

Penwortham Priory Post



Pupils Break The Code in ICT Competition

Pupils at Priory were cracking codes and solving puzzles in their own innovative way as part of a Code Breaking Competition in Computer Science.

Head of Computer Science, Mrs Qadri, set pupils from all years various challenges using Caesar Code (shifting the alphabet forward or back), Pig Pen Cipher (replacing letters of the alphabet with shapes or symbols) and Morse Code (dots and dashes).

They then had to create their own codebreaker and provide its solution which the Year 11s particularly embraced to demonstrate their skills - with Jack K designing his own website!

"The competition was really popular," said Mrs Qadri. "A lot of different year groups took part and it was a bit of fun but also to get the pupils thinking about Computing."

"I was impressed with the Year 11 boys especially as they put a lot of effort into their challenge and took it to another level."

The winner was Year 11 GCSE Computer Science pupil James M who used the Python Code for his challenge.

...continued overleaf

Key Dates

Diary Dates

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

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

W/c 24 January

Year 9 Options meetings with all pupils

Tues, 25 January

Theatre performance of A Christmas Carol (Year 10 / in school) - **POSTPONED**

Year 11 Runshaw College interviews (in school)

Fri, 28 January

STEAM Careers Fair

Mon, 31 January

Year 11 Preston College interviews (in school)

Weds, 2 February

Year 9 DTP & Meningitis ACWY Vaccinations

Year 9 Options & Parents Evening 4pm-8pm

Mon, 7 & Tues, 8 Feb

Year 11 National Citizenship Service presentations (in school)

14-18 February

Half term closure

Continued from front page...

"I made a script using Python programming language. I enjoyed doing it and I would like to take my Computer Science further, at least to A-Level. I enjoy learning how things work and having the ultimate control."

Year 11 Jack K came second and he built his own website: jackisamazing.uk/cipher.

"You type in the text you want to encrypt and it applies it with a series of functions and then outputs the encrypted text. To decrypt it you do the same functions in the opposite order."

"I have been working on the website for over a year and it was amazing when it worked."

"I want to go on and do Computer Science at A-Level and maybe at university. I want to be a web designer."



Year 8 Abbie was third after making her own code using all things festive.

"I came up with my own idea for a Christmas code breaker using Christmas symbols. A few of my friends cracked it but I didn't make it too easy."

Year 7 Alan K was joint third: "I broke the code Mrs Qadri set, which was based on school, and that inspired me to do one of my own, which was also about school. I used Morse Code and symbols. I was happy to come third."

Other pupils who took part in the competition said they enjoyed the challenges and love Computing.

Year 10 Megan takes GCSE Computer Science and said: "It's something I enjoy, it's fun. I enjoy coding and the hexadecimal and binary systems. I would like to go to university and study it."

Hannah has been learning about eSafety in Year 7 and said: "It's really important to stay safe on-line so it's been useful."

Year 7 Harriet said: "I want to take Computer Science further as it will help me in the future, as I want to be an engineer."

Year 8 Emily added: "In Year 8 we are learning about programming so I am always learning new things in every lesson. I want to be an Astronaut so it will hopefully come in useful!"

We'll be including some of the pupils' codebreakers in the newsletter over the coming weeks so you can have a go yourself - see back page for Callum's (Year 7)

Learn to succeed

This week we met up with five of our sporting stars - Oliver, Umar, Phoebe, Martha & Jack - whose dedication and hard slog is getting the results they deserve. Here's Umar's story...

Cricketer, Umar, hits the BBC with Flintoff

Year 11 pupil, Umar, will be featured on your television screens as he shows off his cricketing prowess.

Umar is taking part in a TV programme where he is being coached by former England and Lancashire all-rounder Andrew Flintoff, now a presenter.

The programme is a BBC Three series where 'Freddie' Flintoff will put together his own side in a bid to change people's perspective of the sport.

From Preston, the former England international visited under privileged parts of Lancashire to find 11 teenagers for his side who will be called 'Freddie's First Eleven.'

It was for teenagers who had not considered the sport before and challenging the idea that cricket is a game for the posh and privileged.

"I liked watching and playing cricket and I was involved with the BYDS Youth Club in Broadgate and got selected from there," said Umar.

"They said they wanted to do a documentary about cricket and give people like me an opportunity which I might not otherwise have. It was filmed every Tuesday at Preston College.

"We were trained by Andrew Flintoff, who is really down-to-earth, and Kyle Hogg as well.

"They taught us different types of cricketing skills and it has been really good. I would say now I am a bit of an all-rounder.

"We played a game in the Lake District recently, that was against adults, but the idea is for our team of teenagers to play against league teams made up of people around our own age.

"I have been interviewed a lot for the programme and they have been to my house and interviewed my family as well. I am not sure when it is being released but I am excited."

If Umar doesn't make it in cricket or in the TV world, he has his sights set on helping to change the landscape of places.

"I love Geography and I want to be a Geography teacher and take a PHD and become a professor in Geography. I just enjoy the business side of urbanisation and development."



SPORTS REPORT

FIXTURE CALENDAR

Netball fixtures for this half term are no longer going ahead.

February 2022

Friday, 4 February

Girls Indoor Cricket U13s
@ South Ribble Tennis Centre

Monday, 21 February

Girls Indoor Cricket U15s
@ South Ribble Tennis Centre

Please note, dates are subject to change.



LANCON JUNIOR F.C. GIRLS

NOW RECRUITING

u12s girls (year 7),
**wanted:
Goal keeper
& Defender**

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE
CONTACT:
IAN - 07709931777
BEV - 07505302789

LANCON JFC - Girls
lanconjfc_girls
@lancon_girls

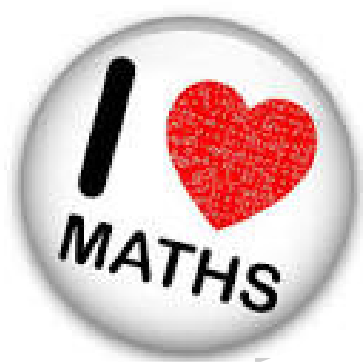
PIC•COLLAGE

Physical Education Department Extra-Curricular Timetable (Spring Term 1)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch - Sports Hall 13.15 - 13.45	Badminton	Basketball	Table tennis	Badminton	Basketball
After-School 15.10 - 16.10	Year 7/8/9 Netball Practice (Sports Hall) Year 7 and 8 Football Practice	Badminton Club Table Tennis Club Yoga	Girls Cricket	Trampolining Club (Gym) Cricket Club (Sports Hall)	

NB In addition, school teams will have fixtures through the half-term. These may result in some clubs being moved locations.

Learn to succeed



Assistant Head of Maths Mr Henshaw, along with the Maths Department, ran a competition asking Year 7 pupils to say what they particularly enjoy about the subject. **Pupils were tasked with completing the following sentence, "I love Maths because..."**

Here's why Keira and Daisy love Maths:

Keira...

I love maths because at Priory I like the structure of the booklets and books and, my teacher, Mr Henshaw, has made it so it's enjoyable.

Daisy...

I love maths at Priory because of the teachers - I enjoy it more at Priory!



GCSE Science Revision Guides (Year 10 & 11)

We have opened up the order book again for Science revision guides due to parent/pupil request. The guides are available for Key Stage 4 parents to purchase and letters have been given out by Science teachers. Having a revision guide as a regularly used point of reference and review is a step towards success.



Unlike previous years, we are this year offering the Oxford Revise guide. This is a new publication which includes far more embedded opportunities for practice - from quizzing to exam style questions - as well as a more structured presentation of content. This is not the cheapest available science revision guide, but in the department's opinion, it is the best currently available. Options are:

Combined Science Higher Tier | Combined Science Foundation Tier | Separate Science

If you would like to purchase any of these revision guides, please make your payment via your SCOPay account, the school's online payment facility, by **Friday, 28 January**. If your child is not sure which guide they need, please direct them to ask their teacher before purchase.

A copy of the letter can also be downloaded from the school website at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters

Learn to succeed

Sonia Taylor: Class of 1955

We're really excited to be in touch with the daughter of one of our very first Head Girls.



Sonia Taylor
(now

Ward) was in the first group of pupils to attend Priory when it opened in 1953. She's recently enjoyed reminiscing about her school days and has kindly shared these photos with us.

We hope to invite Sonia into school at some point during the Spring term and look forward to sharing photos from her visit with you.

On the top photo, Sonia is on the bottom row at the far right. She's also on the bottom photo, just beneath the teacher on the left - looking rather serious as apparently pupils weren't allowed to talk at lunch!



At Penwortham Priory Academy the Learning for Life curriculum is designed to support the promotion of excellence for pupils and do all it can to improve their life chances.

Pupils have two 15 minute Learning for Life lessons each week where they will participate in the curriculum shown opposite.

Where you will learn things you will need and will use, now and in the future

On the curriculum w/c 24 January

Year 7	Spring Term - Theme: 'Expressing Myself Effectively' When am I resilient?
Year 8	Spring Term - Theme: 'Thinking With a Clear Head' Approaching problems with a clear head.
Year 9	Spring Term - Theme: 'Adapting my voice' Online behaviour
Year 10	Spring Term - Theme: 'Owning my actions' Harm online
Year 11	Spring Term - Theme: 'Charting the course' Positive thinking

Learn to succeed



Bringing music to your ears at break and lunch

MABAL is music 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 the curriculum in different ways, and support pupils' appreciation of music.

The focus is 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, such as last month's production, Matilda.

Next week it's all about: *Film Music*

The composers John Williams and John Barry, and James Bond themes dominate proceedings here. Coverage ranges from 1939 *Gone with the Wind*, through to films from the present day.

A film score is original music written specifically to accompany a film. The music is usually performed by an ensemble of musicians - an orchestra or band, instrumental soloists, and choir or vocalists. Film scores encompass a wide variety of styles of music, depending on the nature of the films they accompany. The majority of scores are orchestral works and based upon Western classical music, but many scores are also influenced by jazz, rock, pop, blues, new-age and ambient music, and a wide range of world music styles.

More recent films, since the invention of digital technology and audio sampling, have their music created and performed wholly by the composers themselves, by using music composition software, synthesisers, samplers, and MIDI controllers.

Future weeks' theme suggestions are welcomed - pupils/staff should see Mr Taylor, email a.taylor@priory.lancs.sch.uk or contact via Teams.



Mr Taylor
Lead Teacher of Music

Do you love cooking and being creative in the kitchen? **Year 7: 12 Places Only**

Come to our Creative Cookery workshop **for Year 7 on Thursday, 27 January from 3.05pm to 4.30pm** where we'll be making two traditionally Scottish items - Potato Cakes and Cranachan (without the whiskey!). Why Scottish? Well, it's Burns Night on the 25th that week.

It's free and if you want to take part, there are places for the **first 12 pupils** who contact Mrs Cowell, Food Technology Teacher. If you took part last time and would like to take part again, you'll be put on a reserve list to give others a chance to apply first.



Learn to succeed

Year 7 Trip to see Billionaire Boy

Thursday, 10 March

As an acknowledgment of the amazing start our Year 7 have made this year, and in honour of their engagement with reading, we felt this English Department trip to see a performance of David Walliams' Billionaire Boy would be a fitting treat.

Letters have been issued this week and a copy can be downloaded from the school website at >>

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



If you would like your child to attend the trip, please return the reply slip and make payment through your online SCOPay account as soon as possible. Places are limited, so the trip is offered on a first come, first served basis.

Mrs Elliott
English Teacher



Bedrock Parent Portal

At the start of the academic year, we told you that the English Department will be receiving training on how parents can help support the use of Bedrock with its new parent portal. Well, from next week, we'll be in a position to issue every

Year 8 & 9 parent with their unique access code and password.

Bedrock is an interactive online vocabulary curriculum which was first introduced in March 2020 to our Year 9 pupils. It was so successful in building students' vocabulary that Priory chose to introduce it this academic year to Year 8 pupils too.

Dropping newly-learned words into everyday family conversations can make a huge difference. That's why we encourage parents to set up a free account so they can see their Bedrock usage, as well as the words they are learning (and have already learned) – just like their teacher can see. You will also have access to your own dashboard which you can log into at any time to view your child's progress in more detail.



Mrs Gidden
Head of English

Mrs Gidden's Cool Readers Club

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

They stopped when Covid first hit but now they're back. 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, Thomas...

Thomas is a multi-talented Year 8 who loves reading, sport and wants to work at NASA!

"I am reading The Crooked Kingdom by Leigh Bardugo," said Thomas. "I would describe it as Lord of the Rings with the mafia. It's not always a nice book but it's a good read."



"It's intense but it's also funny and has romantic bits – a bit of everything really!"

"I like fantasy books – they are my favourite."

Thomas' favourite subjects at school are Science and Technology.

"I want to be an engineer, I want to work in space or NASA. I would love to work in America and build robots. I am ambitious!"

Alongside reading, Thomas is busy with sports.

"I like biking, I am a member of Preston Hockey Club and I go to Preston City Gymnastics Club. I am best on the vault but I want to get better on rings and bars. I like learning new skills and I also do some coaching there."

Mrs Gidden
Head of English

WE'RE HIRING!

School Lettings Manager

We are looking to recruit a knowledgeable, hardworking, and enthusiastic School Lettings Manager to oversee the running of our facilities hire outside of school hours

The successful candidate will have key duties to include: Managing the day to day operation of the school lettings, arranging staff rotas, carrying out opening and closing routines for school buildings, and managing the lettings' email account.

Full details at>> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/vacancies




Schools Lettings Manager (Part-Time)

We are seeking an Schools Lettings Manager to oversee the running of our facilities hire outside of school hours in the evenings, at weekends and during school holidays.

The successful candidate should have experience and knowledge of customer service delivery with the ability to successfully promote the school facilities and manage a small team. The role may suit an individual with general customer service skills, caretaking, DIY or security experience, with an interest in community sports and leisure activities.

Days Evenings and weekend

Hours 25 hours per week on a shift pattern between the hours of Monday to Friday 4.30pm – 10.30pm and weekends 8.00am – 4.30pm.

Pay Grade 5 – £10.21 – £11.27 per hour
£13,309 – £14,694 (actual pro rata salary)



For further details and an application pack please visit our website at >> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/vacancies

Closing date : 9am on Monday, 7 February 2022.

Interviews: Thursday, 10 February 2022.

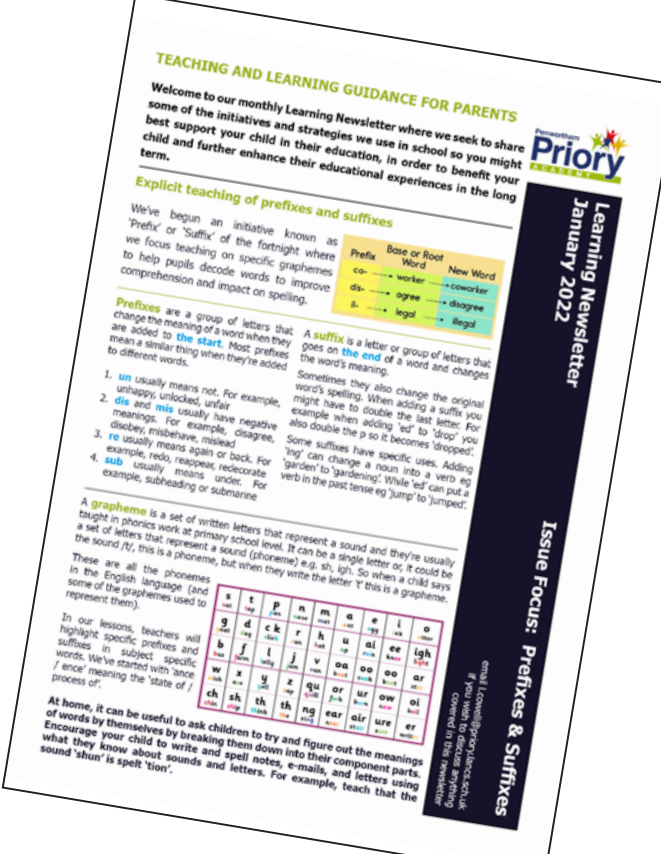
Learning Newsletters

Every month we put together a newsletter for parents where we seek to share some of the initiatives and strategies we use in school so you might best support your child at home, in order to benefit them and further enhance their educational experiences in the long term.

This next issue looks at 'Prefixes and Suffixes' and our focus on teaching specific graphemes to help pupils decode words to improve comprehension and impact on spelling.

January's issue has been emailed to parents this week however all past issues can be downloaded from the school website at>> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/newsletters (below our weekly newsletters - please scroll down)

Mrs Cowell
Deputy Headteacher



TEACHING AND LEARNING GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Welcome to our monthly Learning Newsletter where we seek to share some of the initiatives and strategies we use in school so you might best support your child in their education, in order to benefit your child and further enhance their educational experiences in the long term.

Explicit teaching of prefixes and suffixes

We've begun an initiative known as 'Prefix' or 'Suffix' of the fortnight where we focus teaching on specific graphemes to help pupils decode words to improve comprehension and impact on spelling.

Prefixes are a group of letters that change the meaning of a word when they are added to the **start**. Most prefixes mean a similar thing when they're added to different words.

Suffixes are a letter or group of letters that go on the **end** of a word and changes the word's meaning.

Sometimes they also change the original word's spelling. When adding a suffix you might have to double the last letter. For example when adding 'ed' to 'droop' you also double the p so it becomes 'drooped'.

Some suffixes have specific uses. Adding 'ing' can change a noun into a verb eg 'garden' to 'gardening'. While 'ed' can put a verb in the past tense eg 'jump' to 'jumped'.

A **grapheme** is a set of written letters that represent a sound and they're usually taught in phonics work at primary school level. It can be a single letter or a set of letters that represent a sound (phoneme) e.g. sh, igh. So when a child says the sound /t/, this is a phoneme, but when they write the letter 't' this is a grapheme.

These are all the phonemes in the English language (and some of the graphemes used to represent them).

In our lessons, teachers will highlight specific prefixes and suffixes in subject words. We've started with 'ance' / 'ence' meaning the 'state of / process of'.

At home, it can be useful to ask children to try and figure out the meanings of words by themselves by breaking them down into their component parts. Encourage your child to write and spell notes, e-mails, and letters using what they know about sounds and letters. For example, teach that the sound 'shun' is spelt 'tion'.

Issue Focus: Prefixes & Suffixes

January 2022

Penwortham Priory Academy

email: learning@priory.lancs.sch.uk
if you wish to discuss or request a copy of the newsletter

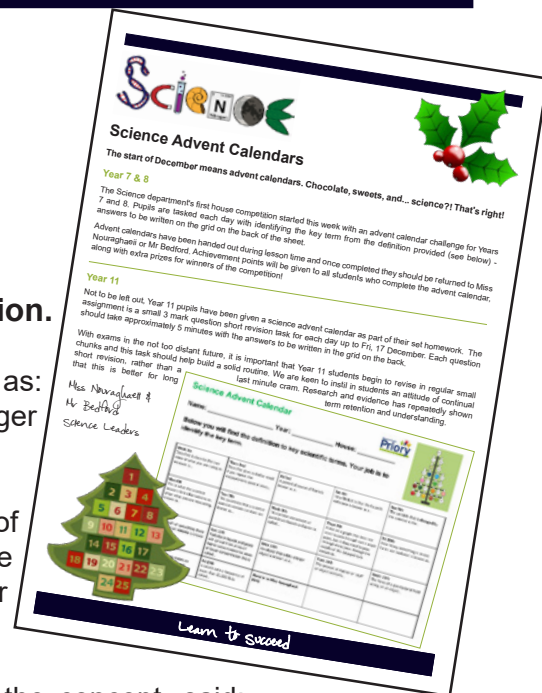
Learn to succeed

Priory's prize winners from our Science Advent Calendar competition!

Each school day in December, pupils had to answer a tricky question.

For Year 7s, 8s and 9s it included providing a key term to questions such as: "A potential source of harm is known as a" "An object that orbits a larger object is known as a..."

Year 11s also took part and had different questions which were set as part of their homework to help with their revision. These encouraged pupils to revise in regular small chunks, rather than last minute cramming, in preparation for their GCSE examinations.



Head of Science Mr Bedford, who had the idea for the concept, said:

"The idea behind the advent calendar is to get Year 11 students into the habit of regular small chunks of revision. Evidence suggests this is far better for long term retention and understanding than a last minute cram over the few days before the exam. It's great to see so many of our Year 11s buying into that, the calibre of entries this year was better than ever before which made it really difficult to pick a winner. Ultimately, I had to short list the best entries in terms of effort and correct answers, then asked our science technician Mr Evans to select four winners at random. Congratulations to the winners, but well done to all of those who submitted their work. Continuing with the approach of a little often will lead to good results in the summer."

Every pupil who completed the calendar received coveted achievement points while there were also extra prizes for the winners.

The Key Stage 3 winners were: Oliver E, Hannah N, Emily J and Charlie M.

They admitted it was a tricky science quiz but they learnt a lot from it.

Oliver said: "Some were quite hard but I got the majority of the answers."

Emily said: "I learnt a number of definitions from it."

Charlie added: "I enjoyed the quiz as I did it as part of my homework. I knew a lot of them but did need a bit of help on some."



They received a £10 Amazon voucher as well.

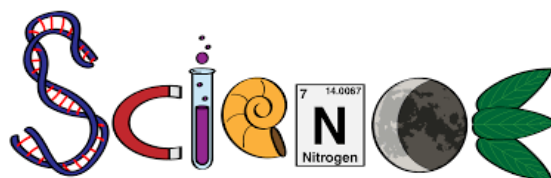
...continued overleaf.

Learn to succeed

Inter-House Competition | Calder | Douglas | Hodder | Ribble

Continued from overleaf.

Priory's prize winners from our Science Advent Calendar competition...



Assistant Head of Science, Miss Nouraghaei

said: *The Key Stage 3 advent calendar was used to recap and reintroduce key scientific terms that the students will use throughout many of their science lessons. Lots of these terms were introduced to the students in the first term of Year 7 so it's great to see so many were able to understand the definitions and recall these important terms. With so many great entries it was difficult to select just four winners! Well done to all of the students who entered the competition!*

The Key Stage 4 victors were: Ethan S, Leah T, Emily B and Reuben W.

This was also an interhouse competition with Calder coming first, Ribble and Hodder joint second and fourth was Douglas.

Independent Careers Adviser
Mrs Khan

Available for 1:1 Careers Appointments & Drop-In sessions in The Careers Room (Pastoral Corridor)

Drop In sessions Times:
Morning : 8.15am to 8.50am
Lunchtime : 1.15pm to 1.50pm

Careers Adviser Dates:

January 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 11th January 2022 Tuesday 18th January 2022 Tuesday 25th January 2022
February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 1st February 2022 Tuesday 8th February 2022 Tuesday 22nd February 2022
March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday 1st March 2022 Tuesday 8th March 2022 Tuesday 15th March 2022 Tuesday 22nd March 2022 Tuesday 29th March 2022

If you would like a 1:1 appointment, please email
s.khan@priory.lancs.sch.uk
Registered Professional Careers Practitioner/Member



Priory's Career Adviser, Mrs Khan, offers impartial careers, education, information and advice and guidance (CEIAG) on careers that suit your likes and abilities. She can advise you on your options and routes to take.

Pupils may wish to meet with Mrs Khan 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.

Mrs Khan can be found in the Careers Office on the pastoral corridor and will hold meetings with pupils in the pastoral meeting room next door.

See your Head of Year for an appointment or parents and pupils can email Mrs Khan at :

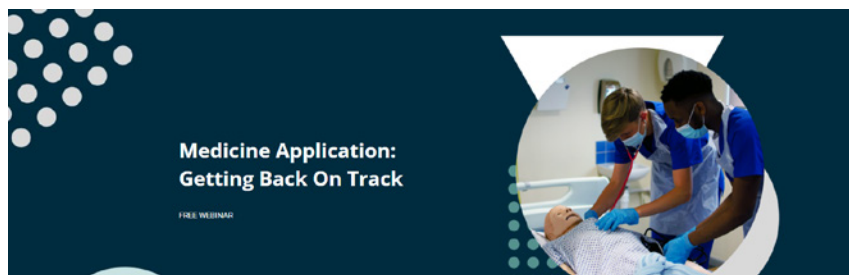
s.khan@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Learn to succeed

Careers In Medicine

To help any aspiring medics get back on track with their medicine applications, Medical Projects will be running a free online webinar where they will be covering the following:

- Medicine Application Timeline
- Medical Work Experience
- How to Get Work Experience
- Reflection
- Key Deadlines/Dates to note down
- Choosing a Medical School - Making Choices



Every attendant will also receive multiple frameworks, templates and other materials they can use on their journey to Medical school.

Webinar Name: Medicine Application: Getting Back On Track
Date: Wednesday, 26 January
Time: 07:00 PM (London time)
Location: Online - Zoom
Admission: Free
Suitable for: Students in Year 10,11 and 12

Students can book your free place here: educationprojects.co.uk/project/medicine-application-getting-back-on-track

The places are limited so book as soon as possible.

**PRESTON
COLLEGE**

**YEAR 10 & 11
OPEN EVENT**

**VISIT OUR CAMPUS.
SPEAK TO TUTORS.
SEE THE FACILITIES.**

**WEDNESDAY 9TH
MARCH, 4-7PM**

A collage of four images showing different parts of Preston College: a large industrial workshop with a truck, a gym with various exercise equipment, a stage with students performing, and three female students in athletic wear standing outdoors on a grassy field.

**VISIT
www.preston.ac.uk**

- > Register for events
- > Apply online
- > Get college updates

Learn to succeed

Caesar Cipher



U pupz'f pa hqdk iqxx uz yk
raafnmxx fqmyiadw qjmy?
Nqomgeq U pupz'f bmee.

(Shift 12)

Cngz joj znk sgtgmxx ju cnkt
znk vozin cgy lruujkj? Nk yktz
uaz yahy.

(Shift 6)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Morse Code

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