

2 March 2018

Penwortham Priory Post



James Has the Write Words For Story Competition

Year 7 pupil, James Mumford, hopes his writing skills will take him to the top of a national competition.

Priory pupils are taking part in Radio 2's 500 Words, which is the biggest short-story competition for children in the world. The winner of the competition will win Chris Evans' height in books - plus 500 books for the school.

Pupils put pen to paper in a bid to win a £100 gift voucher and to firstly impress English teacher Mr Wall who chose his winning entry, with a number of the short stories now being sent off to the national competition.

"It was a hard choice as there were so many quality entries and I had to read some of them four or five times," said Mr Wall. "The BBC competition is looking for a strong plot and James provided this. He has the vocabulary most adults would envy and he is excellent at English. He is a superstar and his short story was very good."

James, 12, said it took him a couple of months to perfect his 500-word story. "My idea was of an alternate world in 1966, 20 years after the end of the Second World War, and it was based on what life was like if the Nazis had won the war through the eyes of a little girl and her father.

"Most people think they are living normal lives and do not see anything wrong in persecution and it's exploring that and how can people not notice? I enjoy history and I had to do a bit of research and at first I wrote too many words and the hardest bit was cutting it down but I got there.

"I was really happy when Mr Wall said I had won the Priory competition and it's exciting that my entry will go through to the national competition."

The 500 Words Final will be broadcast live from Hampton Court Palace on BBC Radio 2's Chris Evans Breakfast Show on Friday, 8 June.

Attendance Winning Forms

Three forms had a full house this week.

The 100% attendance award goes to:

H4,R3 and H2

Well done to Miss Salisbury's, Mr Raynor's and Mrs Simpson's classes!

Penwortham Neighbourhood Forum

REARRANGED DATE
Mon, 12 March
7pm-8pm

**Hurst Grange Coach House,
Hurst Grange Park**

Due to the poor weather conditions, the forum was cancelled yesterday and subsequently has been rearranged for Mon, 12 March.

South Ribble Borough Council's 'Heroes Assemble' community litter pick had to be cancelled on Tuesday and has been rearranged for Thurs, 8 March.

Pupils who volunteered to help out will be able to attend this new date.

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KEY DATES

Indoor Athletics Comp
4-6.30pm Wed, 7 March
(Year 8 by invitation)

Great British Spring Clean (rearranged)
10-11am Thurs, 8 March

Wycoller Geography Field Trip Year 9 & 10
Dates from 9 -19 March

Big Bang Science Fair
14 March 2018
(Years 7-9 by invitation)

GCSE Drama Theatre Trips (evening)
Wed, 11 April 2018
Wed, 2 May 2018

End of Term Closure
Fri, 23 March 2018
(Early lunch followed by school closure at 1:30pm)

Start of Summer Term
Mon, 9 April 2018

PSHE Day
Fri, 17 April 2018
(Early lunch followed by early closure at 1:30pm)

Next Steps Careers Event (at school)
Thurs, 26 April 2018

May Day Closure
Mon, 7 May 2018

INSET Day (Closed)
Tues, 8 May 2018



Image - Miss Thornton, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Elliott claim their much sought after prizes.

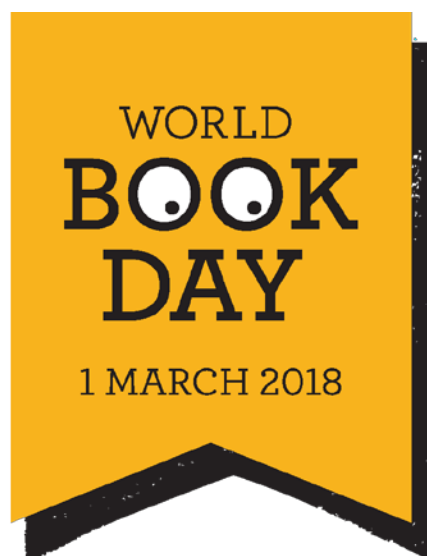
Literary Quiz - Winners

It was a very close contest but in the end it was the English teachers who claimed their position as literary champions.

During the highlight of Priory's World Book Day activities, teachers battled against each other in the lunchtime quiz for bragging rights on their reading prowess...and chocolate biscuits!

The three teams - Bibliophiles, Encyclopaedia Files and Sparkly Slugs - made up of teachers, learning support and the senior leadership team faced questions on famous and local authors, first lines of popular books, and characters.

Quizmaster, Mr Wall, with support from pupil Dan Gaffney, adjudicated the contest as pupils squeezed into the Library to watch the heated action. But in the end, it was the English teachers that saved grace to win the coveted prize.



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Futsal Champions!

SPORTS REPORT



Congratulations to Priory's Under 15s Futsal team who won the EFL Futsal Cup competition at Play Football, Preston, last Friday.

Playing and winning all four games, the boys finished with a goal difference of +28.

The team is now through to a regional round where they will represent not only Priory, but also Preston North End!

The boys were congratulated by Headteacher, Mr Eastham, who presented the team with their medals in school. Mr Eastham is now looking forward to seeing them represent his number one team.

Well done to Ben Rooke, Byron Mason, Naawi Ali, Zaman Amin, Harry Hewitson, Oliver Parr, Jack Myerscough.



School Closures Due To Adverse Weather

In the event of the weather turning for the worse, with ice and snow forecast, we would like to reassure parents/carers that we aim to do all we can to keep the school open as usual.

School closures and transport issues due to inclement weather will be communicated via the News page on the school website at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/news. Notices will also be posted to our Facebook page and Twitter at

@priorystc. Parents can also check the Lancashire County Council website at www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/unexpected-school-closures/.

Please note, if no notices are posted then school will be open as normal.

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Science Trip - 14 March 2018

Could pupils that have been invited to attend the Big Bang Science Fair and do not want go, please let Miss Conyngham know. There is a waiting list for this trip which we would like to now open up to other pupils.

The fair is the largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people in the UK. Pupils will have the opportunity to explore the fair, visiting different stalls and attractions from big scientific employers and organisations.

Primary Liaison - Gifted & Talented Day

On Monday, 14 pupils from our local partner primary schools joined us for a Humanities Primary Day here at Priory. Pupils enjoyed sampling lessons and activities from the three subject areas of History, Geography and RE to get a flavour of what Humanities is all about at secondary school. The theme for the day was 'Disasters'.

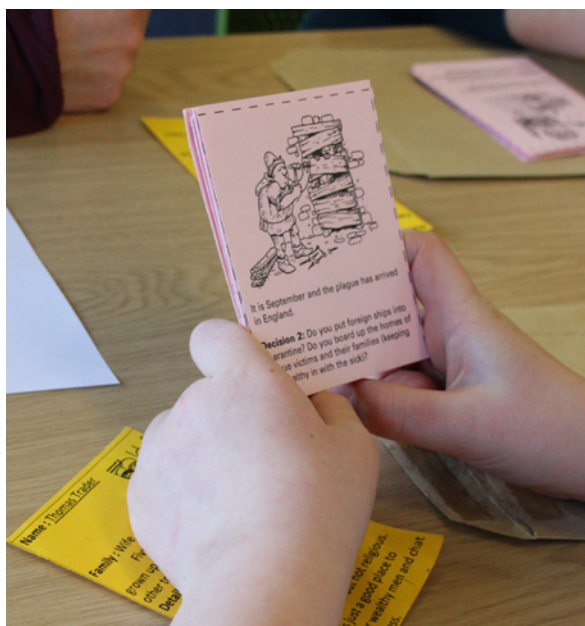
Pupils from St Stephens, Longton and Whitefield Primary Schools spent the morning session with our Head of Humanities, Mr Metcalfe, working on team-building activities so that the pupils could interact and get to know each other better. Pupils played 'The Floor is Lava' game, where they had to work together and communicate effectively to make their way from one side of the gym to the other without touching the floor, using only a limited amount of equipment.

Further sessions included a Geography lesson with Mr Watters which followed on from the morning activities, where students looked at how volcanoes form, and the effects of volcanic eruptions on people and the environment. Mr Watters showed pupils the different types of rocks that volcanoes eject, including pumice stone.

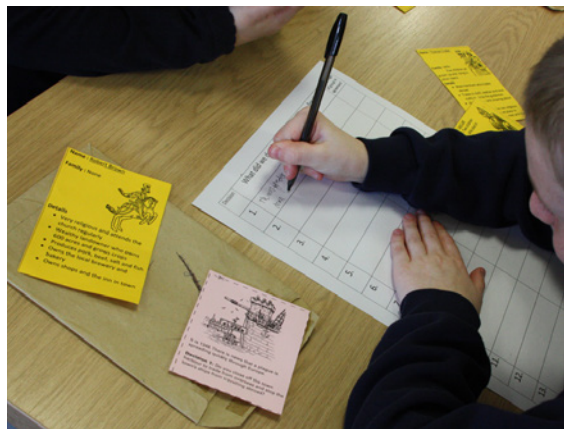
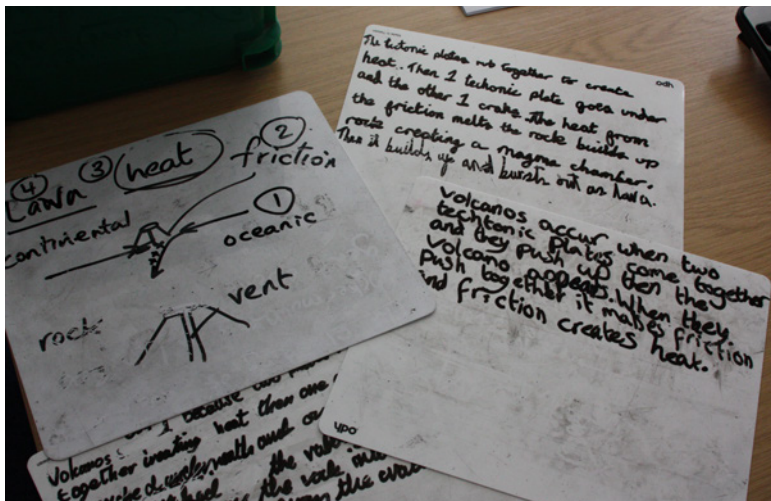
Mrs Summers then continued the theme of disasters through a History lesson on disease, where students looked at how diseases over time have had different impacts on society. Concluding the day, Mrs Ham brought them up to date by speaking about Aid and Relief following disasters around the world, and how different organisations can help and support those people affected by such terrible natural disasters.

Mr Metcalfe commented, "The day was an excellent opportunity for our primary school pupils to get a taste of what life is like in a secondary school, and a great introduction to the Humanities faculty staff.

I would personally like to thank Mr Gee, Mrs Ham, Miss Summers, Mr Watters and Mr Bullock for their support during the day."



Pupils left Priory very excited about the day and couldn't wait to tell their friends all about it.





Northern Girls Head For The West End

Four talented Penwortham Priory Academy students will take to the West End stage in the summer.

The girls are part of Preston's Pauline Quirk Academy (PQA), based at Priory, and will be performing a musical theatre show at Her Majesty's Theatre in London in July. Head Girl, Lauryn Parker, will be accompanied by three more Priory students in Holly Taylor, Lucy Southgate and Miya Atherton-Patel.

Year 11 Lauryn, who was the lead role of Dorothy in the school's production of The Wizard of Oz before Christmas, will have a solo singing part.

"I am really excited," said Lauryn. "I have been part of the PQA since I was in Year 7 and I performed at the London Theatre in 2016, it's where Phantom of the Opera is based. It was a fantastic experience and it is something else."

"I can't wait to do it again. It's a musical theatre show and it's split into parts with each of the Pauline Quirk Academies around the country rehearsing two scenes each and amazingly, despite all rehearsing separately, it does all fit together. It's in front of a big audience and it's an amazing time."

It's a busy time for Lauryn who is currently studying for her GCSEs – and she has high targets. "I am not sure if I just want to keep acting, singing and dancing as a hobby as it's a welcome distraction. I will either go to Runshaw College to study A-Levels or try for a business apprenticeship at BAE Systems."

It's also the second time on the West End stage for Miya but she has got a bigger part this summer. "I have got a character role this time and I have a singing part too so I can't wait. It's an amazing experience."

Year 9 student Lucy added: "It's my first time in the West End so I am so excited. I would like to be an actress so this is a big step along the way."

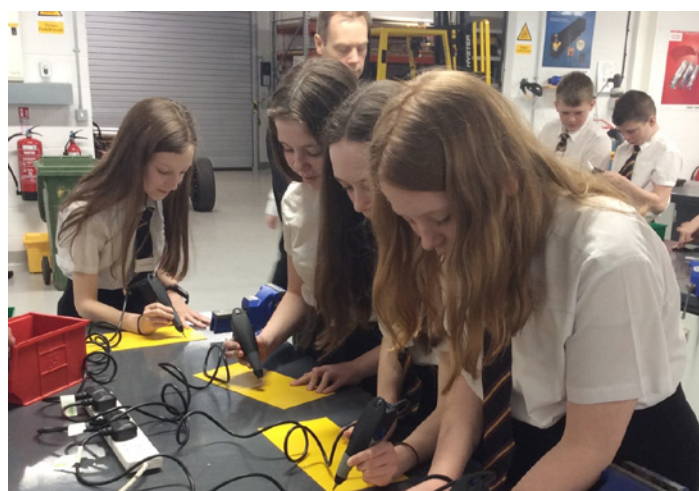
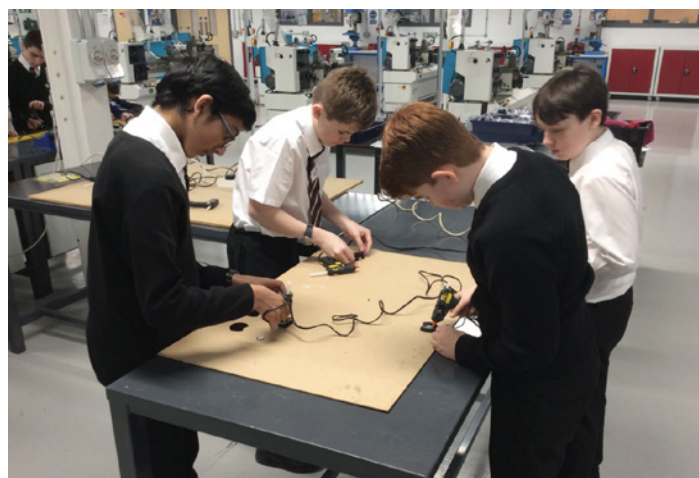
Runshaw College STEM Day



Priory pupils were invited to attend a STEM Science Day at Runshaw College last Friday.

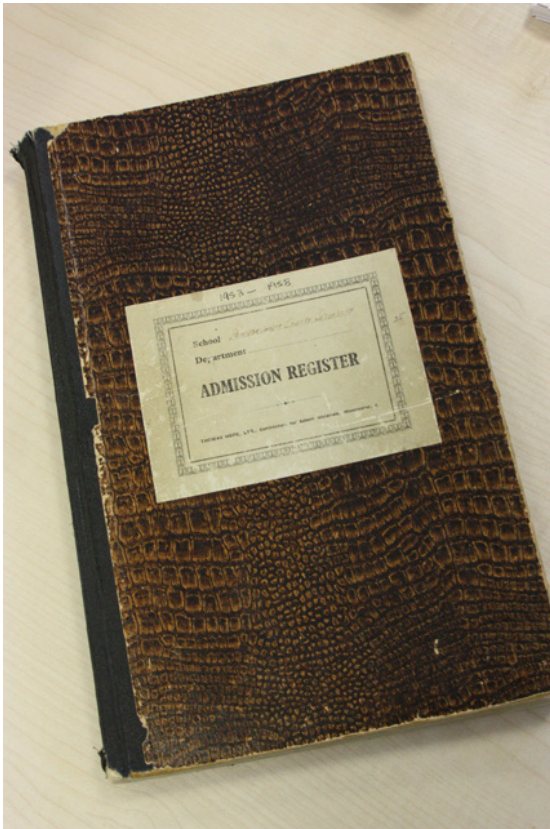
As one of the college's partner schools, we were given the opportunity to take part in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) activities and look at potential careers in the sector.

Science teacher, Mrs Burn, who accompanied the pupils said, "The pupils were an absolute credit to themselves and the school. They all seemed to really enjoy themselves. As well as learning about renewable energy, they built and raced solar powered cars!"



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Look what we found in the archives?...



...the original, very first admissions book!

It's 65 years old and lists all the pupils that were with us during the first five years of Priory's history from 1953-1958, when we were known as 'Penwortham County Secondary'.

The pupils listed in the book will now be aged between 75-80.

Since we posted this on our Facebook page last month asking our followers if either themselves, their parent or grandparent could be listed in this book, we have been overwhelmed with responses. The post has already had 100 comments and been shared over 30 times as former pupils and their families spread the word.

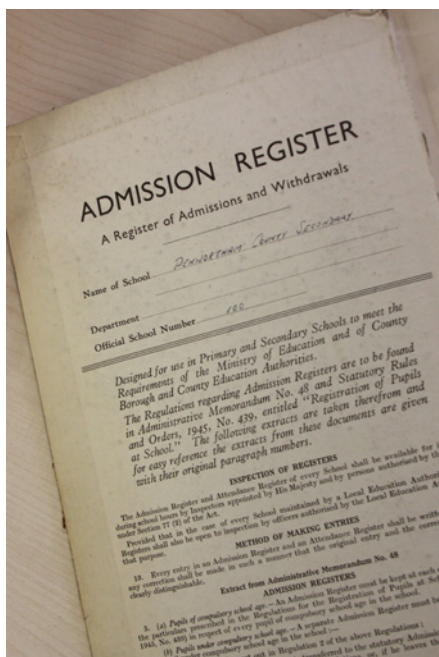
It has been both heart warming and interesting to read some of the comments as people want to tell their story or find out if their name is in the book. Several comments have also referred to their third generation now attending Priory.

Unfortunately, some former pupils have now passed away but there has also been happier news of school romances becoming marriages.

"I attended when it first opened (1952) and in class 1A. Now I'm the grand old age of 77 and marvel at all the changes that have taken place since my school days. I still have one of the bird books that I won as a prize for Social Studies"

"My Dad should be in this book. He was the first of three generations to go to Priory. The third of which has just started in Year 7."

“My dad will be in there no doubt. While he was there he was given the choice of either doing lessons or digging out the foundations for what was going to be a swimming pool, he chose to dig. I don’t think they’d get away with that these days!”



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