

Penwortham Priory Post



Head Girls of the Past Return to Welcome Priory's New Head Prefects

1995 Head Girl Heather Taylor and 2005 Head Girl Hannah Humphris returned to Priory to welcome our current Head Prefects into their roles.

Kacper, Tarela, Yasmine and Hiylie are Priory's Head Prefects for the 2025/6 school year following hustings that were held at the end of the summer term. Candidates had to make a 3-5 minute speech on why they wanted to be a Head Prefect, what changes they would make in school and how they would implement them. It then went to a staff and Year 11 vote.

Heather, whose surname was Collins at school, said: "It's 30 year since I have been here properly although my mum, Margaret Collins, was the Head's PA so I did used to pop in every now and again.

"It's lovely to be back, it has changed such a lot. It's nice to have a look around "When I was Head Girl, you didn't put in for it, you just got voted in by pupils and teachers. There wasn't a speech as I wouldn't have done it!

"I enjoyed Art and Maths but mostly PE with Miss Slater. I remember a snowball fight as well!

"I work in the NHS now."

continued next page...

Diary Dates

Key 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

Monday, 15 September

Christmas production auditions after school

Mon, 22 September

Learning for Life Day 1 (Early lunch followed by school closure at 1.10pm)

Tuesday, 23 September

INSET Day (school closed)
Open Evening 4pm-8pm

25 & 26 September

Open Days 9am-2pm
(booking essential)

24-30 September

Book fair in the Library

26 September

European Day of Languages

Weds, 1 October

Year 11 Revision Information Evening
5.15pm-6.15pm

Mon, 6 October

Year 7 Settle Factor Parents Evening (in school)
Year 8-11 Settle Factor Parents Evening (form tutors online)

Learn to succeed



continued from front page...

Hannah was the first of the Rooke family to attend Priory, five sisters and a brother followed her.

"I did have to make a speech to be Head Girl! I got fantastic GCSE results and I went to college and university to do primary education with maths specialism. My favourite teacher was Mrs Butler who was my Head of Year and maths teacher.

"I worked in education for a while, actually in a secondary school even though I trained for primary school, but then myself and my husband set up a climbing and education business called Climbing Wall Training.

"It's lovely to be back and see how the school has grown. The bones of it are still here from when I was here but it has moved on a lot."

Both spent time looking at memorabilia from 30 and 20 years ago with our new Head Prefects, talking about school uniform, trips to Russia and teachers.

Hiylie said: "It's lovely hearing them talking about their time at Priory, it's really interesting. I am excited to be a Head Prefect. I have a lot of ideas, I want more communication with pupils and staff.

"Looking ahead to the school year, my GCSEs are daunting but I am excited to be able to change things as a Head Prefect."

Tarela said: "When I talked to my Year 11 friends a lot spoke about wanting more food options so that's something I will look at."

Yasmine said: "I did not expect to get a Head Prefect role. I came to Priory from Hong Kong in Year 10 so I understand how alone you can feel when starting a new school so I want to use my experience to help others who maybe in the same situation. It is a real honour to be a Head Prefect.

"I have enjoyed meeting the former Head Girls. They have been telling me that their Food Tech room is now where the Bistro is and how much the school has changed."

Kacper, who was unfortunately absent for the photograph, is a Young Leader for Explorer Scouts out of school and has firm ideas for the changes he wants to make at Priory.

"I want to support younger pupils. It's important to me to help younger pupils through difficult times as I understand how painful it can be. I really want to make a difference in this area. I want the best for everyone."



Learn to succeed

Message from the Principal

Dear All

It is with great pleasure that I write to you at the beginning of this new academic year to extend a warm welcome back to school. I hope that you and your families enjoyed a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer break.

A particularly heartfelt welcome goes to our new Year 7 pupils and their families. We are delighted to have you join our school community and look forward to supporting your children as they begin their journey with us at Penwortham Priory Academy. We are committed to ensuring that every pupil feels safe, valued, and a true part of our school.

It was wonderful to see our pupils return last Tuesday, looking refreshed and exceptionally smart in their uniforms. Their positive attitude and enthusiasm have already contributed to a vibrant and purposeful learning atmosphere across the school. Our extra-curricular programme is now fully underway, with a fantastic level of participation once again. It is especially encouraging to see so many Year 7 pupils embracing new opportunities and engaging in clubs and activities. I continue to encourage all pupils to make the most of these enriching experiences, both at lunchtime and after school, as they contribute towards their 'Priory Plus' Award and personal development.

In our first assemblies of the year, I spoke to pupils about what it means to be a member of our school community. I emphasised our high expectations in relation to uniform, equipment, learning, attendance, and punctuality. These expectations underpin the culture we are proud to uphold at Priory—one that enables every pupil to thrive. Our shared commitment to *'Creating the Right Culture to Learn to Succeed'* means striving daily to meet the *'Priory Standard': the highest expectations of all, from all*. Pupils, staff, parents, and trustees all play a vital role in this collective effort.

I asked pupils to reflect on giving their best each day—not only in their academic work but also in their relationships, their conduct, and their participation



in wider school life. I reminded them of the importance of kindness, respect, and excellent manners—qualities that are consistently demonstrated by our pupils and which contribute to the positive ethos of our school. Every pupil has a part to play in being the best version of themselves, and it is our shared responsibility—as educators and parents—to support and challenge them to achieve just that.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks and best wishes to our outgoing Year 11 cohort. They leave Priory having built on the successes of previous years and achieved excellent examination results. We are proud of the young people they have become—equipped with the skills, knowledge, and character to succeed in further education, employment, or training. We wish them every success as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Looking ahead, it has been a genuine pleasure to see our pupils and staff reconnect and re-engage with school life. I am grateful for your continued support and for the many ways in which our pupils contribute to the life of the school—whether in the classroom, on the sports field, on stage, through fundraising, or in extra-curricular activities. Priory remains committed to inspiring our pupils to grow into well-rounded, confident, and capable young people.

As previously outlined, attendance and punctuality remain fundamental priorities for us at Priory. The government's revised system of fines for lateness and absence is now fully embedded, and we will continue to implement it in line with national guidance. However, our core focus remains on ensuring that every pupil attends school regularly and arrives punctually each day.

Continued next page ...

Learn to succeed

...Continued from previous page

Research consistently shows that pupils with attendance below 95% are less likely to achieve their full academic and personal potential. It is therefore both appropriate and necessary that we work in close partnership with all families to establish strong attendance habits, ensuring that being in school and engaged in learning becomes the norm for every pupil. This is essential to avoid any disadvantage compared to their peers and to support their long-term success.

As we begin this new academic year then, please be assured that our commitment to upholding the Priory Standard remains unwavering. Together, we will continue to set high expectations and support every pupil to achieve their very best.

With my very best wishes for a successful and rewarding year ahead.

Mr M Eastham
Principal

**A new school year
means new
beginnings, new
adventures, new
friendships, and new
challenges. The slate
is clean and anything
can happen.**



Textiles Club

Textiles Club continues every Tuesday after school (3.10pm-4pm) in Tech 4 for all existing members in Year 8-11.

For any Year 7s looking to join Textiles Club, please see Mrs Lockwood in Technology or send her a message on Teams Chat to express your interest in joining when we have availability for newcomers.



Notices From The Performing Arts Department

Auditions for the Christmas musical production will be held on Monday, 15th September after school in the Auditorio.

Anyone that would like to audition needs to put their name down (quick!) on the sheet outside Miss Howell's classroom (DR1).

Trips

There are two places left on the Matilda trip on 17 December and there are places left on the Six The Musical trip in February.

For more information, see Miss Howell or collect a letter from outside her office (opposite MFL2).



Learn to succeed

Summer School 2025



Pupils attended a two-day summer school on 19 & 20 August as part of their transition into Year 7. The program was designed to help them familiarise themselves with the school environment, meet new classmates, and build confidence ahead of the new academic year.

During their time at school, pupils had the opportunity to explore key areas, including classrooms and the Year 7 dining and social spaces. They spent time eating and socialising in the designated Year 7 area, helping them to feel more comfortable in their new surroundings.

Over the two days, pupils took part in ten engaging workshops. Each session was carefully planned to include a fun, interactive element while also encouraging teamwork and relationship-building. These activities helped pupils get to know one another and begin forming positive connections with their peers.



During their **PE** lessons, pupils engaged in badminton to focus on grip technique, core skills, and introductory gameplay, with communication being a key area of development. Pupils particularly enjoyed the competitive aspect, and for some, there was a real sense of achievement in consistently managing to get the shuttle over the net.



For **Geography**, we looked at the theme of the Olympics, looking at the different host nations and their flags and capital cities. Then we described the location of France/Paris (last host nation), finishing with locating the host nations on a world map using an atlas.



In **Maths** pupils did a theme park treasure hunt round the maths room then cracked on

with some harder puzzles involving Caesar ciphers, the milk crate problem and the Konigsberg bridge problem.

The **English** lesson focused on 'guides'. We defined the word 'guide' as a class, realising that it could be both a noun and a verb, and then went on to establish what kind of information we would like to see in a guide to something and how we could make it interesting. We also looked at the layout of a guide and the features. In our case it was a guide to someone!

Each student created a guide to themselves, not only with basic information but also likes and dislikes as well as a story or fact about themselves that made them unique. Everyone seemed to enjoy finding out about their peers and especially that Mrs Brindle really does not like slugs!

In **Science** they set out investigating sand and the sea - imagining we were at the beach. We carried out



Learn to succeed

SUMMER School



three small experiments where we tested the buoyancy of salt water, filtered sandy water and looked at different types of sand under the microscope. Pupils visited two of the different science classrooms and used a variety of equipment they will be using in their science lessons. Mrs Potter said it was a pleasure to meet all our new starters.

Budding young artists at Summer School took inspiration from celebrated environmental artist Andy Goldsworthy in **Art**. Using leaves, flowers, twigs and other natural objects, the pupils created striking outdoor artworks that celebrated both creativity and the beauty of the natural world. Their imaginative pieces showcased not only artistic skill but also teamwork and a fresh appreciation for the environment around them.



In **Drama**, we delved into the world of Musical Theatre – and what a performance they gave! Every student rose to the challenge of learning a lively piece of choreography from Matilda the Musical, carefully counting the beats of the music and exploring how movement can bring a character to life.

We are so proud of the energy, creativity, and teamwork they showed. A huge well done to everyone who took part – especially those who pushed themselves beyond their comfort zone.



In **Music** we worked completely without pitched instruments and learnt the difference between pulse, rhythm and metre through practical work as soloists, in groups and as a class. In using Body, African and Samba percussion we could refine our sense of rhythm and, during our final polyrhythm performance, we all worked hard to maintain our own part accurately whilst not being put off by what everybody else was playing.

Equally, we enjoyed some brave members of the classes leading the rest of us in call and response exercises so a special 'well done' to them as well.

Pupils took part in **Food Preparation & Nutrition** which involved a variety of different fruits as we tried to make a kebab that included as many of our 5-a-Day as possible. Students were given the opportunity to try new fruits such as kiwi, pineapple and cantaloupe melon alongside some more firm favourites like strawberries and grapes. Fruit kebabs were assembled to include various colourful fruits and then drizzled with a generous helping of chocolate (not one of our 5-a-Day!).

A highlight of the programme was a session delivered by Compass Bloom, who led a thoughtful discussion around the transition from primary to secondary school. Pupils were encouraged to share any worries or questions they had, and were given practical advice and reassurance to help ease any anxieties.

Overall, the summer school was a great success, providing pupils with a positive and supportive introduction to secondary school life.

Summer School for New Intake next year is likely to be Tuesday, 18th and Wednesday, 19th August 2026.

Learn to succeed



Learn to succeed

Chilli Challenge Winners

It's time to reveal the first winners of the Chilli Challenge of the academic year 2025-26.

Year 7 **Heather L** (Miss Burbidge)

Year 8 **Alfie G** (Mrs Lockwood)

Year 9 **George C** (Mr Eccles)

Year 10 **Tom O** (Mr Owen)

Year 11 ----

These pupils have now received their chilli tokens. A reminder that winners are to take their chilli disk to Mrs Cookson in the Business & Finance Office for their catering accounts to be credited to claim their free snack of choice from the dining room.

GET INVOLVED!

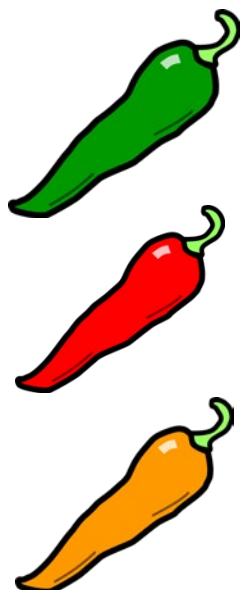
Pupils: Pick up your challenge sheet from the top of the post boxes in your dining areas. There

are three challenges to complete on the sheet, each one with an increasing difficulty. When you've had a go at them, pop your answers in your year group post box. Winners are randomly drawn from those with the correct answers each Thursday, one per year group.

This is also an interhouse competition and the leaders will be those with the most individual entries. There'll be an interhouse prize at the end of the year.

The leaderboard is just warming up so at the moment it's game on between our four Houses:

1st Hodder | 2nd Calder |
3rd Douglas | 4th Ribble |



Attendance



Attendance Matters



Regular attendance at school is the single most important factor in a child making appropriate progress and achieving success.

Good, regular and punctual attendance means doing well academically, developing better relationships with other children and positive behaviour. It also sets up good habits for when young people enter into work and independent life.

At the end of every term, we hold a prize draw to recognise consistently high attendance.

For the full academic year 2024-25 many pupils achieved 97%+ attendance and names were drawn out of a hat on the last day of term; the five winners of each year group received a £15 Amazon gift voucher. All pupils who achieved 100% attendance will each get a certificate during their House assembly later this month.

Well done to:

Year 7

Eleanor M, Lois J, Archie S

Year 8:

Katie G, Harley H, Arton B

Year 9:

Saachi R, Ben Cr, Mathew Mc

Year 10:

Alfie P, Hannah N, Felix D



Learn to succeed

TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Years 7 & 11

Have you ordered your school photos yet? If not, and you would like to place an order, a polite reminder that the closing date for free delivery back to school is Thursday, 18 September.

Please order through the Tempest website using your unique link on your printed proof or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, please contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).



Diary Dates

Don't Forget... School Closures

Mon, 22 September

Learning For Life (Day 1)

School will close at the earlier time of 1.10pm.

School buses have been arranged for this earlier time.

Tues, 23 September

School will be closed due to INSET.

A reminder that it is our Open Evening that day too and pupil volunteers are asked to return for 3pm (Year 11) and 3.30pm (Year 7-10).



Penwortham Priory Academy

MENU

Week 3

EVERY DAY

Jacket Potato

Homemade jacket potato served with one filling of your choice.

Additional fillings +40p

Cheese Panini

Soft panini roll stuffed with cheese, pressed to melted perfection.

Pepperoni Panini

Soft panini roll stuffed with cheese and pepperoni, pressed to melted perfection.

Sandwiches

A selection of handmade sandwiches, baguettes and wraps, packed with fresh fillings.

Vegetarian options available.

Pasta Pots

A selection of pasta pots that are bursting with flavour are available.

Vegetarian options available.

Halal | Vegetarian | Gluten Free

From £1.35

£1.85

£1.85

£1.50

£1.95

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

MONDAY

Mexican Chicken Burrito

Chicken pieces marinated in a blend of Mexican spices, served with nachos and a fresh mixed salad.

£2.15

Vegetable Pasta Bake

Mixed vegetable pasta bake served with garlic bread and a fresh mixed salad.

£2.15

TUESDAY

Popcorn Chicken

Crispy popcorn chicken pieces served with seasoned wedges and a fresh mixed salad.

£2.15

Halloumi Burger

Greek halloumi patty served on a roll with seasoned wedges and a mixed side salad.

£2.15

WEDNESDAY

Chicken Tikka Masala

Diced chicken breast smothered in tikka curry sauce and served with rice and naan bread.

£2.15

Sweet Chilli Stir Fry

Mixed Vegetables stir fried in a sticky sweet chilli sauce, served with noodles and a fresh side salad.

£2.15

THURSDAY

Meatball Pasta Bake

A classic pasta bake with the addition of flavourful meatballs, served with garlic bread and a fresh salad.

£2.15

Vegetable cheese quiche

A delicious homemade cheese and vegetable quiche served with baby potatoes and vegetables of the day.

£2.15

'CHIPPY FRIDAY' SPECIAL

Week 3
w/c 15 Sept

Veggie Wrap

Crispy veggie wrap served with chips, mixed salad and coleslaw

£2.15

Chicken Wrap

Southern Fried Chicken wrap served with chips, mixed salad and coleslaw

£2.15

Jumbo Sausage

A jumbo sausage on a bed of chips, served with peas or beans and a choice of 'chip shop curry' or gravy.

£2.15

DESSERTS

Assorted Cakes and Biscuits

A selection of homemade cakes and biscuits to choose from.

£0.60

Fruit Pot/Fresh Fruit

A selection of freshly prepared fruit pots and fresh whole fruit available.

£0.80

Popcorn

Fresh popcorn

£0.65

Jelly Squeeze

A variety of flavours available.

£0.70

Learn to succeed

Extra Curricular Activities

Priory's co-curricular clubs, activities, House competitions and events are just starting to launch so look out for details on the year group Teams, our social media and upcoming newsletters.

For the majority of activities taking place, there is no need to book, simply turn up. Lunch clubs will also allow pupils to eat their packed lunch or 'take away' food from the dining rooms during the session.



Japanese Club

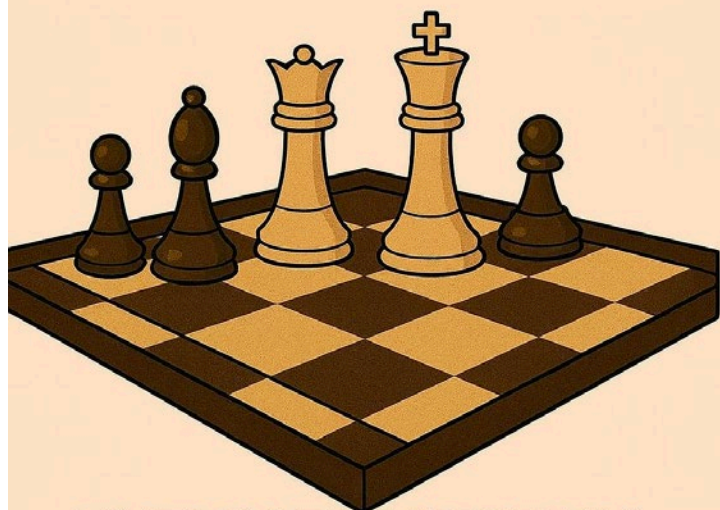
Every Wednesday lunch time in MFL1.

All welcome.

迎



CHESS CLUB



**EVERY THURSDAY
HEX 3 AT LUNCHTIME**

everyone welcome, including beginners
You may bring your lunch

Take part in a range of fun science activities from making hovercrafts to rainbow fizz!

Every Tuesday
3.10-4pm

See Mrs Potter in Science 6 for more information

Learn to succeed



Class of 2023: Katie Read



Celebrating A Level Results Day 2025

Congratulations to Katie who has secured an apprenticeship at local engineering company.

Katie joined Preston College from Penwortham Priory Academy in 2023 to study the T Level in Engineering (Design & Development).

Well done Katie!



An Evening Event
for Year 11 pupils and their parents/carers.

Wednesday, 1 October
from 5.15pm-6.15pm

The event will start with a short presentation delivered by Assistant Principal, Miss Thornton. Subject leaders will be on hand to offer subject specific revision advice and guidance. They'll also be talking about the specifics of exams within their subjects and what to revise when. Pupils can also pick up a **free copy** of the CGP Guide 'How To Revise for GCSEs'.

Enquiries to Miss Thornton via email at
k.thornton@priory.lancs.sch.uk



Year 11 Revision Event - 1 October

On Wednesday, 1 October we invite Year 11 pupils and their parents/carers to join us for our annual 'Revision Event' in school, an evening dedicated to getting those hints and tips for success in the mock exams and next summer's final exams.

We have also issued communication about how to order revision guides for each subject. Any that are ordered before next Thursday's deadline will be organised for collection on the evening. Please be aware we will not be selling any revision materials on the night.

Subjects that have an exam will be represented at the event and subject leaders will be available to talk to. Pupils will be able to pick up their free copy of the CGP Guide 'How To Revise for GCSEs'. Local colleges will also be in attendance to give advice and guidance about further education choices.

The event starts at 5.15pm with a short presentation by Assistant Principal, Miss Thornton. We are aware that Preston College is also hosting an open evening on the same night, however they will be repeating their event on 8 November if you would like to visit both ours and theirs.

Learn to succeed

YEAR 10 & 11

**PRESTON
COLLEGE**

OPEN EVENTS



SCAN TO



REGISTER

WEDNESDAY 1 **OCTOBER** 4PM - 7PM

SATURDAY 8 **NOVEMBER** 10AM - 2PM

www.preston.ac.uk/fe-open-events

SEE FACILITIES MEET STUDENTS & STAFF EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS



BELLE OF THE BALL

@karenriding.com

"Prom 2026"



Designer Prom Wear
from £50-£400

Win Your Dress

Buy your dress from us and enter our Prize Draw.

The winner will be drawn on 31st May 2026.

Centenary Mill, New Hall Lane, Preston, PR1 5JH

Call: 07841741791 Email: KRBridalinfo@gmail.com

**CARDINAL
NEWMAN
COLLEGE**

**SAT
11
OCT**

**SAT
15
NOV**

OPEN DAYS
10AM - 1PM

Learn to succeed

Extra Curricular: Year 9 Can Look To The Stars With GCSE Astronomy



Priory is hoping more pupils will be seeing stars and signing up to GCSE Astronomy.

Year 9s can now sign up to the Astronomy Club, with a view to sitting GCSE Astronomy in Year 10, which will start this September and runs after school for one hour a week during term time until 4.10pm.

Science Technician Mr Evans will take pupils through Cosmology, Exploring Starlight, Stellar Evolution and Planetary Motion.

He said: "This is for any Year 9 interested in astronomy to just come along and find out what it's all about. If you decide to do GCSE Astronomy, it's great practice for Year 11 as you sit it in Year 10.

"We cover a lot of topics, such as looking at galaxies, and the maths involved in the motions of planets around the sun. We overlap with physics in parts.

"There is coursework and an optional exam and, I will be honest, it is quite tough – a few people start it and drop out. It is an enjoyable course to teach though and a lot of pupils thoroughly enjoy it. It's just an added extra – a bonus GCSE if you will."



Year 11 Freya sat her Astronomy GCSE in June. She said: "I took it because I like physics and it's interesting looking at the stars and space - plus I now have a GCSE already!"

Wictoria said: "It's an extra GCSE, it's something different and I have enjoyed it."

Evie added: "I really like physics, I want to take it at A-Level, and it has got a lot of astronomy in it. I found the part where we studied alien life really interesting.



"To anyone thinking of taking it I would say give it a go. You have nothing to lose. It's an extra GCSE and it's an impressive one as not a lot of schools do it."

Want to know more?

There is only a limited number of places so if you're in Year 9 and would like to take part make sure you pick up an introductory letter from Mr Evans (you'll find him in the Science Prep Room) or see your Science teacher.

Letters have also been emailed to Year 9 parents who can email j.evans@priory.lancs.sch.uk with any enquiries or to express interest.

Learn to succeed

In Memory of: Mrs Rhodes (Miss Slater) PE Teacher & Head of Year 1971-2004



Heartfelt tributes have been paid to former teacher Kate Rhodes who spent more than 30 years at Priory.



Kate, who was Miss Slater when she started at Priory in 1971 before she retired as Mrs Rhodes in 2004, encouraged and inspired thousands of pupils over the years through her roles in the PE Department and as Head Of Year, which she was passionate about.

She worked alongside her husband Dave at Priory, he was a PE teacher from 1976-2010, and she was a popular and well-respected colleague through those years, showing support and dedication to everyone.

Kate passed away at her home on 1st September and everyone connected with Priory is heartbroken.

Principal Mr Eastham, who started his career at Priory in the PE department under Kate and Dave's guidance, said: "We are deeply saddened to share the news of the passing of Mrs Kate Rhodes, a much-loved former colleague and teacher who dedicated many years to our school community.

"Kate retired just over 20 years ago after a long and impactful career in our PE department and as a Head of Year, where she inspired countless students through her passion, integrity, and unwavering commitment.

"She was not only a trusted colleague but also a dear friend to so many, and her influence continues to be felt in the lives of those she came into contact with and worked alongside. Our thoughts are with her family and loved ones at this time."

Both Kate and Dave had been regular visitors back to Priory, opening our refurbished gym in September 2017 and, more recently in March, they both came back for our Class of 1976 reunion when Olympic gymnast Susan Cheesebrough returned to Priory.

Below image: Mrs Cooper, Mr Rhodes, Mr Eastham, Mr Watters and Mrs Rhodes at the 1998 Prom.

Continued over...



Learn to succeed



...Continued from previous page.

Susan said: "I'm so sorry to hear Miss Slater (Mrs Rhodes) has passed away. Myself and my sisters Anne and Catherine send sincere condolences to her family and all the people who knew her, a very inspirational woman with a kind heart.

"Kate will be in our thoughts, I for one will remember her for the time she gave to me personally. Rest in peace lovely lady."

The outpouring of affection for Mrs Rhodes has been phenomenal with hundreds of comments on Facebook:

Vanessa Cole wrote: "Miss Slater was the epitome of what a teacher should be. Kind, fair, caring, stern if needed and the encouragement she gave on a daily basis shaped many a person."



Sharron Smith said: "A wonderful teacher, she inspired and encouraged my love of athletics back in the 80s."

Jane Heylar said: "Miss Slater was an excellent person, caring, supporting and real. I loved PE with her and being part of the netball team. 'Come on ladies!' I can hear her now."

Natalie Anne said: "Miss Slater was one of the reasons why I fell in love with sport and PE, she was always so supportive and positive. When at Uni in the 90s, I went back to do some shadowing of her for my course and she was so supportive."

Elaine Harrison added: "She was my Head of Year and had a perfect mix of caring, a great sense of humour but stern if needed. The 'Come on Ladies' shout to motivate us during cross country is ringing in my ears as I type."

Kate was a beloved wife of Dave, much-loved step-mum to Laura, mother-in-law to John, and a wonderful Grandma to Alfie and Daisy. She was also a dear sister to Val and a cherished cousin to Eileen.

The funeral will take place at Charnock Richard Crematorium on Tuesday, 16th September at 12.30pm. At Kate's request, those attending the celebration of her life are invited to wear colourful clothing. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, will be gratefully received in support of St Catherine's Hospice c/o the funeral director: Neal Buckley Funerals, 6 Liverpool Road, Penwortham, PR1 0AD. Tel: 01772 744700



Next Open Event

Saturday 20 September 10am-2pm

runshaw.ac.uk/openevent

Learn to succeed

Principal Mr Eastham praised the 'strong performances' of the Class of 2025 as they received their fantastic GCSE results.



Priory pupils excelled, 60% gained a Grade 5 or above in English and 47% achieving a Grade 5 and above in Maths.

There were excellent results in science and languages, and Priory also offer vocational qualifications such as Performing Arts, ICT Digital Info Tech, Engineering and Childcare where the results were outstanding.

Mr Eastham said: "We're incredibly proud of this year's Year 11 students. They have achieved an excellent set of GCSE results that are a testament not only to their dedication and perseverance, but also to the unwavering support of their families and the commitment of our staff.

"Beyond this academic success, our students leave us as confident, well-rounded individuals, fully prepared for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead."



GCSE Results Day: Their Stories

Daniel celebrated Grade 9 in Further Maths, Maths and French and not surprisingly he wants to take his Maths further.

"I want to go to LUSoM (Lancaster University School of Mathematics). I am happy with my Grade 9s."

Chittara aims to be an engineer and she achieved a Level 2 Distinction + in Engineering among other impressive results, including a 9-8 in Combined Science.



pianist but maths is her priority as she too secured a place at LUSoM.

"I want to study Maths, Further Maths, Biology and Chemistry A-Levels. It's unreal looking at my GCSE results. I am so happy with Grade 9s in Chemistry, Maths and Chinese.

"I think I am most impressed with a 6 in English Language as that was better than I expected!



"I want to go to Newman College to study Physics, Maths and Computer Science. I want to do engineering in the future and Priory has helped me with this."

Agnes is a talented artist and



Continued next page...

Learn to succeed

"I was so nervous doing my exams – I think I had around 10 hours sleep in a week while I was sitting them! Now it's all worth it."

"I have loved my time at Priory – it has amazing facilities."

Emily P admitted she has exceeded her own expectations with her GCSE results.

"When I opened the envelope and saw four Grade 8s I was relieved! I got a Grade 6 in my English mock exam so that was a big increase. Achieving a Grade 8 in Maths is also 'wow!'."

"I want to go to Runshaw and study A-Levels in Biology, Graphics or Art and Classics. I think I might do something veterinary in the future."

Jake has never wavered from his ambition to go into cyber security.

"I got the grades to get me there! I am happy, especially with my Grade 8 in Maths. I got a Grade 5 in Further Maths which I am pleased with as it was really hard and I didn't know if I would pass."

"I want to go to Newman College to study Maths, Physics and Computer Science A-Levels. I want to do an apprenticeship degree in cyber security. That's always been the plan."

Ethan said his results were 'pretty good.' He achieved a Grade 8 in Maths and Physics, among his superb results.

"I got a Grade 7 in my mock exams so I am happy with an 8 and also a Grade 5 in Further Maths. I was also pleased with a Grade 6 in English Literature, I did better in that than I thought."



"I want to go to Runshaw to study Maths, Physics and Computer Science and I will just see where it takes me!"

Tom hopes to become an environmental engineer.

"I achieved four Grade 8s and my biggest surprise was a Grade 8 in English Language. To be honest, straight after the exam, I thought I had failed it."

"I was really nervous about picking up my results and when I saw a Grade 8 I

thought it was a mistake!

"I want to go to Runshaw College and so Engineering and Geography which will hopefully help me become an environmental engineer and then I want to do Photography as it's fun."

Continued next page...

**GCSE
RESULTS**



Learn to succeed

Afnan aims to make money!

"I was surprised as I got a 9-8 in Combined Science, I didn't expect that! I got a 5/6 in my English Literature mock so I improved on that with a Grade 7."

"I want to go to Newman College and study Economics, Maths and Chemistry. I just want to make money!"

Kayleigh and **Emily J** have both taken part in Priory productions and are going on to do Musical Theatre.

Kayleigh said: "I am going to Runshaw College, I have loved the productions at Priory and it's all I have ever wanted to do."



Emily will study Musical Theatre but also Criminology and Psychology at Newman College.

Kira admitted she felt relief when she opened her GCSE results. "I saw a Grade 8 in Science and Maths and the overall sense was relief!"

"I want to go to Newman College and study

Accounting, Business, Law or Geography – three out of the four!"

Abbie is also going to Newman College. "I want to study Biology, Psychology and Law. I was amazed I got a Grade 8 in Food Preparation & Nutrition! I also did better than I expected in Science with an 8-7."



Damari wants to be a Civil Rights lawyer.

"I want to fight for my rights, I admire people like Malcolm X and Martin Luther King. They really inspire me."

Damari achieved a Grade 8 in History and English Literature and said: "I did better than I thought I would in English Lit. I did hope for a 9 in History but Mr Eccles has spoken to me about it and a Grade 8 is still a fantastic result."

"I want to do A-Level Law at Newman College and also a BTEC in Criminology and Sport. I am into tennis and want to play for the college team."

"My dream is to have my own law firm with branches in Africa and the Caribbean."

Geetha is aiming for an apprenticeship at BAE Systems, after she achieved a 9:8 in Combined Science and Grade 8s in Maths and French.

Continued next page...



Learn to succeed

GCSE RESULTS

"I want to do an Engineering A-Level at Runshaw College and then hopefully get on a degree apprenticeship."

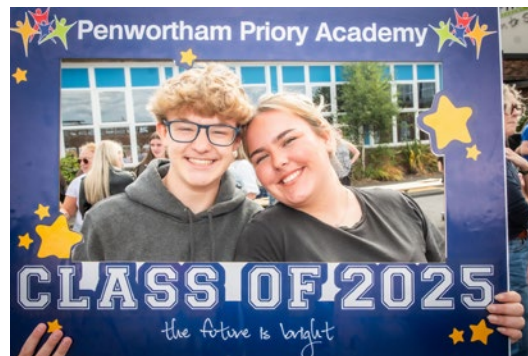
**GCSE
RESULTS**

We extended our heartfelt congratulations to all students, recognising not just their academic results, but also their personal development throughout their time at Priory.

Beyond exam grades, we also celebrate the many ways in which this year's leavers have contributed to school life - whether through sport, the performing arts, leadership roles, volunteering, or other enrichment activities.

Our mission has always been to nurture well-rounded individuals. We want every student to leave us not just with strong academic qualifications, but with confidence, compassion, and a readiness to contribute positively to the world around them.

As Year 11 students now take their next steps; into further education, apprenticeships, or other pathways; we send them off with pride and we wish them every success and happiness in the exciting futures that lie ahead.



Learn to succeed

Open Evening - Tuesday, 23 September

Everyone Welcome | No Prior Booking Required | Starts 4pm - Ends 8pm

The Principal's speech will be at 5pm and repeated at 6pm. Mr Eastham has also recorded his speech and it is available to listen to in your own time and prior to your visit. We also invite you to view our prospectus or take a virtual tour via our website: www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/about-priory/virtual-tour

Pupil Volunteers Needed

As always, we ask for pupils to volunteer their time to support us at the event and help to showcase their school. We particularly encourage Year 7 pupils to support this event as they are closest to the Year 5 & 6 pupils that will be visiting us.



Letters are being given out to pupils by their subject teachers with further details. Mrs Eastham will also be commandeering Prefects to greet our prospective families and take them on tours of the school. We are also delighted to welcome back some of our Year 11 leavers who will be returning talk to visitors about their Priory journey.

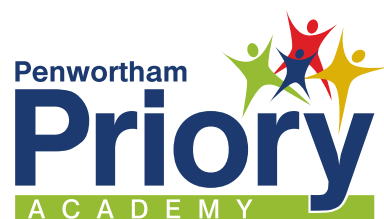
Pupils who would like to help should speak with the teacher in the department they would like to support or their Head of Year. **Please note that school will be closed during the day due to INSET.**



Looking Forward To
Seeing You...

Tuesday, 23 September

Learn to succeed



Secondary School Admissions

If you have a child in Year 6 you can now apply for their secondary school place now at:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place

You must apply even if you already have siblings in school. All applications received up to the closing date are given equal priority, but if you miss the deadline, a late application may reduce your chance of getting your preference of school.

It's quick and easy to do and you will receive email confirmation of your application.

Before you apply, research the schools in your area, check school websites for up-to-date information about open days/evening and read the school's most recent Ofsted reports at: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

The closing date for secondary applications for September 2026 is 23:59 on 31 October.

For guidance on school transport see:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/school-transport



Do you have a child starting secondary school in September 2026 and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 31 October 2025

You must apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school.

Apply for a school place now by scanning the QR code or visit lancashire.gov.uk/schools



If travel cost is an important factor in your school preference, please check the guidance on our website, or call 01772 532109.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Between 1 October and 31 January schools are consulting with you to make sure admission arrangements meet future needs. To find out more please visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolplaces and click 'school admission policies'.

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County Council



WHITEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



HEALTHY HEARTS, HEALTHY BODIES, HEALTHY MINDS

OPEN DAY & SCHOOL TOURS AVAILABLE

WE OFFER:

- PROVISION 50 WEEKS A YEAR FROM 7.30AM UNTIL 6PM!
- An ambitious curriculum
- OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)
 - My Happy Mind, mental health and well being
 - Year 6 outcomes better than national average
- Forest School
- Many Sport Opportunities

OPEN DAY

Saturday 4th October
9.30am to 11.00am

Come and experience

- Our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms
- Meet our amazing staff and governors
- Opportunity to get involved with forest school and OPAL play
- Fun activities for children to join in with!
- Tea, coffee, juice and biscuits available

Contact us on:
01772 744449 or
admin@whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk
to book a space on our
Open Day and/or School
Tour



SCHOOL TOURS

Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9.30am and 11.00am. Starting from September.

This is an opportunity for you to have a personal tour of our school, see us in action and meet our children.

The tour will cover Reception, KS1 and KS2.
(other days can be made available if you can't make a Tuesday or Thursday)

COME AND CHECK US OUT!

Facebook - [whitefieldprimaryofficial](https://www.facebook.com/whitefieldprimaryofficial) or
website - www.whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk



WE ARE TUCKED AWAY NOT MILES AWAY!

Our school is one minute off the Penwortham bypass and Liverpool Road, situated in a quiet residential estate. We have children from far and wide including Preston, Lostock Hall, Bamber Bridge, Longton, Leyland, Walton le Dale and Walmer Bridge



OFSTED say we are a 'good school' - MARCH 2023
We think we are an AMAZING school - JUNE 2025

Contact us on:
01772 744449 or admin@whitefield-pri.lancs.sch.uk
to book a space on our Open Day and/or School Tour

Learn to succeed

Year 8 Have An Electrifying Careers Day with the National Grid

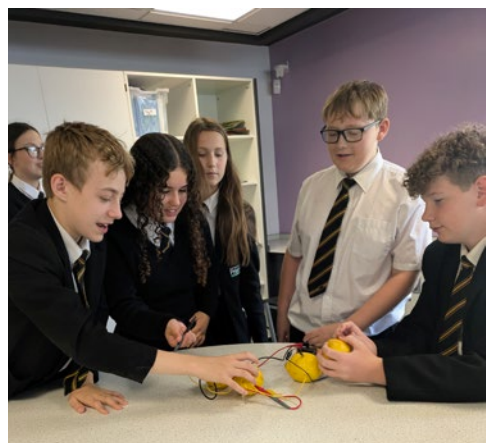
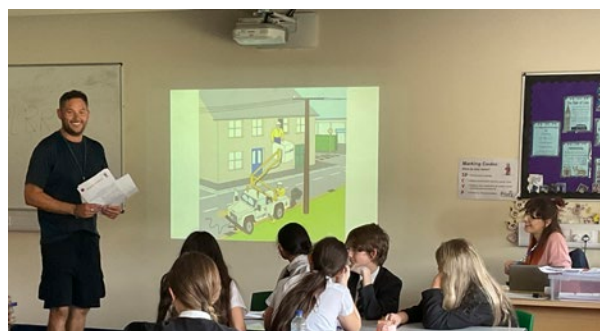
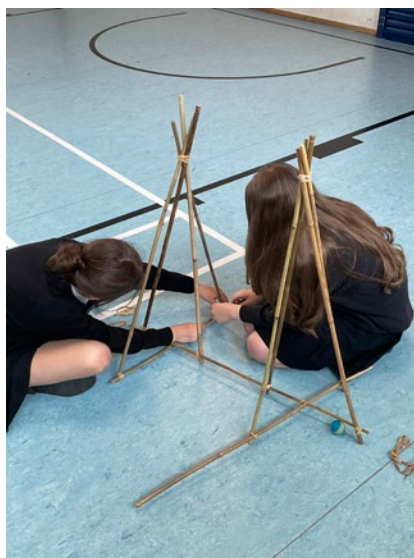


During the last week of term we held a careers day for Year 8 hosted by a team from the National Grid.

The aim of the event was to educate pupils about STEM and engineering linked to the work that National Grid do. Workshops included the building of lemon batteries and circuits, coding, K'Nex tower building, building of catapults and exploring energy efficiency project management. These workshops provided an insight into the various functions within National Grid and it is hoped that pupils have a greater awareness of potential future careers for the future.

Lead Practitioner for Personal Development, Ms Smith, said "The workshops looked so engaging, interesting and fun! I was envious that I had not been given such opportunities at school. Our Year 8s left classrooms on a high, and positive feedback was in abundance.

She added, "I hope that the workshops have provided career inspiration and pupils who would not be stereotypically interested in such careers, now are, having met a diverse range of National Grid staff. We are very grateful for the opportunities that our collaboration with the company have provided and look forward to another academic year where we refine activities and introduce more as the pilot partnership continues into the future."



Learn to succeed

Classroom, Careers and Community: Pupils Help Shape Penwortham's Future With Pell Frischmann



In July we welcomed Pell Frischmann to work with our Year 7 Pupils on their careers day.

Pell Frischmann
Consulting Engineers

Pell Frischmann is a specialist advisory and technical consultancy operating across the built and natural environment. Pell Frischmann are currently working on the project to redesign Liverpool Road in Penwortham.

The team had an hour workshop with each Year 7 class. During the workshop pupils were introduced to Pell Frischmann's work, the roles within the organisation and their entry requirements.

During the second half of the session, pupils were set a task to design their own Liverpool Road plan. Pupils were given dimensions, requirements for space usage and their measurements. Pupils quickly realised that incorporating space for moving cars, bicycles, pedestrians, parking, and green spaces can be a challenge.

Pell Frischmann used this activity as an opportunity to include local youngsters in the planning of the space, with the potential for some ideas to be progressed through to fruition.

Ms Smith said, "We are grateful to the Pell Frischmann team for giving up their time to involve our pupils in a project in their locality. The session was a great insight into careers that pupils may not have considered, but can have a huge impact on communities and provide a lasting legacy. Pupils enjoyed the session and a number saw the industry as a potential future career path."



Learn to succeed



The Priory+ Awards



In the last week of the summer term, Mr Eastham presented badges and certificates to pupils who had achieved the next stage in the Priory+ Awards.

Almost 190 pupils achieved this recognition during the Summer term and on Monday, 14 July, those that chose to be personally presented by the Principal got to receive their rewards (pupils who opted out of this have their certificates and badges presented to them by their Head of Year), and we were delighted to see the queue into Mr Eastham's office went round the block! Thank you to Year 9 Matthew B for kindly stepping in to help with photos.

Priory+ aims to encourage and reward pupils for working on their own Personal Development. At Penwortham Priory Academy we believe that strong Personal Development provision contributes to making a positive difference to pupils' lives. The opportunities provided not only allow them to engage in activities they are interested in, but enables them to explore and build a strong pathway to, and foundation for, a successful future.

Our activities fit into five overarching strands, which supplement our Character and Culture Personal Development sessions in Learning for Life. There are five strands:

Culture & Heritage | **Future Citizens** | **Health & Well-Being** | **Skill Builders** | **Bright Futures**

Priory+ Brochure

The brochure is currently being reviewed for the 2025-26 academic year. We will email parents a digital copy and send a printed copy home with Year 7 pupils.



In the meantime, if you would like to know what the award means and how our pupils achieve it, please visit our website >>

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/personal-development/wider-opportunities

Learn to Succeed





Useful Numbers

Breastfeeding Helpline	0300 1000212
Childcare Funding	0300 1234097
Childline	0800 1111
Children's Services	0300 1236720
Citizens Advice Line	0800 1448848
Community Midwives	01257 245116
FAB Helpline	01772 322012
Food Bank South Ribble	01772 930405
Health Visitors	0300 247 0040 Opt 1
Medical Advice	111
Mind Matters	01772 773437
National Domestic Abuse	0808 2000247
NHS Dentist helpline	0300 3301348
Royal Preston Hospital	01772 522972
The Wish Centre	0300 5610440
Tippy Toes Baby Bank	07852304225

IT'S OKAY

- * TO MAKE MISTAKES
- * TO HAVE BAD DAYS
- * TO BE LESS THAN PERFECT
- * TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU
- * TO BE YOURSELF.

STACIE SWIFT

Lancashire
County Council



SEND

LANCASHIRE
FAMILY
HUB
NETWORK

Peer Support Drop In

With Community Seniors/Family Hub Navigator

Every 3rd Wednesday
of the month

9:30am – 11:30am
West Paddock Family
Hub
PR25 1HR

Peer Support drop in
for parents/carers
of children with SEND



Partner agencies will
join some of our drop ins, such as

SENDIAS, Key,
Primary Mental
Health Workers,
ASD Pathway Navigator,
Educational Psychologists,
Barnardo's, Lancashire Positive
Minds and
Lancashire Parent
Career Forum

Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service

Get advice and support

Someone to talk to
Problems at
home/school
Jobs and training
Apprenticeships
Staying safe
online
Sex and health
Relationships

Mental Health
Self Harm
Bullying
Drugs and
alcohol
Things to do
Housing, rights
and money
What age can I?

[facebook.com/LancashireYZ](https://www.facebook.com/LancashireYZ)

twitter.com/LancashireYPS

You can contact us 365 days a year

2pm to 10pm

talk
zone

Text 07786 51 11 11

Talk online lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone

Call 0800 51 11 11

lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County Council



Age 0-19

(up to 25 for young
people with learning
difficulties or disabilities)

Learn to succeed