

Penwortham Priory 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 to their class peers where the best were chosen to compete in Monday's final.

Head of English, Mrs Gidden, said, "We had to be strict to get it down to just one student from each class who were then selected to present their speech to the whole of Year 7 at Monday's competition final. 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 Daniel McC who talked passionately about his family and their quirks, hobbies and personalities leaving the audience and judges in fits of giggles. 1st runner up was Jane W who talked engagingly about owls and birds of prey and 2nd runner up was Bradley G who spoke about the ocean and his career aspirations as a marine biologist.

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

Mrs Gidden, said, "Unfortunately we had to do things differently this year however that didn't take away the intensity of the competition. The audience were in their classrooms, watching via Teams, as our competitors spoke to a webcam in the 'finalists' suite' (MFL 2). This probably meant the finalists were more at ease this year as we usually do this on stage in the Hall. Thanks go to English staff for acting as our panel of judges and to Mrs Farley and Mr Eastham for their role in the presentations. The six finalists were awesome and we struggled to whittle it down - well done to Daniel, Jane and Bradley!"

Our other three finalists were:

Lukas L, Ahermione C, Alexander P.



Diary Dates

Key Dates

Did you know that the term dates for this academic year, as well as the following year, are available to view and download from our website?

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/termdates

INSET Day

School closed to pupils
Mon, 4 January 2021

Start of Spring Term

Tues, 5 January 2021
Year 11 in school
Year 7-10 remote learning

Science STEAM

Competition Deadline

Fri, 8 January 2021

Learn to succeed

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Fri, 18 December 2020

Changes to start of Spring term

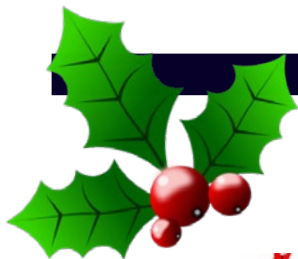


Please take the time to read the very important update which will be released later today regarding changes to the start of the Spring term. This is in line with

Government announcements last night.

A copy of the letter will be emailed to parents, will be posted on our social media and can also be downloaded from the school website.

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters



Well you certainly did your bit with your festive knits last Friday.

On Christmas jumper day you raised an amazing **£155!**

It was great to see so many pupils and staff in their festive jumpers, hats, ties and socks. Our best dressed teacher was without doubt Mr Hunter who turned up in his red Christmas suit looking rather dapper for the occasion.



Thank you for making the world better with a sweater!

Get Caught Reading

During the last week of each half term, pupils who get 'caught' reading in unstructured time, are in with a chance of winning a £20 Amazon voucher.

Well done to all pupils who were spotted reading their book before/after school or during breaks.

Two names were picked at random out of all the 'guilty' bookworms seen during w/b 14 December.

Our winners were Sharin S-R and Angel F, both Year 8.



The Great Reading Race

The winners of the class in each Key Stage 3 year group who read the most words for the week beginning 14 December were:

- Year 7 Mrs Webster and Mr Faulkner's **7E3** with 2.1 million words banked
- Year 8 Mrs Gidden's **8E2** with 852k words banked
- Year 9 Mrs Elliott's **9W1** group with 6.3 million words banked!!

Impressive totals, especially from Year 9, given that the race started on Monday and was cut off on Thursday - that's some good going to read and bank that many words in a week!

Four lots of milk and cookies are heading towards these classes during their reading slot in the new term.

Both competitions will run again during the last week of the Spring half term but don't wait until then to pick up a book!

Individual word count totals for the whole year so far can be obtained from students' teachers.



Learn to Succeed

and the
WINNER
is...

Year 7 Motte and Bailey Castle Competition



A few weeks back, Year 7 pupils were set a challenge to build their own **Motte and Bailey Castle** with whatever resources they could get their hands on at home.

This week's deadline saw many fantastic entries. Organiser of the competition, Miss Ackers, along with her fellow Humanities teacher, Miss Makinson, had the most difficult time selecting the winners.

Miss Ackers commented, *"They were all outstanding and I could tell pupils had put a lot of time, research and imagination into them - there was so much detail! The challenge was voluntary so I was also pleased to see all the entries come in - the enthusiasm from the year group has amazed me."*

It was a tough decision but in the end the winners were:

1st place - Kacper G (7E1) | 2nd place - Kaycee M (7E3) | 3rd place - Elise B (7E1)

Kacper wins high street shop voucher plus chocolates and the two runners took home Horrible Histories books and chocolates.

Pictures show some of the other magnificent entries. Well done to all who took part:

Keshav C
Thomas R
Archie R
Sophia S
Geetha D-R
William B
Alessia S

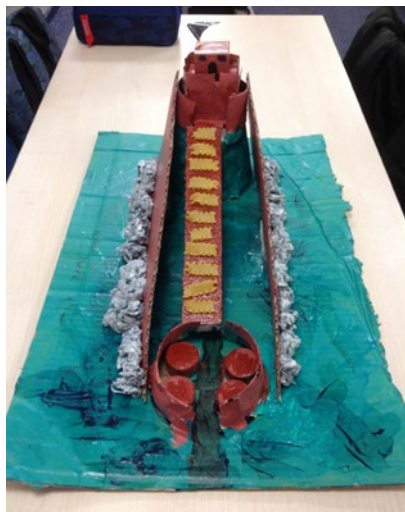
Zayd Z
usuf B
Daniel McC
Emily J
Amelia S
Abbie S
Jane W

Miss Ackers
Humanities Teacher



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**More Year 7
castle
competition
entries.**



Kooth is a free and anonymous online mental health and wellbeing support service for young people. It provides support to anyone aged 10-16, from online counselling to self help tools, to its community of young people offering peer support to each other.

Kooth will remain open throughout the Christmas holidays to support young people, with slightly different opening hours for their online counselling support. Please see poster opposite for their Christmas opening hours>>

This December they will also be featuring the following live forums on the Kooth website, which young people can access by heading to www.kooth.com on the upcoming dates from 7:30-9pm:

Wednesday, 23 December
Holiday Social Takeover!

Monday, 28 December
Reflecting on Positives from 2020

Kooth.com

kooth

Our friendly team is still here to provide mental wellbeing support over the holiday period.

Don't forget, everything else on Kooth such as discussion boards and our advice articles are available **24/7**.



Friday, December 25th

4 - 8pm

**Saturday,
December 26th**

4 - 8pm

Sunday, December 27th

6 - 10pm

Monday, December 28th

12 - 10pm

Tuesday, December 29th

12 - 10pm

Wednesday,

December 20th

12 - 10pm

Thursday, December 31st

12 - 8pm

Friday, January 1st

4 - 8pm

Saturday, January 2nd

6 - 10pm

Sign up for free at **kooth.com**

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COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY

Priory's Reverse Advent Calendar



On Wednesday afternoon, Mrs Hopes and the Heads of Year collated all the donations from the year group bubbles. There was food, winter woollies, children's toys and Christmas chocolate treats a plenty - we were astounded by your support! Thank you to everyone who has donated to the appeal.

Head of Learning for Life, Mrs Hopes, said: "All items were brought over from the bubbles to the main collection room and I was astonished by how many bags and boxes were in there!"

"This is the largest collection we have had in recent years and there are a few car loads to go out to the local community.

"These photographs only represent the goods left to go to organisations, as our family bags have already gone out to be distributed.

"We would like to thank our pupils and their adults for their generous contributions, given in true Christmas spirit. As we draw to the end of our term focusing on kindness, it is great to see so many pupils have put their learning into action."

"We hope the recipients benefit from the collection and it makes their Christmas and future weeks more manageable."

Packages have now gone out to our most disadvantaged Priory families and the remainder will be taken to Penwortham's Kingsfold Food Bank, and the Foxton Centre, via the Salvation Army.

Mrs Hopes
Head of
Learning for Life



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Online Catering Pre-Order System Update

Did you know you can now make cancellations?

VeriCool, the online system which allows parents, pupils and staff to pre-order break and lunchtime food now allows you to cancel items.

Users can now see everything they have ordered in advance and also remove what they no longer want. Users can cancel orders by clicking on the red 'refund' button at the left of each item to remove it.

If a child is not in school for any reason, then it is the parent's responsibility to cancel any advance orders or they will still be charged. Please note, orders must be cancelled by 11.59pm the night before.

If you have missed the deadline and your child is absent, please email enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk before 9am and we will cancel the order for you.

A user guide and FAQs, along with a talk-through video on how to set up an account and navigate pre-ordering are available from the school website at >> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/online-catering-orders. If you have any queries or need a reminder of your set up code or login, please email enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Quick Draw Rewards

Each week, teachers will nominate individuals who have particularly impressed them with their effort, attitude and engagement with their learning - giving a brief reason why. Teachers will let all pupils know if they have a nomination. Heads of Year will then draw a name at random from the list, one per year group. The lucky pupils will then be contacted by Miss Thornton to receive a £5 voucher.



Randomly chosen winners from last week were:

Year 7 - AJ F - Nominated by Mr Taylor for a very pleasing, keen start in Music on the carousel.

Year 8 - Lucy B - Nominated by Mrs Cowell for good quality classwork and homework in Computing.

Year 9 - Jake H - Nominated by Mr Eccles for an excellent assessment result in History.

Year 10 - Leonie G - Nominated by Miss Smith for excellent return to lessons and fantastic attitude in English.

Year 11 - Robbie M - Nominated by Mrs Qadri for excellent presentation to rest of class in Computer Science.

Miss Thornton

English Teacher and Specialist Leader for Education

Leon becomes quizmaster for Fact Fundraiser



Handicapped
Children's
Action Group

Pupils had fun in their Learning for Life session yesterday as they pledged to support Year 8 Leon with his fundraising.

In return for a 50p entry fee, pupils in Key Stage 3 were given a quiz sheet as Leon went on to read out intriguing questions to Years 7, 8 & 9 over Teams.

Leon is fundraising for Handicapped Children's Action Group (HCAG), a charity that has recently supported his disabled brother, Lewis. Leon wants to give something back to the charity that donated a specially adapted bike to assist his younger sibling.

Leon has already raised a whopping £150 through his neighbourhood Christmas lights campaign.



With the support of Head of Year 8, Mrs Bailey, the pair asked staff to come up with an interesting fact about themselves which, for the quiz, pupils then had to guess whose fact it belonged to. Entries with the most correct answers were put into a draw with the winner collecting a chocolate hamper donated by Deputy Head, Mrs Cowell. Announced in today's full school virtual assembly, the lucky winner was Ben F in Year 9.

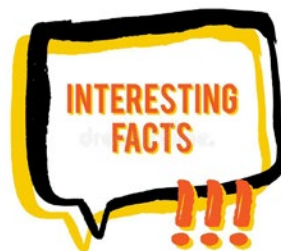
After the very entertaining session that got everybody talking, Leon rounded off the event by saying, "Thanks guys for helping with the donation towards the charity, it will really help". Mrs Bailey added, "Thanks very much for everyone's support with this. Leon and his family really appreciate it, as do I. Everybody have a wonderful Christmas!"

You raised an incredible £201.60!

Can you match up these facts with the member of staff at Priory?

Which member of staff ...

1. has a British amateur weightlifting certificate?
2. has attended at least 5 red carpet film premieres in London's West End?
3. made a horse blanket for the winner of the 2012 Grand National, Neptune Collonges, for when he attended the Olympic Torch Parade at Aintree, making the TV news and national papers?
4. had both the queen and prime minister visit their lessons when they were at school?
5. has canoed the full length of the fastest flowing river in Britain?
6. has a twin and was born on April Fools Day?
7. was giving a full Year 10 assembly when two of their false teeth fell out and landed on the floor 6ft in front of them!
8. was a professional singer who performed at weddings?
9. was chased up the stairs at Holyrood Castle by Prince Andrew?
10. has run the New York marathon in under 4 hours?



Answers on page 11

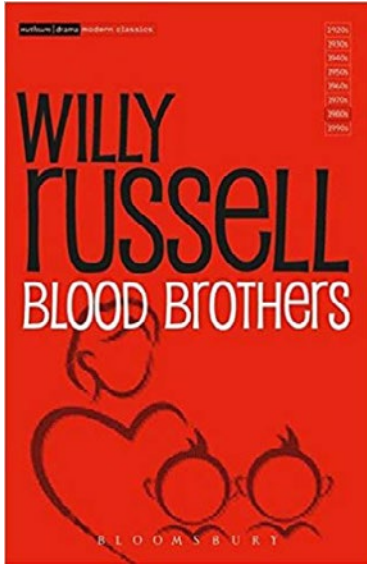
Year 11

English Literature

Blood Brothers Online Workshop



The Blood Brothers workshop on Tuesday was wonderful! The actors talked with such knowledge and passion about the characters and Russell's inspiration for writing the play.



Year 11 received great hints and tips about characterisation; context and writer's purpose and they were also good fun to chat to. We did get a little bit star struck as it's not every day you get to talk to a West End veteran! Year 11 asked some fantastic, thought provoking questions too.

This is definitely something we will look at in future years.

Thanks to Stage Ed and the Year 11 pupils for their effort, appreciation and enthusiasm. We have now finished the Blood Brothers unit but Year 11 are expected to revise until the exam in June. We have gained access to other previously unseen footage, as well as interviews with Willy himself to aid our revision right up until the day of the exam.

Mrs Gidden
Head of English

We're so lucky!



English Endeavour Awards - Years 7 & 8

The English department has awarded these pupils for their endeavour and achievement during the Autumn term. Well done to...

Year 7

Sophia T
Jak McC
Alex P
Caitlyn P
Namwoo K

Oliver G
Isaac D
Charlie N
Geetha D-R
Jayden H

Darcey K
Riley C
Alessia S
Thomas M

Year 8

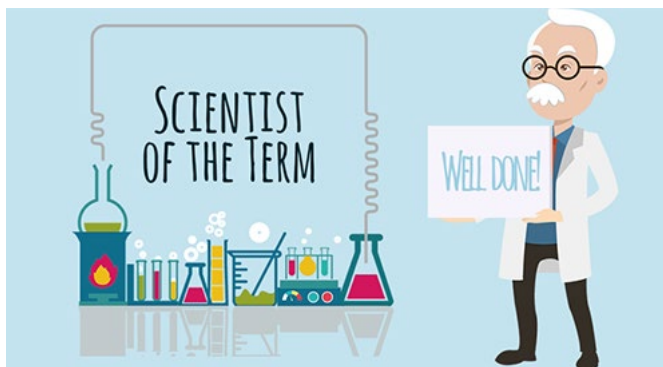
Lucy B
Favour A
Olivia H
Samuel D
Harry C

Cameron S
Lucas R
Megan H
Jasmine J

Years 9-11 continued overleaf



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These pupils have been working hard this term and have been awarded **Scientists of the Term**. Each pupil will receive a certificate.

Year 7

Taylor R
Emily P
Jayden H
Anthony T
Afnan S

Year 10

Scarlett C
Ruth H
Owen L
Ella R
Emily B

Year 8

Samuel D
India P
Joe T
Nathan C
Megan H

Year 11

Evie M
Nicole C
Louis R
Ishaq B
Eleanor R
Karla F
Alicia R
Caitlin W
Kian B
Amy G
Maddie W

Year 9

Fatima P
Josh E
Emmi H
Nicole K
Connor M
Harry W



Don't forget the Science comp!

Competition Time!

Don't forget there's Mrs Massey's science challenge if you're looking for something to do over Christmas.

Students are asked to choose a character from a film or TV show that has a career in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths) and explore how they are portrayed.

Full details can be found in last week's newsletter.

Deadline for entries Fri, 8 January.

There's rewards for the best entries!

Mrs Massey
Assistant Head of Science

English Endeavour Awards - Years 9, 10 & 11

The English department has awarded these pupils for their endeavour and achievement during the Autumn term. Well done to...

Year 9

Ben M
Surayya H
Pheobe B
Millie H
Ronoldo Z
Callum K
Alfie P
Fatime H

Lucas T
Paige C

Year 10

Owen L
George E,
Kareem M
Ethan S
Ella R
Rhianne L
Paige C
Kieran I-T

Ruth H
Leonie G

Year 11

Olivia S
Ellie-Mae B
Asher B
Amy L
Ishaq B
Isabelle T
Maddie W
Caitlyn W

Logan M
Erin W
Finnley K
Diogo P
Sammy B



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Food Preparation & Nutrition

We've been making peppermint creams in class this week as a fun end of term activity for Year 9 as they completed their carousel.

Pupils had great fun shaping and colouring their Christmassy treats.

Well done to - Oliver S, William C, Matthew S, Sara T, Alfie P, Uzair B.

Mrs Cowell
Deputy Head
Food Technology Teacher



Answers To Leon's Fascinating Facts



- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Mrs Cowell | 6. Miss Beesley |
| 2. Mrs Elliott | 7. Mr Bullock |
| 3. Mrs Hopes | 8. Miss Ackers |
| 4. Mr Taylor | 9. Mrs Yates |
| 5. Mr Henshaw | 10. Mrs Scully |

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Christmas At Priory

Priory's Year 7 girls would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas!

The girls have worked hard this term on units of Gymnastics and Dance and we have been so impressed by their choreography in their Christmas themed dances this week.

Well done girls!

*Mrs Tompson
PE Teacher*



The Nativity

On display in the Year 8 bubble, our Nativity scene dates back to the beginnings of Priory.

First seen in 1953, the figures were recently rediscovered in the school archives and have been lovingly restored by gardener, Mr Farron. Ever since then he has put them back out on display each year for the school to enjoy.



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The Weekly Challenge

These short general knowledge quizzes are set fortnightly as part of Friday's Learning for Life lesson.

Pupils in Year 7-10 are given this as a homework assignment, via MS Teams, to revise for the test at the end of the week. The content of these quizzes will enhance learning across all subjects and widen Year 2 vocabulary.



Here's today's challenge. Parents - How would you get on?

1. Who wrote the famous book 'A Christmas Carol'?
2. In Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, what do the Dursleys give Harry for Christmas?
3. Which British Monarch delivered the first ever Christmas message?
4. The animation 'The Snowman' was shown for the first time in what year?
5. In which children's classic is it 'always winter but never Christmas'?
6. How many gifts were given in total in the carol 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'?
7. What is the best-selling Christmas song of all time?
8. Who invented the Christmas cracker?
9. What does 'advent' refer to in the Christian church?
10. Why does the word Christmas sometimes get abbreviated to Xmas?

Answers on page 16

Sports Hall Refurbishment

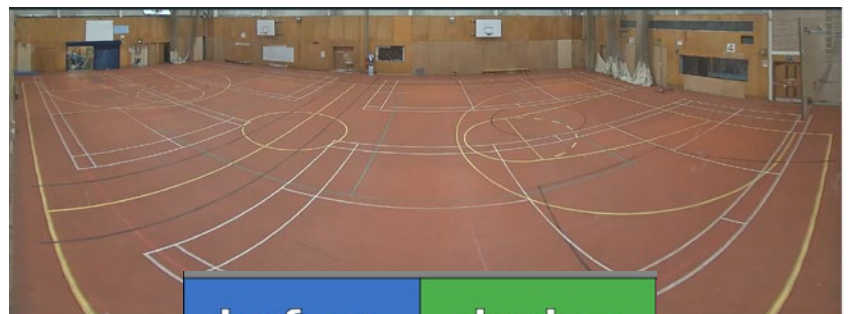
Work continued this week on the refurbishment of Priory's sports hall.

Phase 1 has already been completed with the installation of new LED lighting. Phase 2 will be new flooring which started on Tuesday and is expected to take around three weeks.

Phase 3 will begin in the new year with the repainting.

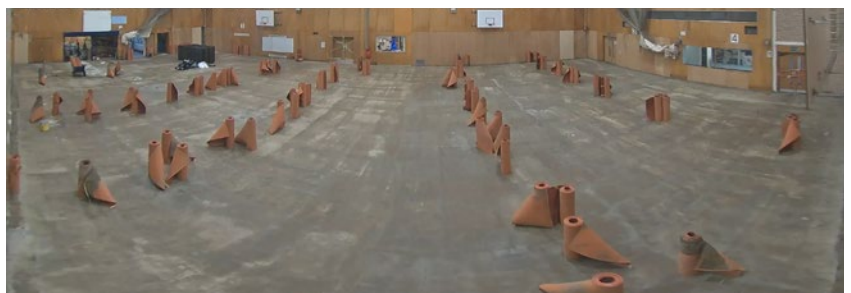
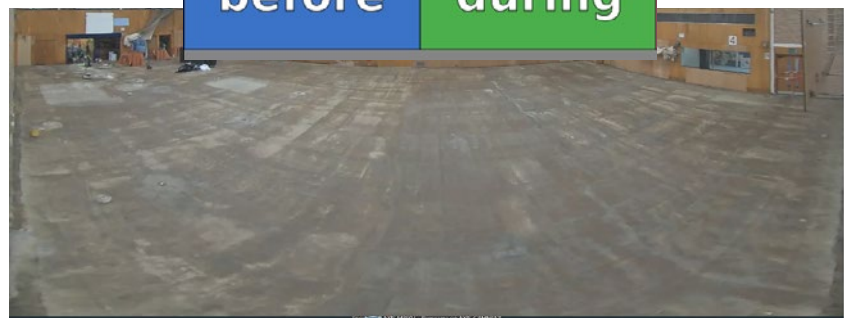
More photos of its progress will follow in the coming weeks.

Once completed the hall will match the standards of our other modern sports and assembly facilities.



before

during



Learn to succeed



From 5 January 2021

Online during Christmas to view and place advance orders.

In addition to current items.

Lunch

This replaces previous daily specials.

Monday

Chicken burger

Pasta bolognese

Tuesday

Chicken tikka pasty

Chicken or veg/vegan curry

Wednesday

Fish finger buttty

Pasta bolognese

Thursday

Beef burger

Chicken or veg/vegan curry

Friday

Butter pie

Pasta bolognese

Available Every Day

In addition to current items.

Chicken & bacon mayo baguette
(fillings will change regularly)

Sandwiches at lunch available on gluten-free bread via request - email enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Well done to Class of 2019 pupil, Lucian Florea who produced one of the winning designs for Newman College's Christmas card this year.



Lucian's is the robin design, bottom right.

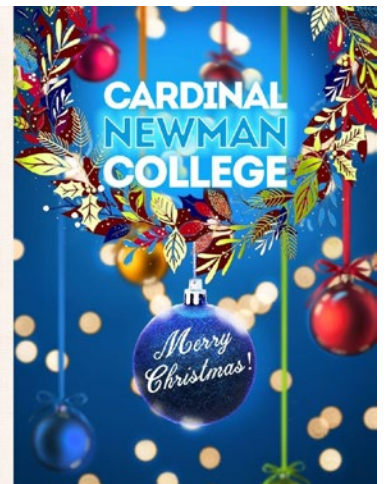
The winning designs will be featured together (as seen in the image) and the college said "Four winners were chosen, each with a unique and different take on the challenge".



Newman College

@Newman_College

We were overwhelmed by the quality & quantity of entries we received for our Christmas card competition, it was impossible to choose just one winner. So congratulations to our FOUR winners, who will each receive a voucher of their choice! Well done to all who entered! #Christmas 🌟



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Word of the Week

Every week teachers will introduce a new word to pupils in their Learning For Life 'Challenge Day' lesson.

Teachers will clearly explain the literacy tip of the week and will reference the Word of the Week in their lessons. Pupils will be challenged about them in curriculum time. Achievement points are awarded for correct use of Word of the Week.

Pupils: Make sure you have checked through your work to ensure you have applied the literacy tip correctly.

Word of the Week:

Approach

Verb

To come near or nearer to (someone or something) in distance or time E.g. I could see he was about to approach me.

Noun

A way of dealing with a situation or problem E.g. My approach to dealing with my worries is...

Etymology

Middle English: from Old French *aprochier*, *aprocher*, from ecclesiastical Latin *appropriare* 'draw near'



Literacy tip of the week...

Noun A person, place, thing, or idea Example: I went to the park. Malcolm is a boy.	Verb A word that shows the action or state of being in a sentence Example: I am running. Malcolm is fast.	Adjective A word that describes or modifies a noun Example: I wore blue suede shoes. The cat ran up a tree.	Adverb A word that describes or modifies a verb Example: Amir ran quickly.
Pronoun A word that takes the place of a noun Example: He, she, it, you, they, us, them.	Conjunction Joins words, phrases, and sentences. Coordinate: for, and, or, but, yet, so Subordinate: before, if, when.	Preposition Links a noun or pronoun to another word in a sentence Example: The cat ran up a tree.	Interjection A word or phrase used to exclaim, protest, or command Example: Wow, good job, oh, yes, oh-oh, whoa.

Can you identify word classes using the definitions on this poster?

Synonym of the week...

What is a synonym?

A synonym is a word that has a very similar or the same meaning as another word.

So synonyms for 'tired' include 'depleted' and 'weary'.

TASK:

Find synonyms for the word:

Like

Your vocabulary is so important! Make sure you have one!

Annual Pupil Admissions Consultation

CONSULTATION

Penwortham Priory Academy is consulting on its admissions policy for 2022 onwards and has commenced a 6 week consultation period from 27 November 2020 to 7 January 2021.

If you would like to submit a comment, please email enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk and include the subject line of 'Annual Pupil Admissions Consultation'. All responses received will be considered by the Governing Body once the consultation has closed on 7 January.

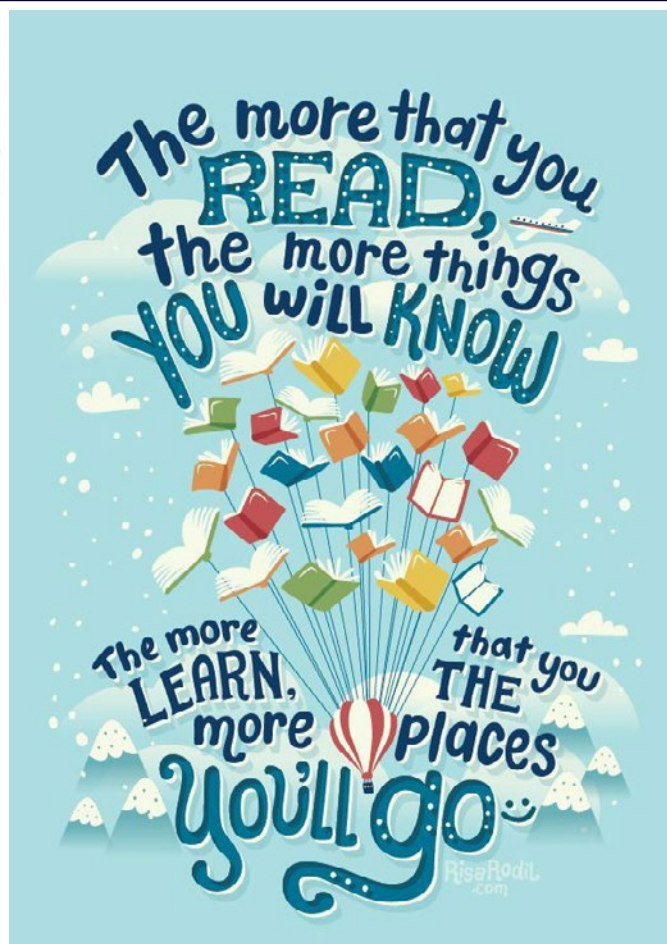
The proposed policy is available to view and download from the school's website at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/about-priory/admissions/annual-pupil-admissions-consultation

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Answers to this week's Friday Challenge.



1. Charles Dickens
2. A 50-pence piece
3. George V in 1932
4. 1982
5. CS Lewis' 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'
6. 364!
7. White Christmas by Bing Crosby from the early 1940s
8. Christmas crackers are a British tradition dating back to Victorian times when in the early 1850s, London confectioner Tom Smith started adding a motto to his sugared almond bon-bons which he sold wrapped in a twisted paper package.
9. The first season of the Christian Church year, leading up to Christmas and including the four preceding Sundays.
10. The Greek word for Christ is Chrīstos, spelled Χριστός in Greek. – people use the initial from this word - X



School closes today for the Christmas break.

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

Spring term begins on Tues, 5 January 2021. Years 7-10 remote learning and Year 11 in school.

