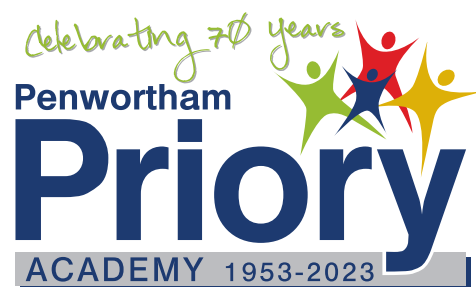


Autumn 2023



Learn to Succeed



An introduction from the Principal...

Dear All,

Welcome to the latest edition of our Penwortham Priory Academy 'Priory Post'.

As ever, this edition brings together in one place, all the key stories from this term as they appeared in our weekly newsletters, highlighting the wide-ranging opportunities and activities all our pupils have to contribute to our daily mission:

To uphold our Priory standard – ensuring the highest expectations of all, from all, so that all pupils Learn to Succeed and leave Priory, equipped with the right skills and attitudes to help them succeed in life, contribute positively to society, and go on to further education, employment, or training.

Here at Priory, we pride ourselves on having a school where, first and foremost, pupils feel safe and happy. *Their pastoral care.*

When we have pupils, who feel safe and happy in school, we can focus on providing each with a varied and rich curriculum for them to gain good individual results as a stepping-stone into their futures. *Their academic care.*

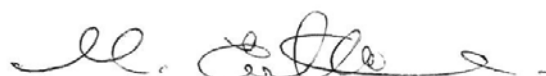
Whilst all the time, gaining opportunities, from reliable adults, on how to become good citizens of the future. *Their 'Learning for Life'.*

In other words, a school where the attention we give to the pastoral care of our pupils is just as important as the attention we give to their academic progress and to the development of those skills we know our pupils are going to need to be successful in their lives beyond Priory – their 'Learning for Life'.

This edition then, once again highlights the wide-ranging learning activities that our pupils have been undertaking, to maximise their chances to achieve, not only in the time they are with us here in school, but in their life beyond Priory too.

A big thank you then to all the staff, pupils, parents and members of our local community for their dedication, commitment and hard work in ensuring that all our pupils leave Priory with not only excellent results, but with these rich and meaningful experiences that are guaranteed to help them in what are sure to be their exciting and bright futures.

We hope you enjoy reading our key stories from this term at Priory, a great school where every pupil *'Learns to Succeed'*.



Mr Matt Eastham, Principal
Penwortham Priory Academy

Happy Anniversary Priory!

September 1953 - September 2023

This week 70 years ago Penwortham County Secondary School, as it was known then, welcomed its first full cohort of pupils. To commemorate the occasion, the whole school is pictured in this celebratory photo which was taken on Sports Day back in July.

We're all in there - staff too!



Learn to succeed

Welcome Back!

It was good to see everyone back in school on Tuesday morning; familiar faces and some new ones.

Mr Eastham addressed us all in an assembly and set out his key messages for the year, including a reminder of the Priory Standard - the highest expectations of all, from all.

Our theme this term is 'Kindness'. Keep your eyes open for anyone who might be struggling, support each other, be inclusive, be kind.



To ALL Students Returning to School If you see any of the following:

- another student struggling to make friends
- another student being picked on
- a student who is new, shy, or not with the "in crowd"
- a student who is eating lunch alone

Be a Leader! Be a Warrior!

Say hi. Smile at them. Ask if you can sit with them. Include them. You never know what that person is facing inside or outside of school.



MaBaL (music at break and lunch)

Bringing music to your ears at break and lunch

We play music through the school's speaker system during break and lunch. Chosen by Mr Taylor, Lead Teacher for Music, this is designed to offer exposure to the curriculum in different ways, and support pupils' appreciation of music across the school.

We will focus on one theme each week across a genre, a country or from history. The theme could also link to the season or an event in school. Next week it's...

Rock Ballads

Those emotionally-charged, agonising, tormented pieces of music which ebb and flow gently, and then suddenly – when you least expect it – erupt with the gush of a tsunami.



The lyrics are over-the-top and sung in a pleading, heart-wrenching manner, with exaggerated statements about plummeting to the ground on broken wings, doing it for the glory of love or holding on and never saying goodbye etc.

In a musical sense, they are often performed at a slow tempo, with a big sound wall of a backing with rock elements, like distorted guitars, loud, heavy drums and belting vocals. The lyrics are usually romantic - either a celebration of a great love, a lost love or an unrequited one, and sung by someone with a formidable singing voice.

Theme suggestions are welcomed - pupils should see Mr Taylor or email a.taylor@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Mr Taylor
Lead Teacher of Music

Summer School

How did Summer School go then?

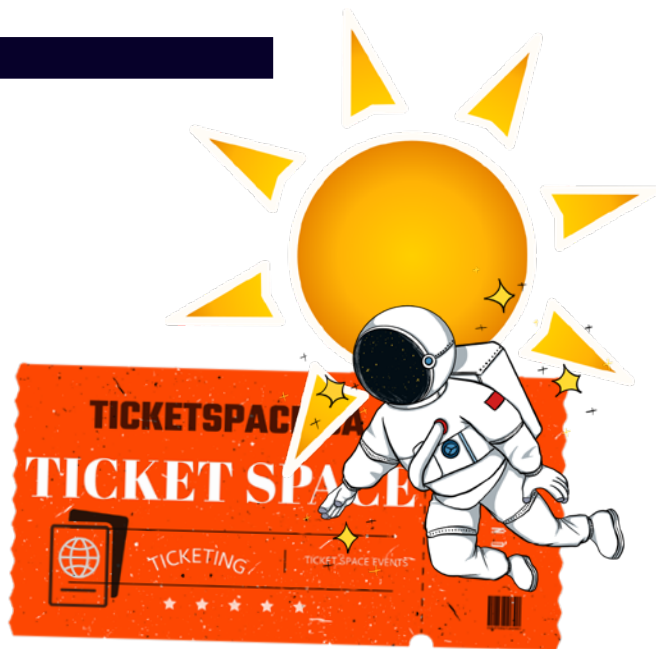
It seems such a long time ago now but we hope that all our Year 7 pupils who could join us for Summer School had fun whilst getting to know their new school, meeting the teachers and making new friends.

The 3-day event was led by Humanities teacher, Miss Ackers, to benefit our new intake's transition to high school. With a 'space and time' theme, pupils took part in many fun activities to develop their team building skills, independence and communication.

Pupils were shown how to access the ICT systems and set up their online accounts in advance of their first day, they learnt about the Eat Well Guide and decorated alien cupcakes, navigated the school through treasure hunts, enjoyed a circus skills workshop, and of course... bounced on the inflatables!

Before the pupils headed home on the last day of the event, parents were invited to see their children collect certificates and watch a video montage of what they got up to.

Lead teacher, Miss Ackers, said, "*Summer School was an enriching experience for all and couldn't have gone any better. The students were able to ease their anxieties and have fun. I am proud of the student helpers who volunteered their time to aid the teachers and I'm pleased that the new Year 7s found it helpful and enjoyable. I'm sure that the event has gone a long way to help our new pupils to settle in at Priory with confidence.*"



A special mention to the staff and Year 8 & 11 pupils below who volunteered their time to come in during their holidays to support the event:

Year 8 - Esa B, Idris A, Junior V, Jacob H, Daniel McC, Will B, Bradley I

Year 10 - Megan H, Jess M, Abigail M, Olivia B, Lucy B, India P, Mylie S, Lily McM, Katie H



Learn to succeed

Despite this year being the year when there has been an expected fall in grades nationally, and most of this year's GCSE students being in Year 8 when the pandemic hit, results this year are a real celebration for our students and staff, as we have continued to maintain our strong academic outcomes from previous years.

Congratulations, therefore, to our students. We all know how hard it's been at times, but also how hard they have worked.

All our 2023 leavers should feel proud of what they have individually achieved. We offer our best wishes and thanks to all our pupils who now move on from Priory, secure in the knowledge that they continued to build on the successes of previous years by producing not only some great examination results, but perhaps more importantly, some notable individual accomplishments over their time with us.



GCSE Results Day: Their Stories

Regardless of the results however, we recognise our 2023 leavers as precious and unique individuals, and throughout their final year with us, they have shown how determined and hopeful they are, demonstrating remarkable levels of resilience. Here's how they got on...

Hannah was delighted with her grades as she achieved three Grade 8s and four Grade 7s among her results.

"I was pleased to get a 7 in Maths, an 8 in History and an 8 in French. I want to go to Newman College and study French, Biology, Law and Criminology."

Eliza said she was 'very happy' with her results.

"I got two Grade 8s and four Grade 7s. I was especially happy with a Grade 7 in my English Literature as I didn't think I would pass."

"I am going to Preston College on an acting course. I have been in all the school productions – Matilda, Game Over and Mary Poppins. I want to go into acting."

Lucas achieved an amazing four nines, two in Science and one in Maths and Further Maths along with two 8s among his results.

"I wasn't expecting all the 9s although I was hoping. I am still trying to calm down!"

"I want to go LUSoM to study Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Computer Science. I want to be a rocket scientist or something with nuclear fusion."



Continued next page...

GCSE Results Day: Their Stories



Head Prefects Ben and Fatima, and Senior Prefect Maya, were three of our top achievers, here they tell us how they got on with their GCSE results...

Head Prefect Ben was happiest with his English Literature result.

"I expected a 5 or 6 and I got a 7 so that was amazing!

"I got five Grade 8s as well. I want to go to Newman College and study History, Geography, Politics and Maths. I want to be a lawyer."



Head Prefect Fatima was absolutely delighted with her results.

"I failed my history mock examination but got an 8 so I am amazed!"

She also got three Grade 7s among her results and will go to Newman College and do a BTEC in Sport and a Biology A-Level as she wants to be a physiotherapist.

"I am so happy," she added.

Senior Prefect Maya was the top performer at Priory. She achieved three Grade 9s and four Grade 8s and a Level 2 Distinction Star in Engineering.

"I was hoping for good grades but did not know if I would get them. I am especially pleased with some of my Grade 8s as I thought I may get a 6 or 7 in some. The Engineering qualification was something extra in case I want to do an apprenticeship in the future.



"I want to go to Hutton Sixth Form and do Business and History and another subject, I haven't yet decided."

Uzair was with his proud mum Lubna.

"I am so happy," he said. "I got three Grade 8s, three Grade 7s and two Grade 6s. I am so pleased, especially as I got a 7 in Maths and I thought I would get a 5 or 6. I also got a 7 in Art.

"I want to go to Newman College and study Biology, Chemistry and Psychology and do something in medicine."



Jake celebrated two Grade 9s, four Grade 8s among his results.

"I wasn't that nervous," said Jake. "I want to go to Runshaw College and study Maths, Further Maths, Biology and Chemistry.

"My mum is a pharmacist and I want to do something with medicine in the future."



Congratulations on your achievements, Class of 2023, and our very best wishes for what we're sure will be your bright and exciting futures.

Learn to succeed

Priory's Eco Committee Visit Whitefield Primary School



Pupil Report by Oliver C, Year 8

Before the summer break, the Eco Committee visited Whitified Primary School to meet their Eco Ambassadors. Following their visit, Science teacher Mrs Massey asked the pupils to write a short article. Here's Year 8 Oliver's report...

On Friday 16 June, the Eco Committee took a trip to Whitefield Primary School to discuss what each school was doing to help their environment.

We began by talking about our plan to put paper-only bins in each of the classrooms. We then continued by saying that we were re-using plant pots to make pot-figures. Another thing that we mentioned was that we were thinking of putting signs out to remind teachers and students to keep the lights off when possible.



Their Eco Club (their version of the Eco Committee) began by talking about the more recent things that they had done, like lowering the ceilings in some of the classrooms and switching their bulbs for LED lights to save energy. Also, they had put signs out to ensure that teachers and students alike will turn the lights off when possible.

They took us around the grounds and showed us the many things that they had done to the outside environment, for example, letting the grass grow wild along the edges of their field and planting meadows as part of their long-term project. They have also put out pot pollinators to ensure that bees and butterflies thrive. By getting more bins and creating a litter picking crew, they hope to deal with the litter that is dropped. They also have a gardening club to grow fruit and vegetables. In their Jubilee Garden (a small area of wild forest) they have got a bird feeder to attract more birds. To help with this task, they have got bird boxes but they are both out in the open and so will move these closer to the bushes.

By Oliver C, year 8

Mrs Massey added, "The team at Whitefield Primary School will visit Priory this year and we plan to continue to share ideas and projects as well as raise awareness of the importance of caring for our planet."

The Eco Committee will continue with their campaign this academic year and will be looking for new members to join them. Look out for posters soon or see Mrs Massey in SC1.

Mrs Elliott's Cool Readers Club

Here's what our Cool Readers Club is all about...

These are our reading stars put forward by their English teacher. We interview them about their current book, what they like reading about and what they like to do when they're not reading.

We interviewed Sienna and Jacob before the end of the Summer term when they were in Year 7.

Introducing, Sienna...

Sienna enjoys fantasy and romance books.

"I am currently reading 'Pretties' by Scott Westerveld. It's a bit like Hunger Games."

The book is the second of a trilogy and is set in a future world where everyone is turned 'Pretty' by extreme cosmetic surgery when reaching 16. Teenager Tally rebels against it.

"I read a lot and my favourite books are Twilight and Harry Potter and I have read all of them in the series. I have watched the films as well but I prefer the books."

"In school, I like geography and I don't know what I want to do in the future, although I want to go to college and university."



Introducing, Jacob...

Jacob admits he 'loves reading' but his favourite subject is science.

Year 8 Jacob has read more than three million words on Accelerated Reader. His school blazer is covered in all kinds of badges from history to stars for extra-curricular clubs and personal development activities.

"I read all the time," said Jacob. "I am currently reading 'Five Nights at Freddy's Silver Eyes.'"



"It's interesting so far as there is a kidnapping of one of the main characters and a suspected murder. It's a horror mystery and I do like these kinds of books. I like thrillers."

"I do have a lot of badges as I enjoy most lessons although science is my favourite. I attended Japanese Club, Chess Club and Debate Club."

Mrs Elliott
English Teacher & Chief Librarian

Learn to succeed

Astronomy Club is Recruiting Year 9 Pupils



Priory pupils are once again reaching for the stars as they look to sign up Year 9s to start their Astronomy GCSE course.

Science technician, Mr Evans, teaches the GCSE Astronomy course which will run every Thursday after school for the new Year 9 group. (Year 10 will continue their lessons as previous)

Astronomy Club is an optional extra curricular subject that is open to Year 9 pupils who continue through to Year 10, when they may opt to take a GCSE.

Introductory letters are available from the Science department or can be downloaded from the school website at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters. Classes will run after school until 4.10pm.

Pupils will study a range of topics including:

Cosmology | Stellar evolution | Exploring starlight | Planetary motion and gravity



Places are limited. Enquiries can be directed to Mr Evans, Science Technician,
j.evans@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Congratulations: House Captains, Senior Prefects and Prefects

The new academic year brings extra roles for many of Priory's Year 11 pupils. Attending school functions, speaking on behalf of the pupils during meetings with the Principal, and generally taking an active role in representing the school, are a large part of being a prefect.

Congratulations to all our prefects who have met the highest expectations in attitude to learning, attendance and behaviour needed to successfully qualify for the position.



House Captains

Aisha B – Ribble, Caitlin B – Hodder
Olivia B - Calder, Abi Mr – Douglas

Senior Prefects

Grace D, Megan H

Prefects

Favour A, Owen B, Josh B, Lucy B, Cyrus B, Kayleigh B, Jamie C, Troy C, Amelie C, Nathan C, Olivia C, Mahir D, Sam D, Grace E, Imogen E, Louie F, Leila H, Ollie H, Olivia H, Katie H, Anais McM, Lily McM, Preston McM, Jess M, Leila M, Emmie P, India P, Madison P-H, Lucas R, Thea R, James S, Issac S, Henry S, Finlay W, Henry W

Learn to succeed

Introducing Your Head Prefects 2023-24

Priory's new Head Prefects will begin their role at our Open Evening and are relishing their new responsibilities.

Martha, Alex, Lewis and Cameron were selected following a hustings which was held in the last week of the summer term.

Candidates had to make a presentation for three-five minutes on the following:

"Imagine you are presenting at Priory's Open Evening and you are required to give a talk on the academic and pastoral aspects of the school. What would you say to portray the school in the best possible light?"

Staff and Year 11 pupils then voted on their preferred choice and these four pupils were our worthy winners.

Alex, who says he is in every sports team he can be, admitted: "I was terrified giving my speech! I talked about what the school does for you – there is so much to do, whether it's academic or sports.

"I also said there is something on offer for everyone to get involved in. I must admit we only had to talk for three-five minutes but it felt like 20! I was surprised I had been selected."

Lewis said: "I talked about the facilities and how supportive the teachers were. I also talked about how they could find your interests. In Year 7 I would never have thought I would be interested in drama, it wasn't even on my radar, and now I want to take it further at college. Miss Howell is one of my favourite teachers and she has made a really big impression on me. I have been in the shows Mary Poppins and Matilda and I would say, while I was never shy, my confidence has increased a lot."

Martha said: "I discussed how the teachers were really helpful and supportive and the confidence I have got from my teachers. I like History and PE. I was shocked when I heard I had been selected."

Cameron, who wants to be a lawyer, said: "As well as all the above, I talked about how welcoming and inclusive Priory is. It's a friendly school."

The appointment of Head Prefects, House Captains and Prefects is an important aspect of Priory's reward system. Year 11s are given this responsibility to demonstrate they can represent the school in a positive and mature manner. They will have had good attendance and discipline and are expected to take part in school events and extra-curricular activities.

Our Head Prefects' first big role will be to welcome prospective pupils and parents at Priory's Open Evening on Thursday, 21 September when they will also be taking families on tours of the school.



European Day of Languages at Priory

Ooh La La! Priory teachers were kitted out in French, Greek and German (and more!) attire for our celebration of European Day of Languages.

Year 7 went off-timetable on Tuesday to celebrate the important day in the Languages Department calendar and highlight the importance of learning a language across Europe.

There were numerous activities including Greek dancing, constructing a European landmark using straws, a café and quiz and a music special, led by Mr Taylor.

Head of Languages Mrs Scully said: "This day is so important and everyone, from staff to pupils, have been so enthusiastic about it.

"Days like this are vital to highlight the importance of learning a different language, and culture, which are on our doorstep and all the school have embraced it.

"It raises the profile of languages and it was great to see all the teachers and office staff dressed up and the pupils have got a lot from the day."



Food Technology teacher Mrs Cowell, whose dad is Greek, taught Year 7s Greek dancing, a few Greek words and they tried some Greek specialities including Feta cheese, Tzatziki, Greek yoghurt, olives and flat bread.

Pupils embraced building a European monument out of straws, with the Eiffel Tower and the Leaning Tower of Pisa proving popular, under the watchful eye of Mrs Bailey.

Mrs Bailey said: "The pupils have been so enthusiastic, they have had a great time and it's got them thinking about European countries."

Mr Taylor's music class had maracas, drums, cymbals and more as they played and danced to European songs.

Mr Bullock gave the pupils a run around in the Sports Hall with a game of Handball, one of the most popular sports across Europe. Passes and goals were claimed in Spanish as well as scores announced in the language.

But it wasn't just the Year 7s who got to engage with the theme; teachers were meeting and greeting pupils at the door using a European language and incorporating language into lessons where practical - taking the register using 'je suis ici' or 'Hola señor/señorita', numbers in Maths for example.

Many pupils brought in cakes which contributed towards the MacMillans Coffee Morning, raising money for the annual cancer support campaign.



Year 9 pupil's talent is music to our ears



Ben is a self-taught pianist who has Elton John and Queen as his inspiration.

"I took it up about a year ago. I enjoy listening to all music, and then I got an electric piano for my birthday. I started to play my own songs after listening to songs I liked, and began adapting them."

Ben impressed everyone at last term's Summer Arts Evening and performed in front of the whole school in the end of year assembly having perfected his own compilations, for which he received much applause.

Ben has shown dedication to his passion despite the challenges he faced last year, demonstrating courage and commitment, which is an inspiration to anyone who may be facing challenging times.



Well done Ben!

The Piano at Priory

From Monday, there will be a piano in the Auditorio for pupils to play on at break and lunchtimes very much in the style of those in public places such as Liverpool 1, St. Pancras and Manchester Piccadilly stations. Not sure what we mean? Take a look at this clip...

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=nBNHSON7N1s&pp=ygUSUGlhbmlzdCBTdCBQYW5jcmFz>

Just sit down and play!

*Mr Taylor
Lead Teacher of Music*



Learn to succeed

Let Them Eat Cake (for a good cause!)

When break-time arrived this morning pupils quickly picked up their bags and dashed over to the Food Technology room. There was cake to be had!

Thanks to the generous donations from pupils, parents and staff, the whole school got to enjoy some gorgeous treats whilst raising over £125 for MacMillan Cancer Support. With the extra cash in their pockets we were spoilt for choice in selecting the abundance of sweet treats.

It seems that the Maths department weren't going to miss out as Mr Hunter arrived to treat his colleagues. Mrs Eastham and Mrs Nayler also popped down to the Technology block to 'help out'.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is MacMillan Cancer Support's biggest fundraising event for people facing cancer. The first Macmillan Coffee Morning happened way back in 1990. It was a rather small affair with a simple idea: guests would gather over coffee and donate the cost of their cuppa to Macmillan in the process. It was so effective, they did it again the next year – only this time nationally. Since then, Coffee Morning has raised over £290 million for MacMillan.

House points will be awarded for all those who have donated cakes.



Thank you for your support!



Learn to succeed

A Day At The 'Book' Fair!

IN THE LIBRARY UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY

On Thursday we took a trip down to the library to see what was happening at the book fair.

The buzz of excitement could be heard from the corridors as pupils from all year groups were found to be browsing the stands which had arrived the day before. From stationery to books of all genres, there was something for everyone and the atmosphere was delightful to see. Mrs Elliott was directing the crowds and the librarians embraced their duties at the 'tills' as they kerched with cash and card payments.

Everyone that buys a book also gets their name put into a daily prize draw to win a £5 voucher to spend on more books! Now there's a reason to keep going back!

The fair is still with us until next Tuesday so make sure you get down there - miss it, miss out!

Here are some of our librarians and shoppers demonstrating what's on offer - some great posing everyone!



it's back!



Learn to succeed

Food Bank Collection Becomes An Inter House Competition



As the inter-house competitiveness starts to take hold, Mrs Massey is ramping up the activity with a good cause in mind.

Not only are staff and pupils asked to bring in food to be donated to the Penwortham Food Bank but now we can watch which House is fairing the best.

Supporting this term's theme of kindness, each House has a set of baskets to fill. Who can fill the baskets and donate the most? The baskets can be found in the Nucleus and will be there until the end of the half term.

Pupils will also be rewarded citizenship points towards their Priory+ award. Donations will be dropped off at the food bank on Friday, 20 October so any items will be gratefully received before then.



Key Stage 4 Pupils Meet The Army for Careers Day

On Wednesday, a group of Year 10 & 11 pupils had the opportunity to attend a 'Meet the Army Day' at Holcombe Moor Training Camp, Bury.

Accompanied by Assistant Principal, Mr Gee, the pupils spent the day taking part in various activities from a number of the Army infantry brigades including the Paratroopers and Household Cavalry. The pupils also had the opportunity to speak to soldiers about what a career in the Army is like.

Hope you enjoyed your day: Thomas P, James S, Lochlan S, Max B, Oliver C, James S, Kayleigh I, Marco T, Ebony P.



Learn to succeed

Class of 1970 Go Back To School

Former Head Girl Janet Edwards and Sports Captain John Bennett, the Class of 1970, visited Priory as part of our 70th anniversary celebrations as well as to meet the new Head Prefects.



Janet is believed to be one of the first pupils from Priory to go to university and enjoyed a successful career as a midwife. She stayed in touch with John, who was Sports Captain for Croft House and went on to be a Geography teacher, inspired by his teacher at Priory.

Janet (nee Clough), now 69, said: "Priory has changed a lot but there are some things which are still the same such as the same reception.

"I remember one of my jobs as Head Girl was to follow our then Headteacher Mr Summers, in his black gown, onto the stage for assemblies. We had to stand there while he spoke.

"I also remember organising the collection for the Poppy Appeal and, as prefects, we also had to stop pupils coming through the main entrance at break and lunch time but we were allowed to!

"I went onto Liverpool University to study Geography, inspired by our then Geography teacher Ernest Reynolds, his blackboard skills were incredible.



"I remember, pupils who wanted to go to university went to Penwortham Girls or Hutton Grammar School. I had done my O'Levels, as they were then, and I went to Penwortham Girls to talk about wanting to do three A-Levels as I wanted to go to university. I wanted to do History, Geography and Literature. As I had come from Priory, they didn't think I was capable of doing three but I stood my ground and did all three!"

John said: "As Sports Captain, I had to organise all the team events and internal competitions. I was inspired by Mr Reynolds as I went on to be a Geography teacher at St Albans, now Albany High, and Stanley High School in Southport.

"I remember a trip to Hothersall Lodge at Priory and also not taking time over my homework and Mr Reynolds saying: "That was not worth wetting your pen for." I wasn't the most studious!

"Priory has changed beyond recognition but in a good way. My children came here and they have gone into the police and teaching."

Janet added: "It's superb that children in South Ribble have the chance to come to such a vibrant school."

Both had a tour around the school with our current Head Prefects Martha, Alex, Lewis and Cameron and laughed about the how punishments had changed.

John said: "We used to get the slipper if we had done something wrong and the girls were rapped on their knuckles with a ruler or had to write lines."

Continued next page ...

Continued from previous page.

Janet had presented the school with her yellow summer dress, lovingly made by her mum.

"You could buy them but we didn't have a lot of money so my mum made it from a pattern and there was also a straw boater to go with it."

Following on from the visit, Janet wrote,

"Thank you for inviting John and I to come to Priory to meet the new head prefects. I was very impressed with Martha, Lewis, Alex and Cameron; they showed a genuine interest in our experiences and engaged with us one hundred per cent. Their enthusiasm for the school was very apparent hence needing more time to show us all areas that they were so proud of. Without being patronising they showed maturity and respect .

"I was a little apprehensive ahead of the visit as to how they would find two individuals from a different era approaching their seventieth birthdays, my apprehension was unfounded!"

We would like to acknowledge and pay tribute to the Head Boy of Class of 1970, Trevor Rainford, who sadly passed away earlier this year.



Alex looking over the Admissions Book with John.



Summer uniform, Penwortham County Secondary School, 1970, kindly donated to the school by Janet.

Penwortham
Priory
ACADEMY

TEXTILES CLUB

EVERY MONDAY
3.10PM-4PM

MATERIALS PROVIDED

ROOM;
T4
TECHNOLOGY

BEGINNERS WELCOME

LIMITED SPACES

See Mrs.Lockwood in Technology to secure a place

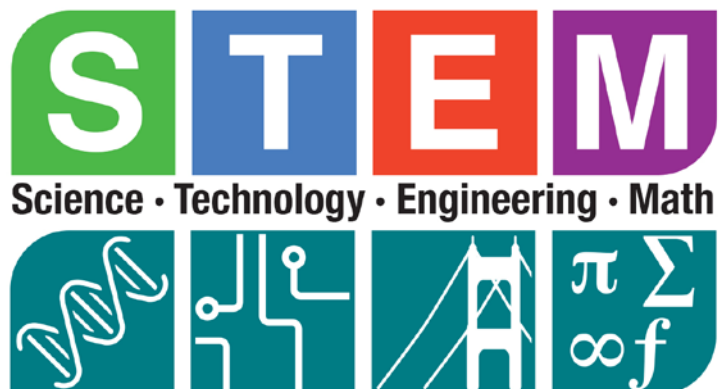
STEM Club Tuesdays

In SC4 every Tuesday after school for Year 7 pupils.

By attending this club, pupils will take part in a range of Chemistry, Physics and Biology-themed activities as well as STEM challenges.

STEM stands for a collaboration of **Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths** and will give pupils an excellent opportunity to develop skills such as perseverance and communication.

Pupils should see Mrs Potter, if you haven't already, for a letter if you are interested in attending.



Learn to succeed

Duke of Edinburgh Award at Priory



Humanities teacher Mrs Cauchi will lead the Duke of Edinburgh scheme in Priory now Mr Watters has retired.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is a nationally and internationally recognised award, favoured by employers and universities alike. The programme builds confidence, dedication and commitment, attributes we all want to see in our young people, and demand for the DofE is greater today than ever before.

Mrs Cauchi said it made sense for her to do it as, in her spare time, she loves the outdoors.

"It's what I do out of school," she said. "I walk my dogs and go wild camping so it made sense for me to step up into the role.

"I didn't get the chance to do my Duke of Edinburgh in school so I want to make sure pupils at Priory have their chance.

"Hopefully it will be open to all pupils but the current Year 9, then Year 10, will have the chance to sign up this month.

"It's beautiful around here with the Forest of Bowland and Rivington Pike so I am looking forward to exploring with the pupils.

"We will start with bronze level but hopefully in the future we will offer silver as well."



The Bronze Award has been launched to Year 9 and Year 10 pupils during assemblies over the past few weeks. Those taking part will complete a programme of activities in four sections that involve volunteering, physical, developing a new skill and completing an expedition. Pupils will need to complete a minimum of three months in each and choose one to focus on for six months.

Before being enrolled onto the Bronze Award pupils wanting to participate are asked to fill out a preliminary activity sheet and have this signed by Mrs Cauchi

before Wednesday, 25 October, to ensure what they are planning to do is acceptable.



There will be a parents and pupils information evening on **Monday, 9 October at 5pm** for those wish to find out more about what is expected before making any commitment. If you would like to attend the event, please email Mrs Cauchi at m.cauchi@priory.lancs.sch.uk before 12 noon on Monday.

A copy of the letter which has been issued to pupils interested in the scheme is available from the school website at >> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters

Inter-House Cross Country



The PE & Sport Department commandeered last week for pupils' annual sprint through the Priory woods for the school's Cross Country event.

Despite the heavy rain the week before, surprisingly it held off on the whole although many pupils still came off worse for the mud! Pupils had to complete two laps of the 900m route in the fastest time possible and the House with the least number of points were the winners. Calder had a close call in first place, with Douglas in Second, and Ribble and Hodder pulling up the rear.

Some pupils were just too quick and had dashed off after completing the course however, here are some of the top finishers that PE teacher, Miss Beesley, managed to catch!

Year 8

Millie D, Eliza G, Issy T, Excellent I, Josh K, Oliver C

Year 9 - Top 12 Boys

Zane H, Oliver L, Josh B, Taylor T, Louis H, Ellis T, Callum G-V, Josh P, Felix D, Aaron H, Aaron W, Alan K

Year 9

Taylor T, Felix D, Callum G-V

10E Band

Noah B, Kendall McC, Declan W.

10w Band

Lewis W, Max B, Oliver G



Learn to succeed

Year 11 Wander Through the History of Healthcare



Priory's Year 11 historians embarked on a journey into the past by visiting Thackray Medical Museum last Friday.



Over 70 pupils headed to Leeds to learn more about how medicine and surgery have changed over the past 2000 years. Pupils experienced an informative, gory and even smelly session about Victorian surgery, led by museum staff. The group also enjoyed a tour of the museum that took in a recreation of a Victorian street, prosthetics from the Great War and even a sexual health clinic.



Trip leader Mrs Cauchi said, "Our pupils did us proud at the museum and they had a great opportunity to see what we have been learning about in class recreated for them at Thackray."



Textiles Club Off To A Great Start

Textile Club got off to a fantastic start on Monday. Whilst some pupils made Hallowe'en-themed drawstring bags, others began making their Christmas stockings. With the Penwortham Christmas Markets looming, some were thinking ahead with star-shaped fabric decorations to sell on the school's stall.

Technology teacher, Mrs Lockwood, said, "It was definitely my favourite 45 minutes of the week! A lovely start to Textiles Club 2023."

Here's Maisie and Emily (Year 8) with their first makes. Emily had made her bag to keep her book in which she had newly purchased from the book fair.



Penwortham Priory ACADEMY

LIMITED SPACES

TEXTILES CLUB

EVERY MONDAY 3.10PM-4PM

MATERIALS PROVIDED

ROOM: T4 TECHNOLOGY

BEGINNERS WELCOME

See Mrs.Lockwood in Technology to secure a place

Year 7 Pupil Champions the BMX World



Year 7 Freddie is currently taking the BMX biking world by storm as National and British champion.

Freddie is a member of Preston Pirates BMX Club and said: "I got into it when I was riding around the Guild Wheel, aged around six or seven, and I saw some riders on a track. I stopped and watched and they invited me down and I have taken it from there."

Freddie has competed all over Europe, including France and Belgium, taking part in European and World BMX competitions.

"I am a bit of a risk taker so I enjoy the challenges of BMX riding," said Freddie.

"I also enjoy coaching and I coach some of the younger age groups at Preston Pirates."



Freddie was National and British champion for nine-year-olds, he was double champion aged 10 and has just won the 11-year-old National and British titles.

"The National title is won over a series of eight races in the UK and you pick up points over the series.

"The British title is a one-off day, it was in Derby, and you have to go through the rounds with eight competing in the final and I won.

"My dream is to compete in the Olympics."

Let Them Eat Cake (all for a good cause!)

We raised £125.78! Thank you to all the pupils and staff who baked, brought and bought, it was a great team effort. Pupils who donated cakes will gain points towards their Priory Plus Award as well as House points, so it's been a win-win all round.

Thank you for your support!



Learn to succeed

Year 7 Meet Author Ruth Eastham

meet the
author

'Inspirational' is how the Year 7s described the visit of author Ruth Eastham to Priory.

Ruth is sister of Principal Mr Eastham and is a multi-award winning author of five books - The Memory Cage, The Messenger Bird, Arrowhead, The Warrior in the Mist and the Jaguar Trials.

She has visited Priory a number of times to speak to the pupils and inspire them to be the next generation of writers.

"It's always good to come here," said Ruth. "We have been talking about what the ingredients are to make an exciting story – imagination, an amazing protagonist, an amazing antagonist and an amazing setting.

"They were all really keen to listen and ask questions. I trained as a teacher so it's nice to come back into school and deliver sessions, including drama and discussions and ten minutes of powerful writing and there were some really imaginative stories."



Ruth trained as a teacher at Cambridge University and studied Science but always enjoyed writing.

"My breakthrough came when I entered a BBC competition to write children's fiction, to find the next JK Rowling. I was a finalist and that was probably the pivotal moment in my career, that was my inspiration."

As a former teacher, Ruth enjoys visiting primary and secondary schools and telling her story as well as inspiring others.

"Doing this combines my teaching career, being with kids, and my love of writing. I have written five books and have some more in the pipeline but it can take a few months to write one or sometimes a few years!"



Year 7 Elif said: "I have learnt that Mrs Eastham's first book was Memory Cage but I really enjoyed all the drawings connected with them as I like art."



Imogen said: "I was inspired by Mrs Eastham. Even when she was rejected, she was persistent."

Sienna said: "It has encouraged me to read one of her books now."

Oliver added: "I learnt that there are lot of books and all are different and it depends on your personality which kind of books you like."

Learn to succeed

Meet the Teacher: Mrs Potter - Science



Mrs Potter is Priory's new Assistant Head of Science.

Mrs Potter joined Priory at the end of the last academic year after moving from a school in Warrington.



"I moved into the area, and I knew of Priory's reputation, so I am thrilled to be the Assistant Head of Science here."

Mrs Potter has been teaching 14 years and always loved science in school.

"I liked doing STEM experiments at school – they were the fun things!

"I studied A-Levels in Chemistry, Physics and Maths and then did my degree and Masters in Chemistry at The University of Manchester.

"I did actually go into industry for a year but thought I would get bored with doing the same thing. That's the main difference in teaching – no day is ever the same!"

Mrs Potter is currently teaching Physics.

"Out of school I enjoy running and learned how to crochet during lockdown."

Head of Science, Mr Bedford, said, "Mrs Potter is a great addition to our team, another experienced and diligent professional. She has already made a positive impression on many of our students and will be a valuable member of staff for the science department.

"While it was unfortunate that we lost both Miss Nouraghaei and Mr Cox at Easter last year, both moved on to Head of Department roles in other schools. This is testament to the culture and attitude of staff within the department. We are lucky to have recruited Mrs Potter, not just as an outstanding teacher but as a teacher of physics! She will play an integral role within the department, helping us to continue our trend of exceeding national averages in GCSE results for the third successive year.



Mrs Potter
Assistant Head of Science

Learn to succeed

Lancashire FA Supports Grassroots Improvements at Priory



Lancashire Football Association visited Priory on Monday to see how the recent funding awarded to us had impacted on the school and the local community.

The investment towards the floodlights and ground maintenance by the Football Foundation has provided improved facilities, not only for our own pupils, but for clubs that use them beyond the school day.

Priory's Strategic Estates Development Manager, Mr Bolton, spoke to Lucy Roberts from Lancashire FA about the work we have carried out and the impact the funding has had for everyone, including the support we are now able to provide to our local primary schools.

Mr Bolton said, "*We applied for two grants from the Football Foundation run by the FA. The first was for grass pitch machinery to help with running our own grass pitches' cutting programme on our fields.*"

"We worked with the Grounds Maintenance Association, of which we are members, to assess the quality of the grass pitches for grassroots teams playing on them. The report identified a need for equipment to enable Priory to cut the grass more regularly plus also allow for equipment to help with the basic decompaction of the grass allowing for better grass growth and improved drainage. Three of Priory's staff also undertook training courses associated with grounds maintenance works."

Mr Bolton went on to explain what the second grant meant for Priory, "*The further funding enabled us to upgrade the old floodlights on the 3G pitch from 24 no. 2000watt fittings to new 12 no. 1600watt LED fittings and included the addition of smarter controls to hold off lights when not needed. This has enabled us to not only improve the lighting levels on the pitch but we're also saving energy now that there are fewer floodlights.*"

The school has four football clubs that are regularly using the grass pitches at weekends and in the evenings for training.

And it doesn't stop there...

We are intending to apply for further grants for the grass pitches which will enable more complicated works to be carried out by specialist contractors to add to the work we have already started. All this will mean greater use of the pitches for grassroot football.



Learn to succeed

Louis is Beating his Drums with Success



Louis is drumming his way to success!

The Year 10 pupil has been playing the drums for around four or five years and has passed his Grade 4 exams.

“My dad wanted me to play an instrument so I tried guitar but I found I preferred the drums,” said Louis.

“I have lessons at Rimmers Music and also practise at my dad’s house.

“I like rock and heavy metal but I am not in a band yet. I hope to be one day.

“Playing the drums is not as easy as people think. They think you just hit the drums but it’s about getting the harmonies right to get the perfect tone from loud to quiet.

“I take some inspiration from the Foo Fighters.”

Louis played to the whole school during the end of year assembly in July where he drummed up much applause.



Emma is Hungary for Dance

Emma performed a traditional Hungarian Dance at our Summer Arts Evening at the end of the last academic year and it was also enjoyed in a whole school assembly.

Year 10 Emma came to England two years ago from Hungary and wore her traditional dress to perform her dance.

“It is quite energetic. It’s what we grow up with in Hungary but I still had to practise a bit before the Summer Arts Evening. I enjoy performing and showing off my culture.”



Learn to succeed

How are you settling in, Year 7?

Our Year 7s may only have been at school for half a term but they already have their favourite lessons!



A selection talked about how easily they have settled into secondary school life.

Leon said: "I have settled in easily. The main difference from primary school is travelling between lessons. That makes it a bit different."

Sandra said: "It's amazing! I already had a lot of friends here and my cousin is in Year 10 and she has helped me settle in. My favourite subject is Geography."

Charlotte said: "Everyone has been really kind. I didn't know hardly anyone when I first came here but I have made friends easily. My favourite lesson is Technology."



Lola said: "The teachers are really helpful around school. I like English and Geography the best but I do find you get a lot more homework than we did at primary school."

Lucy added: "My favourite lesson is English and the Maths is a lot harder at Priory!"

Head of Year 7, Mrs Farley said: "I'm really impressed by the Year 7s this year. It's like they've always been here! I think with so many coming to Summer School this has really helped them to settle in a lot quicker too.

"They are getting to grips with the systems and how we work which can be quite overwhelming – but they're all taking the advice given and asking for help when it's needed. They are getting more and more confident each day. They're really getting stuck into life at Priory and it's great to see! I'm looking forward to seeing them get involved in everything that Priory has to offer as the year goes on."

Mrs Farley
Head of year 7
Transition & Integration Manager

Priory Supports Local Special Needs Centre



Learning Support Assistant Mrs Whalley has raised £150 for a cause close to Priory, the Space Centre.

The Space Centre is a multi-sensory environment in Preston for children and adults with special needs.

Mrs Whalley said: "The Space Centre was the chosen charity of the Year 11s who have just left so that's why I selected this charity.

"I read a lot at home and have plenty of books which I decided to sell and I also asked the Priory staff to bring in books and we had a book sale.

"My elderly mother also donated a keyboard to purchase and it was actually sold to a member of staff in school who needed a keyboard so it all worked out well."



The Space Centre Manager and former Priory pupil, Jane Carysforth, came with her daughter Emily to receive the cheque.

"It's amazing and really heartwarming." said Jane.

"Having Emily, it's great to see the support from the community, and especially a local school, which we are grateful for."

English Department

New Books in the Library

Mrs Elliott has been doing what she likes best - buying books for the library!

Over 100 books have been added over the last week and are now out on the shelves. The next wave to hit the shelves before the end of the term or so will include some of your favourites, from the football books by Matt and Tom Oldfield to Kinney's Wimpy Kid series, new Treehouse books and lots more.



Give the library a visit to grab your favourite books!

PS Please remember to look after the books you borrow.

Mrs Elliott
English Teacher & Chief Librarian

Learn to succeed

Year 11 Pupil is Strictly Leading on the Dance Floor



Head Prefect Lewis has all the right moves as the Ballroom and Latin dancer is competing at a high level.

Lewis has been dancing for eight years after winning dance lessons at a birthday party and finding he enjoyed it.

"I just really took to it and have been having dancing lessons ever since then," said Lewis.

"I now have lessons twice a week in Liverpool in Ballroom and Latin. I really like the music and it is a special skill which takes a while to get used to."

Lewis has recently completed more dance exams and was awarded Distinction grade in all eight dances.



"I have competed all over the UK in competitions and I enjoy it. I have won a lot of the competitions which is something I am proud of."

Lewis competed in the UKA Premier Dance Festival earlier this month at Blackpool's Winter Gardens which was his first competition in the 16-35 year category as he recently turned 16, placing him against adults for the first time.

"I have danced against adults before so it doesn't really worry me."

When most people mention dancing many think of 'Strictly' but Lewis admits he isn't the show's biggest fan.

"To be honest I prefer actually dancing than watching it. My mates don't really say a lot about me being a dancer as I have always done it so they just accept it.

"I could go into teaching dancing professionally as a career but I would really like to go into acting.

"I have been in school productions, where I have used my dancing as well, but I would like to get more into the drama side of it and I would love to appear on TV!"

Images show just of some of Lewis' trophies and medals - 115 medals from eight years of collecting plus a selection of trophies from the last 16 months since he has been entering teacher/student and ProAm competitions.



Learn to succeed

Meet Priory's New English Leaders



Priory's English Department has a fresh look with a new Head of English and Assistant Head of English.

Ms Beswick is leading the way in the department while Miss Hearn has come to Priory with plenty of experience to continue its success.

Ms Beswick is from Leyland and has spent the last 13 years at St Bede's Catholic High School in Lytham.

"I was Assistant Subject Lead there. I initially studied journalism at UCLan and worked in Marketing and Admissions at Newman College. I went into schools as part of this and enjoyed it and decided I wanted to teach.

"Here we want to ensure our English curriculum is challenging for everyone,

engaging and pupils think about English in different ways. I am excited for the challenge ahead."



Miss Hearn completed her English Language and Literature degree in Leeds before actually going into a job in Marketing.

"I did it part-time when I was doing my degree and then I went into it full-time and didn't really enjoy it and teaching was something I had considered.

"I did my PGCE at Edge Hill University and have taught at Holy Cross Catholic High School in Chorley for the last five years where I was Assistant Head of Year.

Miss Hearn continues, "As soon as I walked into Priory, I felt the community and family feel of the school which attracted me straight away.

"At Priory, I want to inspire a love of reading. Reading should be accessible for everyone, whatever level, and we want to show you can read in different ways, not just sit with a book. It's exciting to be here!"

Year 7 Are Ready For The Road With Level 3 Bikeability



On Tuesday, 31 October and Tuesday, 7 November a selection of Year 7 and 8 pupils undertook their Level 3 Bikeability course.

Delivered by South Ribble Borough Council's Cycling Development Officers, the advance course equips pupils with the skills needed to stay safe in more challenging urban situations.

During the two hour session, pupils learned how to:

- Use the best riding position for any situation
- Ride alongside other cyclists
- Ride on more complex roads including busier roads, more complicated junctions and faster roads with speed limits above 30mph.
- Negotiate more complex roads such as junctions controlled by traffic lights, multi-lane roads or cycle lanes.
- Respond confidently when a situation changes. For example, when a vehicle pulls out in front of you.



Cycling Development Officer, David Boyle said, "We focus on skills pupils might want to practice more, or a tricky road where they travel often."

He went on to say, "All the pupils were an absolute credit to the school and represented it to an impeccable standard. Behaviour and application were second to none. The Level 3 will set them up for a life of freedom on wheels and I genuinely felt the pupils had grown in skill and confidence."

PE Teacher, Mrs Bullock, who organised the sessions at Priory, said, "All the pupils commented on how much fun it was and would all like to do it again!"

A particular well done to Callum M, Year 8, for his maturity and enthusiasm. Callum has been invited to support the Development Officers next week. Sessions will continue over the next two weeks.

Mrs Simpson's Long Service Award Takes Her Back To Former Pupil



Mrs Simpson was bowled over by her long service award – as it was a necklace made in the design of a bowler hat!

Learning Support Assistant Mrs Simpson chose the design which was made by former Priory pupil Guy Wakeling. Mrs Simpson has been at Priory since September 2002 – 21 years.



"I am a Preston North End fan and because of the gentry connection, I decided on a necklace with a bowler hat. I go to every home game and will treat myself to a half season ticket at Christmas!

"I knew Guy's dad Peter when he was a boxing coach and he was a bespoke jeweller. Guy has carried it on.

"Guy wasn't at Priory when I was here but obviously I knew of him and it's nice to have the Priory connection.

necklace is beautiful."

"I have a number of pieces from them and the

Mrs Simpson admitted: "I was a nurse before I came to Priory and I didn't expect to be here over 20 years but I have really enjoyed it.

"I live in Longton so I cycle to work every day in all weathers, it's four miles there and back so it keeps me fit.

"Priory has changed such a lot building-wise with the old B Block demolished and all the new buildings which have been introduced over the last ten years especially.

"I have been a Learning Support Assistant and a Cover Supervisor here and I guess my role has evolved as I have been here.



"I have enjoyed every single minute of it. Helping children has been a complete joy to me."

Guy Wakeling is a bespoke jewellery designer, based in Longton, with over 25 years' experience of making unique pieces of handmade jewellery. Visit him at 91 Liverpool Road, Penwortham, PR1 0QB or go to www.guywakelingjewellery.co.uk

After School Fun in the Science Department



This week, STEM Club has been busy investigating the colours made when burning metal ions.

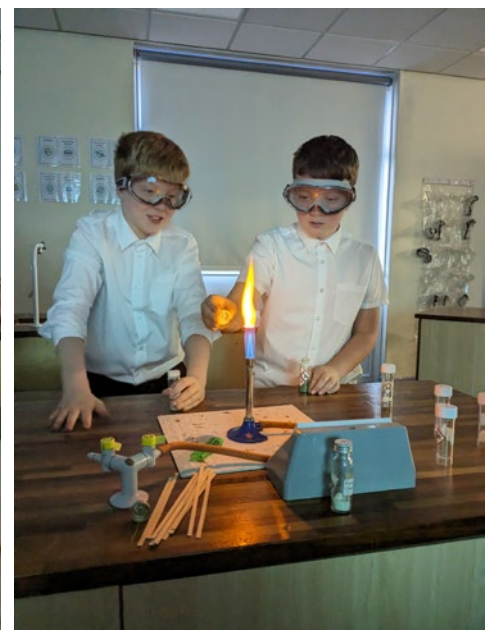
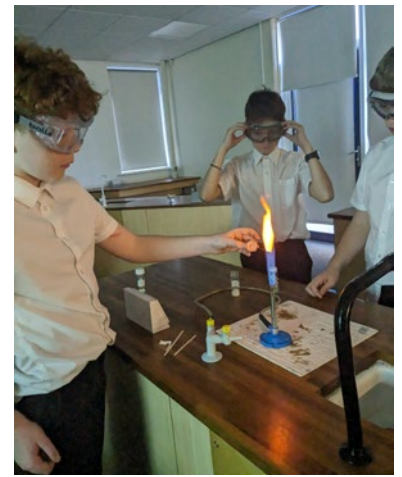
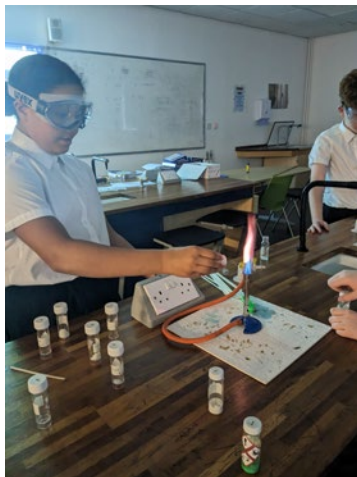
Assistant Head of Science, Mrs Potter, said, "We firstly started off with a distanced demo of the different metals on a large scale before trying out on a smaller scale on the Bunsen burners. Not only did this teach pupils the colours of the metal ions but they also got extra chance to develop their lab skills."

What's STEM Club All About?

In STEM Club, pupils will take part in a range of Chemistry, Physics and Biology-themed activities as well as STEM challenges. STEM stands for a collaboration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and will give pupils an excellent opportunity to develop skills such as perseverance and communication.

The club runs every Tuesday after school until 4pm and is open to pupils in Year 7 and Year 8. Pupils who would like to attend should see Mrs Potter in the Science Department.

Mrs Potter
Assistant Head of science



Learn to succeed

Year 10 Pianist Hits The Top Notes



Talented Agnes is a Grade 7 pianist.

The Year 10 pupil has been playing the piano since she was three-years-old in her native Hong Kong.

“You have to do extra-curricular activities so my mum thought I might have a talent playing the piano so I tried a keyboard and enjoyed it.

“I have carried it on in England and have private lessons three times a week. The Grade 7 exam was tough and I would like to get to the highest Grade 8 but it is only a hobby for me.

“I enjoy geography, maths and triple science in school and I am not sure what I want to do in the future.”

Image below shows Agnes playing to an audience at the Summer Arts Festival in July.



School Mascot: Pupil Volunteers needed

You may not know this, but we have a school mascot - Pedro the Puffin.

Pedro needs to visit at House events. Ms Smith is therefore looking for willing volunteers to dress up. The costume is suitable for pupils in Years 10 and 11 or taller Year 9s. Even staff can volunteer!

If you are interested in becoming Pedro's inner being, please see Ms Smith or contact her via Teams Chat.



Learn to succeed

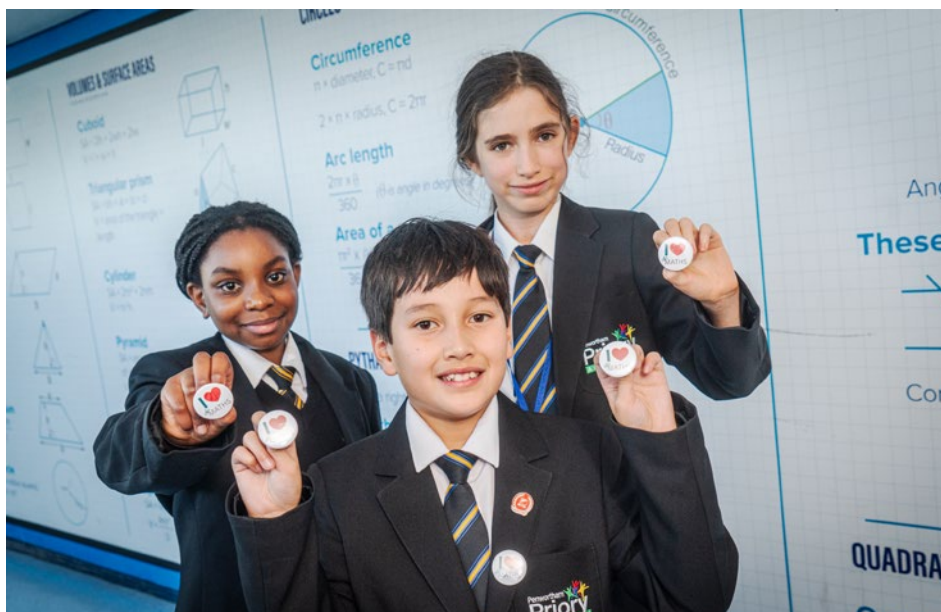



The Assistant Head of Maths Mr Sneddon, along with the Maths Department, is running a competition asking pupils to say what they particularly enjoy about their subject.

Pupils were tasked with completing the following sentence, "*I love Maths because...*" and qualifying responses were rewarded with an *I love Maths* badge.

Here's why Year 7 Vivien, Ada and Marshall love Maths:

Vivien... *because it's an amazing subject, is very interesting and I think personally that Maths is very '?!'. If we think about it, we actually use Maths in everyday life because it's helpful in life. So many words you can describe Maths in. Think about it, we actually use Maths in everyday life because when you go to the shop you have to estimate how much money you're going to need. That's why I love Maths!*



 **Ada...** *because it can be very helpful for cooking and baking and all sorts of things like measuring, cutting and weighing. Another reason why I love Maths is because it's either right or wrong, like in English it's always opinions and in Science it's always predictions yet Maths is really precise. Finally, I like figuring out sums, and learning if I get them wrong.*

Marshall... *because of the facts and numbers. I like the shapes of the numbers and solving problems.*

Now, It's YOUR Turn... Pupils that want to claim an 'I love Maths' badge should simply click the link below to access the online form and write Mr Sneddon a few sentences or paragraphs explaining why they love maths. The best responses from each year group will be selected and also featured here in our article.

<https://forms.office.com/e/cAKzEBpP1H>

Mr Sneddon
Assistant Head of Maths

Learn to succeed

Textile Club



Mrs Lockwood's favourite time of the week soon comes around and 'sew' we popped down to see what's been happening in Textile Club over the past fortnight.

Here's Year 8 Junior who has made a drawstring bag for his family to pull out their Secret Santa names, and Ayana who had tackled adding a pocket to one of her makes. Meanwhile, Year 9s Holly and Anna had got to grips with another drawstring bag and a beautiful owl decoration.



During the club, more confident pupils may work on their own projects whilst there's close guidance available for beginners who can start with some more simple ideas. Thank you to our grandparent volunteer, Mrs Lazonby for her valuable support.



The Club runs every Monday after school in TE4 until 4pm. All year groups welcome and all resources are provided.

Mrs Lockwood
Technology Teacher

Spread a Little Kindness

Your House needs you to spread a little kindness and make someone feel good today.

As part of this term's theme of 'Kindness' we want pupils and staff to spread a little happiness by sending a postcard to a friend, teacher, support staff or member of our local community to recognise an act of kindness.



How it works....

- Ask your form tutor for a postcard.
- Write your postcard (this can be for any act you think showed kindness).
- Make sure you write the individual's name / details clearly on the postcard.
- Give the postcard back to your form tutor or form representative and, with your House Leader, they will deliver it.

It's simple, so go on, make someone's day!



Eco Committee Round Up

REPORT BY MRS MASSEY



The Eco Committee has had a productive start to the new school year.

We have now provided each work space in school with a plastic box in which to recycle paper. The Committee hopes that having a consistent approach across school will encourage staff and pupils to recycle. It also lets us all see how much paper we may be wasting!

We also now have a permanent battery collection box in school. Staff and pupils can leave batteries in the box which is located at the front of school and they will be periodically taken to the recycling centre.

The Committee is always on the look out for new members and ideas for improving the local and wider environment. Contact Mrs Massey if you would like to get involved.



Lancashire Cup Success for Year 11

The Year 11 football team started their Lancashire Cup run with a fantastic 3-0 win against Armfield Academy, Blackpool, in Round 1 on Thursday night.



Team coach, Mr Gee, reported, "A thoroughly dominant performance saw Rhema head home from a Collinson corner followed by a second goal from McGovern to give Priory a 2-0 lead at half time.

"Priory's dominance continued into the second half with the Armfield goalkeeper making a number of great saves from the ever-dangerous McKay and Missell. 'Super sub' Harwood came on and almost scored on his Lancashire Cup debut before assisting McKay who completed the scoring to give Priory a 3-0 win."



Learn to succeed

Remembrance Sunday



We were tremendously proud of our Head Prefects Martha and Cameron, and House Captain Abi, when they laid a wreath on behalf of the school during Penwortham's remembrance service last Sunday.

Accompanied by Head of Year 11, Mrs Bailey, the prefects paid their respects at Liverpool Road's war memorial and read out the names of Penwortham's fallen from both World Wars.

The rain just about held off for the event which was well attended by the community and one we were very proud to be part of.

Richard Yates of 'Friends of Penwortham War Memorial', said "Martha and Cameron were spot on for their recital. Please pass on my thanks to them, they were excellent."

We were also extremely proud to hear that Year 11, Tom P, was part of the honor guard at Preston's cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. He represented his air cadet squadron and school with utmost respect.

"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for their tomorrow we gave our today."



What is Armistice?

Armistice was an agreement to end the fighting of the First World War as a prelude to peace negotiations. It began at 11am on 11 November 1918.

Armistice is Latin for to stand (still) arms.

To this day we mark Armistice Day around the United Kingdom with a two minute silence at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month.

"At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month – we will remember them."

Eco Committee Members Spruce Up Local Community Area



As part of the Eco Committee's mission to improve the school and the local environment, it has linked up with South Ribble Borough Council.



The Committee recently met with Cllr Will Adams to discuss how they could help maintain Middleforth Gardens, a community area just off Haverick Road in Penwortham.

Last Friday, Mrs Massey and four keen Year 8 pupils visited the site and got to work on sprucing it up. The team of five spent two hours clearing litter, tackling overgrown planters, planting bulbs and clearing away dead grass around the trees.

Science teacher and Committee leader, Mrs Massey said, *"In the future we hope to go back and do some more maintenance. We are also looking into providing some bird boxes for the area."*



Well done to Charlie T, Max S, Kenzie S, Harley F-N who really impressed South Ribble Borough Council.

Community Development Officer, Jane Charlton said, *"The boys were brilliant and did a great job planting bulbs too. They were a credit to the school!"*



The Committee is always on the look out for new members and ideas for improving the local and wider environment. See Mrs Massey if you would like to get involved.



Learn to succeed

Year 9 Pupils Band Together to Make Music



Watch out for 'Freezing Hot Water' – although the Priory band may change their name!

Year 9s Evie, Ezra and Zach have formed their own band and performed the Arctic Monkeys 'Mardy Bum' at our Summer Arts Evening.

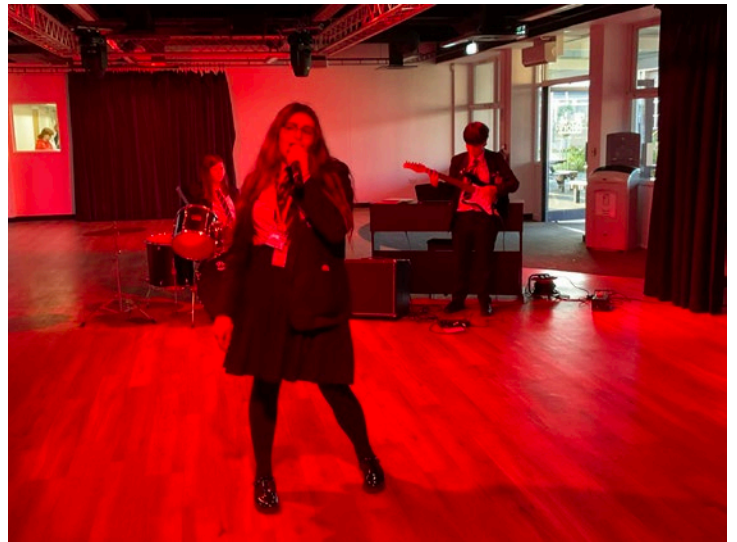
"We called ourselves Freezing Hot Water but we may change it, we are not sure about it," said vocalist Evie.

Zach is the drummer and he said: "I had a couple of lessons during lockdown and then I got an electric drum set for my birthday.

"We sung the Arctic Monkeys because it's a song we all know but we are working on our own music.

"Ezra's dad has a sound studio so we practice there when we can."

Evie said: "There is a festival in Shrewsbury where teenagers can do gigs but you need to have written seven songs so that's something we will need to work on."



The band rehearsing at Priory's Open Evening in September.

Guitarist Ezra said: "I have had guitar lessons since Year 3. My dad is in a band, Quantum Beats, so music is always something I have been involved with."



Learn to succeed

Year 7 Girls Make Their Footballing Debut



Priory's Year 7 girls played their debut last Thursday at Leyland St Mary's South Ribble tournament.

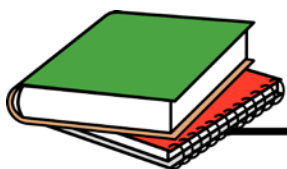
A very excited team began the 7-a-side competition. They got off to a rocky start with two losses, however once the team had settled into a rhythm we began to pick up pace with the next two games drawing against Penwortham Girls High School and Lostock Hall Academy, with goal keeper Clark keeping a clean sheet!

Then the goals arrived with a fantastic win against both Brownedge and Leyland St Mary's with goals from Parkinson and Weber.

PE Teacher and Team Coach, Miss Beesley, said, "The girls showed fantastic team spirit with grit and determination. In the end it was very close with the overall result being decided on goal difference between three teams."

The girls finished fourth out of eight teams - a very respectable debut performance. Well done!

Team: Sandra B, Lola B, Tasha R, Larnajayne W, Evelyn S, Hollie L, Freya C, Willow P, Bella D



English



Book Donation Thanks

Thank you to the family of Year 8 pupil Kady T who has made a very generous donation of beautifully kept books to our school library this week. We are truly grateful!



These books will go a long way in promoting the habit and love of reading for all our pupils.

We're always looking to top up our library. If you have any books that you are wondering what to do with next, could we have them?

Books can be dropped at reception or enquiries can be emailed to Mrs Elliott, English Teacher and Chief Librarian at j.elliott@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Learn to succeed

Year 7 Pupils Go Back In Time For History Trip

REPORT BY MR ECCLES, LEAD TEACHER OF HISTORY

A number of our Year 7 pupils were able to step back in time during this week's trip to Lancaster where they visited the historic Priory and Castle.

As part of their study of medieval history, the pupils were given a guided tour of the Priory church by Andrew, one of the volunteers there. Andrew's knowledge and enthusiasm shone through as he showed us how the site has changed from being a Roman camp to an Anglo Saxon church, to the grand building that it is today.

After a short lunch break in Lancaster city centre we continued our journey through the past by visiting Lancaster Castle. Pupils were told how, as a working castle, the building has served as a prison and a court for over 800 years. Pupils saw the old Victorian prison cells of C-wing, the civil and crown courts (which are still in use today) and even had the chance to be locked in a 17th century cell.

Mr Eccles said, *"Our pupils represented the school brilliantly, with a member of the clergy at the priory commenting on their impeccable behaviour."*



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Basketball Success in the Lancashire Cup



Priory's Year 11 basketball team had their first match in four years on Wednesday evening when they played in the Lancashire Schools U16 basketball cup knockout.



Despite a four year hiatus the team quickly brushed off the cobwebs running out 48–35 winners against Tarleton High School with Sales scoring an incredible 35 points.

Assistant Principal and PE Teacher, Mr Gee, said, "The whole team put in a fantastic performance with Collinson and Ogden standing out, and Waterhouse making his school debut."

The team's next group match is against Walton Le Dale on Tuesday, 5 December followed by Hutton Grammar School, and finally St Michael's High School, Chorley.

Results and league tables can be found by clicking on the link below

lsbba.co.uk/Fixtures/Fixtures23-24/U16OpenPoolFixtures2023-24.htm

Year 11 Football Team Galvanised for Next Match

Some of Year 11 football team were anxious to get on camera to celebrate their recent cup success.

The side beat Armfield Academy in Blackpool 3-0 in the first round of the Lancashire Cup. They will now take on St Augustine's in Billington in the next round at Priory next Friday, 24 November and are quietly confident!



Mr Gee
Assistant Principal &
PE Teacher

Learn to succeed

Our Gardens Are Double Winners!

Priory's fantastic gardens were once again recognised as a blooming success!

The skills of gardener Mr Farron have won Priory numerous horticultural awards over the years including Penwortham in Bloom and South Ribble in Bloom recognition.

In 2019, the school won a coveted RHS North West in Bloom Award. Priory went one better this time when they collected a double award from the Royal Horticultural Society for 2023.

Mr Farron and Vice Principal Mrs Cowell were presented with the RHS North West in Bloom Secondary School 2023 Award and the prestigious 2023 Seedley and Langworthy In Bloom Schools Award at a lavish ceremony at Bolton Wanderers FC – and Mr Farron enjoyed it even though he is a Blackburn Rovers fan!

Mr Farron said: "These are recognised awards and I was shocked but proud Priory won."

The North West in Bloom Awards are highly competitive with growers, gardeners and horticulturists from a vast area in the North-West, from Macclesfield to Morecambe, from North to South and Rochdale to Blackpool and everywhere in between!



"During one of the visits earlier this year, a local dignitary came to look around the school and when Mr Eastham pulled back the blinds of his office window, she burst into tears as she didn't expect to see the floral display outside".

"I have to say that human reaction was the best compliment I could have asked for and one I will never forget.

"North West in Bloom Chairman Bernard Pendleton then came to look around the school and he was extremely complimentary, praising the school for recognising the importance of the gardens.

"They look at the design, the symmetry, the choice of plants and if we had plants for all the four seasons, which we had.

"They also looked at all aspects of wildlife. They talked to science teacher Mrs Massey about the Eco Committee and what they are doing in school and, while they were in the Technology Department, Mrs Lawe and her Key Stage 4 classes were making bird boxes and they were impressed by the standard of work they had done.

"We have owl boxes and swallow boxes which are currently being nested in.

Continued over...



Learn to succeed

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“We received an email to say we had been short-listed and then I couldn’t believe it when Priory’s name was called out not once but twice.

“It was a truly wonderful experience to be an overall winner in a competition attended by so many famous horticulturalists in the region.

“To win two awards was totally unexpected but I am exceedingly proud of the school.”

Mr Farron would also like to thank the Estates Team at Penwortham Priory Academy for their co-operation throughout the year with several projects and contribution to the maintenance of the school’s garden areas.



Mr Farron is now looking forward to the next competition which also includes judging the Penwortham and South Ribble in Bloom!

From Pupil to Teacher: Mr Walsh



Mr Walsh has turned from a Priory pupil into a Priory teacher – and loves it!

History teacher Mr Walsh left Priory as a pupil in 2006 and has returned as part of his PGCE until December.

“I actually thought it would be weird coming back to the school I used to go to but Priory has changed so much that it hasn’t been like that at all.

“My inspiration to be a teacher came from English teacher Mr Wall and my best memories of Priory are of the teachers.

“There aren’t many left from when I was here although Mr Watters popped in this week and Mr Eastham was the PE teacher when I was at school.

“I am enjoying my role here. I studied History at Oxford University and then travelled, teaching English as a second language in Russia and Japan. I think it was then I knew that I definitely wanted to be a teacher.



“I am currently doing my PGCE at Cardinal Newman College and I will teach A-Level History there from January although I am still deciding what level I want to teach at.”

South Ribble Cross Country Championships



REPORT BY MISS BEESLEY, PE TEACHER

It was a wet and soggy start to our Saturday morning for the annual South Ribble Cross Country Championships which were held at Hutton Grammar school last weekend.

Oliver G, Noah B and Jane W kicked off proceedings in the Year 10/11 race, and it was safe to say the theme of this year's championships was 'muddy'!

Jane stormed to an exceptional 4th place victory, not far behind her Year 11 competitors and bagged herself a place in the next stages.

The Year 8/9 races then got underway; a strong Priory team for both the boys and girls with over ten contingents. This year even included some sister rivalry with both Eliza G and Alexa G competing against each other. A number of pupils finished in the top 20, however it was Year 9 Taylor T who sprinted to the finish line in a very respectable 7th place.

Next, it was the turn of the Year 7s for their debut race however seeing the abundance of mud before them did not deter our team! Again with over ten pupils representing us, the fight for the finish line began in these challenging conditions. The Year 7s did not disappoint, with an outstanding performance from Owen T coming in 6th place, but it was Ethan B whose training paid off, as he triumphed for Priory finishing in the 3rd place position and proudly took to the podium for his medal.

Those who positioned in the top 10 will be invited to compete in the Lancashire stages early next year.

We would like to thank all competitors who attended on Saturday morning, to all parents who came to support, and for another fantastic competition - even if we did lose a few trainers to the mud!

Year 7

Emma N, Hollie L, Akemi K, Ada McM, Sienna T, Imogen C, Isaac H, Cameron D, Ethan B, Joe W, Archie G, Tyler S.

Year 8 & 9

Eliza G, Alexis G, Skye S, Harriet H, Alexa G, Millie D, Issy T, Callum G-V, Oliver C, Taylor T, Excellence I, Josh K, Felix D, Theo H.

Year 10/11

Jane W, Oliver G, Noah B



Learn to succeed

Year 9 Pupil's Bid for the Community Becomes a Reality



Priory pupil Taejuan admits he is 'very proud' after he helped the Foxtton Youth and Community Centre win a £2.2m funding bid.

The Year 9 pupil has been attending the youth centre since he was young but last year developed a more influential part, being on 'The Youth Forum.'

This involved talks about updating the building and developing the centre and Taejuan helped to apply for funding, playing a big part in making a presentation which helped to secure the £2.2m which will change the face of the centre.

"The Youth Centre is important, it provides activities for young people such as residential and days out," said volunteer Taejuan.

"The successful bid means we can now build a new centre with the funding which will be finished by 2025. It will have two floors, office rooms, a big sports hall and it will make a huge difference to what we can provide there.



"The facilities will be so much better and hopefully means more people will use them and there will be less hanging around on the streets. It's a big thing.

"My parents are really proud of me."

The existing building will be demolished later this year, but temporary facilities will be used during the redevelopment to ensure the Foxtton's services don't close.

Cllr Jennifer Mein, Preston City Council, added: "We welcome the news that the centre has been able to secure the funding they need from the Youth Investment Fund and it can now move forward with their plans for a new youth centre in Avenham. The new facility will provide additional support, safety and resources for those young people that need it the most."

Read Blog Preston article here>>>

www.blogpreston.co.uk/2023/08/the-foxtton-centre-secures-2-2m-grant-to-re-build-youth-services-base-in-avenham/

A tilted image of a blog article. The title is "Year 8 Pupil Leads The Way in £2 Million Project". The article text includes: "Priory pupil Taejuan is helping to change the face of The Foxtton Youth and Community Centre by leading on a £2m funding bid." "The Year 8 pupil has been attending the youth centre since he was young but has now developed a more influential part, being on 'The Youth Forum' and now extending his voluntary role even further." "A couple of months ago I was asked to join 'The Youth Forum' which talks about how we can update the building and develop the centre and I have also become involved in interviewing new workers for the Centre." "I really enjoy it. The Youth Centre is important, it provides activities for young people such as residential and days out." "They want a new building and applied for funding and we had to answer questions to get through the first part about what the Foxtton Youth and Community Centre means to you, is it a safe environment and so on." "We got through that and then we had to make a presentation. I recorded it, appeared in it and edited it and we are currently waiting to hear if we will get the funding." "It is nice giving back. I have also been involved in helping to devise and co-ordinate the holiday activities for our Fox Kids, which are 6-11 year-olds and ATO's 11-18-year-olds, such as archery, sports days, Zorb football, drugs awareness courses and more." "Cath Coffey, Development and Youth & Community Manager at The Foxtton Centre, told us about Taejuan's work and said, 'We are very proud of Taejuan here at the centre and thrilled to share with you how he is volunteering and maturity in leading on a £2 million pound funding bid for our organisation. He has showed leadership skills part of our interview panel to recruit new youth workers and has formally interviewed them and assessed their responses.'" At the bottom of the article is a dark blue banner with the text "Learn to succeed" in white.

Year 9 Discover Languages At Work

Year 9 pupils learned how a foreign language could be vital to their careers in a successful 'Make Languages Work' event held last Friday at Priory.

Head of Languages, Mrs Scully, split the day into two parts with the aim to show how languages can be used in a range of careers.

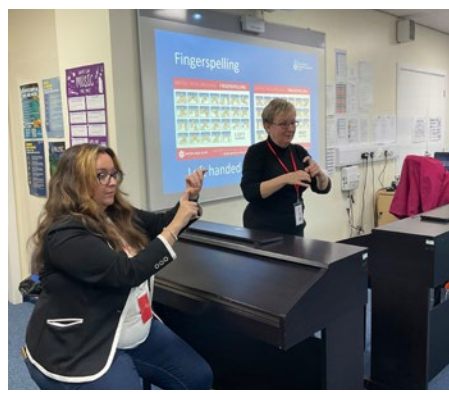
"There was something for every pupil," said Mrs Scully. "We had Lee Deaville who produces video footage and he had created pieces for Liverpool Football Club. He talked about how they had to get a translator in to help them because of the language barriers with some players. Some of the pupils were hooked by that!

"We also had a visitor who had worked with Primark, travelling Europe, and she said being fluent in Spanish was vital for her to do her job so I think it made some of the pupils aware of how valuable learning a language can be."



One half of the day included presentations in Chinese with the Confucius Institute at UCLan, a 'hands on' session in British Sign Language, and a presentation from Médecins Sans Frontières where they talked about the value of different languages and the need for translators in the Third World.

The second part was a career speed-dating session which was popular. The hall was filled with tables and the Year 9 pupils moved around to engage with each of the visiting organisations.



Learn to succeed

...Continued from previous page.

There was a huge range of people available to chat to about their jobs and the importance of different languages to their roles.

They included: Sarah Cutts Translation, who specialises in Spanish and French to English translation of legal, academic and commercial documents.

A magician talked about how he had to speak four different languages for his shows while Sarah Eastham, a language teacher, talked about living in Tenerife and teaching English there.

Mr Taylor's parents are involved with food and wine from Europe and they chatted about the importance of languages for their business while Lee Deaville was the video producer and director who included Liverpool FC in his talk.

There was a guest who worked on cruise ships, TESOL from UCLAN (teaching English to speakers of other languages), Arabic with Nadja L'Bakkari, a representative from the army and also someone who could speak Japanese, Russian and German.

"There was a varied range of jobs to show the Year 9s," continued Mrs Scully. "We also had good feedback saying how engaged the children were and how well-behaved they were."

"There was something to grab everyone's attention."

Sarah Cutts, who is a parent of a Year 7 pupil at Priory, said: "It's great to be invited back to Priory, as a translator and a parent. Languages have always been my passion, so I am keen to promote careers in translation and other language related professions as much as I can."

Thank you to our Year 10 & Year 11 pupils who supported the event and made our visitors welcome.

Oli H, Josef H, Kayleigh B, Henry W, Cameron H, Sam D, Preston McM, Ella G, Navah T, Jolie T, Chloe W, Sophia T, Summer W, Ruhm S, Max B, Indra J, Connie B, Imogen H, Charlotte M, Layla H, Darcey K, Taylor S, Geetha D-R

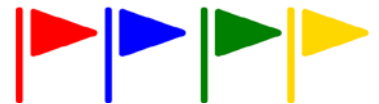


Learn to succeed

Pupils Shoot The Hoops For House Competition



HOUSE
COMPETITION



During Thursday lunchtime, the Houses went head to head once again.

The fourth 'just for fun' event took place in the sports hall where pupils were challenged to shoot the hoops as many times as they could within a minute.

One volunteer from each form made a team of six, with reserves and spectators at the sidelines.

House Leader, Mr Raynor, said, "The players could shoot as many times as possible, all at once or one at a time. The team with the highest score will win."

As well as having fun, volunteer pupils honed their communication and teamwork skills as they get to work with pupils from other year groups belonging to the same House that they wouldn't normally interact with.

Special mentions to:

Ribble: Christopher, Alfred, Tobias, Noah, Joe, Mahir, Cameron, Junior

Hodder: Kai, Yaseen, Ted, Alexa, Josef

Douglas: Connie, Alice, Thomas, Henry, Lucas, Joel

Calder: Oscar, Marshall, Freddie, Jack, Alexander

Congratulations to Mr Raynor's Ribble who scooped the net the most times (seen below with Pedro!)



1st Ribble (44 hoops)

Joint 2nd Hodder & Calder (22 hoops each)

3rd Douglas (16 hoops)



The scoreboard is now as follows:
Ribble's gold has helped to push them up into 3rd and Calder have increased their lead a little bit further with another silver.

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Calder	4	5	3
Hodder	4	2	6
Ribble	2	4	6
Douglas	2	3	7



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Year 9 Pupil Who 'Spotted' Something To Do In His Spare Time



Year 9 pupil Yaseen is hoping to become a TikTok sensation like his trainspotting hero Francis Bourgeois.

Luke Magnus Nicolson is otherwise known as Francis Bourgeois (image below) and is a British trainspotter, social media personality, model and author.

His social media accounts have millions of followers as he posts light-hearted and humorous videos about his love of trainspotting.

Priory's Yaseen has just started his own TikTok account about his love of trains and, with his own unique style and enthusiasm, he is hoping his will become popular as well.

"I live near the bridge in Farington so I started going there and watching trains. There are a variety of freight trains, and the 92 is really big, and also there are a number of steam trains which are always popular.



"There are rare trains - the 37, 47 and Class 50.

"I use Realtime trains which provides information about trains on the UK network so I always know what is running and at what time. It's 24/7 so you can track them all.

"I follow Francis and admire what he has done. He posts a lot of videos.

"I started my own TikTok account and I have 100 followers in less than a month.

"Trainspotting is fun, there is a lot of hanging around, but it makes me happy."



Learn to succeed

Mrs Elliott's Cool Readers Club

Here's what our Cool Readers Club is all about...

These are our reading stars put forward by their English teacher. We interview them about their current book, what they like reading about and what they like to do when they're not reading.

Introducing, Chittara...

Chittara is a true friend – she is reading a book which she wouldn't normally select but was gifted to her by a friend.

"It's not really to my taste but I feel like I should read it as it was a present from a friend when I left India," said Year 10 Chittara, who moved to Penwortham Priory Academy from India three months ago as her dad got a job at BAE Systems.

"It's called 'Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe' and is about two friends who don't fit in well and they realise how much they like each other but they can't say it.

"The books I choose to read are usually philosophy or poetry, books with good vocabulary and a bit more serious.

"I enjoy reading and do read a lot although haven't been able to read as much as I would like recently as I have a lot of school work.



"My favourite subject is Engineering (NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Engineering) and I also enjoy English and Maths.

"I would like to be an aeronautical engineer in the future but I would like to do a Masters in Business to keep my options wide open."

Mrs Elliott
English Teacher & Chief Librarian

Legally Blonde: And that's a wrap!

"It was wonderful, absolutely outstanding!", "Loved every minute of it!" and "I love watching live performances and this was absolutely brilliant! Fantastic performances by all. Super quick stage changes and great back drops!" These were just some of the words expressed by those who came to watch the school's musical production this week.

After months of rehearsals, Legally Blonde finally made it to the stage on Tuesday and Wednesday evening when our doors opened to pupils, parents, extended family, staff and members of the public. As we celebrate our 70th anniversary this year, it was also an honour to have Priory's Head Girls from 1953 and 1970 (Mrs Ward and Mrs Edwards respectively) in the audience on Tuesday.



A matinee performance was specially arranged for our local primary school pupils, with great feedback. On Wednesday, we were also delighted to entertain residents from Penwortham Grange & Lodge Residential Home, Priory Park Care Home and Longton Nursing Home. Visitors enjoyed tea and scones during the interval and even broke into song and dance for the Christmas tunes!

The school production is an annual tradition at Priory and a lot of hard work and dedication goes into making them a success. Pupils from all year groups join together to make up a unique family – on stage and backstage – with Lead Teacher of Drama, Miss Howell, leading the talented bunch.

Lines, dance routines and songs had to be learned, props made and lighting perfected - all of which delivered superb performances - but it was difficult to say who stole the show as there were so many stars!



Continued over...



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PENWORTHAM PRIORY ACADEMY'S
PRODUCTION OF

LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical JR



Music and Lyrics by
Laurence O'Keefe and Neil Benjamin

Book by
Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
And the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Original Production by Hal Luftig, Fox Theatricals, Dorl Berenstein, James L. Nederlander,
Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whiteman,
RWPM Group, Ruth Hendel, Cheryl Wiesenfeld, Hal Goldberg, David Binder,
James D. Stern, Douglas L. Meyer, Stewart F. Lane, Bonnie Cornley, Robert G. Burner,
Michael A. Jenkins, Albert Noccolino and Warren Tresp.
Produced in association with WGM Onstage.
Darcie Denker and Dean Stolber



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Well done to everyone involved for providing us with the most perfect evening entertainment; from cast and crew to the teachers - Mr Taylor and Miss Howell, for taking charge.

The ensemble will meet at Salvatores next month for their end of show 'wrap' meal on 18 January.

Watch this space for details of the Play planned for March 2024.

A MESSAGE FROM MISS HOWELL, LEAD TEACHER OF DRAMA



I am so incredibly proud of what our young people have achieved. They have created a safe space for anyone that wants to join and we've had many new students this year.

Here at Priory we pride ourselves on giving our young people the space they deserve to be themselves. They have worked so hard and given

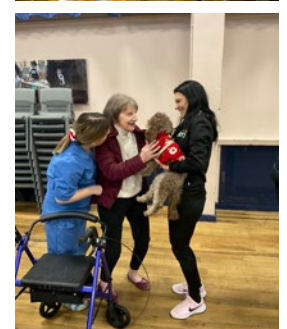
time, effort and determination since September.

Every year I am astounded at the talent I see both on and off our stage. We have some amazing technical students who sort out the lighting and sound, and the stage hands who are responsible for making the scene changes look slick and professional. Some of these students have never been part of these productions before but have flourished in their new roles.

I want to thank everyone involved, all staff that have given time to help. We really appreciate it.

Thank you to all parents and carers; without your

Miss Howell
Lead Teacher of Drama



Learn to succeed

Food Technology At Christmas

Year 9 After School Creative Cookery

Whilst it was icy outside, these Year 9 pupils made it a little icy inside too!



There was powdered sugar everywhere on Tuesday night rather than snow and ice when pupils enjoyed an after school cupcake decorating workshop. Christmas themed, there were holly leaves, Christmas trees, stars and lots of glitter in the mix and we even played some festive tunes as we decorated.

Everyone went home happy with a box of cakes to share with their families.

Mrs Cowell
Food Technology Teacher
Vice Principal



Christmas Hamper Raffle Winner



Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket for our Christmas raffle.

The raffle was drawn by Mr Eastham during Wednesday evening's performance of Legally Blonde.

The winning ticket number was **YELLOW 705** and the prize has now been claimed.

We raised over £150 which will go towards the refurbishment of the Assembly Hall, one of the few original buildings still remaining since we opened in 1953.



Learn to succeed



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