Week beginning 13th October was Kent Week at Priory Fields. Throughout the week, the children learnt about our county, its heritage, culture and geography. We had some great trips during the week and made the most of the autumn sunshine! Year 1 had a walk around Whinless Down and a picnic in Elms Vale Park; Year 2 visited the orchards at Brogdale Farm; Year 3 went fossil hunting at Folkestone Warren; Year 4 went to Kearsney Abbey; Year 5 visited Chatham Dockyard and Year 6 went to the Museum of Kent Life. We even had a farmers’ market set up in the hall with lots of great local produce for the children to try! On the following Monday we had a whole school assembly, in which each class shared something. It was very entertaining to see a video of Jabberwocky class’ Kent Bake-off show on the big screen!

Future chefs go behind the scenes at Toby Carvery

We may have some future chefs at Priory Fields as 12 lucky children won a competition to take part in Toby Carvery’s Chef School. To enter, they had to design a menu for a family meal at home. The entries were then independently judged by pupils and staff at St. Martin’s school. On 17th November, the winners went to Toby Carvery and had the chance to look behind the scenes as well as having a Toby Carvery roast dinner!
**Harvest Festival**

We were delighted to see so many parents attend our Harvest Festival at the Ark, which took place on 10th October. The Ark was full and the children performed brilliantly, with harvest poems, autumn songs, hymns, bible readings and even an art display. Money was also collected in house-shaped boxes, which the children decorated, which went to the Porchlight homelessness charity. Thank you to everyone who came, to all those who donated and to the Ark for having us. A big well done to the children for their performances.

**Fun at Fowlmead for Y5**

On 23rd September, Year 5 enjoyed a trip to Fowlmead country park. It was a lovely early autumn day and they took part in lots of fun activities, including: mountain biking through the woods, geo-caching, den building and a nature trail. **Meet our Mascot!**

We have an exciting new member of the Priory Fields community, our new mascot! We had a competition to name him and the suggestions were put to a vote by our School Council, who chose the name Snowy. Look out for Snowy at special school events and don’t forget to say ‘Hello’!

**Priory Fields makes a SUPER effort for Children In Need**

This year’s Children In Need had the theme of ‘Be a Hero’ so we decided to have a dressing up day fundraiser. Children (and staff!) came in dressed as their favourite superhero. It was great fun and we raised £286.80!!

Jabberwocky class got into the spirit with Mr Judge making a fantastic Super Ted!
**Poppy Wreath Laid in Remembrance**

Remembrance Day has been especially poignant this year as it marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I. We have been commemorating this in school by making poppy wreaths and through some special assemblies. On 7th November Year 2 laid their wreath at the memorial in Dover’s town centre. They have also been selling poppies and the whole school observed a minute’s silence on 11th November at 11:00.

**Year 6 Advocates begin their duties**

Term 2 saw our Year 6 advocates begin their duties. They stepped into their roles after having applied in writing and then having to sit an interview. They have shown a keen attitude in their jobs, which include assisting staff in the early years, outdoor area, office, library, ICT suite and helping with homework. This is a great way for the children to gain confidence and take responsibility. They have been a great help so far and we wish them well as they continue their work!

**Clubs Zone**

Our after school clubs are continuing to be a success with this term’s introduction of Circus Skills Club and Film Club, in addition to the on going Environment, Art, Keep Fit & Dance, ICT, Enterprise, Trampoline, Puzzles and Cooking clubs. Details about our clubs can be found on the School website along with pictures of some of the exciting things the clubs have been getting up to!

**YEAR 5 TAKE ON THE ARMY CHALLENGE**

On 1st December Year 5 had the great opportunity to take part in a Challenger Troop taster day. Challenger Troop offers military style training through mental and physical activities aimed at young people. The children took part in exciting team building tasks and an army style assault course. It was good fun and a great way for them to develop important life skills as well as building confidence and self-esteem!
The last two weeks of term have had a very Christmassy feel, with our productions, church carol concert, annual Christmas Fayre, Christmas school dinner and parties.

Early Years’ production of Angel Express and Key Stage 1’s Humph The Camel were a great success. They performed their dress rehearsal to the school on 8th December, to nurseries on the 9th and then to parents on the 10th and 11th. Well done everyone!

Our Christmas Fayre took place on 12th December. It was great fun, with our raffles, full of great prizes; entertainment from our dance club and choir; games and the chance to see Santa in his fabulous grotto and meet the reindeer. Thank you to everyone who came to support us and join in the fun!

One of the highlights of the Christmas Fayre was the chance to meet these fabulous reindeer!

Also a big thank you to the following parents for their help at the Fayre: Mrs Alison Mackintosh (Cafe); Miss Anne-Masie Morris (helped in the Grotto); Miss Abby Chaston and Mrs Jean Pritchard (Cake Stall).

Merry Christmas from everyone at Priory Fields!