



**BURSCOUGH  
PRIORY ACADEMY**



# Summer Newsletter 2019



Dear Reader,

2018/19 has been an incredibly successful and exciting year at Burscough Priory Academy and hopefully this newsletter will give you a flavour of some of the excellent activities and events that have taken place. Events and activities included in the letter should paint a clear picture of the typical buzz that permeates the school on a day to day basis; every day of the week there will be something innovative, thought-provoking and progressive happening. With that in mind we can only offer you a glimpse in what we can fit in these pages. Hopefully, in conversations with the students and teachers of Burscough Priory Academy, you can get a fuller picture of the hard work and energy that goes into making this a special place, of which we are all very proud to be a part of.

I hope you enjoy reading about our year, and as always, we welcome any feedback you might like to offer.



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### **Oxford Visit**

Y10 students from Burscough Priory Academy had the privilege of waking up at 5 o'clock in the morning and arriving at school at 5:45am in order to travel, for six hours, to one of the most prestigious universities in the country. Faye, Rosie, Rebecca, Lois, Moll, Eleanor, Kieran, Will, Isaac and Angus travelled to the University of Oxford accompanied by Mrs Blackhurst on the 27th of February, on a trip described as a "Once in a lifetime opportunity" in order to display both the academic and social aspects of life whilst attending such an internationally recognised university.



### **World Book Day**

This year, the English faculty celebrated 'World Book day' by dressing up as their favourite characters from 'classic' literature: Miss Havisham, Mary Poppins, Sherlock Holmes & Frankenstein. Throughout the day we had lots of fun reading excerpts from our chosen novel to our classes and each tutor group participated in a hotly contested quiz! We are currently thinking of ideas for next year's theme...



### **A Level Taster Sessions**

We were lucky enough to welcome 2 English teachers from Winstanley College in June to deliver an A Level Language and Literature taster session to 10PP and 10BB. The session focused on Gothic poetry (literature) and language change and the influence of social media. The students impressed staff with their level of understanding of some very challenging work and their approach to independent learning. We are hoping that these sessions are going to motivate our students to study English further after high school as they can see how much it has an influence on the world around us.



### **Remembrance Sunday**

Remembrance Sunday is a day for the nation to remember and honour those who have sacrificed themselves to secure and protect our freedom. Pictured is our Y11 Head and Deputy Boy and Girl who will be laying a wreath on behalf of Burscough Priory Academy at the Cenotaph on Sunday.





## **Community Heroes**

Here's a heart-warming post about a true hero from Burscough Priory Academy which may just brighten up your day. Alfie, who is in Y7, helped an elderly member of the public who took a nasty fall when she tripped on the pavement. The lady was distressed and unable to move so was very relieved when Alfie came to her aid. He could see that she was hurt but he managed to keep his cool and deal with the situation brilliantly. He stayed



with the elderly lady the whole time, reassuring her and calming her down, only leaving for a short period to get help from a neighbour. Thanks to Alfie, the lady is now safe and recovering at home. She rang the school to express her immense thanks to her hero whose name she did not know. However, a little investigating revealed our modest hero was working hard in a Geography lesson.

Well done Alfie! We are very proud of you and you really are a credit to the school!

Pictured below is Y11 student Luke with the £20 reward he received from a very relieved Burscough resident who lost her purse.

Luke found the purse on Burscough Bridge train station on his way to school so promptly handed it in to the school office. After some investigation and a call to the bank the owner was traced and she quickly came to school to collect her purse. She was delighted, expressing her thanks and gratitude to our honest student. The happy lady was further relieved as she was going on a trip to East Asia to visit family and the loss of her purse would have caused a huge amount of stress and upset.

The lady rewarded Luke for his integrity and sends her thanks to his parents also for such a well-mannered and honest young man. She will send a thank you postcard from Korea.

Well done Luke! You are a credit to Burscough Priory Academy.



Pictured at a rainy Burscough Priory Academy is Ben from Y8 who helped raise over £3000 during the "Big Brekkie" event at the start of Christian Aid Week. The money raised will be specifically used to help make child birth safer for women and babies in Sierra Leone, the most dangerous place to give birth in the world.

Well done to Ben and to all those involved at St John the Baptist C of E Church and JC's Youth Club. A fantastic achievement!

## **Christmas**

Burscough Priory Academy students provided the musical entertainment for St John's Primary School Christmas Fair. Well done to all those involved!



Pictured is the group of Year 9 students who volunteered to lead the very successful Christmas Hamper appeal. The students designed and displayed posters to promote the appeal and encouraged students throughout the school to contribute food. Last week they organised to wrap the boxes, fill them with food and decorate them ready to be taken to St John's Church so they could be distributed. Mrs Wong's Art students contributed to the appeal by making some beautiful Christmas themed tags for the hampers. We are very proud of the students, as they have all worked extremely hard on the project. Well done!



## **Creatives Evening Performance**

On Tuesday 12th February, there was a great buzz about Burscough Priory Academy as 270 Y7, Y8 and Y9 students took part in the first ever "Greatest Creatives". The evening started with parents browsing the excellent technology projects, amazing art display and nibbling on the food technology department's cakes and biscuits all produced by the students.



Once seated the audience witnessed over 24 different acts across Music, Drama and PE. It was a great privilege to see just how brilliantly talented our students are. Well done to all the students who worked so hard and put on a truly memorable performance!



## Trips

The year 11 GCSE Engineering groups visited the Leyland DAF truck plant in the Spring term to have a tour of the facilities and see the trucks being made. Students were given a talk prior to the tour by one of the manufacturing team leaders which gave a real insight into how theory learnt in the classroom is applied in real life manufacturing. This will hopefully become a regular event for our GCSE Design and Technology students.



During the Summer term, the Technology department started the Lego Engineers club where Y7 and Y8 students can construct Lego technic models as well as building simple drive mechanisms demonstrating gears, chains and sprockets and belt drives. These are a fun way to introduce some of the more complex GCSE principles. Of course, in the best interests of having fun, we also have the odd house and mini spaceship built!

Another successful trip to Iceland in April saw 56 students and 6 staff enjoy the amazing scenery the country has to offer. Visits to Eyjafjallajökull (that's Icelandic for Volcano) as well as the magnificent Gullfoss Waterfall and Mýrdalsjökull Glacier. Students also enjoyed opportunity to swim in the natural hot springs of the Secret Lagoon (although we bet they had wished they had kept it a better secret when we all arrived!)

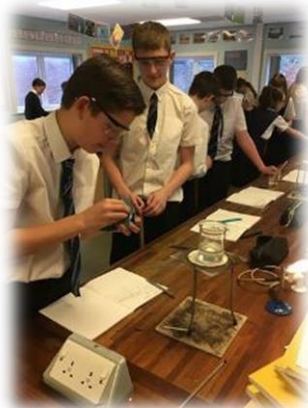


As ever our students were fantastic ambassadors for our school, we received compliments from not only the hotel we stayed in but also the airline regarding how well behaved they were. Well done to all involved.



## **Science Experiments**

Year 8 (right) were working hard on an experiment in science. They were investigating what affect temperature had on the pressure inside a squash ball, testing whether it bounced higher as it got hotter. There are some excellent scientists of the future in Miss Holcroft's 8BB class.



This is Year 9 (left) in Chemistry, who were investigating temperature changes in Exothermic and Endothermic Reactions as part of their new GCSE topic, "Energy Changes"



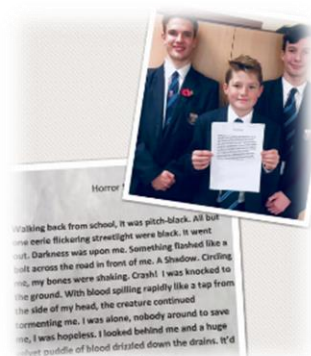
## **Maths Problem Solving**

Problem solving is a fundamental means of developing mathematical knowledge at any level. For this reason, it is one of the most important, if not the most important, aspect of doing mathematics.



## **100 Words of Horror**

Pictured is James Rogerson of Y7, the proud winner of the "100 words of horror competition". The competition was created by Angus Lawton and Isaac Hughes of Y10 who also had the tough job of selecting a winner from over 50 entries.



## **Aimee Bangs the Drums**



A huge congratulation to Year 11 student Aimee on passing her grade 7 drums with distinction. A true talent, Aimee has enjoyed providing the warm up songs for all our end of term assemblies.





## Year 11 Leavers

We would like to congratulate all out Y11s on their positive attitude, focus and approach towards the GCSE examinations. The feedback from the staff leading the examinations and classroom teachers has been universally positive with exemplary conduct from all students in their examinations and also in their attitude to revision and their exam preparation.



They fully deserved the credit and accolades they received during their Leavers' Assembly which was filled with shenanigans and nostalgia



# *Class of 2019*

## **PSHCE Day**

PSHE education is a planned, developmental programme of learning through which children and young people acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills they need to manage their lives now and in the future. As part of a whole-school approach, PSHE education develops the qualities and attributes pupils need to thrive as individuals, family members and members of society.



Year 8 students (below) participated in a session from an external agency ADDaction. Raising awareness of the risks, dangers and effects of drugs and alcohol. Year 10 students (left) participated in a session with the Brook Advisory clinic raising awareness of contraception and sex education.



Year 9 students taking part within a 'Growth Mind' session. Students with a fixed mind-set believe that their intelligence and talent are innate traits that don't change. However, students with a growth mind-set believe that ability can change as a result of effort, perseverance, and practice.



Year 7 students were discussing and sharing ideas about friendships and what makes a good friend.

A selection of photographs which illustrate superbly the brilliant PSHCE day which took place at Burscough Priory Academy last week. The day proved to be a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by both pupils and staff. Well done to all!





## **Physical Education Events - Achievements in Sport**

We have seen some fantastic sporting achievements this school year.



**U 13's Girls West Lancashire Schools Touch Rugby Champions**



**Netball U13's West Lancashire schools district Champions**



**Gymnastics Success in Blackburn**



**Year 8 Boys Football Runners-Up**



**U12 Boys Football League and Cup double winners**  
**The team remained undefeated all season!**