

Penwortham Priory Post



Priory Pupils Bring Broadway Classic 'Annie' to Life

It may be cold outside but the sun certainly came out for our production of Annie, and it was amazing!

Our pupils wowed the audience with the story of orphan Annie who escaped a tough life and was adopted by America's richest family in New York.

The school production is an annual tradition at Priory and a lot of hard work and dedication goes into making them a success. Pupils from all year groups join together to make up a unique family – on stage and backstage – with Lead Teacher of Drama, Miss Howell, leading the talented bunch.

Miss Howell said: "The pupils have been so dedicated and committed. They have turned up for rehearsals and have really enjoyed it. They have made a lot of new friends and I am proud of all of them."

Year 8 Quinn played Annie and sung beautifully. She goes to the Pauline Quirk Musical Academy out of school.

She said: "I was nervous about performing but I enjoyed it. It's my first big lead role and I do want more of them."

Year 11 Libby played Miss Hannigan and put on a strong vocal performance as the drunk and nasty orphanage owner.

Continued over...

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

Thurs, 18 December

House Colours Day
End of Autumn term
Early lunch followed by
school closure at 1.10pm

START OF SPRING TERM

Mon, 5 January 2026

Weds, 14 January

Year 9 Parents Evening
(Options) - in school

19 January - 6 February

Year 11 Mock Exams

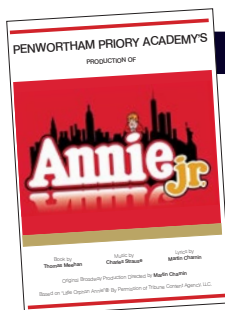
Friday, 30 January

Learning For Life Day 3
Early lunch followed by
school closure at 1.10pm

2-6 February

Year 10 work experience
week.

Learn to succeed



...continued from front page

"I have loved playing Miss Hannigan and getting into her character. It's been fun and it's been a welcome break from revising for my GCSEs."

Year 11 Caleb, who is the billionaire Mr Warbucks, said: "The best part has been wearing the suit! It's very smart."



Year 11 Molly, who played Grace, also showed off her exquisite singing voice. She said: "I have private singing lessons in Leyland as it's something I wanted to be better at and my singing has improved."

"I want to do Musical Theatre and have a choice of Blackpool Theatre Collective or Pendleton Sixth Form College after my GCSEs."

"It's been amazing starring in Annie, I love performing in front of an audience."

As well as two evening performances, the cast performed two special matinees; the first for our partner primary schools where the hall was packed out with our young guests.

For the second matinee, on Wednesday we were delighted to entertain senior residents from Penwortham Grange & Lodge Residential Home and Priory Park



Care Home. Visitors enjoyed tea and scones during the interval, served on our finest China by our pupils. Visitors got to meet our cast and were all especially thrilled when one of the stars of the show, Honey the dog, came out to meet them.

The matinee was followed by a short carol service in the Rose Garden against the backdrop of our new Christmas tree. The cast, crew and visitors sang festive classics to the accompanying music provided by Mr Taylor.

From Hudson Street Orphanage to Warbucks' mansion, our talented cast truly brought Annie to life and we've received some amazing feedback from our community...

"Congratulations to Miss Howell and her team for yet another amazing success."

"Amazing!!! What a talented bunch, and such a great performance! Well done everybody, you should be very proud."

"Fantastic performance, so much talent on show. Well done everyone."

"Thank you from Whitefield Primary for inviting our Year 4 and 5 children to come and watch this fantastic performance. The children said 'it was amazing' and they loved seeing so many Whitefielders in the cast."

A huge thank you to everyone who came along. We hope you enjoyed the show as much as we did.

As Annie reminds us, 'You're never fully dressed without a smile' – and there were plenty of those last week!



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Spring Term Dates

Spring Term Begins	Monday, 5 January 2026
Learning for Life Day 3	Friday, 30 January 2026 (Early lunch followed by school closure at 1:10pm)
Mid Term Closure	Monday, 16 February - Friday, 20 February 2026 (inclusive)
End of Spring Term	Friday, 27 March 2026 (Early lunch followed by school closure at 1:10pm)



House Colours Day

Thursday, 18 December

As an alternative to wearing their uniform, pupils may wear a top or bottoms in their house colours alongside their own clothes. A hair bobble, wrist band, socks etc on its own will not suffice. Those not wishing to participate should wear their uniform as normal.



In return, we ask for a £1 donation to our chosen charity, Derian House, payable online in advance via SCOPay, or in cash to your form tutor or school office on the day.



Christmas Raffle Winner Announced

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket for our Christmas raffle.

The winning ticket drawn on Friday morning (12th) by Mr Eastham was yellow 936. This ticket was bought by the family of a Year 10 pupil who have now been contacted directly.

The raffle raised £265 which will be put towards the refurbishment of the Assembly Hall for the benefit of our performing arts.

Thank you, once again, for your support.

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/fundraising-priory/christmas-raffle



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Priory Wins North West in Bloom's 'Secondary School of The Year' Again!



Our gardener Mr Chris Farron has again won praise from Britain in Bloom after Priory won the North-West Secondary School of the Year for the fourth time!

Chair of North West in Bloom, Mr Bernard Pendleton, said: "Priory gardens are amazing. They are by far the best Secondary School gardens in the North-West, I would say they are the best in the UK."

"Chris does an absolutely fantastic job. When you come into Priory, it's like being at the RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park!

"Chris is very good in that he shares his knowledge with other local schools."

Mr Farron said: "It's lovely to hear such praise. The pupils comment on our gardens a lot, especially the ones who have been here from Year 7-11 to see how all the Priory gardens have developed."

"They say how much they have enjoyed watching the progress and that's so nice to hear."

"It gives me a huge sense of pride to be here, I love coming to work, and the awards are a nice recognition for everyone at Priory."



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Year 11 Referees Are On The Ball

Five of our Year 11s will be hoping they don't have to write too much down in their new roles!

Eden, Will, Callum, Ben and Taylor have all qualified through the Lancashire FA to referee matches at junior football league level, at least.

Ben is 16 so he is now a Level 7 qualified referee so he can be the man in the middle in any matches while the rest, until they turn 16, can referee matches a year below their age group.



They are currently officiating in the Central Lancashire Junior Football League, with Taylor also refereeing in the Accrington & District Junior Football League.

They also all play football, four for the Leyland Pirates and Will for Sir Tom Finney.

Ben said: "We went on a three-hour course at night at the Lancashire FA and then spent a full Sunday there. It was good, it inspired me. It was learning from people who are at a good standard."

One of them was former Priory pupil Ed Duckworth who is a professional referee in the English Football League.

Will said he wanted to be a referee because: "It's a chance to earn money!" and Eden agreed with him!

Taylor said: "I wanted to do it as it's just a case of seeing where it can take you. You never know where. For the money as well!"

"It does also give you a different perspective on football when you play it."

Callum said: "I did not have a job so this was a good opportunity to learn something new and make some money. "It isn't always easy though. You do get a few players who answer back so it can be tricky."

Eden said: "You do also get parents shouting at you and it's hard to say anything back to them so you do have to take it. There isn't a lot you can say."

All have had to dish out red and yellow cards and write a few names down in their notebooks so far!

Ben and Taylor were voted in the top 15 junior referees in Lancashire – they are voted by the manager of the teams they officiate over.



Could Your Pre-Loved Books Find a New Home at Priory?



Classics | Non Fiction | Young Adult Fiction

We're always looking to refresh and expand our library shelves – and your pre-loved books could make a big difference!

If you have books that your children have grown out of or you're wondering what to do with next, and they're suitable for young adults, we'd love to give them a new lease of life. Our library plays a vital role in encouraging reading for pleasure and enriching students' learning, so every donation helps

Books can be dropped off with Mrs Elliott, English Teacher and Chief Librarian, in EN4, or parents can leave them at reception during school hours. For enquiries, email: j.elliott@priory.lancs.sch.uk



A special thank you to a member of the public who this week donated her late father's treasured book collection of classics – a wonderful gesture that will inspire many readers.



Turn the page on your old books – and help our library grow!



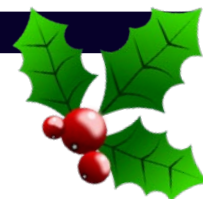
Year 7 Castle competition

- Design your own Motte & Bailey or Stone castle and have the chance to win Amazon vouchers and a History badge!
- Entries can be
 - drawn on paper
 - built out of Lego
 - built out of card etc.
 - or any other idea/style you have
- Closing date for entries is **Monday 19th January 2026.**



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Christmas Card Competition Winners



You know the festive period is near when we launch our Priory Christmas Card competition and, as always, the standard was sky high!

Former winner, Year 11 Jessica, was one of the judges and she was impressed with our winner, for the second year running, Year 9 Imogen.

Imogen entered a digital design – the first time a digital entry has won this tough competition, which had to be a winter or Christmas theme with a link to Priory.

Imogen said: “I started off with one design on my iPad and I didn’t like it so I changed it at the last minute. I enjoyed doing it and am pleased to win again!”

“Last year’s winner was the words Priory with designs inside but this was different.”

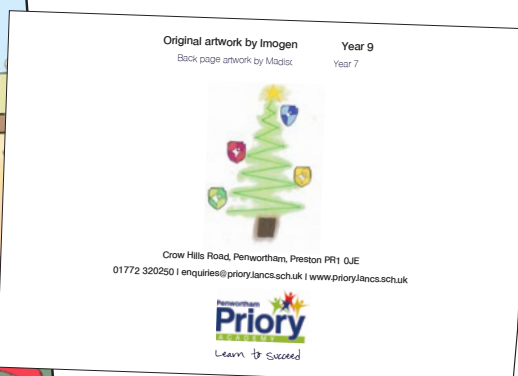
Jessica, who is studying GCSE Art and plans to do A-Level Art, said: “We had a lot of entries so it was difficult choosing the winner but Imogen’s was just a bit different and it contained elements of Priory, such as the House mascots and Priory people as the ribbons on the presents. There was good attention to detail.”

Imogen won a £15 Amazon voucher and, more importantly, her design is the school Christmas Card 2025. Year 7 Madison was runner-up and her contemporary design has been printed on the back of the card.

Madison, who received a £10 Amazon voucher, said: “I was pleased to come second.”

Year 7 Oliver was third and he has already spent his £5 Amazon voucher. “I will buy some food for my cactus plants! I found it interesting to do. I didn’t think I would come in the top three.”

Jessica said: “We liked Madison’s design as it was contemporary and again a bit different. Oliver’s had good pencil work and used a lot of colour, with Priory elements.”



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WE'RE HIRING!



We're Recruiting!

Part-Time

Catering Assistant

Catering Assistant

PART TIME

20 hours per week

10am-2.30pm with 30 minute break

We are seeking a Catering Assistant to provide support in the preparation, cooking and serving of food and beverages plus related catering duties. Little or no experience is required.

For full details and to download an application pack, please visit our website at >>

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/vacancies

Closing date Wednesday, 7 January 2026 at 12 noon.



RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Rainbow Hub will collect & recycle your real Christmas tree to save you time & hassle
Collecting Friday 9th - Sunday 11th January 2026

To book your tree collection, and help Rainbow Hub to raise funds to brighten the lives of children with disabilities, please scan the QR code or visit:
<https://www.rainbowhub.org/event/christmas-tree-collection/>

We will be collecting trees in the following postcode areas:
PR1, PR2, PR4, PR5, PR6, PR7, PR8, PR9, PR25, PR26, WN6, WN8, L39, L40, BL6

With thanks to our event sponsors:

01704 823276 rainbowhub.org fundraising@rainbowhub.org

RAINBOW HUB
Every day is a life changing day

Rainbow Hub,
Salt Pit Lane, Mawdesley,
Ormskirk, L40 2QX

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JUNIOR OPEN TRAINING

PNEWFC is welcoming new players to join our junior section to support the remainder of the 2025/26 season

Join us on Thursdays on the central 3G at
UCLan sports arena, Tom Benson Way, PR2 1SG

Session Times:
U13 and U15: 6.00pm - 7.30pm | U16: 7.30pm - 9.00pm

PLEASE ENSURE PLAYERS WEAR SUITABLE FOOTWEAR, SHIN PADS, AND BRING PLENTY OF FLUIDS

Please register by scanning the QR code
or for more information call 01772 693309

Learn to succeed

Year 11 Childcare Pupils Receive Apprenticeship Offer



Six Priory pupils have secured prestigious apprenticeships with Ashbridge Nurseries.

Year 11 Childcare pupils Amelia, Chloe, Harmony, Alana, Poppy and Darcey were inspired after a visit from Jennifer Mitchell, of Ashbridge Nurseries, who talked to the pupils about their Apprenticeship opportunities. They then attended an evening event last month where they applied for the Apprenticeship scheme and these six were selected.

Ashbridge Nurseries is a well-established early years provider with sites in Hutton, Walton-le-Dale, Bilsborough, and Cottam.

The six apprentices are guaranteed a permanent offer of employment upon completion of their training.

Childcare teacher and SENCo, Mrs Holland, said: "Ashbridge came into school for a careers talk and they followed it up by inviting our pupils to an evening session at Ashbridge Nursery.



"They then had to apply for apprenticeships and six have been offered positions, where they are guaranteed jobs if they pass their apprenticeships, which is the most we have ever had.

"It's a huge boost for the pupils, and for Priory, and this is a fantastic opportunity for our school leavers."

Darcey said: "I have always wanted to work with children and I know this company takes really good care of their staff."

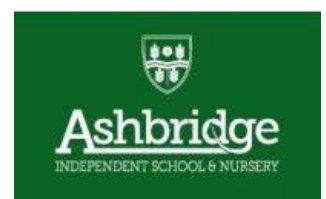
Amelia said: "It's lovely and a relief to have my future sorted after Priory."

Chloe said: "I was pleased to be selected to a paid role while also learning."

Alana said: "I have talked to people who work there and they enjoy it. I love entertaining children so it works for me."

Poppy said: "I used to go to Ashbridge so it felt homely for me when we visited."

Harmony added: "I have always wanted to work with children so this is perfect for me."



Learn to succeed

Pedestrian Crossing Outside Cop Lane CofE Primary School

Safer Routes for All Our Children

We're supporting our friends at Cop Lane Primary in their efforts to secure a pedestrian crossing outside their school.

This isn't just about their pupils, it's about making the journey safer for all children who walk in our community, including many of our own students who use that route daily.

If you'd like to help, please consider signing the petition here:

<https://council.lancashire.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=364&RPID=43379681&HPID=43379681>

This ePetition runs from 02/12/2025 to 13/01/2026.

Every signature brings us closer to safer streets for everyone.



Understanding Ofsted's New Report Cards and Grading System

As part of our commitment to keeping parents informed about educational developments, we would like to share a useful video produced by Ofsted. This short video explains the new report cards and grading system, helping parents to better understand how these changes affect school reporting.



Importantly, the video highlights that the new grading system cannot be compared to the previous one. This clarification ensures transparency and helps set realistic expectations about the new approach.

Although we have only recently had our latest inspection, we still encourage all parents to watch the video and gain insight into the new system. It is available on Ofsted's official YouTube channel and can be accessed here...

www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbl0FvY976g

Inspection report: Example

Exceptional

Strong Standard ● ●

Expected standard ● ● ● ●

Needs Attention

Urgent Improvement



Learn to succeed

Worry Management Course For Secondary Pupils

Compass Bloom provides a free and confidential emotional health and wellbeing support for young people with mild to moderate emotional health and wellbeing needs.

The worry management course is for secondary aged pupils who have not accessed Compass Bloom support before.

The six week course begins in January and will be delivered online using Microsoft Teams.

Parents/carers can self-register for the next group by following the QR code in the poster or clicking the link>> <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/PKVAK3FqKY>

See poster below for more details>>



CompassBLOOM

CALLING ALL PARENTS & CARERS!

Is your young person feeling more worried than usual?

Are those worries starting to get in the way of everyday life and would they like to access support from Compass Bloom for the first time?

We're here to help.

online group

We're running an online worry management group for secondary school aged young people across Central & West Lancashire.

- 6-week course
- Delivered on MS Teams
- Join alongside other young people who feel the same

What we'll cover (one topic each week):

- Session 1** - Understanding anxiety - fight, flight, freeze + intro to CBT
- Session 2** - Spotting & managing physical symptoms
- Session 3** - Challenging negative thoughts - fact or opinion?
- Session 4** - Worry tools - the worry tree, letting go & problem solving
- Session 5** - Behaviours - safety, exposure & building confidence
- Session 6** - Emotions - self-soothing, safe spaces & moving forward

A safe space to learn, share and discover new ways to manage worries.

TO REGISTER FOR OUR NEXT ONLINE GROUP

Scan the QR code or follow the MS link below to fill in a quick form.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/PKVAK3FqKY>

We'll then give you a call to organise an Assessment and confirm the date of the next course and answer any questions you might have.

SCAN ME!

COMPASSBLOOM@COMPASS-UK.ORG 01772 280123

@COMPASSBLOOM

UNIT 8 BALFOUR COURT, OFF HOUGH LANE, LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE, PR25 2TF



Consultation on Updated Geographical Priority Area (GPA)

Penwortham Priory Academy is launching a consultation period to update the description of our Geographical Priority Area (GPA). This affects the admissions policy for the 2027-28 intake onwards, and a six week consultation period from 27 November 2025 to 8 January 2026 has commenced.

As our local area continues to grow and change, particularly with the development of new housing and roads on land that was previously open fields, we are reviewing our GPA to ensure it remains clear and reflective of the current community landscape.

The proposed changes are modest and aim to:

- Align the GPA with more natural and recognisable boundaries, such as roads, rivers, canals.
- Include newly built residential areas that now form part of our local community.
- Improve clarity for families seeking to understand how their home address relates to our GPA.

This consultation is in line with the requirements of the codes and relevant admissions legislation, which at the date of this Agreement is section 89 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as amended, and Regulations under that section, Academy Trust Determination of Admission Arrangements.

If you would like to submit a comment, please email enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk and include the subject line of 'Admissions Consultation'. All responses received will be considered by the Trustee Body once the consultation has closed on 8 January 2026.

The proposed policy is available to view and download from the school website at>>

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/about-priory/admissions/admissions-consultation

House Leaders End the Term with Festive Fun



The final House Leaders Lunchtime Challenge took place on Tuesday.

With a 'Christmas Games' theme, pupils were challenged to try out some new skills. From Sticking the Red Nose on the teacher, Christmas Scattagories and Ping Pong, to Catch the Chocolate and 'How Low' with the cereal box - pupils certainly had a wide variety of events to have a go at.

Calder House Leader, Mrs Massey, got the pupils to spin round before they tried to stick the nose on the teacher, while Ribble House Leader, Mr Raynor kept count on the Christmas words in Scattagories - and making sure not too many After 8s went missing in the Catch the Chocolate!

1st place: **Calder** (Gold)

2nd place: **Douglas** (Silver)

3rd place: **Hodder** (Bronze)



Priory's Food Bank Appeal



Thanks to the incredible generosity of our pupils, staff, and families, Priory's Food Bank appeal has wrapped up with an amazing collection of essentials to support struggling families in our community.

Mrs Massey, who led the initiative, needed a helping hand this morning (Wednesday) to load the school van - no easy feat with so many boxes and bags packed to the brim! Thanks to the Estates Team and Mr Evans for stepping in to load and deliver the generous collection of food and household items to Penwortham Food Bank at the Community Centre, Kingsfold.

Mrs Massey said: "The response has been overwhelming, particularly from Year 7. It's heartwarming to see our school community come together to make such a difference for those in need."

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed, you've truly helped spread kindness and hope this festive season.



Learn to succeed

Year 7 Enjoy an Inspiring MEGA Day at Runshaw College



A group of Year 7 pupils took part in a MEGA Day at Runshaw College on 5 December, where they explored real-world computing, problem-solving and digital literacy.

A MEGA Day is an interactive, themed experience where students explore modern and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and digital innovation. The day was packed with hands-on workshops designed to stretch their thinking, spark curiosity, and give them a glimpse into skills highly valued in future careers.

The day began with an introduction to robotics using Sphero BOLT robots. Pupils learned how to use block-based coding to control movement, speed, lighting and direction. Working in teams, they programmed their Spheros to navigate through a series of mazes and activities, requiring precision, planning and teamwork.

In the second workshop, pupils were introduced to the BBC Microbit. They explored physical computing by coding simple interactive games using button controls and the Microbit's LED matrix.

The final session of the day pushed pupils' problem-solving skills even further. Working in groups of six, they tackled a series of challenges designed to test their logical reasoning, OSINT-style research, cypher skills and their knowledge of computing history.



Each session encouraged teamwork, perseverance and creative thinking - skills that will be invaluable both in school and in future careers.

Kaede McE said, "The trip was very entertaining and I learned a lot. I enjoyed the experience and would love to go again!"

Emma L agreed, "It was really fun, I would love to go again. My favourite part was the competition at the end."

Sophie-Marie M added, "It was great today; I loved the robots!"

Head of ICT & Computing, Mrs Qadri, said, "Participating in a MEGA Day will help students raise aspirations, develop transferable skills, and make informed decisions about their next steps in education and employment."



Learn to Succeed

Oh Christmas Tree...

Priory is sparkling with festive cheer, thanks to a beautifully decorated Christmas tree taking pride of place in the Assembly Hall.

The tree was lovingly adorned by members of our Eco-Club after it was selected during their recent visit to Newgate Nurseries for a festive table decoration workshop. In a wonderful gesture of generosity, Newgate kindly donated the tree to our school. The tree now joins the evergreen planted earlier this month in the Rose Garden by our gardener, Mr Farron.



Mr Farron has been busy spreading Christmas magic across the school, setting up a traditional nativity scene in reception and transforming the Courtyard with seasonal decorations.

The tree will be raffled off to staff on the final day of term.



Learn to succeed

Year 10 Receive Careers Support From The National Grid



Last Thursday Kat Woods and Lewis Robinson from the National Grid came into school to talk to Year 10 pupils about covering letters, CVs, interviews and Assessment Centres from the view of an employer. The assembly was informative and gave pupils an insight into common mistakes and useful tips.

The collaboration comes as a result of discussions with Priory Alumni Steve Ward who is Head of Technical Safety at National Grid. The National Grid continues to work with us to inspire youngsters, provide an insight into STEM pathways, provide work experience placements, mock job interviews and a Year 8 STEM careers day in the summer.

All resources from this assembly will be made available to Year 10 and Year 11 on Teams to use in the future. Pupils who attended the assembly were invited to participate in mock job interviews, and we are extremely appreciative of the team for giving up their time to provide this opportunity for our pupils to develop their skills and to receive feedback to be used in the future.



Six of our pupils have been offered work experience in our work experience week and another two will be offered experience in school holidays.



Lead Practitioner for Personal Development and Careers Leader, Miss Smith said, "I appreciate all the time that the National Grid has continued to dedicate to the collaboration. The activities we have had, and are planning, will provide memorable yet useful experiences for our young people."



Learn to Succeed

A Strike For Priory's Bowling Team

On Thursday, 11 December, the Year 8s came third overall in a ten-pin bowling secondary school tournament at Hollywood Bowl in Preston.

George H got into the 'Hundred Club' with his overall score!

Congratulations to Max F, George H, Kristian K, Isaac S, Dylan P, Oliver McC.



Year 9 South Ribble League Success

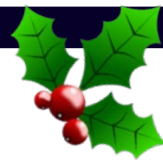
Congratulations to the Year 9 football team who played Browndedge St Mary's on Monday, 8 December.

A strong team performance saw a 5-3 victory in the South Ribble League match.

Well done to all the lads who represented Priory!



Christmas Jumper Design Competition Winners Announced!



Priory pupils have shown off their creative talents in this year's 'Design a Christmas Jumper' house competition.

From hand-drawn designs to digital creations, the festive spirit was alive and well in the Technology department.

After much deliberation, Technology teacher, Mrs Lockwood revealed the winners:

- 1st Place: Archie H (8E2)
2nd Place: Gypsy-May D (7W4)
3rd Place: Sophie-Marie M (7W4)

Archie's winning design featured a bold reindeer at the centre, with a cheerful 'Ho, Ho, Ho' running down each arm - a perfect mix of fun and festive charm!

Mrs Lockwood praised the pupils' efforts, saying: "The standard of entries was excellent and the festive creativity is impressive!"

Thank you to everyone who entered and helped make this competition a success.



Bottom left - Sophie Marie's design in third place. Bottom right - Gypsy May's design in second place. Left - a selection of the excellent entries received.



Learn to Succeed

Priory in the Community

Bringing Festive Cheer to Penwortham



Yesterday, singers from all year groups visited Longton Nursing Home and Booth's Supermarket in Penwortham, to perform a selection of Christmas Carols and other Christmas songs.

This annual activity gave our pupils the opportunity to perform in different venues and offered the chance for other members of the public to experience musical events themselves who might not ordinarily be able to come into school.

Lead teacher of Music, Mr Taylor commented, "Our presence was very well received yet again this year and it was so pleasing to be able to take such good numbers of pupils to offer some Christmas cheer to both the residents in Longton and the shoppers in Booths, who gave so generously to our extra-curricular music fund. We greatly look forward to going again next year."



Learn to succeed

Sacred Places to Shopping Spaces; Year 11 Take Liverpool by Storm



Our recent cross-curricular Religious Education and Geography visit to Liverpool was certainly festive, fascinating and fun-filled day in one of the North West's most iconic cities.

The adventure began at the magnificent Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, a location that never fails to inspire awe - even on a crisp, cold winter morning. Students embarked on a self-led exploration of the building's soaring architecture, stunning stained glass and peaceful chapels. For RE, this was a chance to see places of worship brought vividly to life, deepening theoretical understanding with real-world experience. Many students commented on the scale, beauty and tranquillity of the cathedral.

From the spiritual to the structural, the group then made their way to the Albert Dock, a jewel of Liverpool's historic waterfront. Here, pupils were able to connect their GCSE Geography learning with the world around them. The docks offered the perfect example of urban regeneration, showcasing how former industrial areas can be transformed into vibrant cultural and economic hubs. As students explored the mix of museums, restaurants and restored warehouses, they were able to observe key processes such as sustainable redevelopment, tourism growth and the rebranding of post-industrial cities. It was a powerful reminder that what they learn in the classroom has tangible, visible applications beyond the textbook.



Next stop: Liverpool One, where the pace shifted to something a little more relaxed. Students enjoyed some retail therapy and a well-earned lunch break. Whether they grabbed a quick bite or browsed the shops with friends, pupils conducted themselves impeccably,

and cosy wooden stalls, students soaked up the seasonal atmosphere. The cold weather was no match for the warmth of hog roast sandwiches, loaded fries, German sausages and an array of sweet treats. Laughter, chatter and the smell of cinnamon and bratwurst filled the air as everyone enjoyed the magic of a winter market.



representing the school brilliantly in a busy city-centre environment.

The final destination was the Liverpool Christmas Markets, a highlight that perfectly captured the festive spirit of the day. Amid twinkling lights

Throughout the entire trip, our Year 11s were exemplary. They upheld the Priory Standard at every stage, demonstrating maturity, curiosity and kindness. Staff received several compliments from members of the public - high praise that speaks volumes about the character of our students.

A huge thank you must go to Mrs Willis, Mr Mo, Mr Metcalfe and



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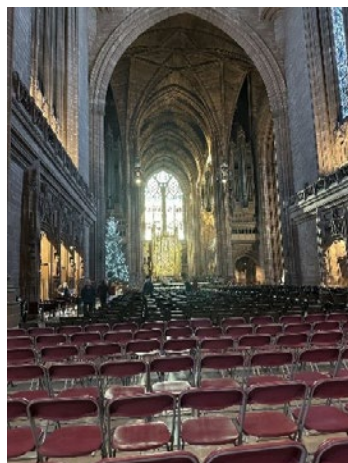


Miss Lintern, whose hard work ensured the day ran smoothly and safely. Their dedication made it possible for students to experience such a rich blend of cultural, academic and festive activities.

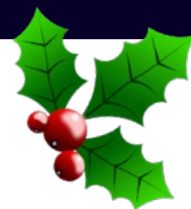
From cathedrals to Christmas markets, regeneration to retail therapy, this cross-curricular visit captured the very best of Liverpool, and the very best of our pupils. It was an unforgettable day of learning, laughter and Liver Birds, and one that will no doubt remain a highlight of the school year.

Thanks to all and a Merry Christmas!

Mrs Kurstis and the
Humanities Department



Christmas Jumper Day Thank You



Priory was full of festive cheer today as pupils and staff embraced Christmas Jumper Day, turning the school into a sea of seasonal knits!

From sparkly snowflakes to cheeky reindeer, everyone leapt at the chance to show off their most creative and colourful jumpers.

Each participant donated £1 for Barnardo's, helping vulnerable children and families across the UK this Christmas.



As we went to press, the total amount raised was £405 from a combination of bake sales, 'guess the teacher' quiz and Christmas Jumper Day. An amazing amount!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined in and supported this wonderful cause.



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Dinner is Served - Priory Style!

Priory was brimming with festive spirit today when Christmas jumper day coincided with Christmas lunch.

The catering team had been planning the perfect menu for weeks, and it didn't disappoint! Pupils enjoyed a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings, followed by a scrumptious sticky toffee pudding for dessert. Adding to the fun, Senior Leaders rolled up their sleeves to serve lunch - a Priory tradition that always brings plenty of smiles.



Christmas Jumper Day was more than just festive fun, it was about giving back. Pupils donated £1 to Barnardo's, helping support vulnerable children and families. Combined with recent bake sales and the 'Guess the Teacher' competition, Priory has raised over £400 for the charity this half term.

And the festive fundraising isn't over yet! Tomorrow is House Colours Day, where pupils can wear a top or bottoms in their House colour along with their own clothes. A £1 donation for Derian House is appreciated and can be paid online via SCOPay or passed to form tutors in the morning. Clothing must be sensible and appropriate for the school environment.



Thank you to everyone for your generosity and support.



Learn to succeed

Spreading Holiday Cheer: Our Secret Santa Gift Exchange

This December, our school was filled with festive spirit as students took part in a Secret Santa gift exchange.

The event brought together a wonderful mix of creativity, generosity and festive fun. With a large number of students eager to participate, the excitement was palpable from the very start.

Each student was assigned a 'secret' recipient, and the variety of gifts exchanged was impressive - ranging from thoughtful handmade items to fun surprises that sparked joy and giggles. The exchange not only showcased the students' creativity but also highlighted the sense of community and kindness that makes our school special.

Adding an extra touch of magic, Head of Computing & ICT, Mrs Qadri surprised every participant with a unique 3D-printed gift, making the occasion even more memorable. This thoughtful gesture was a wonderful reminder of how small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

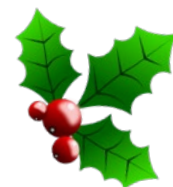
The smiles on everyone's faces as they unwrapped their gifts were a reminder of the importance of giving and sharing during the festive season. A big thank you to all the students who participated and helped make this event such a success!



Learn to Succeed



School closes for the Christmas break on
Thursday, 18 December
at the earlier time of 1.10pm.



We wish all our families a season of delight,
a season of cheer, and to top it all off -
a wonderful New year!

Spring term begins on Monday, 5 January 2026.

Week 1
w/c
5 January

Penwortham Priory Academy
MENU
Autumn Week 1

EVERY DAY

Jacket Potato  **From £1.35***

Build your perfect spud! Start with our light and fluffy jackets and elevate your experience even further with the many toppings available.

Cheese Panini  **£1.90**

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

Pepperoni Panini  **£1.90**

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

Sandwiches  **£1.50**

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

Pasta Pots  **£2.00**

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

VEGETARIAN GLUTEN FREE HALAL

this week's specials

MONDAY

Sausage & Mash **£2.30**

Sizzling sausages served on a bed of mash with beans or gravy.

Mac & Cheese **£2.30**

Deliciously cheesy macaroni cheese served with garlic bread and a side salad.

TUESDAY

Butter Chicken Curry **£2.30**

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

Halloumi Burger **£2.30**

Greek halloumi patty served on a roll with a delicious, steamed corn on the cob.

WEDNESDAY

Loaded Chilli Nachos **£2.30**

Crispy nachos topped with hearty chilli con carne, served with a fresh side salad and finished with a sprinkling of cheese.

Veggie Burrito **£2.30**

A soft tortilla wrap filled with seasoned vegetables, rice, and beans, served with a crisp side salad and crunchy nachos.

THURSDAY

Hot n Kickin' Burger **£2.30**

Succulent spicy chicken burger served with delicious waffle fries and a side salad.

Jerk Burger **£2.30**

Deliciously seasoned Jamaican plant based patty served with delicious waffle fries and a side salad.

Chippy Friday Specials

Chicken Wrap  ***from £2.00**

Crispy southern fried chicken fillet wrapped in a soft tortilla, packed with fresh salad.

Veggie Chicken Wrap  **£2.30**

Crispy southern fried no chick strips wrapped in a soft tortilla, packed with fresh salad.
*Add golden chips to your wrap for an additional 30p.

Steak pudding **£2.30**

Tender steak encased in suet pastry, served piping hot with golden chips for a classic 'Chippy Friday' feeling.

Deserts

Assorted Cakes and Biscuits  **£0.70**

A selection of homemade cakes and biscuits to choose from.

Fruit Pot/Fresh Fruit  **£0.90**

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

Popcorn  **£0.70**

Fresh sweet and salty popcorn.

Jelly **£0.70**

A variety of flavours available.
Vegan option available.

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