

# Penwortham Priory Post

## A Message From The Headteacher

Dear All



As ever, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to be able to write to you at the start of this new academic year and welcome you back to school after what we know has been a considerable amount of time away. So welcome to our first newsletter of 2020-2021.

A particularly warm welcome too, to all our new pupils and their parents and guardians. We look forward to working alongside you over the coming years as you start out on the next stage of your academic life and embark on an exciting and inspiring learning journey with us.

I also offer my very best wishes and thanks to all those pupils who have now moved on from Priory at the end of the last academic year, secure in the knowledge that they continued to build on the successes of previous years and produced, yet again, some great final examination results.

We know only too well that the end of their time with us was disappointing for them. We know they missed out on what other year 11s in previous years have taken for granted and we are saddened by that.

Yet, they remain precious and unique and throughout this crisis they, perhaps more than most, proved how determined and hopeful our young people at Priory can be, demonstrating remarkable levels of resilience throughout all the doubt and uncertainty. We wish them all the very best as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

And so, to the future. Amid understandable apprehension surrounding our reopening, from what I've seen from pupils and staff already this week, I continue to be optimistic.

I am extremely proud of the way all in our school community have adapted so seamlessly to our new normal. It's been a real testimony not only to the careful planning and preparation that has gone into our reopening plans, but also to the staff, pupils and parents for engaging in that material and arriving already knowing the new procedures in place.

It has been joyful to see our pupils and staff interacting and back together again in school and we look forward to being able to focus on our longer-term educational horizon from here on in.

*Continued overleaf...*

## Acceptable Use Policy Agreement Forms

The Academy aims to ensure that students have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning and, in return, expects students to agree to be responsible users.

Pupils should understand that they must use school ICT systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to their safety or to the safety and security of the ICT systems and other users.

Every pupil was given a copy of the policy agreement this week which they must read and sign and have countersigned by a parent/carer.

**These must be returned  
by Fri, 11 September.**

## REMINDERS

**Learning for Life Day  
Weds, 23 September  
Early lunch followed  
by school closure at  
1.20pm**

**INSET Day  
Thurs, 24 September  
School closed**

*Continued from front page...*

On that note, I would like to finish by taking this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support of the school and to thank all our pupils for the contribution they make to Priory in so many different ways, whether that be in the classroom, on the sport's pitch, on stage, fundraising or in extra-curricular activities.

Priory is all about inspiring children to grow into well rounded young people; each child is unique, so our responsibility will be to continue to find how to enable each to make strong academic progress, achieve the highest levels of academic attainment and nurture their all-round personal achievement.

Of course, there will undoubtedly be further challenges ahead, yet at the start of the 2020 academic year, we will ensure we continue to do this, and in so doing, secure the best for all, from all.

My very best wishes to everyone for a great academic year.



**Mr M Eastham, Headteacher**



## Parking - A polite request

We have received several complaints this week from neighbours and parents regarding parking around the school during drop-off and collection times. Therefore, we would like raise the importance of parking safely and considerately, and to not block drives.

We appreciate that the first few days of the new academic year are always busier with more cars than normal. We have lots of Year 7 parents dropping off and collecting pupils on their first week and we will see an increase in car usage as many pupils will not access the buses at this moment in time.

Last year we took the decision to finish ten minutes earlier to reduce the congestion and up until yesterday it had worked fantastically. We hope as time passes there will be a significant reduction again in cars outside school and this will hopefully ease the situation.

## Face Masks

The advice for secondary school pupils in England, published by the government, is that "schools will have the discretion to require face coverings in communal areas if they believe that is right in their particular circumstances."

However, in areas where transmission of the virus is high - and where government interventions such as local lockdowns are in place - face coverings will be mandatory for pupils in Year 7 and above in parts of schools where social distancing is not possible. This will not include in classrooms during lessons, where the government says they could "inhibit learning".



With this in mind therefore, all pupils must have with them in school a plain face mask that can be worn when directed to do so by staff.

When and where such face masks should be worn in school will be made clear to pupils in school during what can be a dynamic situation.

Please note, pupils travelling to school on any public transport, school bus or school minibus must wear an appropriate face covering.

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# Hello and Welcome to Our New Teachers

*Welcome*  
*Glad you're here!*

Ms Kinsman - Science  
Miss Deeley - Science  
Mr Owen - English  
Mrs Tompson - PE  
Mr Bamber - Facilities

## Head of Year Changes

Year 7	Mrs Bullock (Mrs Farley on return from maternity leave)	r.bullock@priory.lancs.sch.uk
Year 8	Mrs Bailey	a.bailey@priory.lancs.sch.uk
Year 9	Mrs Ham	k.ham@priory.lancs.sch.uk
Year 10	Mr Faulkner	p.faulkner@priory.lancs.sch.uk
Year 11	Mrs Eastham	v.eastham@@priory.lancs.sch.uk

## New Online Catering Pre-Order System

*VeriCool*

VeriCool is Priory's new online catering pre-order system which allows parents, pupils and staff to pre-order break and lunchtime food and drink and have them delivered to their year group bubbles.

Letters have been issued today to all pupils. The letter includes a unique code to enable parents to set up their child's catering pre-order account, a user guide and frequently asked questions.

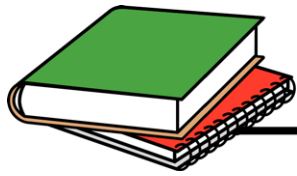
**The system will start from Monday, 7 September so orders for Monday will need to be placed prior to then. No food or drink will be available from Monday without pre-ordering.**

The system is very simple to use. There is also a video on our website which will talk viewers through how to set up an account and navigate the pre-ordering portal. Please go to [www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/online-catering-orders](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/online-catering-orders)

If you have any queries, please email [enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk) and we will support you with the new system.



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# English

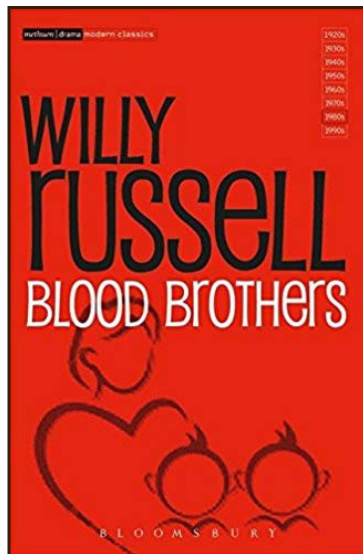
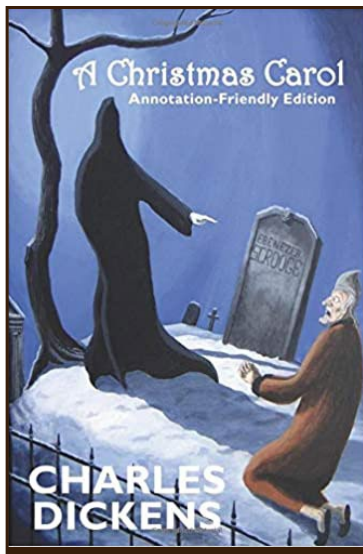
## Year 10 & 11 English Literature

Year 10 pupils will be starting their study of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol after the October half term and for Year 11 it's Willy Russell's Blood Brothers. This will be their GCSE English Literature set text and one they'll eventually be examined on in their final exams.

We are therefore recommending that pupils have their own copy of the text itself. This will also mean that pupils can highlight and annotate the book during the course of study, making it a valuable revision aid for them. Pupils will need the actual play-script not a text guide or revision guide.

Books can be purchased from retailers such as Amazon for around £6.00.

Photo for illustration purposes only.



## Priory Library

Unfortunately, the Priory library will be closed during the pandemic. However we have arranged for book trolleys to be available to all classes during their Accelerated Reader (AR) slot.

Mrs Gidden would like to thank Year 10 pupils Rhianne L and Emily B who came in to school during the summer break to stock these trolleys by carefully selecting books appropriate to each year group.

## Wanted! Year 7 Librarians

We're looking for volunteer Year 7 pupils to become librarians. Your first duty will be to help take the book trolley round to the rest of your year group!

If you're interested, please speak to your English teacher.



## Accelerated<sup>TM</sup> Reader

Accelerated Reader is a computer-based program that schools may use to monitor reading practice and progress. It helps teachers guide pupils to books that are on their individual reading levels. Pupils take short quizzes after reading a book to check if they've understood it.

**STAR TESTS** can only take place in the first three weeks of each full term.

**QUIZZES** can be taken at any time, so don't forget!

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# SPORTS REPORT

7 - 11 September 2020

Pupils should bring trainers, spare socks and a waterproof coat on the days where they have a PE lesson. Pupils will not need their PE kit this week.

Further information will be issued by the PE department next week for w/c 14 September onwards.



## NHS Virtual Careers Event 14-18 September

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals covers both Royal Preston & Chorley Hospital.

The Trust normally runs two careers events per year to inspire people of all ages into NHS careers. Due to Covid live events this year have sadly been cancelled therefore they have organised a virtual event.

This event will consist of career information from specific departments being available on the Trust's social media channels.

For students to be part of the careers event, please email [Brittany.Mollart@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:Brittany.Mollart@lthtr.nhs.uk) directly who will let you know how to get involved.

If there is a specific department that is showcasing at the event that you are interested in, please let them know.



Excellence in education

*Virtual* **CAREERS FAIR 2020**  
#LTHCareers Week commencing 14th of September

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals are holding their first **Virtual NHS Careers Event** which includes a wide variety of departments at the Trust showcasing different job roles within their area.

We have both clinical and non-clinical departments involved in this who are willing to share their expertise to give you an insight into their daily roles and career paths on offer.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Dietetics	Learner Support Team	LTHTR Membership	Theatres & Maternity support worker	Pharmacy
PM	Clinical Education Team	Occupational Therapy	Pathology	Finance	Audiology

To find out how to get involved in this event, please email [Brittany.Mollart@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:Brittany.Mollart@lthtr.nhs.uk)



# GCSE Results Day 20 August 2020

## The sun finally shone down for our Class of 2020 on results day

Nerves turned into relief as Year 11 opened their results outdoors on a glorious morning. Pupils were able to safely mingle with their friends and catch up with their former teachers. After missing out on so much in their final year, this was one tradition we are pleased could go ahead.

Deputy Head, Mrs Cowell said: "It's great the pupils had a chance to come here to pick up their results, all socially distanced, and to see them smiling after what has been a tough year. They all got their rewards."

Summing up the day, Head teacher Mr Eastham said: "We are delighted with our results in what has been a testing time for our pupils. They have shown remarkable resilience and strength of character to deal with the uncertainty of recent months and, while we are saddened they've missed out on what other Year 11s in previous years have taken for granted, they have remained determined and hopeful.

"Their results should provide a platform from which they can now embark on the next stage of their lives.

"It's not all about results though, we hope they left Priory a fully engaged, caring and contributing member of our society. We are proud of each and every one of them."



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# Tanisha and Libby's stories made the press!

Year 11 pupil, Tanisha suffered a serious brain injury at the age of 10 but has overcome her memory problems to celebrate her GCSEs.

Tanisha was hit by a motorbike when she lived in Wigan and was on a life support machine for four days and then in Alder Hey Children's Hospital for months.

She suffered a brain injury and a compound fracture of the leg among other injuries but her mum said she was extremely proud of the hard work Tanisha has put in to celebrate three Grade 5s, three Grade 4s and a pass at ICT.

"She has had to work so hard," said Mrs Gavigan. "She suffers memory loss so she has to work twice as hard to remember things. Over the last 12 months she has worked at night, she has had a tutor and she has studied hard and we are so proud of her.

"The support she has had from Mrs Holland, the SENCo at Priory, has been superb."

Tanisha said: "The support I have had has been brilliant. I have been helped with little tips such as using post-it notes and notepads to remember things.

"I am pleased with my results, I was shocked most at my science result as I got a 5 in Combined Science, I didn't expect that.

"I want to study Travel and Tourism at Runshaw College, I want to do something exciting and fun and not a boring job."

Synchronised swimmer Libby has learnt sign language during lockdown and also celebrated strong GCSE results.

Year 11 leaver, Libby, who has been part of the England Age Group training camps in synchronised swimming from the age of 13 and competed in the World Championships last year, secured a Grade 9 in history, three Grade 8s alongside Grades 7 and 6 in other subjects. Libby attained Grade 8 in PE which was Priory's highest.

"I thought I had failed my science so I was really pleased with a Grade 6/7 in Combined Science," said Libby. "I am happy with my results, especially PE."

As she hasn't been able to get in the pool during lockdown, although has been able to do land-based exercises, Libby decided to make use of her time wisely.

"There is a swimmer who is partially deaf and signs so I decided to learn it during lockdown. It is tricky remembering it but it's nice to be able to communicate with her."

Libby will go to Runshaw College to study Business, Law, History and PE and will also take an A-Level Sporting Diploma in Synchronised Swimming at Loughborough University, which she was asked to do. She is also taking an on-line coaching course in synchronised swimming.

Full article >> [www.lep.co.uk/education/priory-pupils-make-grade-style-2948102](http://www.lep.co.uk/education/priory-pupils-make-grade-style-2948102)



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# Outstanding - Holly, Colin and Sasha's Stories

**GCSE  
RESULTS**

**Holly was the highest achieving girl at Priory – celebrating nine Grade 9s alongside a Grade 7.**

“I am absolutely shocked,” said Holly. “I am excited as well.”

Holly wants to go to Runshaw College and study Maths, Further Maths, Biology and Chemistry.

“I love Science and Maths and want to study medicine in the future. It’s hard to believe. It has been a difficult year with Covid-19 but it’s turned out well.”



**Head Boy Colin celebrated eight Grade 9s and three Grade 8s – including an 8 in Astronomy.**

“I took Astronomy a year early last year and got a Grade 6 and I was a bit annoyed at that. I wanted to improve, I am happier with an 8,” said Colin.

I was surprised with a few of my Grade 9s but I am pleased. I want to go to Runshaw College and study Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths.”

Colin has regularly played the piano on open evenings at Priory and is a Grade 8 pianist.

“I think, when I get to university, I might teach piano as a part-time job. I want to be a researcher/scientist in the future.”

**Head Girl Sasha took her time in opening her results – but she eventually did!**

“I got them but I didn’t want to open straight away, I was worried I would cry. I was going to open them walking home but they eventually persuaded me to open them here.”

She was glad she did as she celebrated five Grade 8s and three Grade 7s.

“I didn’t think I had done that well at all. I am relieved.”

Sasha, who has done a lot of charity work during her time at Priory and won the inaugural Sam Pegram Character & Culture Award last year, wants to go to Runshaw College.

“I will study Law, Politics, History and English.”



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# Sian, Antonia, Nico and Jayden's Stories



**Sian is following in her family footsteps in studying art.**

Sian celebrated a Grade 9 in art as she achieved two Grade 9s, one Grade 8 and two Grade 7s among other results.

"My mum is a professional artist and my brothers both study art at university and college. My mum is an abstract painter while I like fine art.

"My mum has run art and craft clubs during the holidays over the years which I have always taken part in and I love it.

"I want to be an artist although Mrs Elliott has inspired me to be an English teacher so I am undecided."



**Antonia wants to be a paramedic – and she has fully embraced life at Priory.**

Antonia has got involved in the sports side at school, taking qualifications to referee and coach netball at primary school and Year 7 level.

She got a Grade 9 in Design and Technology, a six in PE as well as fives and fours.

"I have loved my time at Priory and I am happy with my results. I want to study Health and Social Care at Runshaw College.



"I want to be a paramedic, no two days will ever be the same and I want to help people."

**Nico celebrated two 8s in History and Maths among his results.**

"I want to go to Newman College and study History, Maths and Computer Science and I would like to do a degree in Maths or Computer Science.

"All the Maths teachers at Priory have been really helpful."

**Jayden will go to Runshaw College after achieving two Grade 8s, two Grade 7s and two Grade 6s.**

"I want to study History, Geography and Biology, Biology as I may go down the route of working with animals but I am not sure yet. It's been great to see everyone."



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This artwork was sent in over the summer by a pupil, now in Year 10, for her GCSE coursework.

Working on the theme of 'beetles, bugs and butterflies', this piece was created in Biro using varying mark-making techniques.

Vidhi C tells us, "Most of it is in Biro. I did draw it in pencil first, and the shadow is in pencil too the rest is Biro."

Absolutely stunning, Vidhi!

Mrs Hopes,  
Lead Teacher of Art



## Information and Support for Parents from the Department for Education



### Department for Education

#### Updated guidance for parents and carers

We have updated our guidance for parents and carers on [what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). This update provides information on school admission appeals, entry tests for selective schools, and exams and assessments in the autumn term.

We have also provided further information on the use of face coverings in schools and links to online resources that are available to help parents, carers and children with their mental health and wellbeing.

Resources can be found here:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/  
what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-  
about-early-years-providers-schools-  
and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-  
covid-19-outbreak](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak)

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# The Online Payments System at Priory

Due to the Covid-19, we will no longer be accepting cash or cheques as payment. Therefore we are strongly encouraging all parents to use the online payments system, SCOPAY.

Did you know you can pay online for -

- Dinner money
- Trips and events
- Books and equipment
- Ties
- Lockers

Using SCOPAY allows you to top up your child's account or pay for items anywhere, anytime using a credit or debit card.

The SCOPAY website is easy to use and there is also an option to download a mobile app.

**All parents can have access to SCOPAY.**

Parents who have not yet registered for SCOPAY have been sent a letter inviting you to set up an account. This letter included your unique access code.

To find out more or to login to your account go to [www.scopay.com/priory](http://www.scopay.com/priory)

For enquiries, please contact:  
Mrs J Cookson, Finance Officer, at [j.cookson@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.cookson@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

[www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/internet-payments](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/internet-payments)

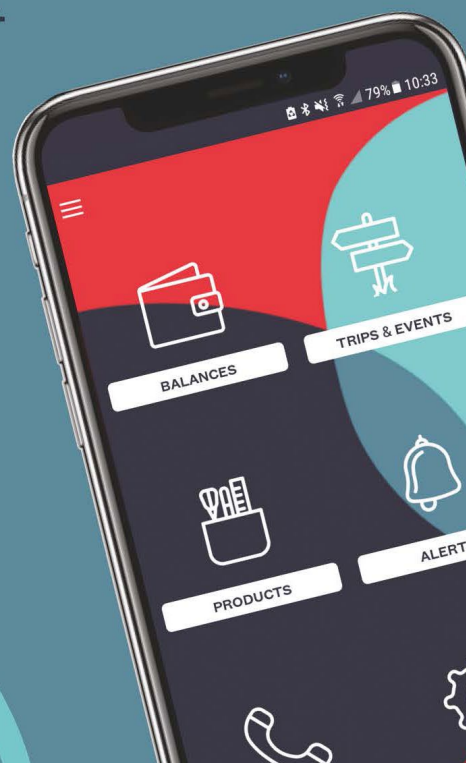
## SCOPAY, A MORE CONVENIENT WAY TO PAY

SCOPAY allows parents, guardians, or carers to make payments by credit or debit card for all school purchases (including school meals, trips, and school clubs)

If you have not yet registered let the office know and an access code will be issued to you.

Then visit SCOPAY.com or download the SCOPAY app and pay anytime, anywhere.

Pay for their lunch, on your lunch!



# SCOPAY

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# Careers Advice at Priory



Hi Everyone,

I am the Careers Adviser for the school one day a week, predominantly on Fridays. A full list of dates for this term is included in this newsletter.

I will be available for:

- 1:1 Careers guidance interviews throughout the day on an appointment system.
- Drop In session in the morning first thing from 8.00am to 8.50am and lunch between 1.15pm and 1.50pm - although these have been postponed for the time being we are looking at how this can continue and procedures for pupils will be released soon.



I am a qualified careers practitioner for over 25 years working with young people and adults offering impartial careers, education, information and advice and guidance on careers that suit their likes and abilities.

I love careers and very passionate in being able to help individuals achieve their ultimate aspiration by advising them on their options and routes to take.

Pupils may wish to discuss the various post 16 career pathways on offer at colleges, with employers through apprenticeship or training programmes, life at university and degree courses or signposting for potential work experience.

I will hold meetings with Year 11 pupils in EN8, the room next to the library, and for Year 10 pupils I will meet with you in the Pastoral meeting room.

Parents and pupils can email me at : [s.khan@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.khan@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

Mrs Khan  
Careers Adviser

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Do you need  
**careers**  
advice?



## Independent Careers Adviser *Mrs Khan*

*Available for 1:1 Careers Appointments & Drop-In sessions in  
The Careers Room*

### Drop In sessions Times:

Morning : 8.15am to 8.50am  
Lunchtime : 1.15pm to 1.50pm

### Careers Adviser Dates:

September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020</li><li>• Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020</li><li>• Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020</li><li>• Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020</li></ul>
October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020</li><li>• Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020</li><li>• Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020</li><li>• Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020</li></ul>
November 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020</li><li>• Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020</li><li>• Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020</li><li>• Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020</li></ul>
December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020</li><li>• Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020</li><li>• Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020</li></ul>

If you would like a 1:1 appointment, please email

[s.khan@priority.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:s.khan@priority.lancs.sch.uk)

Registered Professional Careers Practitioner/Member



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