



The Priory Primary School

'Inspiring a Love of Learning'

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The Priory School PTA Registered Charity Number 1096169



September 2020

Dear All,

Firstly welcome back to the New Year and farewell to home schooling, I hope you are all well.

Given the current restrictions in place it is going to be challenging to run our usual events this year though we will try as hard as we can in line with the latest guidelines. Whilst we understand that the last 6 months have been, and continue to be, a difficult time for many of us we hope you will join us to help start fundraising for the new school year. We are therefore looking for alternative events and welcome suggestions.

To kick us off (and at somewhat short notice) we have entered the school into an environmentally friendly virtual balloon race and would love you all to join us. The balloons will be launched on 14th September **which gives you until Sunday to enter**. The winner is declared after 7 days.

Please use the below link (or scan the QR code) to buy as many balloons as you like, each balloon costs £3 the majority of which is sent to the PTA.

<https://ecoracing.co/user/page/641>



Each balloon can be named, decorated and customized with different parameters which you can adjust up to the point of starting the race to maximise your chances of winning based on *actual* science, and as we all now know, we have to follow the science. From the organisers:

Using real weather from around 10,000 meteorological stations spanning the globe, including both polar ice caps, our patent pending mathematical algorithms [*note to organisers - probably best not to mention 'algorithms' for an event called 'back to school' right now*] simulate as close as humanly possible to reality, what flight path your virtual balloon takes.

And because your balloon is virtual (computer generated), you can, unlike real latex balloons, both decorate and change the parameters of your balloon as many times as you like prior to launch.

So to create a potential winning balloon, it definitely pays to check the prevailing weather patterns before your race starts and chose your balloon parameters accordingly.

All that said, many balloon purchasers do nothing and just decorate their balloon with their favourite colours, design or picture.

As soon as the race goes live you can watch on Google maps as they all leave Red Square and fly across Moscow and to wherever the (virtual) wind takes them.

If you could share this event with friends and family we would really appreciate it. Our target is to sell 100 balloons, please help us achieve this!

Good luck!

The PTA

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