bulletin, on banners at the school entrance, and on uniform items. Importantly, **there is no expectation for families to replace uniform immediately**. The updated logo will be introduced naturally when new uniform items are required, and these changes will **not result in additional costs**. Students joining Year 7 in September will receive uniform featuring the new logo from the start.

We are confident that these changes will strengthen our shared sense of belonging and pride, while keeping our focus firmly on supporting every student to achieve their best.

This term we introduce Mrs Chambers who will be joining us as a part time member of staff in the English and Modern Languages teams.

I would like to thank all of you that supported our Year 7 team with their “One week, one community” providing entertainment, tea, scones and an opportunity to be waited on by our amazing students, who, yet again, hosted each of the sessions with passion and dedication making the event a success.

At the end of last term, Year 11 students completed their second set of mock examinations in preparation for their GCSE examinations starting in May. It is pleasing to see the significant improvement of grades through the journey of the examination series this year. What is incredibly evident is the amount of progress made by those students who attend school every day compared to those that do not. We all know that your child’s attendance in school is a significant contribution to their examination success and their next steps beyond The Priory. We have set the challenge for Year 11 students to not have any days off between now and the beginning of their examinations.

As we start the new term, please can I remind everyone that student use of mobile phones on school site is not permitted without permission. This includes responding to text messages from yourselves. With

Building Success Together

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recent news from the Government regarding schools not allowing mobile phones in schools. we will be monitoring this closely as to how we will adapt to these changes. I have never permitted the use of phones on our school site; however, I have noticed an increase in students contacting home, on occasions to be picked up, without using official channels. Please be aware that if your child does this then they will be sanctioned as per school policy. If a child is caught with their phone out, using it or not, the phone is confiscated and collected at the end of the school day. On the third occasion it is confiscated, you will be contacted to collect the phone personally. Until it can be collected, the phone will be locked in the school safe. Whilst I appreciate that this is an inconvenience, it is important that I keep these high standards to safeguard all our community and ensure that all students can concentrate on their learning during school time. Your child's phone will not be returned on the third occasion until you personally collect it, therefore please refrain from insisting that it is returned to your child instead, as this will not be authorised. Your support to not text or call your child is appreciated. Please use the school reception if you need messages relayed.

Year 10 Parents' Evening – Thursday 30th April

I would like to invite you to attend our Year 10 Parents' Evening on **Thursday 30th April**. This is an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and development with their subject teachers.

The evening will be held in the **School Hall** and bookings can be made online via School Cloud, which can be accessed through the school website or directly using the following link:

👉 <https://priorycofeschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Booking Information

- Bookings open: Monday, 13th April at 4:00pm
 - Bookings close: Wednesday 29th April at 12:00pm (midday)
- Please ensure you book your appointments in good time, as we are unable to accept bookings after the deadline due to administrative requirements.

Each appointment will last **5 minutes**, and you may book up to **12 appointments**. Please note that teachers are unable to extend these sessions to ensure they can meet with all parents/carers. We encourage you to have your child present during the meeting.

If you experience any issues with the booking system, please contact Mrs Chart by email at kct@priorycofe.com or by telephone on 01306 878782.

Forest Bathing

We are seeking a volunteer to join Mrs Delany every Wednesday afternoon from 12.45-3.25pm for our Forest Bathing activity in The Nower. Please contact Mrs Delany directly if you are interested or would like to know more. Her email is sdelany@priorycofe.com

Year 11 – Canteen Balances and Lockers

A reminder that the Caterer's policy is to refund balances of £10 or more only, so please ensure your student's balance is either kept above £10 or fully used before they leave. Refund requests must be made by 30th June by email to finance@priorycofe.com

If there is a sibling in school, any balance over £1 can be transferred upon request by 29th June. Refunds and transfers will be processed during the week commencing 6th July. All locker keys must be returned to



tutors by 23rd May. If a key has been lost, a £5 replacement fee can be paid via Scopay. Please note that hoodies and yearbooks may be withheld until the locker key is returned.

Dorking Cobras Football

If you are interested in joining the Dorking Cobras, please see flyer at the end of this letter.

Future key dates:

13 April	Summer term starts Year 8 HPV vaccinations
20-24 April	Computing Inter House Competition
23/24/27/28 April	Year 11 Art final examinations
30 April	GCSE PE Moderation Day Year 10 Parents' Evening
1 May	2026 BTEC Dance Show
4 May	Bank Holiday
7/8 May	Year 10 Geography trip to Portsmouth and Christchurch
11-15 May	Mental Health Awareness week Music/Drama Inter House Competition
14 May – 22 June	Year 10 exams begin
21 May	National Numeracy Day
22 May	Year 9 Retreat
25-29 May	Half term break

Best wishes,

Mrs Jo Trimmell
Headteacher



JOIN THE DORKING COBRAS!

LOOKING TO JOIN A GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL TEAM?

We are currently recruiting new players for our mixed-gender team! Join us for the remainder of the season with no fees.

FREE TRIAL & TRAINING SESSION:

Every Wednesday 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

at The Priory CofE School, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 2DG.

Cost: FREE for the rest of this season!

TEAM DETAILS:

Current age: Trialing for U14 (Current mix of U13 & U14 players).

Next season: Preparing for U15 Saturday Morning Football.

Who: Open to all genders.

NOT THE RIGHT AGE? WE STILL WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If your child is in a different age range, please register your interest for next season.

Please provide: Your name, contact details, and your child's name, age, and gender.

Email: dorkingcobras@gmail.com.

Text: 07403 241779.

STRIKE HARD. PLAY FAIR. JOIN THE COBRAS.