

# Penwortham Priory Post



## New IT Block on Target for Completion

Penwortham Priory Academy's £1.4m new IT block and learning space is now taking shape with the new building on target to open in September.

Priory received funding from the CIF (Condition Improving Fund) through the Education Funding Agency. The old 'ROSLA' (Raising Of The School Leaving Age) block as it was known, which is near the sports centre and built in the 1960s, has been knocked down and is now rising again.

The new building will be energy efficient with a heat recovery system, air conditioning and plans for solar panels.

"It's really exciting," said Headteacher Mr Eastham. "We have had a number of new buildings over the years, including the technology block, the science laboratories along with our creative and performing arts centre and new humanities building and this is another step forward for the school.

"It means Priory is constantly evolving and we are pro-active in providing the best facilities we can for our students.

"We are delighted that Priory is full for the Year 7s starting in September and they will have access to a new IT Suite of three classrooms and a learning space which can be used as and when is needed. We are already an iPad Academy but this will take us one step further.

"We will need around 100 computers which we have sourced ready to buy but if anyone wants to get in touch with me and can help us further in that department we would be grateful as we want our students at Priory to have the best.

"We pride ourselves on having an open school, with plenty of spaces, which is a school for the pupils."

## Attendance Winning Forms

This term we have revised how we award the winning form for attendance.

The eight forms that only take Year 11 pupils are much smaller than the other 24 forms. This has meant that the Year 11 forms are more likely to achieve full attendance.

Therefore, each week, the attendance officer will calculate the winning form for 'Year 11s' and the 'Rest' of the school.

This week's winners are:

**Year 11 - H1 & D8**

**Rest - D6 & R8**

Well done to Mr Wall's, Mrs Elliott's, Mrs Czerenak and Mr Taylor's forms.

## Careers Advice & Guidance

Following last week's careers event, some pupils have expressed a benefit in meeting with Priory's Independent Careers Adviser, Mr Ficorilli.

Mr Ficorilli is at Priory every Monday during term time. Pupils can make appointments directly by popping into the Exams Office, where he is based, or by emailing him at:

[v.ficorilli@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:v.ficorilli@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

## KEY DATES

### **May Day Closure**

Mon, 7 May 2018

### **INSET Day** (Closed)

Tues, 8 May 2018

### **Runshaw Food Tech**

#### **Taster Day** (by invitation)

Wed, 9 May 2018

### **Mid Term Closure**

28 May - 1 June 2018

### **Year 10 Parents Evening**

Wed, 6 June 2018

### **PSHE Day**

Thurs, 21 June 2018

(Early lunch followed by early closure at 1:30pm)

### **PE Trip Rewards Trip - Elland Road**

Thurs, 7 June 2018

### **Year 8 Lake District Trip**

12, 18, 19 June

### **Year 10 Work Experience Day**

Mon, 25 June 2018

### **Year 11 Prom**

Wed, 27 June 2018

### **Mini Masters Ormskirk**

(Year 9 by invitation)

Thurs, 28 June 2018

### **New Pupil & Parents Evening** (2018 Intake)

Wed, 4 July 2018

### **New Pupil Induction**

Thurs, 5 July 2018

### **Year 7 Parents Evening**

Wed, 11 July 2018

## GCSE Drama Trip

As part of their GCSE Drama written exam, pupils must write about a performance they have seen. So, on Wednesday the Year 11 Drama students went to the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester to watch 'The Cherry Orchard', a play by Anton Chekov.

Drama Teacher, Mr Hardcastle, said, "It was a deep and symbolic play that the students will need to write about in their upcoming exam."

Pupil, Anika said "The performance was an inspiring piece that will give plenty to write about."

The visit follows on from last month's trip to Bolton Octagon where the pupils watched 'East is East'.

Mr Hardcastle would like to wish all his students good luck for their exam!



**A reminder that school is closed next Mon, 7th and Tues, 8th May due to the bank holiday and staff INSET.**

**School will reopen again as normal from Weds, 9th May.**

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# Computer Science Pupils Have The Brain Power To Make A Cracking Day Out!

## The Alan Turing Cryptography

Written by Colin C, Fay T & Louis T

Last Wednesday Mrs Qadri, Head of ICT & Computer Science, took a group of eight Year 9 pupils to the University of Manchester for their Alan Turing Cryptology Day.

Along with other schools from around the UK, the pupils were set for a day of code-breaking activities. The main event was a live cipher decryption competition against all the other teams, in which our eight pupils split off into teams of four to attempt these challenges.

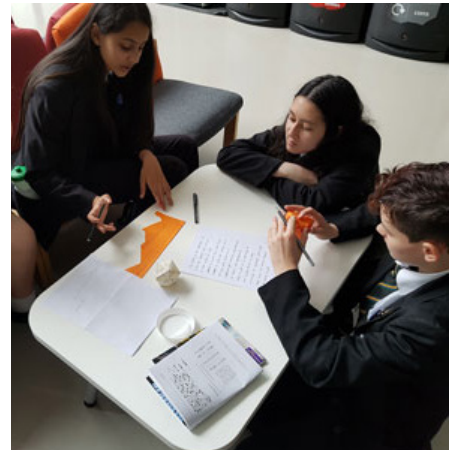
Prior to the event, the university held an online competition via their Alan Turing Cryptography website, entailing teams of students from across the country taking part in solving weekly challenge codes.

"The competition was hard," said Louis. "Most of the challenges were difficult but there were some that we could handle. Even though it was hard, we still had fun. Following the competition, we moved on to the lecture hall where we learned about the different ways we could use cryptology in a career."

Fay added, "The competition was really fun and educational. Me and the group practised beforehand and through our lunchbreaks. The competition was difficult however we managed to break three quarters of the codes by the end. I particularly enjoyed the lecture afterwards; it was interesting to learn about the job opportunities you could get thanks to cryptology." Fay ended, "The whole experience was interesting and I would definitely like to do the competition again next year."

Unfortunately, the Priory pupils did not win either competition, however Mrs Qadri confirmed they did very well after only discovering the existence of this event last year, a few months before the online competition commenced.

Colin ended by saying "Both teams vow to return next year now that we have gained experience in cracking codes!"



### Can you crack these?

Here are some codes for you to brush up on your code-breaking skills.  
They start off easy but get progressively harder...

scita mehta mfoeg delwo nkatu ohtiw nwonk  
edame btonn acdlr owsih tfosg nihte htrof  
-nocab regor

Dtt bnu idbnuidbfsdt xsfursux dau cyormum yr autdbfyrx  
publuur vnwxfstdt tdlx drm tdlx ye roipuax, xy bndb bnu  
dft ye uzdsb xsfursu fx by aumosu bnu vayptuix ye rdboau  
by bnu mubuaifrbfyr ye hodrbfbfux pw yvuadbxfyrx lfbn  
roipuax.

-Jdiux Stuaq Idzlutt

### Can you crack these codes?

This is just a sample of the type of questions the team had to solve, including some in Morse code.

Answers next issue.

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# Priory's Gardener Helps More Than Just The Flowers Grow!



Penwortham Priory Academy's gardener has found a willing apprentice who is helping the school bloom.

Mr Farron has been developing the outside spaces at Priory into a sensory garden, a memorial garden, a quiet place with a running fountain and more for a number of years – all of which can be used by the community as well.

He now has a helping hand of budding horticulturalist and surveyor in Year 7 pupil, Alfie Pinder, who is Mr Farron's 'right hand man'.

"Alfie's dad, Greg Pinder, owns S&G Plant Hire in Whitestake, Preston and he was keen for Alfie to learn about things like

surveying and levelling," said Mr Farron.

"Alfie is excellent at mathematics and he wanted himself to do some hands-on construction work. His Head of House, Mrs Bailey, arranged it and it has been a blossoming working relationship ever since.

"Alfie helps me when he is free, early morning, so it doesn't interfere with his curriculum and we will be extending it as he has passed his trial period.

"He loves planting veg and helping out, and S&G Plant Hire have also let us use their machinery if needed, but it's more than that. It has opened Alfie up more as a person. He is a lot more confident; I can't shut him up now!"

Alfie and Mr Farron are working on a herbaceous garden in the quadrant which they hope to form part of their Penwortham in Bloom entry.

Priory have won Penwortham in Bloom twice and have also won a prestigious North West in Bloom award for the work Chris has done at school.

"I had two boys a couple of years ago who got involved when I was making the sensory garden," said Chris. "They weren't the most academic but it really brought them out of their shells. Both now work in landscaping and gardening and I am proud of that."

Last week Mr Farron was successful in completing the 'Introduction in Beekeeping' one day course at Samlesbury Hall, run by The Bee Centre. Although we will not be encouraging bees to come to areas enjoyed by pupils at Priory, Mr Farron learnt to how we can make a meaningful contribution to create a healthy environment for the creatures.



# Geography Continue Their Messing About On The River!

The final groups of Year 9 & 10s Geography pupils visited Wycoller Country Park on Monday and Thursday this week to complete their detailed GCSE river fieldwork study.

The pupils were busy with more measuring and recording of Wycoller Beck. They have now mapped out how the river responds to changing run off. The hard work of reviewing techniques and data will take the pupils a couple of weeks of higher level maths and graphing to ensure they are prepared for the GCSE Edexcel Paper 3.

Mr Watters, Lead Teacher for Geography, commented, "The last group completed new sites and were deeply involved. Well done to staff and pupils. A great day out!"

Thank you to Mrs Crank for the best hand-bought chocolate brownies for a Geography field trip!



## Geography Trip - The Lake District (Year 8)

Lead Teacher for Geography, Mr Watters, has organised a trip to Bowness and Lake Windermere for all Year 8 pupils over three dates in June (12th, 18th, 19th).

Letters have been distributed this week.

During the trip, pupils will be studying the infrastructure and services of tourism within a 'honeypot' site. They will also look at urban environment and impact questionnaires. The trip also includes a one-hour boat tour of Lake Windermere.

Please complete the form attached to the letter and return it to the School Office by Friday, 25 May.

There are a large number of pupils taking Geography next year and further trips and fieldwork are planned for Year 9.

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# Chess Club



**Year 9 pupil Ethan approached Inclusion & Attendance Manager, Mrs Swire, with his idea to set up a lunchtime chess club.**

The club only launched last month and already its popularity has meant that there are not enough chess sets to accommodate all the pupil visitors!

Inspired by the rewards initiative, PiXL Edge, Ethan runs the club every Monday and Wednesday lunchtime in LEAP 1 with Mrs Swire. All year groups are welcome from beginners to advanced. Pupils are welcome to eat their packed lunch whilst at the club or can bring cold food from the dining hall.

Pupils should allow themselves enough time to complete a game so arriving towards the end of the lunch period would not benefit.

A competition is planned at the end of term to crown the 'Chess Champion', with the winner being awarded the shield (seen in the bottom right picture).

PiXL Edge is a framework to develop and accredit students attitudes, attributes and skills essential for employability and life. Through a series of accredited tasks and activities PiXL Edge enables students to systematically enhance their skills.



## *CHESS CLUB*



*MONDAY + WEDNESDAY  
LUNCH TIME  
IN  
LEAP 1  
BEGINNERS WELCOME*

*BRING LUNCH AND YOUR  
BRAIN!!!*

## Can you help?

**Due to the success of the chess club we are looking for more sets for the children to use.**

**If you have a set at home that's never used and would like to donate it to school we would be very grateful.**

**Please see Mrs Swire or email [d.swire@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:d.swire@priory.lancs.sch.uk)**



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# Tag Rugby

Monday saw Priory's young referees undertake their Rugby League Leaders Award alongside pupils from Hutton Grammar.

The course meant that they can now officiate the South Ribble Schools Sport Partnership's central venue tag rugby league for primary schools.

With no time to waste, Mr Faulkner supported the referees for their first matches hosted at Priory on Thursday night.



## Girls Rounders Practice

PE Teacher, Miss Mainey, is starting girls rounders practice for all year groups.

Sessions begin Tues, 15 May from 3:20 to 4:20pm.

Girls should meet in the changing rooms after school.



## Year 8 Football

On Tuesday, Priory's Year 8 boys played against All Hallows in the South Ribble Cup quarter finals, winning 4-2.

A hat-trick from Connor S ensured that the boys earned themselves a place in the semis.

Coach, Mr Fraser, commented that the team was led very well and the boys are determined to continue their efforts in the semis.



## PE & Sports Rewards Trip



The PE department is planning to take a group of 40 pupils to Elland Road to watch the final World Cup warm up match against Costa Rica on Thursday, 7 June 2018.

The visit is a reward for those pupils that have committed time to represent Priory during extra-curricular activities. Letters have been given to qualifying pupils this week, with some still to be distributed. Reply slips and payment should be returned to the school office before the 8 May deadline.

There are only 40 places available so once the reply date has been reached a ballot will be held and 40 pupils will be randomly selected. Payments will be returned to those pupils who have been unsuccessful.

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## HEARTBEAT 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION GREAT SPORTING EVENTS

This year HEARTBEAT celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

Based at Deepdale, home of Preston North End Football Club, they have supported thousands of local people affected by heart disease.

To mark their anniversary they would love you and your friends to take part in their sporting activities and raise funds for Lancashire's local heart charity.

It costs nearly one million pounds every year to run their vital services so fundraising is a huge importance.

The three sporting events are:

- Sunday 20th May - Manchester 10k or Half Marathon
- Sunday 8th July - Manchester to Blackpool Bike Ride
- Saturday 18th August - Morecambe Bay Walk

The main aim of the events is to raise the awareness of HEARTBEAT to a younger generation within the local communities.

For more information and to make a booking please email Lisa Riding at HEARTBEAT: [lisa.riding@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk](mailto:lisa.riding@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk)

### Run for Heartbeat in the Manchester 10k or Half Marathon Sunday 20th May 2018



Proudly supported by



Team Heartbeat proudly supported by Costa Coffee  
If you want to be part of the team please contact Lisa Riding on

01772 717147  
[events@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk](mailto:events@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk)

Half marathon 17 years+  
10k 15 years+

Heartbeat, Sir Tom Finney Way, Preston, PR1 6PA.  
Registered charity number 1168850.  
A company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales,  
Company number 10195311.



### Cycle in Support of your local heart charity Manchester to Blackpool Bike Ride Sunday 8th July 2018



Proudly supported by



Age limits.  
Min 14yrs. Under  
16yrs must be  
accompanied  
by an adult  
over 18yrs.

Team Heartbeat proudly supported by  
Costa Coffee

For more information and to book your place  
on this bike ride please contact Lisa Riding

01772 717147  
[events@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk](mailto:events@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk)

Heartbeat, Sir Tom Finney Way, Preston, PR1 6PA.  
Registered charity number 1168850.  
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Company number 10195311.



### Support your local heart charity in the annual Morecambe Bay Walk led by the Queen's official guide Cedric Robinson MBE Saturday 18th August 2018



Proudly supported by



Leaving  
Anside Promenade  
at 10:45 am and ending at  
Kent's Bank Railway Station,  
Grange Over Sands.  
The walk which is approximately  
8 miles is a unique way to take in  
the bay and takes you across  
muddy bay sands with highlights  
including crossing the River Kent  
estuary channel.  
Tickets are £10 per adult, £5 per  
child and £1 per dog.

For more information and to book your place  
on this iconic walk please contact Lisa Riding

01772 717147  
[events@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk](mailto:events@heartbeat-nwcc.org.uk)

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