

TEACHING AND LEARNING GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Welcome to our monthly Learning Newsletter. These newsletters look to help you to implement tried and tested learning strategies at home, in order to benefit your child and further enhance their educational experiences in the long term.



Challenge

Implementing a stretch and challenge approach in classrooms requires teachers and students to recognise that learning should be difficult. This may seem like a pretty obvious statement to make but often, children can struggle with challenge and need to be encouraged not to give up.

The Thinking Hard Process

Knowledge and understanding

- Reduce
- Transform
- Deconstruct
- Derive



Analysis and application

- Prioritise
- Categorise
- Criticise
- Trends and patterns
- Practise



Flexibility of thinking

- Make connections
- Compare
- Extend
- Create



In class we require pupils to 'do something' with information we give them and 'think harder' by using a strategy such as those in the diagram opposite.

These are all strategies that can be used at home with all sorts of tasks to challenge pupils to think a bit harder.



GCSEPod

This is a resource that the school provides and whilst predominantly used by GCSE students, is accessible for all ages. It consists of short video podcasts covering all the subjects taught at Priory. Pupils can watch them at their leisure to gain a greater understanding of any topic. All they need to do to begin, is visit the website and set up their account:

<https://members.gcsepod.com/podauth/newuser/newpupil?noframe>

Word of the Week

Word of the Week:

relevant

adjective

closely connected or appropriate to what is being done or considered.

e.g. they were taught the topics that were **relevant** to the assessment

Etymology:

From the Medieval Latin **relevantem**, meaning 'helpful'

word of the week

Literacy tip of the week...

Affect
VERB

To act on or to produce a change in.

"The sudden change to cold weather affected the quality of the vegetable garden."

Explanation: Unexpected cold weather made it difficult for new seeds to grow well. Cold weather **affected** the quality of the vegetables.

Effect
NOUN

A **result**/ something happening as a result of something else.

"Staying out in the cold had the **effect** of turning the children's hands purple."

Explanation: Purple hands are the **result** (effect) of cold weather.

Have a go at the following:

1. Wars _____ everybody and their destructive _____ last for generations.
2. Television has a strong _____ on public opinion.
3. My mood can _____ my thinking, too.

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Issue Focus: **Challenge**

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if you wish to discuss anything covered in this newsletter