

Penwortham Priory Post



Year 9 Discover Languages At Work

Last Friday, Priory hosted its latest 'Make Languages Work' event, a dynamic and inspiring day designed to show Year 9 pupils how learning a language can unlock exciting career opportunities.

As pupils begin to think about their Options, the event is perfectly timed. Head of Languages Mrs Scully explained: "This is the fourth year we've run this event, and every time it gets better. The pupils are so engaged, they ask great questions and really see the relevance of languages to different jobs."

Starting with a presentation from the University of Lancashire's TESOL lecturer, Karen Smith, on the importance of languages, the day was then split into two parts:

There were three workshops delivered by the Confucius Institute at ULan; two focusing on Chinese language, calligraphy, Tai-chi and traditional painting. The third was a British Sign Language workshop, led by Ricci Collins, who is hearing impaired. Pupils learned basic signs and communicated with Ricci through an interpreter, sitting in complete silence and showing the utmost respect throughout. This powerful session highlighted that language is not only spoken or written, it can also be visual and inclusive.

The second part was a career speed-dating session which proved very popular. The hall was filled with tables and the Year 9 pupils moved around to engage with each of the visiting professionals. There was a huge range of people available

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

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
Flu Nasal Immunisation
Catch Up

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 - 4 February
Year 11 Mock Exams

Friday, 30 January
Learning For Life Day 3
Early lunch followed by
school closure at 1.10pm

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to chat to about their jobs and the importance of different languages to their roles.

Visitors included Sarah Cutts Translation, specialising in Spanish and French legal and commercial documents; Mr and Mrs Taylor, who work in the food and wine industry; and representatives from the Army, who highlighted the strategic importance of language skills.

Pupils also enjoyed interactive sessions such as a drinks tasting with Mrs Bailey, using authentic phrases, and talks from Mrs Day of Penwortham Primary School about her experience of teaching languages.

Finally, Mrs Small, who leads the Japanese Club every Wednesday at Priory, spoke about the opportunities learning the language brings and the influence of Japanese companies in the UK.

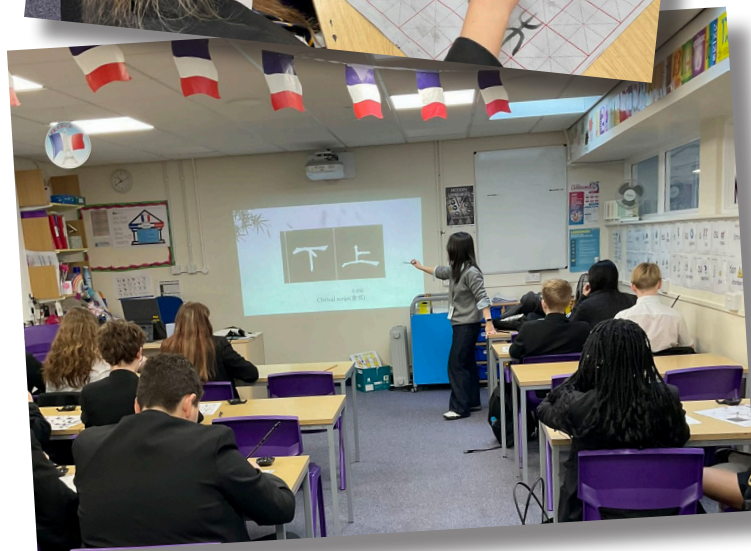
Feedback from guests was overwhelmingly positive, praising the pupils' enthusiasm and behaviour. Mrs Scully added: "There was something to grab everyone's attention, and it really showcased the value of languages beyond the classroom."

Thank you to our Year 10 pupils who supported the event and made our visitors welcome:

Will B, Catherine C, Thomas E, Phoebe G, Alexis G, Issy T, Zara W, Reese L, Sienna W-M, Saachi R, Megan B, Matthew S.



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PROM Date



A date for your diary...

The Year 11 Prom
has been booked for
Wednesday, 8th July at

Christmas Raffle

As usual we have a Christmas hamper to raffle with some smashing goodies inside.

Raffle tickets are just £1 each and are available to purchase via SCOPay, the school office or on the night of the two musical performances (cash only). The raffle is open to everyone including family, friends, visitors and members of the public.

The raffle will be drawn by the Principal on Friday, 12 December 2025 and all funds raised will go towards the refurbishment of our Assembly Hall for the benefit our future Performing Arts.

For a preview of what you could win in the Christmas hamper, please click on the link below.

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



Tuesday, 9 December and
Wednesday, 10 December

Performances start at 7pm

Adults £8 | Concessions £6 (school age children / adults age 65 and over). (Under 5s free)

Tickets can be purchased via SCOPay or with cash from Reception/School Office.

Members of the public, friends and extended family are also extremely welcome. Tickets will also be available on the door. Cash only, thank you.

Find our more at>>

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/news/2025-11-17-get-ready-for-a-showstopper-as-annie-comes-to-priory

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 Chamin

Original Broadway Production Directed by **Martin Chamin**
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

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Year 10 Peer Mentors Ready to Step Into To New Role



Our latest cohort of Year 10 Peer Mentors has now completed the second part of their training and are ready to step into their new role as Year 11 pupils focus on exams.

The training, delivered by Tahir Mahmood and Gemma Appleton from Lancashire County Council's 'We Are With You', covered essential skills such as active listening, empathy, and problem-solving - qualities that will help mentors support younger pupils and promote wellbeing across school. Pupils also explored strategies for building trust, managing sensitive conversations, and encouraging positive behaviour.



As part of the programme, pupils have achieved an ASDAN qualification in Peer Mentoring, recognising their commitment to personal development and leadership. This nationally recognised award is a fantastic addition to their CV and future applications.

Peer mentoring is a key part of Priory's ethos, empowering pupils to take on leadership roles, develop confidence, and make a real difference to the school community.

Ms Smith, Lead Practitioner for Personal Development said, "This group has shown real maturity and enthusiasm throughout the training. They're now equipped with the skills to support their peers and contribute to a positive school culture. It's fantastic to see pupils stepping up to help others while developing their own leadership qualities."

A second cohort is waiting in the wings, with training dates confirmed in the New Year. Any Year 10 pupils interested in becoming a Peer Mentor should speak to Ms Smith.



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Priory Cheerleaders Bring Energy to South Ribble's First Competition

Last month, Priory's cheerleading squad took part in the first-ever South Ribble Schools Cheer Competition, held at Brownedge St Mary's High School.

The girls have been working hard over the past few months at our after-school cheer club, learning a set routine packed with energy and precision.

At the event, on 19 November, teams competed across beginner, intermediate, and advanced categories for each year group. Priory entered the intermediate category, performing to Nathan Dawe's track "Here in Your Arms."

Round One saw 15-20 competitors in each category perform in front of the judges, with successful dancers progressing to the final round for a chance at a medal. Year 8 Imogen D impressed the judges and made it through to the final - a fantastic achievement! Although she didn't place, her performance was outstanding and a credit to the team.



PE teacher Miss Beesley said: "Although Priory came away empty-handed, the commitment shown by the girls has been commendable. They supported each other brilliantly and worked hard to perfect their routine. We'll take away a lot from this experience and come back stronger next year."

Looking ahead, we are already preparing for the next challenge - a street dance competition in early 2026 with a similar format. All pupils from all year groups are welcome to join practices when we return in the New Year.

Well done: Phoebe G, Ellie-Mae H, Imogen D, Scarlett F, Tasha R, Violet T, Emily M.



House Leaders Host Lunchtime Board Game Challenge!

The Nucleus was buzzing with excitement on Thursday lunchtime as pupils gathered for a fun-filled board game competition, organised by our House Leaders.

From Connect 4 to Dobble, pupils had the chance to pick their favourite game, challenge their friends, or even take on the teachers! It was a fantastic opportunity to relax, have fun, and earn valuable points for their House.



House Leader Mrs Massey said: "It was brilliant to see so many pupils getting involved today. The atmosphere was great - lots of laughter, friendly competition, and everyone having fun while representing their House."

After a busy session, the results were in: Joint First: **Douglas & Calder** | Second: **Ribble** | Third: **Hodder**

Well done to everyone who took part, great fun was had by all!





What's coming up at Priory before Christmas

Even though it's coming to the end of the Autumn term, it's full steam ahead at Priory with lots of activities taking place in school around lesson time. Here's a round up...

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday, 17 December



On our last Wednesday, Christmas dinner will be served in the dining room for all year groups. In addition, 'lite-bites' will be available for all year groups to purchase at the Bistro. The Pod

will be closed.

You do not need to pre-order however Heads of Year have asked pupils for their preference to gauge approximate numbers for catering.

Christmas Jumper Day

Wednesday, 17 December

This is the same day when Christmas lunch is served and, should pupils wish to do so, Christmas jumpers can be worn with their normal school uniform on that day. The Christmas Jumper simply replaces the Priory jumper.

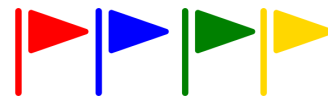


£1 donation towards Barnardo's ideally via SCOPay though cash donations to form tutors or the school office on the day are also acceptable.



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.

£1 donation towards Derian House via SCOPay or in cash to your Form Tutor or School Office.



Bake Sale

Tuesday, 16 December

Mrs Elliott's Year 8 form has organised a bake sale which will take place in the Nucleus at break (and lunch if there's anything still left).

All money raised will go to Barnardos.

Please bring some loose change if you wish to buy.



NEXT ISSUE

NO NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK.

The next issue will be out Weds, 17 December

Thank you for your support.

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Lost and Found: Are These Yours?

We're approaching the end of the Autumn term and thankfully we have little build up of the usual finds in lost property. In addition to the handful of coats, there's a few water bottles and a pair of gloves amongst the miscellaneous items.

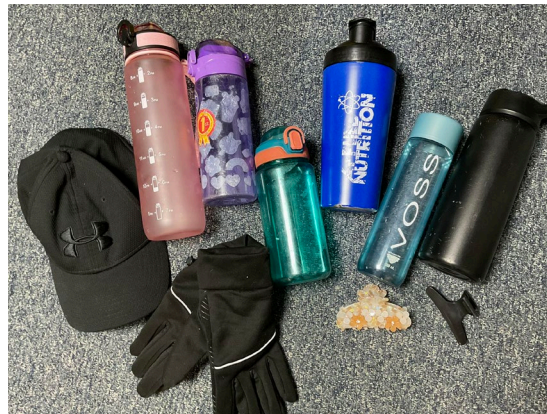
Lost and found property is located in the Pastoral office with the exception of PE kit which is generally kept by the PE Department. Please also check the school office for any items lost that day. Valuables will be stored securely by the Pastoral office (see Mr Shipton) until their owner can be identified.

We do aim to return named items to their owner and so we cannot over-emphasise the importance of marking all property, including ties, water bottles and stationery, with your child's name.



All unclaimed lost property is added to the uniform bank, donated to charity or is disposed of after the end of each half term.

The last day for collection of any of these items is Wednesday, 17 December.



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**.



'Guess the Teacher' Winners Announced!

After a week of laughter and plenty of head-scratching, the results are in for our 'Guess the Teacher from Their Baby Photo' competition!



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

Congratulations to our winners from Mrs Roberts' Year 10 form - Millie D, Jazmin K, Lucy H and Georgia R - who managed to correctly identify the most staff baby photos and bagged themselves a tub of Quality Street.

The challenge, organised by Mrs Elliott's Year 8 form (8EW4), raised an impressive £30 for Barnardo's, supporting vulnerable children across the UK.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part and to the staff who shared their adorable childhood pictures.

Mrs Elliott, "The pupils loved running this competition and it was fantastic to see so many getting involved. It's a fun way to raise money for a great cause and we're proud of the effort Year 8 has put in."

Just to keep the fun going for our parents, here are three more baby photos for you to have a guess at. Answers at the bottom of the page!



BAKE SALE



Date Change!

Tuesday, 16 December

And the fundraising doesn't stop there!

8EW4 will be rounding off their charity campaign with a **Bake Sale** on Tuesday, 16 December at break and lunch in the Nucleus.

So bring your change and your sweet tooth!



Guess The Baby Photo Answers: Left to Right > Mr Eastham, Mr Sneddon, Miss Howell

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Year 11

Parents Evening

Monday, 15 December

Booking is now live

This evening will be a four minute meeting with each of your child's teachers to check on their progress in Year 11 so far in term one and to plan ahead for the summer exams.

To facilitate these events we use a web-based program called 'SchoolCloud Parents Evening'.

A letter has been emailed to parents and the link for to book your slot is now open.

Full instructions on how to book and attend appointments, can be downloaded from the school website

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/parents-evenings

In addition, a tutorial video can be viewed by clicking on the link>>

<https://vimeo.com/473882995>

The link to access the event is the same link you use to book your appointments, as follows:

<https://penworthampriory.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

To enable teachers to meet with as many parents/carers as possible, each appointment slot will be four minutes long. The appointments automatically stop after this time and teachers cannot extend the call.

If you wish to meet with your child's teacher for further discussion after this, please arrange this with them during the session or via email at a later point. If you would like to speak to another member of staff, please feel free to contact them direct. A full email list can be found via our website at >

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/staff-contact-list

**Week 3
w/c
8 December**

Penwortham Priory Academy
MENU
Autumn Week 3

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

Chicken Biryani Burrito **£2.30**

Delicious homemade chicken biryani served burrito style with a side of nachos and a side salad.

Sweet Chilli Stir Fry **£2.30**

Sizzling stir fried vegetables served on a bed of noodles and coated in sweet chilli sauce.

TUESDAY

Chicken Korma **£2.30**

Tender chicken marinated in rich Korma sauce, slow-cooked and served over rice with a warm naan.

Veggie Curry **£2.30**

Hearty vegetables marinated in a mild curry sauce and served with fragrant rice and warm naan bread.

WEDNESDAY

Popcorn Chicken **£2.30**

Crispy popcorn chicken served with golden skin-on wedges and a side of your choice.

Onion Bhaji Burger **£2.30**

Crispy onion bhaji patty served with golden skin-on wedges and a side of your choice.

THURSDAY

Savoury Mice **£2.30**

A delicious mix of mince, vegetables and gravy served over mash with a crispy yorkshire pudding on the side.

Rainbow Pasta **£2.30**

Roasted rainbow vegetables tossed in a rich tomato sauce, served with pasta and crunchy garlic bread.

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 ***from £2.00**

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

Crispy Battered Fish **£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.

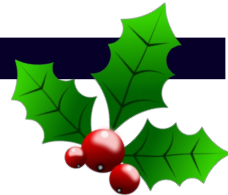
VEGETARIAN

GLUTEN FREE

HALAL

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ECO Club Brings Christmas Cheer to Priory!



Christmas has officially arrived at Priory thanks to the efforts of Gardener Mr Farron, Mrs Massey and her ECO Club!



On Thursday, the team was invited to Newgate Nursery & Garden Centre in Whitestake to choose a beautiful Christmas tree for our Assembly Hall.

The tree was kindly donated by Newgate, where our gardener Mr Farron is a regular shopper! We are extremely grateful for their generosity in helping us make the school festive.

While at the garden centre, pupils also enjoyed a hands-on workshop creating their own festive table decorations using natural foliage, holly, and seasonal sprigs - a perfect way to celebrate sustainability and creativity.

The tree is now proudly standing in the hall, decorated by the ECO team, ready to delight pupils, staff, and visitors. It will provide a stunning backdrop for next week's musical production of Annie, with evening performances on Tuesday and Wednesday (9th & 10th). We're also welcoming partner primary schools for a special matinee on Tuesday and residents from local care homes on Wednesday.



Science teacher Mrs Massey said: "It was a wonderful experience for the pupils - not only choosing and decorating the tree but also learning how to make beautiful decorations using natural materials. A big thank you to Newgate for their support!"



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Myerscough College Course Advice Morning Saturday, 6th December

This is an additional date to offset the late cancellation of their October event - thanks to Storm Amy!

The college offers more than 30 different subjects, covering a wide range of land-based subjects (from Agriculture and Equestrian Studies to Motorsports and Veterinary Nursing). There's also Sports Coaching and Performance routes across Football, Rugby, Golf and Basketball (plus Cricket, at the Emirates Old Trafford Cricket ground in Manchester)

There are options at a range of levels within each subject, from bespoke Foundation Learning courses through to Level 3 Diploma suites and dedicated T-Level routes. Plus Apprenticeship opportunities in most curriculum areas.

Information about transport routes and financial support is available from the 'Students' tab: www.myerscough.ac.uk

After this coming weekend the next course advice mornings are: Saturday 7th February 2026 | Saturday 18th April 2026

Morning Info>> www.myerscough.ac.uk/whats-on/



Myerscough
College & University Centre
EMPOWERING FUTURES
Since 1894

✓ School Leavers
✓ Apprenticeships
✓ University Degrees

Course Advice Morning



The North West centre for land-based, sport, engineering and science education

Download our 2026 School Leaver Prospectus

**Saturday 6th December 2025*
Saturday 7th February 2026**

* Preston and Liverpool only

CENTRES ACROSS THE NORTH WEST PRESTON • WARRINGTON
LIVERPOOL • MANCHESTER

www.myerscough.ac.uk

CONSULTATION



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

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Christmas Lunch

Wednesday, 17th December

Two Course Hot Meal Only £2.90

**Served in the Restaurant
(all year groups)**

Roast Turkey or Nut Roast (v)

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.