Penwortham Priory Post



Behind The Scenes: PPA Facilities & Lettings Team

In the bustling corridors and behind the scenes, there are dedicated teams who ensure that our school functions smoothly. From managing administrative tasks and keeping our buildings safe and secure, to providing essential classroom support, these unsung heroes play a vital role in creating a positive learning environment at Priory.

In the sixth part of this series, we're shining a spotlight on the PPA Facilities and Lettings Team as we explore their contributions and learn more about the people who ensure we achieve the utmost from our facilities for the benefit of our school and the community.

You may think Priory opens and closes when the school bell goes but it's ready for business seven days a week.

We have a superb team at Priory that manages the hiring of the schools' facilities outside of school hours, which ensures the school is used not only for educating pupils but by the Penwortham and wider communities.

The Lettings Team is led by the Strategic Estates Development Manager, Mr Bolton, while Mr Wynter and Mr Kolacz run the day-to-day operations for enabling the hirers of our facilities have a great experience. The directors for PPA Facilities are Mr Eastham, Mr Gee, Mrs Barker and Mr Bolton.

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Key Dates

Diary Dates

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

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

Thurs, 20 March

Year 9 Tetanus, Diphtheria & Polio (Td/IPV) & Meningitis ACWY Immunisations.

Fri, 21 March

Preston College Science Competition (Year 10 invited team only)

Weds, 26 March

Year 7 & 8 non-uniform day

Fri. 28 March

Year 9 Passenger Safety Performance Assembly

Mon, 31 March

Year 11 Parents Evening (online)

31 March & 1 April

Year 11 GCSE Geography urban study field Trip

Weds, 2 April

Year 10 Runshaw College A Level Masterclass Day (invited pupils only)

Year 7 & 8 Easter Bingo 6pm

1-3 April

London Theatre Trip

Thurs, 3 April

Bake Sale (Year 11 fundraising for Prom)

Fri, 4 April

Early lunch followed by school closure at 1.10pm End of Spring Term

Continued from previous page...

Out-of-school hours, Priory is used for a variety of community activities such as The Pauline Quirk Academy, a Bulgarian language and dance club, EDSC Dance Group, One Voice Choir, Diddy Kicks, Rugby Tots, Scouts, volleyball, netball, football and cricket leagues, plus a church – to name but a few.

Available for hire are the school's two Conference Suites, the 3G pitch, the sports hall, floodlit netball courts, gym, drama and dance studio, grass pitches, assembly hall and classrooms – basically all our school can be utilised out-of-school hours.

Mr Wynter said: "My role is to prepare for all the lettings; I set up all the equipment that's needed for the clubs or groups, so they are ready to go, and speak to the customers, managing all their requirements. I deal with a lot of sports.

"The site is open seven days a week, in the evenings, and also from 8am-6pm at weekends,"

Mr Kolacz said: "As well as covering lettings shifts, I look after the site's maintenance so can be called upon at any time."

Mr Bolton said: "I manage the initial contacts with the hirers along with making bookings on the online system that we use to make booking our facilities easier for our users."



We want to do our bit to make sure that Priory is part of the larger community and open our site for a whole variety of groups and clubs to use our state of the art facilities."

You can view galleries of our facilities before making any enquiries by visiting our website. We welcome casual or regular bookings.

You can also check availability and make online instant bookings for our 3G pitch, floodlit netball court and sports hall as well as book a badminton court or table tennis.

Enquiries lettings@priory.lancs.sch.uk

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/facility-hire-at-priory





Year 11 Geography Urban Study Preston City Centre

Monday, 31 March and Tuesday, 1 April

The Geography Urban Study that was scheduled for November will now take place in Preston on Monday, 31 March and Tuesday, 1 April. Student groups will be finalised and class teachers will let students know which day they will attend.

The study is an integral and compulsory part of the GCSE and concludes the course as we prepare for the summer exams.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the visit to Liverpool has had to be relocated and therefore, any monies paid for the trip will be automatically refunded in the coming days. As a Geography department, although we are disappointed that the Liverpool visit could not be achieved this year, we do feel that the local study to Preston will potentially be more beneficial for our students, as a core knowledge of the area is required to be written about in the exam and so this familiarity may prove to boost final GCSE grades.

The field study will aim to collect environmental data along an urban transect into Preston and students will make hypotheses about building function as they move into the city centre. Students will be out of school for the morning, from Period 1 to lunch and will return to school for their Period 5 & Period 6 lessons. This means they can purchase some lunch in Preston should they wish or bring a packed lunch. Students are not required to wear uniform but must look presentable and avoid any hooded garments.

We thank you for your continued support and wish all our students the very best in all their subjects as exam season approaches.





Parent Meeting London Drama Trip

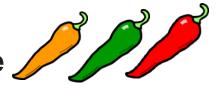
Parents whose children going on the Drama trip to London next month have been invited to a meeting on Thursday, 20 March at 4.30pm.

The short meeting will take place in the Assembly Hall and will be an opportunity to inform parents and pupils of the trip itinerary and answer any questions they may have.

Parents who won't be able to attend should email Drama teacher, Miss Howell, so that information can be forwarded to them via email.

f.howell@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Chilli Challenge Winners



Here are this week's winners who each receive a chilli token to claim their free breaktime snack from the dining rooms.

Year 7 Keelan S (Mrs Lockwood) - Calder

Year 8 Alice E (Miss Gregson) - Douglas

Year 9 No entries Year 10 No entries

Year 11 Rhea B (Mrs Shaw) - Ribble

The House leader board remains as follows - Douglas continues to be hard to beat!

1st **DOUGLAS** 2nd **RIBBLE** 3rd **CALDER** 4th **HODDER**

Priory Bosses Talk Business With Year 10 Enterprise Pupils



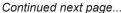
This week, Mr Eastham, Mrs Barker, Mr Gee and Mr Bolton delivered a presentation to Year 10 Business students.

The Priory leaders' focus was to provide an insight to students on the operations of their Community Interest Company, PPA Facilities. Set up as a Private Limited Company by guarantee, the not-for-profit entity has been created to benefit the school and the wider community by providing an exceptional range of sports, leisure and business-use facilities at an affordable price. They detailed how the addition of a new online booking system has allowed a smooth transition from the previous operators. The company now benefits from a fully booked schedule each week with profits being reinvested into the needs of our school.

ICT and Business & Enterprise teacher, Miss Gregson, said, "Students actively listened and completed their knowledge organisers whilst learning about the roles which Mr Eastham, Mrs Barker, Mr Gee and Mr Bolton have undertaken, how these have developed over time and the wealth of skills they bring to their extremely successful company.

"Students also learnt about how the company measures customer satisfaction and what happens if anything goes wrong. Problem solving looked to be a common skill shared amongst the team to move forward with any issues positively. It was also clear that Mrs Barker, who oversees the company's finances, also works very hard to curb the enthusiasm and the eagerness of Mr Eastham and Mr Gee by keeping them in check with new opportunities they come across!"

Finally, students were informed about the external factors that challenge the company such as rising staffing and energy costs, changes in legislation, creating new opportunities for the community (such as the recent addition of the Priory Pod providing families with food and hot drinks during their time onsite at football





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matches, cricket and volleyball facilities) whilst keeping everything affordable in an uncertain economic climate.



The success of the company certainly has a wonderful impact within school and the wider community with the additional investment it provides.

We really appreciated the time given by Mr Eastham, Mrs Barker, Mr Gee and Mr Bolton. We know how busy they are in school, however their commitment in providing this insight has been very much appreciated.



Facility Hive



Did you know our rooms and sports facilities are available to hire?





One off events

Meetings, training courses, birthday parties, community



Regular bookings

Fitness classes, sports clubs, organised/uniformed groups.



Slots available for just one or two hours to half or full days.

We're open 7 days a week, including evenings, weekends school holidays*.



Get in touch to discuss what we have to offer and how we can meet

your requirements.

Contact: Keith Bolton, Strategic



Estates Development Manager at lettings@priory.lancs.sch.uk











To find out more and to view galleries, scan the QR code or visit >> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/facility-hire-at-priory *Except Christmas

National Youth Parliament Elections - Our Results

LEARNING

You may recall our article last week where pupils participated in the largest ballot for young people - the Lancashire Youth Council Ballot.

Make outh Parliament Your Mark

Parliament Elections

Pupils were given the opportunity to vote, to select the topic they are most passionate about and want more national action on. As in adult elections, they had to put a large X in one box only.

Here are the results from Penwortham Priory Academy >>

149

249

Mental Health	149
Citizenship	12
Discrimination	43
Food poverty	18
Education	28
Safety in	
public places	87
Transport	59
Opportunities	
for communities	8
Environment	20

Cost of living

Mental Health

The Lancashire Youth Council provides opportunities for 11-18 year olds to have their say and begin their democratic journey by voting on the issues they want to change. The results will influence hundreds of projects and campaigns, led by young people, for young people. Members of Youth Parliament and other young people in the community will campaign and research the winning topics, to influence UK

Parliament and their local representatives, ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers.

Lead Practitioner for Personal Development, Ms Smith, who organised the ballot at Priory, concluded, "The votes from our school will contribute to those cast by other participants. It's a very interesting result and it would seem 'cost of living' is something our young people are acutely aware of."

March Bake Sale! 17th March - Lunch - Nucleus Please bring all cake donations to the Nucleus, Before School

All cake donations will be rewarded with achievement points!









Organised by the Priory Ornithologists Society & Eco Committee - All funds will be put towards a new vegetable patch!

Easter Bingo at Priory

On the evening of Wednesday, 2 April we are holding an Easter Bingo fundraiser and invite our Year 7 & 8 pupils and their families for a cracking evening of entertainment.

The event promises to be lots of fun with prizes to be won, a raffle, refreshments and a tuck shop. Bingo cards, bought on the night, will be £1 for a book of 5 games or £5 for 6 books - please bring cash!

We'd very much like our Year 7 & 8 pupils and their families to join us so if you'd like to come along, please simply head over to SCOPay to get your tickets - Adults £1, Children 50p (under 5s free).

Please see poster in this newsletter or visit our website for further details>> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/events/2025-04-02-easter-bingo

In conjunction with the event, we are also holding a non-uniform day exclusively for these two year groups on Wednesday, 26 March - details below.

Thank you for your support!



Year 7 4 8 Non-Uniform Day

Wednesday, 26th March

In return for wearing your own clothes*, please bring an Easter egg or donate £2 and pass it to your form tutor on the morning.

All donations will be used for our Easter Bingo night on Wednesday, 2nd April at 6pm-7.30pm.

Book your place via SCOPay | Tickets Adults £1 Children 50p (under 5s free)

Bingo cards purchased at the event | £1 a book of 5 games | £5 for 6 books | Raffle | Tuck Shop

*Own clothes must include an item in a house colour



Easter Bingo

at Penwortham Priory Academy

Wednesday, 2nd April

Doors open at 6pm ~ Eyes down at 6.15pm

Evening closes at 7.30pm approx.

We invite Year 7 & 8 pupils and their families to join us for a cracking evening of bingo fun.

Egg-cellent prizes to be won!

Book your place via SCOPay Tickets | Adults £1 | Children 50p*

Bingo cards purchased at the event (cash only, please)
£1 a book of 5 games | £5 for 6 books

Refreshments | Tuck Shop | Raffle



Priory Girls Keep the Ball Rolling in #LetGirlsPlay Nationwide Football Event



Friday, 7 March saw Priory take part in the Barclays Biggest Ever Girls Football Match.

Coming the day before International Women's Day, this annual nationwide initiative aims to encourage as many female participants from around the country to play football on the same day. With the rise in the success of England's Lionesses, the goal is to 'keep the ball rolling' in terms of not only women playing football and getting the well deserved recognition for their dedication to the sport, but to continue to shine the light on females in sport.





PE teacher, Miss Beesley, who co-ordinated Priory's participation, said, "Over 70 girls ranging from Year 7-10 took part in the event which was a fantastic turn out! The matches consisted of friendly games for those who were new to the sport and more competitive matches for those who play for local teams. The girls were also kitted out wearing shirts from their favourite football teams or local clubs."



She went on to say, "We have seen the numbers rise in girls football over the last few years at Priory alone, and initiatives



like this are really benefiting the sport in a positive way."



Tom Young Inspires Priory Pupils on World Book Day

On Thursday, 6th March, Priory pupils had the privilege of welcoming Tom Young, a renowned performance psychologist and author of 'The Making of a Leader'.



The event, held in celebration of World Book Day, provided Year 10 & 11 GCSE PE pupils with a unique opportunity to gain insights from a professional who has worked with some of the top sports teams and athletes in the world.

Tom's impressive career includes collaborations with the Wigan Warriors Rugby League team, the Ryder Cup golf team, and Keely Hodgkinson, the 800m Olympic Gold medallist. During his visit, he shared his journey from his school days through to university, highlighting the educational choices and experiences that led him to his current role.

In his engaging presentation, Tom discussed the importance of profiling for managers and coaches, explaining how understanding individual team members can enhance productivity and teamwork. His insights offered students a deeper understanding of the various career paths available in the sports industry, particularly in the field of performance psychology.

The pupils were captivated by Tom's stories and advice, and Priory was honoured to host such an inspiring figure. The event not only broadened the students' knowledge of potential careers in sport but also provided a valuable glimpse into the world of performance psychology.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Tom Young for his time and expertise, and we hope that his visit will inspire our pupils to explore the diverse opportunities within the sports sector.



Learn to succeed

PROM DRESS SALE



The Mill Shop

Monday 10th March to Thursday 20th March

Monday to Saturday 9.30am-4.30pm Sunday 10am-4pm

Changing rooms available

Kingsfold Library

Hawksbury Dr, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9EJ



A great place to do your homework and school projects

- Friendly staff
- Pleasant surroundings and safe environment
- Easy access to information

Opening Hours

Monday 9.00-5.00

Tuesday 9.00 - 7.00

Wednesday 9.00 - 1.00

Thursday 9.00 - 5.00

Friday 9.00 - 5.00

Saturday 9.00 - 1.00

Sunday Closed

You are invited to our...

RUNSHAW COLLEGE

STEM & T Level Showcase!

Wednesday 26th March

6.00pm - 7.30pm

K



Be inspired in your career by our STEM leaders





Regin your own STEM story with us!

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Register today! runshaw.ac.uk/stem-showcase

English Department



World Book Day: A Novel Celebration at Priory

World Book Day, celebrated on 6th March, was a page-turning success at our school this year!

Staff and pupils alike threw themselves into the spirit of the day, with a creative challenge for forms and staff to decorate their classroom doors with a literary theme.

From the Yellow Brick Road to Dobby's Sock Shop, the halls were transformed into a book-lover's dream. Notable efforts included the office's enchanting Wizard of Oz/Wicked-inspired door and Mr Oakes' magical

Harry Potter creation, which left pupils spellbound. And not forgetting the Technology department's creative co-ordination that also took on the Harry Potter theme.

The competition was fierce, but the judges couldn't resist the charm of Miss Beesley's Year 10 form, whose vibrant Cat in the Hat door took home first place. Close behind

were Mrs Elliott's Year 7s, whose creative Wonka Bar design was truly golden.

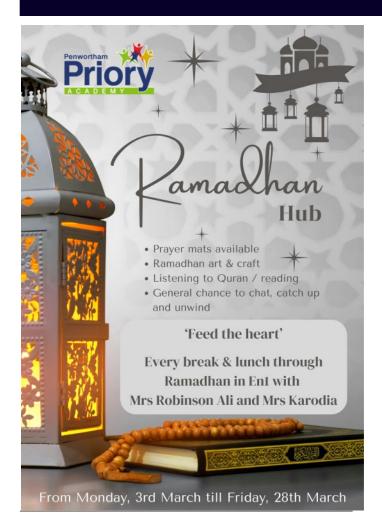
English teacher and competition judge, Mrs Robinson-Ali, added, "A huge thank you to everyone who took part, your efforts really turned a new chapter in celebrating books and brought stories to life across the school! We can't wait to see what next year's competition has in store – or should we say, what's next on the bookshelf!"











Henna Hand Art

As part of our Ramadan Hub activities running throughout the month, students have the opportunity to use henna to draw mehndi patterns on their hands.

Henna is a natural dye made from a plant and applied to the skin. It will remain on the skin for a few days, but it is not permanent. It will however, permanently stain clothing if it comes into contact with it before drying. Black henna will not be used. Please note that an allergic reaction is possible, but uncommon.

The activity will take place at break and lunchtime in

EN1 (Mrs Robinson-Ali's room) from Monday, 10 March to Friday, 28 March. To cover resources, this will cost £2 per person which can be paid in cash on the day.

Pupils interested in this activity should collect a permission slip from Mrs Qadri and return to her prior to taking part.



Ramadan '*Experience Iftaar*' Evening Meal 25 March (open to all)

We are delighted offer an exciting opportunity for pupils to participate in a cultural experience as part of our ongoing efforts to promote understanding and inclusivity within our school community.

On Tuesday, 25 March we will be taking a maximum of 20 pupils to Jaan's Restaurant on New Hall Lane, to 'Experience Iftaar,' a special evening meal that Muslims enjoy to break their fast during Ramadan.



The cost for this trip is £14.99 per pupil, which includes a buffet-style meal and one soft drink.

The event will provide pupils with the opportunity to:

- Taste traditional foods often eaten to break the fast, such as dates and fruit.
- Hear the Adhan (call to prayer), which marks the time to break the fast.
- Observe and learn about the significance of prayer in Islam.

Staff will meet pupils at the restaurant between 6pm-6:15 pm to ensure everyone is settled in before it is time to break fast. Please note that pupils will need to arrange their own transportation to and from the venue. Pupils will need to be collected from the restaurant at 8:30pm.

This trip is open to all pupils, irrespective of faith, and promises to be an enriching experience, offering a chance to socialise, ask questions, and learn more about the Muslim faith and culture.

Spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to make payment via SCOPay as soon as possible to secure a place for your child. The closing date is 20 March however this will close earlier if places are filled.

We hope this will be a memorable and valuable experience for all involved.

Letters are available from Mrs Robinson-Ali or a copy can be downloaded from the school website at>>

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





RAF Virtual Careers Event

Free online Royal Air Force - RAF World virtual event on the evening of Wednesday, 19 March.

This virtual event will provide you with the opportunity to immerse yourselves into the RAF world. Speak to subject matter experts from across the 60 roles available within the RAF and to recruiting staff about the next step/s in your potential journeys.

Your first mission starts here... whether you're considering a career in the RAF or just fascinated by life on the frontlines, don't miss this exclusive opportunity.

Reserve your place at>>

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/raf-world-ready-for-take-off-tickets-1059583204889?aff=A5FlyerEng



Step into the high stakes world of the Royal Air Force and take your ambition to new heights! Inspired by Channel 4's Top Guns: Inside the RAF, this special edition RAF World: Top Guns virtual event gives you unparalleled access to the cutting edge of air and intelligence operations.

Whether you're drawn to the thrill of piloting fast jets, the precision of intelligence gathering, or the innovation behind next-gen aircraft, this is your chance to explore life on the frontlines of the RAF.

- Explore our enhanced interactive 360° global operations, delving into the world of RAF support worldwide through informative videos and insights to help you find your ideal RAF career.
- Enter virtual team rooms and chat with specialists in Aircrew, Air Operations, Engineering, Intelligence, and Security.
- Connect with a friendly RAF recruiter directly online. Our experts will answer all your enquiries about career paths, RAF lifestyle, sports opportunities, benefits, and how to embark on your RAF journey.

Tickets are FREE! Don't miss this exclusive chance to go behind the scenes and take your first step towards an extraordinary future.

CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR FREE TICKET NOW!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW





Let's Talk Ketamine

- Families & Carers (ONLINE)

With You welcomes families, carers and concerned others to an information session around Ketamine.

Grab a brew, and let's talk Ket.

Join WithYou for a 90 min session to understand what ketamine is, how it is being used and the current harm reduction for young people.

Date: 26/03/25 Time: 11-12:30pm

Please email to



spoc.yalancs@wearewithyou.org.uk Family Hub: 01282 470707

To book please register your interest with the Family Hub/email WithYou



In partnership with:

Lancashire
County
Council

wearewithyou.org.uk
We Are With You. A registered charity in England (VOI957) and Scotland (SC

withyou

Commissioned by Lancashire county council







The space is located on the sports corridor near the exit to the Hex.

To book a slot in this incredible space, simply use the booking sheet planed to the practice room door for more information, see Mr Taylor.

drums, high-quality amps and space for singers.

Everything you need to create music is right here!

Supporting Your Child



Parent & Carer e-Learning

No Charge & Access Any Time

Optional support pack and signposting are available.

Neuro-Inclusive Mental Wellbeing Training

For Parents & Carers:

Learn practical strategies and approaches to support your child.

Access a downloadable support pack full of approaches and activities.

Learn where to go for further support via the downloadable signposting guide.

Access the eLearning anytime and anywhere via PC, smartphone or tablet. Aimed at parents and carers of young people who struggle with their mental health and wellbeing.

Young people with specific challenges linked to mental health and neurodiversity / neurodivergence (autism, ADHD, dyslexia etc) are also included in the course. It is neuroaffirming, meaning it does not treat these kinds of differences as only negative.

Includes true lived experience stories from parents, people who struggled with their mental health as children & comments from young people themselves, as well as information from specialists.





Learn to succeed