

Penwortham Priory Post



Get Ready for a Showstopper as 'Annie' Comes to Priory

"The sun'll come out tomorrow, so you gotta hang on 'til tomorrow."

This will be a familiar song as our pupils start learning the words and songs to 'Annie' which will be our next spectacular school production in December.

Lead Teacher of Drama, Miss Howell said: "It's a nice classical musical and everyone loves the songs which is why we chose it. I am looking forward to producing it all."

The cast has been selected with Year 8 Quinn taking the lead role of orphan Annie. She said: "I was shocked to get the lead part. I am excited but also nervous. I will be immersing myself in Annie!"

Year 11 Libby is Miss Hannigan, who runs the orphanage. She said: "I have been in High School Musical, Scratching the Surface and Chequered Flag in school productions so far. I like the musicals as they are fun."

"Miss Hannigan is a good role as I can be really over the top."

Year 11 Caleb is Mr Warbucks. "I like the idea of being rich and it's something fun at school. It's light relief from GCSE revision."

Year 11 Molly is Grace. "I am looking forward to it but I am also nervous. I have got to sing a few songs. It's escapism so it's fun."

Performances 9 & 10 December at 7pm. Adults £8 | Concessions £6. Tickets available via SCOPay, school office or on the night (cash only).

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

Mon, 24 November

Learning for Life Day 2
Early lunch followed by school closure at 1.10pm

Weds, 26 November

Flu immunisations

26 & 27 November

GCSE History Thackray
Museum Trip (Year 10)

Fri, 28 November

Make Languages Work Day
(Year 9)

Fri, 5 December

Year 7 Mega Day Runshaw
College (selected pupils only)

Tues 9 & Weds 10 December

Annie The Musical - 7pm

Weds, 10 December

Year 11 RE & Geography
Liverpool Trip

Fri, 12 December

Rewards Trips

Mon, 15 December

Year 11 Parents Evening
(online)

Weds, 17 December

Christmas Dinner
Christmas Jumper Day
Matilda Theatre Trip

Thurs, 18 December

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



Year 11 Pupils Help Primary School Neighbours Rock Out with Multiplication

Music



In their Assembly on Tuesday afternoon, pupils at Penwortham Primary School were treated to some live Rock Music performances of their own by Priory's very own rockstars, Ezra and Evie.

This was to round off their full day of using the Times Table

Rockstars online programme which is designed to sequentially build children's skills, fluency and recall in both multiplication and division.

Pupils have been able to access the application at any time on any device, and the engaging gamification and motivating rewards mean teachers have reported that it has never been difficult to entice children to play.

There was a wide and varied collection of rock-star haircuts amongst the audience alongside some superb rock music performed by Ezra and Evie.

<https://trockstars.com/>



Learn to succeed

Learning for Life

Day 2



Monday, 24 November 2025

Don't forget - next Monday is a Learning for Life Day so school will close at 1.10pm.

Pupils should report to their Session 1 teacher in their usual Learning for Life classroom for 8.40am unless their normal room is in the Technology block. These groups have been relocated into the main building* and information is on Teams.

Lunch is brought forward and school buses have been rearranged for this earlier time.

If pupils are absent on this day, the work they miss will need to be completed on their return as an extra-curricular activity.



The topics we cover on these days include areas which will genuinely make a difference to the life choices our children make. We hope that this will mean that they will make positive, well-informed choices which will lead to them becoming happy and well-rounded young people with high aspirations for themselves and others. We take our responsibility to educate our young people in a much broader sense (more than simply passing exams) very seriously.

Sessions covered on Monday include:

Year 7 **Self Concept**

Getting to know me | A question of character | Under my control | Preparing for life after Priory

Year 8 **Healthy Mind**

All mixed up | Healthy or unhealthy? | Balance is good. Sanity

Year 9 **Addiction - Knowledge**

Alcohol and its effects | The effects of drinking too much | Illegal drugs | Prescription drugs and legal highs.

Year 10 **Pregnancy**

Consent and contraception revisited – Consequences and choices | Pregnancy – Consequences and choices | Parenthood including: Roles, responsibilities and fertility.

Year 11 **Financing Life**

Risk | Borrowing | Saving | Interest | Fraud prevention | Security

All year groups will receive sources of help and support for themselves and others.

*8EW3 to MA2 | 7EW2 to EN1

Ms Smith
Lead Practitioner for
Personal Development

Learn to Succeed

Penwortham Priory Academy

Presents



Tuesday 9th December
Wednesday 10th December
Starts 7pm

Tickets available via SCOPay or on the door
Adults £8 | Concessions £6

Book by
Thomas Meehan

Music by
Charles Strause

Lyrics by
Martin Charnin

Original Broadway Production Directed by **Martin Charnin**

Based on "Little Orphan Annie"® By Permission of Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Director
Miss Howell

Music Director
Mr Taylor

Annie JR. is presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York, NY
(212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

Grassroots Glory as Priory's Pitches Earn Advanced Status

Priory has some of the best school football pitches in the area to hire out with a Pitch Power Report marking four of the six pitches 'Advanced' – the highest mark!

The other two have been marked 'good' with Priory's Estates team aiming to have all their pitches with 'Advanced' rating as soon as they can.

It's primarily been down to the hard work of Estates Supervisor Tim Bamber.

He said: "I have been at Priory for five years. I started taking an interest when my son played for Penwortham St Theresa's, one of the clubs that use the school's facilities, and the pitches weren't the best and needed upgrading.

"I talked to Facilities Manager Keith Bolton and we applied for a Football Foundation grant which we got and we were able to receive training and buy equipment.

"We have progressed and improved the pitches over the years and now we get a lot of positive comments about our pitches and it is a big source of pride at school.



"They are used from March-September on weekdays by grassroot teams and, because they are good pitches, they can be used for longer. They are also used at weekends.

"Pitch Power assess our pitches every six months and it's great to see where we have come from, from Poor to Advanced. We do take really good care of them with the time and budget and everyone is proud of how far we have come."

Mr Bolton said: "Both myself and Tim have had training by the Grounds Maintenance Association and attended conferences to learn how we can improve the pitches. We have also received equipment such as a tractor and a robotic line marker.

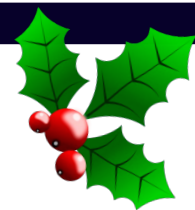
"The pitches have improved dramatically. It shows we are doing the right things by being graded 'Advanced' on four of our pitches – and we are aiming for all six to reach the top mark!"

Contractual agreements for the use of Priory's grass pitches are currently with Penwortham Town FC, Penwortham St Tereasa's FC, AFC Penwortham, and Kingsfold FC.

The 3G pitch has availability every Wednesday 9-10pm (2 x 7v7 pitches). The 3G can also be available on a Saturday from 2-4pm by arrangement.

In addition to the grass and 3G pitches, Penwortham Priory Academy has a wide range of facilities for hire from conference suites, classrooms, netball courts and a dance studio to a sports hall, gym and hall. For further information, enquiries or to make a booking, please visit the school website at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/facility-hire-at-priory or email lettings@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Priory Welcomes Real Christmas Tree for Seasonal Celebrations



Priory has its very own real Christmas tree – planted by award-winning gardener Mr Farron in our Rose Garden.

The species of tree planted is Abies Nordmanniana, with its origins in Norway and this tree has come from Italy, close to the Pyrenees.

It will be decorated by pupils, it will have lights around it and also the school will hold its very first outside Carol Service around it.

“It’s a welcome addition to our Rose Garden,” said Mr Farron. “It will light up the days of winter. We will arrange for the pupils to decorate the tree to their design with guidance from myself and a form tutor, as well as holding our first outdoor Christmas Carol Service with some guests”.

“It will become a feature in our Rose Garden. They do grow extremely high so it will require trimming every year.

“The Rose Garden is going to be transformed over the new year, with a new walkway and more, and this tree is an exciting part of the transformation.”



Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday, 17 December Christmas dinner will be served in the dining room for all year groups. This will be the only hot meal option available that day, with the exception of a vegetarian alternative. In addition, ‘lite bites’ will be available for all year groups to purchase at the Bistro..

Pupils do not need to pre-order their Christmas dinner however Heads of Year will be asking pupils for a show of hands in their Form groups to gauge approximate numbers of each option (hot meal/lite bite/packed lunch) for catering purposes.

We will also be celebrating Christmas Jumper Day this day and pupils are invited to wear a Christmas jumper under their blazer in lieu of their Priory jumper. In return, we ask for a £1 donation to our chosen charity, Barnardo’s payable in cash or via SCOPay.



Christmas Lunch
Wednesday, 17th December

Two Course Hot Meal Only £2.90

Served in the Restaurant (all year groups)

Roast Turkey or Nut Roast (✓)
Served with all the trimmings.
Gravy (gf), Yorkshire Pudding (gf option available).

Sticky Toffee Pudding*,
Mince Pie or Yoghurt
*Served with custard (optional)

With Free Juice (orange or blackcurrant)

Only £2.90

Served in the Bistro (all year groups)

Chicken Wraps | Paninis |
Jacket Potatoes | Sandwiches

Break served as normal.

£2.90 is equivalent to the Free School Meal daily allowance | Courses available individually at £2.30 and 65p | Pod closed at lunch | Staff to pre-order online and select 'Restaurant' if eating in.

Learn to succeed

Empowering Pupils, Building Futures: Peer Mentor Training at Priory



ASDAN Peer Mentor training has proved so popular that we have two cohorts of Year 10 pupils undergoing training each year.

It's two days of training led by Tahir Mahmood and Gemma Appleton from 'We Are With You', commissioned by Lancashire County Council.

Peer Mentoring can support children and young people by:

- Enhancing social competence
- Building security within the setting and wider community by realising their worth as social beings
- Improving attendance and educational attainment
- Developing friendship skills in a positive environment



During the sessions pupils will develop their listening and team working skills, they will discuss scenarios that they could come across and how they can manage them effectively. Among other tasks, pupils participate in role plays and communication challenges across five strands to gain a 10 hour ASDAN accredited certificate. They also bag themselves a £25 gift voucher as a reward.

Tahir said: "We deliver a Peer Mentor short course to Year 10 pupils who are aspiring to be prefects or Head Boys or Girls.

"It's teaching the skills they need to be a prefect and the issues they may come across. It's accredited by ASDAN and delivered by us. It's around 10 hours and it's teaching pupils skills to use in school but also skills to take into their life and into their careers."

Jacob said: "I took this course because I thought it would look good on my CV. We have been through

ice breakers so far – ways to introduce yourself to people."

Sophie said: "I have signed up to this course because I want to be a prefect."

Lainie added: "I am learning how to communicate better, how to talk to people so it isn't awkward, it's a good skill to have."

Lead Practitioner for Personal Development, Ms Smith, added, "At Priory, we always look for opportunities to develop our pupils' life skills and provide leadership experiences. Our current Peer Mentor team has assisted younger pupils in the school, and our new additions will enable us to have more widespread coverage and provide some relief to our Year 11s as they approach their exams".

ASDAN offers nationally recognised qualifications based around the development of personal, social and employability skills, making the course the perfect addition to a pupil's college application or CV.

Learn to succeed



Galloways
Support through sight loss

CHRISTMAS FAIR

HOWICK HOUSE, PR1 OLS

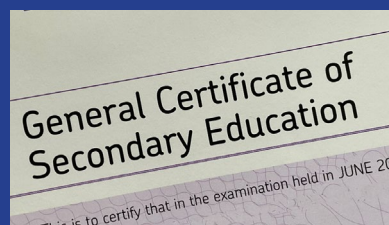
Sunday 23rd November
12-5

Visit Santa Children's Games Face Painting
Pre-loved & Small Business Stalls
Raffle Tombola Twilight Bakery
Vintage Bubbles Mulled Wine & Bar
Festive Wreaths Festive Plants
Sweet Stall DAGI Pizza Indian Food
Fairground Rides (weather dependent)

Class of 2025 GCSE Certificate Collection

Class of 2025 can now collect their GCSE certificates from the school office.

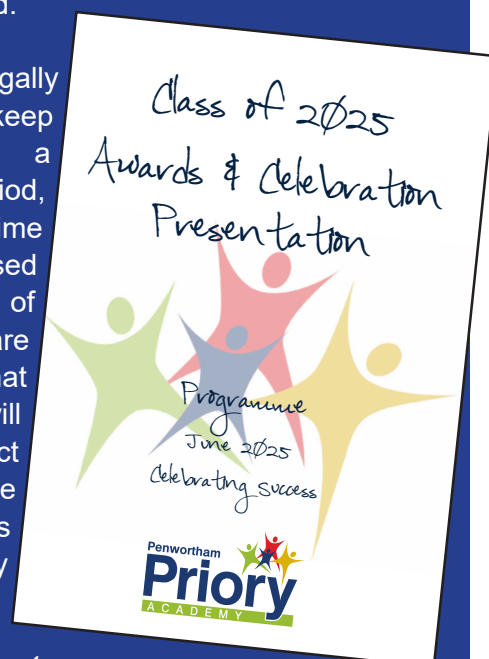
Certificates will be available to collect during school hours by our former pupils and must be signed for. If any other person - including parent/carer - is collecting the certificates on their behalf they must have a note, signed by the pupil, giving their consent for school to release them.



Any medals, certificates and other prizes not collected during the leaver's celebration event on their last day, as well as the event programme, will be available to take at the same time.

We would like to take this opportunity to emphasise how important it is that the exam certificates are collected, as they are very important documents that are likely to be needed throughout their career and particularly if a path to university or a professional career is planned.

School is only legally obliged to keep certificates for a 12 month period, after which time they are disposed of. If copies of certificates are needed after that time, pupils will need to contact the appropriate awarding bodies directly and pay to obtain copies.



School hours - 8am-4pm
Monday to Thursday (Friday 3.30pm)



You are invited!

RUNSHAW COLLEGE

Dear

We are delighted to extend a special invitation to you for the upcoming...

Pathway to Excellence Twilight Session
Thursday 29th January 2026, 5.00pm - 7.30pm

Your school has selected you and your parents / guardians, to participate in this inspiring event, recognising your outstanding academic achievements and potential for success.

The Pathway To Excellence Twilight Session promises to be an enlightening and inspiring occasion, specifically designed for high achieving students which would benefit from having their aspirations strengthened and practical tips around success.

- This unique opportunity will provide invaluable insights into **revision** strategies
- Achieving success in Science
- We are also delighted to be able to welcome **Martin Griffin, Author of 'The A Level Mindset'**. Martin Griffin has 20 years of experience teaching post-16 students and now works with schools and colleges to design and implement character development and mindset programmes.

For parents/guardians, this will be an evening to gain insight into the **Scholars Academy** here at Runshaw and how this gives top performing students a leading edge for admission to Prestigious Universities. There will also be the opportunity to hear from our **Heads of A Level** into how we look after **high achieving students**, nurturing their potential with specialist **Progress Mentors** and our **Academy programme**.

To confirm your attendance at this invitation only event, please scan the QR code and complete the booking form by Friday 15th January.

Warm regards,

G. Cahill
Gillian Cahill
Senior Admissions Tutor

Scan the QR code to register

Pathway - to - excellence | **RUNSHAW COLLEGE**

Learn to succeed

Year 11 Pupil Shows He Has Knock Out Talent In The Boxing Ring



Year 11 Leevi is making a name for himself in the boxing world.

The southpaw has recently won the North West Region belt at Under 70kg in a competition in Fleetwood.

"I had five fights and won two by stoppage and three by unanimous verdict.

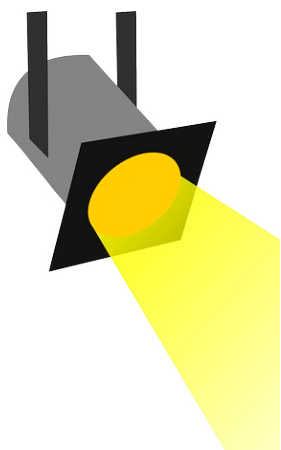
"I also took part in the Nationals in London and got through to the final. I was disappointed to lose but it does mean I am second best in England at Under 70kg.

"I put a lot of work in. I train five days a week at the Lancashire School of Boxing in Preston and there is also the gym and running and I have to fit it around my studies.

"I have had 12 fights in my career and lost two so far but I think you learn a lot from the ones you lose.

"I want to move up to 75kg and go professional.

"In the meantime, I hope to be an apprentice electrician."



Pupils In The Spotlight

Would you like to tell us about your child's achievements whether it's in sport, charity events, public speaking, drama, environmental issues, maths challenges or anything else? Maybe even someone who has overcome adversity and doesn't mind talking about it?

If this is you, please get in touch with your child's form tutor / head of year or contact the Communications Manager, Mrs Yates, via email at:

j.yates@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Learn to succeed

Year 11 Pupil Strikes Bronze at European Taekwondo Championships



Year 11 pupil Harry is third in Europe in the 63kg category at taekwondo.

Harry, who trains four times a week at Total Taekwondo in Preston, took part in the Tusah Open in Moldova, his first international taekwondo competition.

He was competing against contenders from Russia, Moldova, Turkey, Romania, Tunisia and Bulgaria while Harry's team represented Great Britain.

Harry was in the A class 63kg category and reached the quarter-finals where he point-gapped his opponent by 12 points.

This meant he had secured a place in the semi-finals but he couldn't quite reach the final, finishing with a bronze medal.



Harry said: "I got into taekwondo about 18 months ago through my grandad. I thought I would give it a go and I took to it.

"It's got exercise, discipline, you make friends and you see the world. I also coach the little kids to help out as well.

"I am proud to be third in Europe in my age category.

"I have my Blue Belt at the moment so the next stage is to get my Black Belt.

"I want to go to the Olympics, that's the pinnacle and I am sure it's everyone's dreams but, whatever happens, I enjoy it as a hobby."



Learn to succeed

From Cakes to Quizzes: Year 8's Mission to Make a Difference For Charity

Mrs Elliott's EW4 form has been fundraising for Barnardo's and admit helping a charity has been rewarding.

Their class assembly this term is about 'collecting for local children' so they chose Barnardo's as their charity.

The Year 8s held their first of two bake sales before the half term break where they raised £87. They are currently putting together a 'Guess the Teacher' quiz where pupils donate a minimum of 20p to guess the teacher from their baby/child photos.

Daniel said: "Barnardo's was one of the charities which needed help. It's a nice thing to do, it's helping society and it boosts your own self-esteem."

Matilda said: "We did a bake sale where we all brought in cakes – we sold out so they must have been good!"

Imogen said: "It's nice to help people who are less fortunate."

The group's second bake sale will be on Friday, 12 December at break in the Nucleus.



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.



GAMES & GRAPHICS TASTER WORKSHOP

**PRESTON
COLLEGE**

**MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30**

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in Games & Graphics.

The session will be based around 3D modelling in Maya where you will be introduced to aspects such as building, texturing, lighting and rendering.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email sroberts@preston.ac.uk

 
**PRESTONCOLLEGE
CREATIVEARTS**



FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY TASTER WORKSHOP

**PRESTON
COLLEGE**

**MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30**

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in Media, Film & Photography.

The session will hands on and practical using industry standard software and equipment and is ideal for anybody looking for a career in TV, Film, Photography and Journalism.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email lfenton@preston.ac.uk

 
**PRESTONCOLLEGE
CREATIVEARTS**



Learn to succeed

Locked Up in History!

Year 7's Lancaster Adventure

Year 7 pupils enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Lancaster last week, diving deep into the city's fascinating past.

The day began at the Priory Church, a beautiful landmark dating back to the 1400s. Students explored its stunning architecture and learned about its centuries-old role in the community.

Next stop: Lancaster Castle, where history truly came alive. Pupils toured the castle's ancient halls and even stepped inside an authentic 18th-century jail cell - an experience that sparked plenty of excitement! The visit concluded in a working Crown Court, offering a glimpse into modern justice.

Lead Teacher of History, Mr Eccles, said, "The trip was a perfect mix of history and hands-on learning, leaving everyone with lasting memories and a new appreciation for Lancaster's heritage".



Year 8 Shake Up Learning To Build Earthquake-Resistant Structures



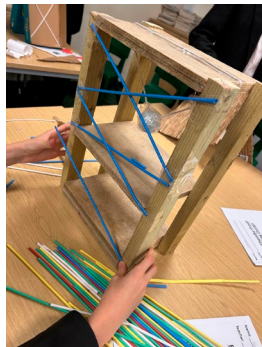
This term in Geography, Year 8 students have taken on a dynamic new challenge: designing and constructing buildings that can stand up to powerful earthquakes.

Using simple, everyday materials such as paper straws, string, cardboard and wooden skewers, pupils have been testing their engineering skills in a hands-on and memorable way.

The project encouraged students to think like real structural engineers. Their models showcased a wide range of creative safety features, including pyramid-shaped buildings, shock-absorbing foundations and hanging pendulum ball. Many groups also experimented with different frame shapes, discovering how diagonal supports and interlocking joints can disperse the energy produced during ground shaking.

One particularly impressive aspect of the students' designs was their use of paper straw, string and cardboard to create a window shutter. Any movement will force the shutters to close preventing 'glass' from shattering onto the possible civilians. The pupils demonstrated a strong understanding of how buildings can create opportunities to reduce impacts to people - an essential concept in earthquake-resistant architecture.

Geography teacher Mr Momoniat said, "This project gives students the opportunity to apply scientific principles in a practical and enjoyable way. It's fantastic to see them working collaboratively, testing ideas and adapting their designs. They've shown real perseverance and creativity while exploring how communities around the world stay safe during earthquakes."



Learn to succeed

New Menu For Autumn Term 2

Week 1
w/c
24 November

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.

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.

VEGETARIAN **GLUTEN FREE** **HALAL**

ART & DESIGN TASTER WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in Art & Design.

The session is intended to develop your creative print making skills. It will be hands on and cover a number of different forms of print.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email dheyes@preston.ac.uk

PRESTON COLLEGE

PRESTON COLLEGE

INFORMATION CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY TASTER WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 17th FEBRUARY
9:30 - 12:30

We are running a **FREE** taster workshop for any Yr10 or 11's interested in ICT.

This will be a practical session based around Cyber Security.

Numbers will be limited but to confirm a place please email mpatel@preston.ac.uk

Learn to succeed