

# Penwortham Primary Post



## Year 7 Speak Out At Competition

Over the last few weeks, all of Year 7 have been working hard to write and deliver a speech on a topic that's important to them. These speeches were then delivered in class to their peers.

Two students from each class\* were then selected to present their speech to the whole of Year 7 in a competition. Quite a scary challenge!

Throughout the process, all students demonstrated incredible confidence and resilience. Some were genuinely daunted but overcame their nerves and presented engaging speeches. It was great not just to see the relief, but also the pride the students clearly felt in themselves and their achievement.

Our winner was Alex E who talked passionately about his brother Elliot and his disability - bringing some of the audience to tears. 1st runner up was Grace D who talked engagingly about homophobia and discrimination, and 2nd runner up was Katie H who spoke about the RSPCA.

For their triumph, Headteacher Mr Eastham, presented the three winners with their certificates and chocolate goodies - winner Alex also took away the glamorous trophy!

Head of English, Mrs Gidden, said, "The audience were incredible as was Mr Taylor as compere - thanks also go to the judges and Mrs Farley and Mr Eastham for their role in presentations. The 11 finalists were awesome and we struggled to whittle it down - well done to Alex, Grace and Katie!"

**Our 11 finalists were:** Alex E, Grace D, Katie H, Leon A, Harry C, Ryan H, Theo C, Elvi M, Abbi T, Henry S, Rhema A-M. (\*one finalist withdrew)

## Attendance Winning Forms



Each week the attendance officer calculates the form with the best attendance for 'Year 11s' and 'The 'Rest' of the school. As the Year 11 form groups are smaller than the others, they are more likely to achieve full attendance. Therefore to ensure fairness, results have been separated out.

This week's winners are:

**Year 11 -  
D8 (97.51%)  
Rest -  
D2 (97.58%)**

Well done to Mrs Elliott's and Mr Scott's forms for their continued best attendance. Pupils in these forms will receive 10 achievement points.



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## KEY DATES

**Start of Spring Term**  
Mon, 6 January 2020

**Rewards Trip, Trafford Centre**  
Weds, 8 January 2020  
(Years 7-10 by invitation)

**Year 9 Careers Day**  
Tues, 14 January 2020  
(in school)

**Theatre Visit - An Inspector Calls - The Lowry, Salford**  
Weds, 15 January 2020  
(Miss Thornton's GCSE class)

**Year 11 Runshaw College Interviews**  
Tues, 28 January 2020

**Theatre Visit - A Monster Calls - The Lowry, Salford**  
Weds, 26 February 2020  
(Miss Smith's 9E3 class)

**Year 11 Revision & Support Workshop**  
Weds, 22 January 2020  
6pm-7pm

**Year 9 Parents Evening**  
Tues, 11 February 2020  
4pm-7pm

A reminder that, on return from the Christmas break, school will finish at 3.10pm rather than 3.20pm. This is a permanent change to the end of the school day.



## School Shoes - Uniform Contraventions

As it approached the end of the term we have noticed more pupils arriving at school in trainers. This is an infringement of school policy and pupils wearing trainers without good reason will be sent to the Pastoral office for temporary replacement footwear.

Parents are expected to support our school uniform policy and have a duty to send their child to school appropriately dressed and ready to learn. Please take the opportunity given over the festive break to ensure your child has appropriate footwear ready for the new term.

Our rule for school footwear states: Boys should wear sensible black shoes (no canvas shoes, trainers or boots). Girls must have sensible black low-heeled shoes (no high heels, canvas shoes, trainers or boots).

Staff consistently implement expected high standards of uniform and appearance and therefore we require all pupils to meet the school standards. Action will be taken against pupils who regularly flout this policy.

## Year 11 Revision Skills & Support Workshop

**Weds, 22 January 2020**



This invaluable event, running from 6pm-7pm, focusses on providing students and parents with the essential information, skills and strategies required as we lead up to the final GCSE exams.

Letters can be downloaded from the school website at>> <https://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters>

## Year 7-10 Reward Trip

**Weds, 8 January 2020**

Pupils in Years 7-10 who have worked hard, had good attendance and have demonstrated the 'Priory Standard' over the past term have been invited on a reward trip to the Trafford Centre. Pupils who have missed the payment deadline or do not wish to go must attend school as normal where there will be a range of enrichment activities open to them.

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# **“What if I want to know more about Geography?”**

## **“Where can I find out more about History?”**

### **“What could I watch to help me understand more about this topic?”**

*Article by Mr Metcalfe, Head of Humanities*

These are often the questions that we get asked here in Humanities by our students.

We feel it is important to ensure that these questions are answered and our students are able to access more information should they wish. Coupled with this, if a student opts to drop one of the humanities subjects at the end of Year 9 then we want to make every effort to give access to all our humanities curriculum right through to the end of Year 11. To support this we are launching the Humanities Theatre which will be based in our immersive room in the Humanities building.

On a daily basis, there shall be different showings of subject specific content spanning all our three subject disciplines. Intertwined within this, students will be able to watch news related pieces about current historical, geographical and religious themes on a Tuesday and Thursday.

Our goal is to offer further exposure of all our subjects to all our students. Students already have access to the Humanities Library which is located at the back of the theatre where they can complete additional reading to support their studies should they wish.

Each week, the Humanities team will publish their schedule for the following week via this newsletter and in the Humanities building. The mini-theatre will accommodate up to 20 students – where they can enjoy their lunch if they wish – but this will be monitored on a first come first served basis.

For further information, or to request specific topics that you wish to see, then please speak to any of the Humanities team.

## **Welcome to the Humanities Theatre**

**Showing this week:** w/c 6 January

### **Geography**

Seven Worlds One Planet - Europe

### **History**

One Day in Auschwitz - The Holocaust

### **RE**

Religions of the World - BBC Tech



- ✓ Respect all users of the theatre
- ✓ Any lunch waste must be placed in the bin
- ✓ The seating arrangement **must not** change
- ✓ You should be sat in your seat at all times
- ✓ 20 students maximum (first come first served)

**Monday**  
**Geography**

**Tuesday**  
**World News**

**Wednesday**  
**History**

**Thursday**  
**World News**

**Friday**  
**RE**

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# A 'Horrible' Time at the Theatre for Year 7 Pupils

On Wednesday evening, Year 7 pupils travelled to Blackpool to see **Horrible Christmas**, a play based on the Horrible Histories awarding winning series.



The historical production, at Blackpool's Winter Gardens, took the audience through the horrible and the grotty episodes of British history with a Christmas theme.

Humanities teacher Miss Ackers, who organised the trip, said "The play thoroughly informed and excited the historian in each pupil. The kids absolutely loved it!"

*Image: Miss Ackers, Oli H, Destiny B, Lucy B, Kayleigh B, Alfie H, Mr Eccles.*



## NHS Help Us Help You Catch it. Bin in, Kill it.

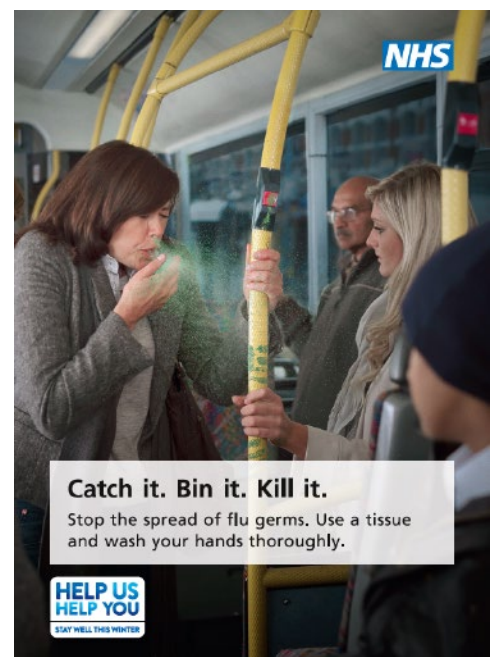


Public Health England (PHE) and the Department for Health have activated their Catch It, Bin It, Kill It campaign. The campaign informs the public about the steps they can take to protect themselves and reduce spread of the flu virus by practising good respiratory hand hygiene.

The flu virus can live for many hours on hard surfaces and therefore practising good hand hygiene can limit the spread of germs and transmission of flu. People are advised to catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue, bin it, and then wash their hands afterwards to kill the germs. Practising good hand hygiene and giving eligible people the flu vaccine is the best defence against the virus.

England's top doctors have urged people to protect themselves and their families from flu amid warnings that new cases may peak over the busy Christmas period.

The latest national influenza report, tracking seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses is available to view at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/851695/Weekly\\_national\\_influenza\\_report\\_week\\_50.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/851695/Weekly_national_influenza_report_week_50.pdf)



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# Priory's Sports Captain Makes Team GB Under 17s Development Squad

**Year 11 pupil, James, has been called up to the Great Britain Lions Development American Football squad.**

The Deputy Head Boy and Sports Captain already plays for the successful Chorley Buccaneers side, who won the English title two years ago, with James part of the squad despite only being 14, as well as being ranked second in Great Britain at that time.

James captained the side in his second season, aged 15, and this year they won the Northern Conference, winning nine of their games and losing only two, with James at the helm.

James was invited to attend the GB Under 17 trials at Skelmersdale, where there was around 300 competing for places, and he was successful.



"It's a huge honour, especially being invited to the trials. They were in October, I was told I had got in in November and I attended my first GB training camp earlier this month in Telford.

"I played three roles – defensive linebacker, punter and kicker - and I was surprised I was picked for all three for Team GB.

"For Chorley Buccaneers, it's five-a-side games but in the GB Development Squad it's 11-a-side. We can't play too many competitive games, although I hope to play GB North v South next year.

"I hope to move up to the Under 19 Performance Squad and, if I do, we will play games in Holland and Germany."

James was on the books of AFC Fylde but had to give it up to concentrate on American football.



# Get Caught Reading!

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 'Get Caught Reading' challenge.

Staff 'caught' many pupils reading at break or lunch-time and all of those pupils will receive achievement points but the lucky, randomly selected winners are:

**D Rajczyk (D6) and J Jusypiw (C4)**

Both winners will receive a £20 amazon voucher to spend as they choose (hopefully on books!).

'Get Caught Reading' drive will run again in the Spring term.



## Mrs Gidden's Cool Readers Club

Priory's Head of English, Mrs Gidden, has been really impressed with many of our multi-talented pupils and wanted to highlight their love of reading while excelling at other pursuits.

**This week we interviewed Year 7 pupil, Michael.**

Michael admits to enjoy books about zombies!

"I am currently reading The Enemy by Charlie Higson.

"It's about a group of boys who are in a world where grown-ups have been turned into zombies.

"It's about how they try and survive in gangs and it is gripping as some of them do die.

"I enjoy the horror books most but my favourite author is probably David Walliams as he makes me laugh."



When not reading, Michael admits to enjoying Pokeman and Minecraft on his Playstation.

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# MFL Make A 'Buzz' About Languages!



The MFL department has some exciting news for our Year 7 pupils....

Throughout the year, pupils will be preparing to compete in their first French spelling bee competition. This is a national competition with the chance to win some big prizes!

The Foreign Language Spelling Bee encourages pupils to practise and improve their vocabulary, spelling and memory skills in a foreign language. Pupils have to translate the words from English and spell them in the target language.



## The competition has 4 stages:

Class competition (Autumn Term)  
School Competition (first half of Spring Term)  
Regional Final (end of Spring Term - 7 May)  
National Final (end of Summer Term - 26 June at Cambridge University)

The entrants must learn 50 words per stage, totalling 200 words, if they reach the national final.

The organisers have carefully selected 300 of the most frequently used and important words in the French language. Throughout the year different activities will be organised in order to help pupils memorise the meanings and spellings of these key words.

According to research, a vocabulary of 2000 words is vital for Modern Foreign Language (MFL) proficiency and accuracy in spelling is equally important as there is much emphasis on this in all the new GCSE exams.

Mrs Scully, Head of MFL, said, "The first stage of the competition has started in class and we will complete after the Christmas break, with the second stage to be held in February. We hope that parents will support us in helping their child with their vocabulary learning and spellings and hope they find it worthwhile and enjoyable also."

Letters have been emailed to all Year 7 parents and can be downloaded from the school website at >> <https://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters>

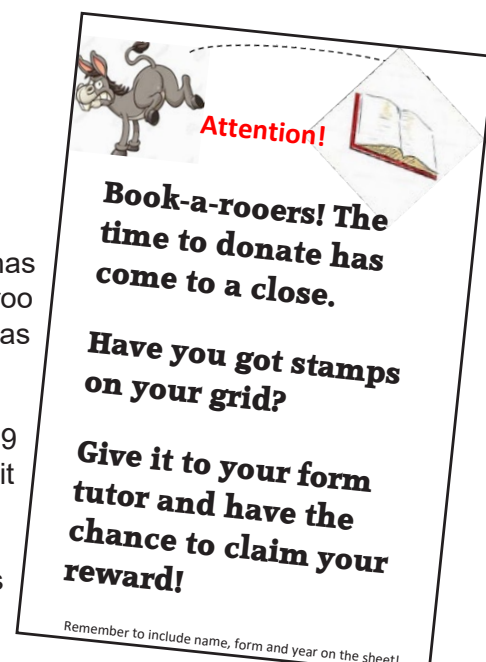


## Book-A-Roo Ends 9 January

Many, many thanks to everyone who has supported the book-a-roo drive for more books for Priory's library. The bookaroo deadline has been extended until the end of the first week after the Christmas break.

Pupils must present their stamped grids as proof of donation by Thursday, 9 January. Please ensure your name and form is on the grid before you hand it over to Mrs Gidden.

After the closing date, Mrs Gidden will tot up the donations and decide who's won a place on the trip!



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# Year 8 pupils have been getting creative in English

English teacher, Mrs Elliott, set all Year 8 pupils a creative challenge last month which will also prove useful for pupils' Accelerated Reading (AR) sessions.

Year 8 were asked to design a book-themed bookmark for use by the whole school so that readers don't lose their place in their books.

All participants designed their bookmark outside of class time and handed their entries over to their English teacher.



Mrs Elliott, Miss Thornton and Mrs Gidden deliberated about the fabulous high standard before deciding on the overall winner. The entries have been so lovely that they also decided to have five runners-up as well as the out-right winner.

Mrs Elliott said, "Thank you to those six for their incredible designs; now pupils must request their favoured design for their very own bookmark!"

Using the template provided, pupils had to design their bookmark within a area specified. The winning designs will now be printed onto card and distributed to all readers who will then be able to add their name, their reading ZPD, their colour code and it also has the web address for the AR site on it - all the questions pupils typically ask during AR sessions!

Well done to the winner Sara T and the five runners-up Fatima H, Jack W, William C, Jake H and Uzair B.



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# Chess Club Championships 2019



Chess Club had humble beginnings of just four pupils when it was set up last year. Since then the club's popularity has grown to 24 regular members who attend every Friday lunchtime.

Due its increasing fame and reputation, club co-ordinator Mrs Swire, made the decision to re-introduce a competition that last took place 16 years ago! So the challenge was on to find a new chess champion!

The first rounds of the competition were held last Friday (13th), with 15 club members keen to battle it out. After a very tense 3-hour afternoon four finalists emerged.

The final, on Wednesday this week, saw a grippingly close game however someone had to win and Alfie D emerged as the Chess Club Champion for 2019.

Runner up was Year 10 pupil, Jack D. A play-off for third and fourth place saw Year 9 Tom D as second runner up and Year 8 Tyler P as third runner up.



All the pupils who took part received a certificate and the runners up received an extra prize. Alfie will have his name engraved on the club trophy's roll of honour.

Well done: Nathan C, Stephen P, Jack W, Lochlan S, Daniel R, Viktoria B, Freddie S, William C, Junior D, Leo S, Matt H, Tyler P, Alfie D, Tom D, Jack D.



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# Priory Pupils Attend Televised Royal Lecture

On Tuesday afternoon a small group of pupils were invited to attend the Royal Institute's Christmas Lecture live screening at the Museum of Science & Industry, Manchester.

The Christmas Lectures have been inspiring children and adults alike since 1825 and were initiated by Michael Faraday in establishing an exciting way of presenting science to young people.

This year's lectures were with Dr Hannah Fry and this was one of three recorded this month at the Royal Institute which will be broadcast on BBC Four.

Assistant Head of Science, Mrs Massey said, "We really enjoyed listening to Hannah Fry talk about how maths is used in technology. She discussed the use of the internet, robots making court decisions, face recognition and use of drones".

Pupils had the opportunity to explore the museum before attending the lecture later in the evening.

Mrs Massey continued, "This was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils and their behaviour was excellent. The lecture was being filmed live from London so it was very interesting to see how it is put together and we are really looking forward to watching the finished lecture over Christmas".

*We hope everyone can tune in to watch the lecture which will be broadcast on BBC Four between Christmas and New Year - 'Secrets and lies: The Hidden Power of Maths'.*



## The Maths Department

*Like a challenge?*

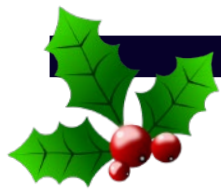
**The Head of Maths, Mr Kenrick, will be testing our brain power each week with one of his puzzles.**

Here you will find a puzzle or a problem solving task - these can help to build students' perseverance, mathematical reasoning, ability to apply knowledge creatively in unfamiliar contexts, and confidence in tackling new challenges. Why not have a try yourself!

**I have enough money to buy either six swizzles and five fizzles or else nine swizzles and one fizzle, with no change left. How many fizzles could I buy?**

Answer page 14





# Lunch is Served!

It was our Christmas lunch on Wednesday and so Priory's senior leaders took time out from their day jobs and donned their aprons to help serve the stream of hungry pupils.

Christmas jumpers, hats, ties and socks made for a very jolly festive atmosphere!

A special thanks to our Catering team for putting on such a fabulous feast!



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# Music At To Your Ears At Break and Lunch

New from this week, music will now be played through the school's tannoy system during break and lunch. Chosen by Mr Taylor, Lead Teacher for Music, this is designed to offer exposure to, and appreciation of, music, to the wider school.

This week pupils have been listening to Christmas-themed music including classics from the Ronettes, Ella Fitzgerald and... Boney M! And coming up on our return from the Christmas break:

## w/c 6/1/20 - The Music of Russia

- brooding and beautiful in equal measure - ideal for the cold winter months - Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov and those more recent rebels, t.A.T.u.

## w/c 13/1/20 - The 1950s

- this decade signalled the gradual end of the 1930s/1940s Big Band and the 'Crooner' such as Nat King Cole and Frank Sinatra. It was the birth of the modern solo pop star thanks to the jukebox and the vinyl single in the American Diner.

Much of this music is based on the call and response of slaves working in a line in the cotton fields of the southern states of the USA 100 years earlier and then the Blues. In the 1950's it manifested itself in the question and answer dialogue of the soloist and their backing singers; Bill Haley and the Comets, Frankie Lyman and the Teenagers along with famous virtuoso solo artists such as Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley.



**DIRTWORKS**  
**WITH**  
**woodlands oasis**  
**AND**  
**myplace**

**THE WILDLIFE TRUSTS**  
Lancashire, Manchester & N. Merseyside

**Young Lancashire**

**COMMUNITY FUND**

**OUR WEEKLY VOLUNTEERING GROUP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 11—25 AT OUR LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST SITES**

**MYPLACE DIRTWORKS EVERY SATURDAY, 1 PM — 4 PM, BROCKHOLES NATURE RESERVE**

**WOODLAND OASIS DIRTWORKS EVERY SUNDAY, 11 AM — 2 PM, PENWORTHAM**

Activities include practical conservation, green woodworking and bushcraft. Help local wildlife—Experience behind the scenes at the Woodland Oasis—Fulfil your Duke of Edinburgh volunteering or skills requirements—Boost your CV—Get physically active and outside in the fresh air—Meet likeminded people and make new friends—Learn new skills—Contribute towards your Scouts/Guides volunteering badge.

For more information contact Lisa

**LGRIFFIN@LANCSWT.ORG.UK OR 01772 872007**

## Volunteering Opportunity Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Dirtworks groups run every Saturday and Sunday for people aged 11-25. The Saturday group is based at Brockholes Nature Reserve and the Sunday group at our woodland site in Penwortham.

Activities include practical conservation work, woodwork and greenwood crafts projects.

Being involved in these groups is an excellent way to gain skills and interest, meet new people and spend time outdoors, as well as develop CVs, university applications or work towards the Duke of Edinburgh award.

For more information, please get in touch with Lisa (see poster) or Rob Price, Woodland Oasis Assistant Project Officer on 07720208422.



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# We're Recruiting! Welfare Assistants

Due to increasing pupil numbers, the school is looking to take on additional Welfare Assistants for lunchtime duties.

To apply please send a letter of application to Mrs Spencer, Head's PA, [s.spencer@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.spencer@priory.lancs.sch.uk), by post or email, stating why you think you would be suitable for this role and what qualities you will bring.

Full details can be found on the school website at >> <https://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/vacancies>



W/C 6 January 2020

## Monday

Sausage and hash browns served with beans or peas  
Vegetable ravioli served with garlic bread

## Tuesday

Chicken curry served with rice and naan bread\*  
Cheese pasty served with diced potatoes and  
beans or peas

## Wednesday

Cheese | Cheese & Ham | Cheese & Pepperoni  
Ciabatta pizza  
Spicy chicken burger  
Both served with potato wedges and beans or sweetcorn

## Thursday

Roast dinner\*  
**Tomato pasta served with garlic bread\***

## Friday

Battered Fish | Cheese & Tomato Pizza | Hot Dog  
All served with chips and peas or beans

## Available Every Day

Southern fried chicken wrap  
Cheese | Cheese & Ham | Cheese & Pepperoni Panini  
Jacket potato with tuna, cheese or beans\*

**\*Gluten-free option available**

**If you would like a gluten-free option pupils must order in advance with the kitchen staff, the day prior preferably. Thank you.**



We're Hiring

## Welfare Assistant

We are seeking a Welfare Assistant to ensure the safety, well-being and good conduct of pupils at lunchtime.

**Days** Monday to Friday term time only  
**Hours** 5 hours per week\*  
12.55pm-1.55pm  
(occasional earlier lunches from 11.55am - 12.55pm)  
**Pay** Grade 1 pt 1  
Gross salary £17,364 per annum  
Pro-rata £2,630



Experience not essential however candidates must have an understanding of working with children. Candidates must have good use of initiative and work as part of a team.

The successful candidate may be offered additional hours to support delivery of hospitality at school events.

Please contact Mrs Spencer, Headteacher's PA, for enquiries or call in to Reception during school hours.

To apply please send a letter of application to Mrs Spencer, by email, post or in person, stating why you think you would be suitable for this role and what qualities you will bring.

[s.spencer@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.spencer@priory.lancs.sch.uk) | 01772 320252 | Crow Hills Road, Penwortham, Preston PR1 0JE  
or visit our website at [www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/vacancies](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/vacancies)

\*plus additional time to attend staff meetings, skills training and participate in personal development as required.

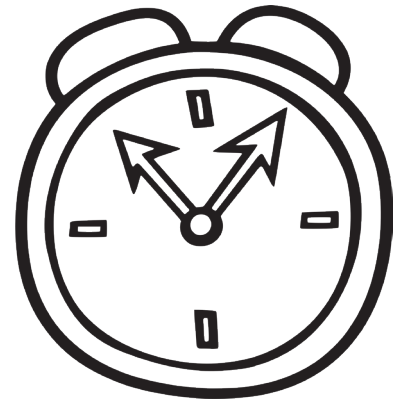
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**A reminder that, on return from the Christmas break, school will finish at 3.10pm rather than 3.20pm.**

There will be no change to the beginning of the day, length of lessons or any other aspect of the day.

School buses have been rearranged to leave at this new time. Pupils who may need to stay in school until 3.20pm can continue to do so by going to our Learning Centre which will be open for them and any pupil involved in intervention after school can still be picked up at 4.30pm should you so wish, as is currently the case.



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**School closes today for the Christmas break.**

May we take this opportunity to wish all our pupils and their families and very merry Christmas and a happy New year.

**Spring term begins on Monday, 6 January 2019.**



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**Answer to Maths Challenge:**

13 fizzles

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