

THE PRIORY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022



Issue 1



Mrs Alison Pope Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our new style parental newsletter. We have based many elements of it on the feedback we received from the recent parental survey and hope you find it a useful source of information with a focus on celebrating achievement but also keeping you up to date with life at The Priory.

We were incredibly proud of our Year 11 cohort who not only faced the return of exams but an extended exam period. Our exam invigilation team were quick to compliment them on their conduct and resilience.

As the academic year draws to a close it has been wonderful to see so many events return post COVID. Our enrichment week with a variety of activities, trips and events hopefully gave students a real sense of enjoyment beyond the classroom. Running alongside this, Year 10 ventured out into the world of work and have returned with an array of stories and a new-found appreciation of school life, compared to a day at work! We are incredibly excited about the first School Production, Chicago, in two years. I have dropped into rehearsals over the past few weeks and witnessed pupils enthusiastically pulling the last few numbers together - it promises to be one to remember. Friday 1st July saw the return of our face-to-face Charity quizzes; thank you to all who turned up. It was great to not only see parents back in the school hall but also witness friendly competition in play.

We have welcomed our new Year 6 to 7 cohort for their transition days, as well as additional weekend Funday events and a summer school, aimed at easing them into life at The Priory. It was a pleasure to meet them.

School site

Looking forward into the new academic year, you will notice some changes to our school site. We have responded to student, staff and parent queries around ensuring site is still welcoming but also secure, once school starts. This will involve updated gates; the main gate into the car park will remain closed at all times and the pedestrian gate will close at the beginning of the school day. If you have an appointment, then you will need to use the new intercom on either the pedestrian gates or the main gate to the car park. Pupils will also be issued with door cards to the main school buildings, they will need these to access school. Previously doors have been open at lesson change over, break and lunch but this has led to issues where students need to move between main building, and our other external buildings during lessons. It also ensures our doors are not open for 10 minute slots at the beginning and end of lessons. Pupils will need to look after these cards and wear their lanyard each day. One will be issued at the start of the year and a charge will be incurred if they need to be replaced. We will also be improving the fencing on our perimeter hedge line - if anything to prevent me having to run onto the road to retrieve the Year 7 football!

A gentle reminder that only parents of students with mobility issues, who have an arrangement in place, should be dropping pupils off on school site - please do not use the intercom to drive onto the delivery bay area at the start and end of the day as this will cause unnecessary congestion.



Mrs Alison Pope Headteacher

Attendance

This is an area which has received national focus, post pandemic. The government will be putting in place new legislation around expectations for pupils to attend school, every day, as we move into the next academic year. A child will dip into the persistent absenteeism bracket if attendance is below 90%. We have had a strong tradition of high attendance levels as a school thanks to your support. We will work closely with families to maintain this and highlight the impact of good attendance levels on progress and outcomes, with students as we move through the year. There will be an even greater limitation on time away during term time and I will still not be able to authorise term time holidays.

School events and calendar

You will have already noticed a return to trips and visits for different year groups, this will continue to build into next year. We will always attempt to strike the balance between providing a wide variety of residential and foreign trips with cost, especially within the current economic climate but there was a strong sense, from the parental body that it was important to offer these. As always, we are dependent on staff goodwill to run and organise these events, as our foreign trips will take place during school holiday time. There will not necessarily be a foreign or residential trip for every subject area.

We will be running the full complement of House events and look forward to seeing parents back to support these. In response to the majority request to return to face-to-face parents' evenings on site, these will be returning but you will also notice some informal, additional drop-in sessions with key staff. These will be themed and aimed at raising parental awareness of some of the approaches and work we undertake in school.

New style student planners

Your child will return home during the first week of term with a new style school planner. These have been designed in-house and will be issued each half term. Its contents directly relate to your requests in the parent survey including a greater clarity over homework, work covered, extra-curricular clubs and the school calendar. I hope you find them a useful means of communication, in addition to Arbor.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of this newsletter. As always please get in touch if you have any queries.

Wishing you all a relaxing and well earned summer break when the time comes; school returns on Wednesday 7th September.

Best wishes,

Mrs A Pope
Headteacher

Mr Ian Peterson Chair of Governors



View from the Governors

As a new addition to the newsletter, I thought it would be useful to start with what a Local Governing Body (LGB) is and what we do for The Priory School. At its heart, the LGB is the system of checks and balances on the school. We oversee the strategy and vision of the school, challenging the school leaders to ensure that the direction they, and in our case the 3-18 Education Trust that the school belongs to, have determined is appropriate to the needs of the pupils and wider local community.

The LGB consists of two governors elected from the staff of The Priory School, two governors elected from the parents and carers of pupils at the school and, currently, seven co-opted governors appointed by the Trust Board for their knowledge, skills and experience. Elected governors are appointed for a two-year term, co-opted governors for a three-year term. Governors attend meetings twice per term and are expected to visit the school occasionally.

One of our co-opted governors completes their term of office this summer so we have a vacancy from September. If you are interested in becoming a governor, helping shape the school and giving back to the community, please get in touch via our clerk (Carole.Warner@318education.co.uk). If this isn't for you but you know someone who would be ideal, then please pass on our details. We are particularly looking for someone with experience in Health and Safety, Careers or Safeguarding but the main criteria for any governor is commitment and an enquiring mind.

Best wishes,

Mr Ian Peterson
Chair of Governors



Quiz Night

On July 1st, 2022, we hosted a charity quiz in the school hall and raised over £400 for our three school charities. There were 10 rounds, including a biscuit round, a geography picture round and two general knowledge rounds! In the end, the winning team were 'Straight outta Copthorne,' who won by a very slim three-point margin.

We sold refreshments including sweets, beer, crisps, and wine, which all went down a storm with the 13 tables, who all posted some very respectable scores making the event extremely competitive!

Overall, everyone who attended had an excellent time and we all look forward to next year's quiz!

Written by Dan W. Year 9



UPDATE



Charity is at the heart of many of our enrichment activities and this year has seen The Priory School community come together once again to raise thousands of pounds for a range of charities.

It seems like a long time ago, when we remember back to our first charity events of the year. Still struggling to put on events that did not "contaminate Bubbles", we provided opportunities for students to socialise and raise money through inventive digital activities.

We started with the Virtual Escape Rooms, students were isolated to year groups but came together to have fun with staff and managed to raise over £400. Outdoor sports events dominated the Autumn term. The Halloween Run and the 12K of Christmas were complemented by DVD nights, Face Masks and our Virtual Quiz night put us on target to achieving our aspirational target of £15K. Eco Jewellery club was a great success and there were many other individual Form activities that all contributed to our final amount raised.

As we came out of restrictions, students were given more freedom to interact and whole school activities were available again. World Book Day, led by the Library and the English department was terrific as always, there were literally hundreds of students in amazing costumes in school that day. Heads of House were keen to re-establish some old favourites and the Colour Run and our trip to Area 51 were great successes.

There are too many amazing individual contributions from students, parents/carers and staff to mention them all. I have been blown away this year by the hard work and dedication that so many have shown whilst trying to help others and enrich the lives and experiences of our students.

In September students will be once again given the opportunity to vote for our three new charities. Led by James Burrell, we have a new Charity Student Executive team. The enthusiasm this team has already shown sets next year up to be the best yet.

Thank you to all of you who have participated and contributed to making this year's charity effort a great success.

Mr Bucknall
Assistant Headteacher



Headteacher's Breakfast

The Headteacher's Breakfast takes place weekly and is awarded to students who have been nominated by teachers for a variety of reasons. Students attend a special Breakfast with Mrs Pope where they can share their successes and achievements. This half-term the following students have been selected:

WEEK 1	YEAR 9 STUDENTS	WEEK 2	YEAR 10 STUDENTS
9A	Freddie S	10A	Lara D, Shay H
9F	Sam H, Charlotte R, Poppy C, Jake S	10F	Neela P
9H	Ed B, Niamh J	10H	Tilly E
9K	Ruby H, Elin H, Poppy T,	10K	Matthew R, Joe W
9N	Neve E	10N	Shannon B, Reagan C, Josh M, Faith S
9P	Will B, Will P	10P	George A, Jessie B, Charlie C, Alex H

Please note for Students nominated during the last 2 weeks of term, these will be published in the following edition of the Newsletter



WEEK 3	YEAR 7 STUDENTS	WEEK 4	YEAR 8 STUDENTS (Pictured)
7A		8A	Eaoife B
7F	Lexi M	8F	Charlie B, Hannah M
7H	Alex M, Joseph R	8H	Gracie D & Anna S (not pictured)
7K	Rhyd M	8K	Edward A, Isabelle H, Toby R
7N	Millie H	8N	Sophie A & Thomas E (not pictured), Eve B, William B
7P	Stefan F, Oliver J, James O'B	8P	Lucy B, Genie W



WEEK 5	YEAR 9 STUDENTS (pictured)
9A	Timeo M
9H	Santiago A,
9N	Lexi L, Max G-R

Futures Focus



Mock Interview Day

Interviews skills are a vital life skill, students in Year 10 all took part in a mock interview with a wide range of employers to develop these skills. With their CVs in hand, students were asked a number of questions simulating an interview scenario; feedback from students was the experience was very beneficial with their positivity and exemplary conduct shining through. Employers were very complimentary about their employability skills and how well many communicated their ambitions for the future.

Some of our students took part in a 2 hour assessment centre where they faced a number of individual and team tasks, again with the aim to develop their employability skills. The challenging but very worthwhile session involved building a Lego model in teams to show success, taking part in a debate and talking for one minute about a random word. The session concluded with in-depth feedback to help students understand their strengths and areas for improvement for the future.

Another group of students also took part in a 'Getting to know you' interview preparation session delivered by the Department for Work and Pensions. This gave students the ideal build up to the interviews ensuring they were well prepared for the event by completing a number of tasks including selling a random object!

All students did themselves proud not only representing the school but also in the mature way they approached the day. So many employers commented on how well they conducted themselves and what a delight it had been to participate in the event. We look forward to holding the event again in 2023.

Post 16 Providers Event

Y8 and Y9 students all heard from a number of post 16 providers locally in a morning full of information designed to get them thinking about their next steps. They heard from Shrewsbury Colleges Group, Thomas Adams Sixth Form, William Brookes Sixth Form, SBC Training, Shrewsbury Town Foundation and North Shropshire College. There was something for everyone, from sport and animal based courses to apprenticeships, vocational qualifications and A levels. Whilst we are not expecting students to make their decisions yet, we hope that a taster of what is on offer will get them thinking a little more about their next steps once they leave The Priory School.

Visit to Shrewsbury Colleges Group

As part of thinking about life after The Priory School, a small group of Y10 students were treated to a tour of Shrewsbury Colleges Group at three campuses. They got to look around the campuses, see the classrooms and facilities on offer as well learn more about some of the courses available. A great opportunity to learn more about further education first hand

Coming up in the Autumn Term:

Year 11 Thinking Ahead Event - around 30 employers will be talking about their professions, what their jobs involve and their journeys into their profession. If you are able to offer your support please contact Mrs France at info@tpstrust.co.uk.

Start of Year 11 transition with post 16 provider's assemblies from Shrewsbury Colleges Group, Thomas Adams Sixth Form, William Brookes Sixth Form, SBC Training, Shrewsbury Town Foundation and North Shropshire College.



Alumni News

The Priory School Alumni is a network of past students who would like to keep in touch with school and their peers.

We are delighted that our Alumni have supported the school curriculum by talking to students in the below areas.

Fred Pye – 2008 – 2013

Computer Science - Fred delivered a presentation to Year 10 and 11 imedia students. The presentation covered multimedia areas such as preparing online content in terms of graphics, audio, video, working with or on different platforms and legal implications. Fred also gave students an insight into 16 possible career opportunities relating to multimedia expertise.

Drama - Fred was very involved with Drama when attending The Priory School. He very kindly agreed to conduct a question and answer session with students about his career path since leaving school, with a particular focus on how Drama helped him succeed. The session was recorded and a video produced which was shown during the school's Year 9 options evening.

English at Work and Careers Event - our sincere thanks go to Fred for producing a video for year 9 students for this event. The video covered showing students how important it is to have good listening, speaking, reading and writing skills when they leave school to help them with future employment and education. Fred also covered career opportunities available in his field of work.

James McKie – 1983 - 1988

Geography - James delivered a virtual presentation to Year 9 Geography students about what is involved in moving to Sweden and his career path. The students really enjoyed the session and fed back comments such as:

Really interesting, I'd like to go and visit Sweden now.

Love the sound of going there, but I would also miss fish and chips

Enjoyed the talk and the questions, would love to do more of this in lessons for people in different countries.

Adam Shantry – 1994 - 1999

PE - Adam will be talking virtually to our GCSE PE students about his sporting career pathway since leaving The Priory School. Adam is a Cricket professional and is currently Headcoach at Shrewsbury School. He played professionally for Northamptonshire CCC, Warwickshire CCC and Glamorgan CCC. He also played overseas in Australia, South Africa, and the West Indies.

If you are a past student of The Priory School and would like to find out more please visit <https://priory.tpstrust.co.uk/community/alumni/> we would love to hear from you.

The Priory School Alumni





Sporting News



Year 10 Football County Cup Final

The year 10 girls embarked on the county cup final, against Sir John Talbot's school, Whitchurch.

On a hot evening, the girls travelled to Lilleshall, eager for cup success, after missing out on the National cup final.

With a full strength squad, filled with an abundance of talent, the team started swiftly, controlling the game. In the opening minutes, Lucy N scored a quick goal, firing into the corner of the goal from outside the box.

Sir John Talbot's worked well, building possession and keeping a good defensive shape, but the Priory team dominated the first half of the encounter.

Excellent dribbling and crossing from Eva S and Tilly E ensured a plethora of chances for the Priory.

Sophie E, Poppy P and Kiera M were involved throughout, and ensured the early dominance from the front.

Ella B and Beth J shut out any promising attacks for SJJ, and controlled the tempo of the game well.

Racing into a 6 nil lead at half-time, the changes were made, giving fresh legs, and impetus to the team.

Bess W in the middle was tenacious all evening, and was finally rewarded for her efforts late on.

The final result was 8 nil to the Priory, with them celebrating another excellent season for the school.

A special thanks goes to Dave Newell for the hard work and professionalism in coaching the team week in, week out.

The girls look forward to their final game of the season against Oswestry School in another Cup final.



Shropshire Cricket Star

Harry T (Y10), has been selected to represent Shropshire u15 cricket- a particular excellent achievement, with him being the only state-educated student in the squad.

Harry is working alongside, Adam Shantry (ex-professional cricketer), to develop his game further, so Harry has the opportunity to embark on a career in professional cricket.

The Shropshire team have currently won one, and lost one so far. Harry has performed well in both matches, both with bat and ball. For his second game, Harry was promoted to opening bowler. His coach has noted Harry's drive and determination to succeed, and progress.



Cricket Festival

Priory students had a fantastic day at St George's Cricket Club in Telford.

Tyler Ibbotson from Shropshire Cricket invited us to take part in a Cricket Festival.

Students took part in a series of skill based activities throughout the day. Hopefully this experience will inspire some to take up the sport.



Sporting News



Shrewsbury Colleges Group visit

Gareth Thomas an outdoor education tutor from Shrewsbury Colleges Group came into school to promote their BTEC level 3 course in Outdoor Activities to our Year 10 students. He also delivered a series of team building activities to some of our students.

It was lovely to see an ex Priory Student Emma Roberts leading some of the activities. She has completed the BTEC Course and enrolled onto their HND in Outdoor Activities.



Year 8 Rounders

The Year 8 Rounders team dominated play over St Martin's recently, we saw some excellent play and Orlagh in particular stood out as a key player!

The final score was $10 \frac{1}{2}$ - 7.



Year 9 Rounders District Champions 2022

Year 9 played some stunning rounders in the tournament last week, Maddi H was on fire on first base!

Well done girls on being undefeated!



Year 10 Rounders District Champions 2022

Year 10 dominated the District Rounders Tournament winning all of their games!

Congratulations!

Our first ever mixed rounders game

- the Yr 9 were exceptional, outstanding fielding and even better batting from the whole team saw them storm to victory (we were so far ahead we didn't take our full innings of balls in the second round)

Final score $12 \frac{1}{2}$ - 6 Priory





Sporting News



County Cup Champions!

The school football season is finally officially over!!!!

Our year 10 girls won the Year 10 and also the Year 11 County Cup Finals in the last few weeks (with Tamzin P being the only year 11 girl, who also scored 4 goals in the final).

In both finals, they won 8-0 and have yet again dominated County football as well as making the National Cup Semi's again this season.

Following on, our Year 8 Boys played in the Final of the County Cup. This is a competition that we have never won with a boys' team in the 17 years I have been here, with the winners historically being Thomas Telford who we knocked out in the semi-finals 1-0 with a sensational 25 yard strike from Max R. The team had not conceded throughout the tournament, however, we were playing Burton Borough who has beaten us 4-0 in the Semis of the Presidents Trophy. The County Cup is the big one, and we wanted payback!

Shrewsbury Town Astro is a big pitch giving our boys space to exploit, and 5 minutes in, Sam L did exactly that opening the scoring after breaking away from the defence and running onto a perfectly timed pass. 1-0! It took Burton Borough just 3 minutes to equalise and following their goal, they had a spell where they showed their quality, looking like they may take charge of the game. Mr Dalgarno suggested a change of formation to 4-3-3 and from this point on, we dominated. Zack S. scored in a well worked team goal on the brink of half time making it advantage Priory as we came into the break 2-1 up.

The second half became a showcase of teamwork (selfless), playing with confidence (self-assured) and the success never looked in doubt. Sam L. finding the bottom corner for his second goal of the game, capping off simply an outstanding season for him and securing his top scorer status across the whole school this year. Zack S. looked dangerous throughout and coming close to adding to our tally. There were simply too many outstanding performances to name them all as each and every player performed for the team and for their school. With just 2 minutes to play, Archie W. lost his marker and met a perfectly delivered corner, smashing the ball into the back of the net with what can only be described as a professional looking header.

Priory 4 - 1 Burton Borough.





Sporting News



On Saturday 11th June, Priory students competed in the Shropshire Schools' athletics meet, held at the home of Shropshire Athletics, Oakengates- Telford.

On a day of mixed weather, the Priory students represented the school with pride, and produced some outstanding results. All students demonstrated resilience, determination and confidence throughout, and excellent in the array of track and field events.

A particular highlight was in the boys' 200m final, with Ianto C, and Lucas E crossing the line in 1st and 2nd respectively. Lucas E, Ianto C, Lily P and Joe L all progress to the Mason's trophy, where they will represent Shropshire schools.

A particular well done to those students who competed for the first time this season. You have all been a credit to our school.

Results are below:

Track

100m: Lucas E. 1st. 11.6s PB
100m: Lilly P. 3rd . 13.5s
100m: Ianto C. 4th. 11.7s PB
100m: Roisin E. 4th. 13.9s PB
100m: Joe F: 4th in heats: 13.3 PB
100m: Shane Y: 5th in heats. 13.5P PB

200m: Ianto C. 1st. 24.3s PB
200m: Lucas E. 2nd 24.4s
200m: Joe F: 4th in heats. 13.s3 PB
200m: Josie C. 5th. 30.7s
200m: Roisin E. 5th in heats. 30.9s
200m: Archie W: 6th in heats. 31.8s.

300m: Lily P. 1st. 46.8s
800m : Matthew B. 7th 2.36s PB
1500m: Joe L. 2nd. 4m 23s
1500m: Billy W: 7th. 4:56s

Field

Long Jump: Josie Cox. 9th. 3.75m PB
Discus: Matt B. 6th. 14.20m PB





Sporting News



Year 8 & 9 Cricket

The u14's cricket season commenced on Tuesday 24th May, against Sir John Talbot's school, Whitchurch. On a windy day, we travelled to Whitchurch cricket club, for the first hard ball, limited over game, of the year. Losing the toss, the Priory were put into bat, with Josh S and Matty J opening the innings.

Matty and Josh both kept the scoreboard ticking over, before Matty J was bowled for 8. Josh S went onto score 30 runs, retiring for Finn J coming in at number 3. Finn J came in at number 4, scoring an aggressive 20 not out, whilst Dylan W came into bat, swinging hard, and accelerating the run rate.

The Priory finished their innings with 118-1. SJT came out to bat, with Joe D opening the bowling. His express pace ensured a tight and economical over.

All players in the team, including: Oliver Z, Noah B, Will B, Matt L, Theo T, Dylan W, and Finn J all bowled well throughout the match. SJT played well, and scored quickly in the latter stages, after a slow start, finishing their innings on 99-0.

Year 7 Athletics

Well done to the Year 7 Athletics team who represented Priory in the Telford and Wrekin school's athletic event on Wednesday 25th May.

We had some amazing results and also some great examples of sportsmanship and resilience from the students who took part. The top results were:

Manon 1st in both the javelin (22.85) and 300m (50.41)

Will 1st in the 1500m (5.02)

Maisie 2nd 1500m (6.15)

Poppy 2nd 800m (2.53)

Poppy, Alice, Manon and Amelie dominated in the 4x100m relay and won conveniently.



School Uniform



School Shop Direct are the suppliers for the majority of our school uniform. Further details can be found here:

<https://schoolshopdirect.co.uk/product-category/schools/schools-priory-school/>

This year they have also launched an early order discount for us:

THE PRIORY SCHOOL EARLY ORDER DISCOUNT

We are offering a 7% discount off the standard price for all Priory School Uniform.

In-store, the discount will be automatically applied at the till.

Online, the discount will be automatically applied at the checkout using order code EARLYORDER.

This discount applies from June 20th to July 23rd 2022



There is now a new way to recycle good quality used Priory uniform.

Drop your badged, laundered uniform into School Shop Direct for sorting.

Uniform is then sent to the Hope House Charity Shop where it is available for purchase. This offers everyone a local, eco friendly, and simple way of supplying good quality second hand uniform to parents whilst supporting a local children's charity.

Unit 3 Lancaster Retail Park, Shrewsbury, SY1 3AZ. Tel 01743 463361

Opening hours Monday to Saturday 9.30am- 4.45pm, Sunday 11am - 4pm

School Shop Direct
Unit 17-18 Sundorne Trade Park
Featherbed Lane
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY1 4NS
United Kingdom



Email: info@schoolshopdirect.co.uk
telephone: 01743 440 449

Opening Times Monday – Friday: 9am-5pm, Saturday: 9am-4pm

After School Clubs & Activities

There are a variety of after school clubs and activities on offer to students across all year groups, ranging from Bird Club, Gardening, Chess to Code, Graphics and Eco Club.

For the full list of what's on offer please visit our website for more details:

<https://priory.tpstrust.co.uk/life-at-school/school-clubs/>

We also participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an amazing programme with three levels, bronze, silver and gold which is open to all students over the age of 14 years.

At Priory we start with Bronze usually at the start of year 10. The award is made up of four sections - volunteering, physical, skill and expedition and all these sections have to be completed to achieve the award.

The ethos of the award is for students to learn to work independently, learn new skills, challenge themselves and have fun. At Priory we organise the expedition and training but the other three sections are organised by the students themselves and completed in their own time.

Numbers for taking part has increased this year to 85 students, but we usually average 50-55. Completion rate varies however the last few groups it has been 75% achievement with some going on to take part in Gold at college. There is plenty of support and advice available in school and on the D of E website, however students need to be motivated to achieve this award.



Shrewsbury School Visit

Some of our Year 10 students have had the opportunity to take part in some French sessions that have been organised this term at Shrewsbury School.

These sessions have been designed to support students in tackling exam questions aimed at Grades 7,8,9 on the GCSE French paper. Students have benefited from sessions led there by Mr Yardley and Miss Higgins and were able to show off their existing French knowledge in new surroundings with different teachers.

This is something we plan to continue next term, possibly involving some Shrewsbury School students as well.



Mrs Talbot, Mrs Lee and Mrs Goodwright.

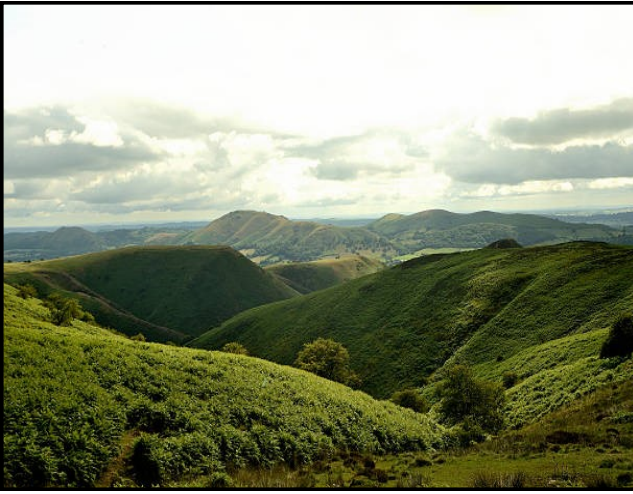
Biology Challenge Certificates



Some of our year 9 and 10 students have completed the International Biology Challenge. 41,000 students took part in 2 online papers to test their biology knowledge and are awarded certificates based on their score (if they didn't score in the categories, they still got a certificate for participation). Particular shout out to Matthew R. who gained Gold award (top 5% of candidates) and Ishan M. and Ruby W. who gained silver (top 10% of candidates).

Award	Percentage score	Percentage of students who took part in the Biology Challenge 2022
Gold	78.69%	5%
Silver	71.72%	10%
Bronze	65.54%	15%
Highly Commended	60.43%	15%
Commended	55.08%	15%

Enrichment Week Activities



During Enrichment Week the Geography and PE departments were delighted to be able to take year 7 to Carding Mill Valley.

They took part in a variety of fieldwork tasks in the river channel, field sketches and much more, along with a walk through the valley with the PE staff.

This was the first fieldwork trip we have been able to take since Covid, so even though we were out in the wind and rain, it was great to be able to take part in some work outside the classroom again.

Quantum Theatre Performs At Priory

Students explore aspects of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' as part of their KS3 Shakespeare studies; being treated to a fast-paced production of the whole play during Enrichment Week was therefore suitably educational and entertaining. The theatre company have visited us in the past to deliver a staging of 'A Christmas Carol' so we were confident that their production would be both enlightening and comedic. There was much doubling up of parts (just like Shakespeare's Lord Chamberlain's Men theatre company would have done) so that the cast of five managed a wide number of roles, from the famous four young lovers (Hermia, Helena, Lysander and Demetrius) to the many 'Mechanicals' (workers Bottom & co.) who as amateur actors are intent on giving a performance of a tragic play - just the thing for a wedding celebration for the Duke of Athens and his new wife, Hippolyta ... (more parts!).

Apart from the mortal world there was also the magical mayhem created by the fairies (Puck and Oberon) so that Titania (Queen of the fairies) becomes enamoured of Bottom - even though he has had an ass's head conjured upon him. He doesn't know of course so much dramatic irony, humour and hee-hawing!

Many thanks to Quantum Theatre for their exuberant production. With students obviously having had less opportunity to experience live theatre in recent years, this proved an accessible and engaging performance with no slumbering possible!

"If we shadows [actors] have offended,
Think but this, and all is mended...
That you have but slumbered here
While these visions did appear..."

Students might also like to dip into BBC Bitesize's material on this enduringly popular comedy of Shakespeare's: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxgcwmn>



The character Nick Bottom, a weaver by trade, has his head transformed into a donkey's by the mischievous fairy Puck



Quantum Theatre's Oberon, King of the Fairies in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'



Work Experience Year 10



The long awaited return to work experience finally arrived this term. Year 10 students braved the real world, and for some, had their first taste of what employment is really like. The post lockdown world made it very difficult for students to secure work experience, some pupils had to contact over 20 companies in the search for a suitable placement. I am very pleased with the effort and maturity shown by our students, it was a daunting task but they all entered into it with confidence and enthusiasm, Katie Holmes 10K reflects on her experience.

When I thought about where I would like to go to for work experience, I enjoyed the idea of going to a theatre in Birmingham or Wolverhampton or even applying to work at the BBC. Unfortunately, due to the impacts COVID 19 has had, this simply wasn't possible as many of these companies weren't accepting applicants for work experience positions. Because of this, I decided to ask Get Your Wiggle On (my Musical Theatre group) if I could help at their studio for a week. I have been a member here for over seven years and it is where I spend much of my time. To my delight, they of course agreed. Having only experienced what it is like there during session times, I couldn't wait to get a hands-on experience of what goes on behind the scenes.

Over the course of my week, I had a very enriching experience working in many different areas from crafting pieces of set for their recent production of The Little Mermaid to leading activities in their young Musical Theatre classes. Working with some of their youngest members was really rewarding and I got to lead some of the drama activities during the session. It was particularly cute when one came and held my hand and said: "Welcome to Wigles!"

I am someone who naturally enjoys creating and crafting so I took a particular interest and liking to the costume aspect of my experience. Get Your Wiggle On has a sister company called Spotlight Costumes which they use to allow other companies to hire their costumes for productions. They send these hires all over the country to a wide variety of different performance groups. While I was there, I had to sort three different costume hires: a Legally Blonde, an Annie, and a Matilda. This consisted of using the measurements sent by each of the companies and creating a full set of costumes for each child, whether that be a full school uniform (Matilda) or an orphan costume (Annie). Having only recently arrived, some of their new costumes which they bought for hires needed altering, so as an experienced sewer I was set to work adding ribbon hemming to school blazers for their Matilda costumes.

So, what have I taken away from my time on work experience? Well, I can certainly say that I have come away with a greater appreciation for all the hard work that all the staff put in every single day to ensure the company runs efficiently and that all their productions run smoothly. As well as this, I feel as though I have a better awareness of my time management due to often having to work against the clock with tasks such as set making and costume hires. Furthermore, I feel that I was able to demonstrate some of my strengths during the week such as: working independently; using my initiative; being part of a team and working collaboratively, and demonstrating my friendly and personable skills engaging with colleagues, parents and children of different ages. I enjoyed my time on work experience so much and it has helped cement my decision to pursue Drama and Theatre post 16.





Library News



Summer term and exam season saw the library being used more for quiet GCSE study. But now year 11 have moved on, year 7&8 can use the library during break and lunch each Mon/Wed/Fri and Year 9&10 Tues/Thurs. Remember we are also open after school until 4pm to all.

You can search our library catalogue online here <https://u016357.microlibrarian.net>

This term we have boosted our Science and Art sections with new books, but now we are interested in student requests for graphic novels and manga. Let us know what you think.

At book group we have been following the YOTO Carnegie Medal 2022. Our book club favourite 'October October' by Katya Balen was announced as the overall prize winner. It is a classic in the making about the beauty of nature and a young girl learning about the chaotic world outside her wild woods. Available to borrow from the library now. Book club will now resume in the Autumn term.

Remember you can also join Shropshire Libraries over the Summer [Join the library | Shropshire Council](#). Once a member you can access the e-library from the comforts of home. Anyone with a print disability can also access free audio books here [Join today - Calibre Audio](#)

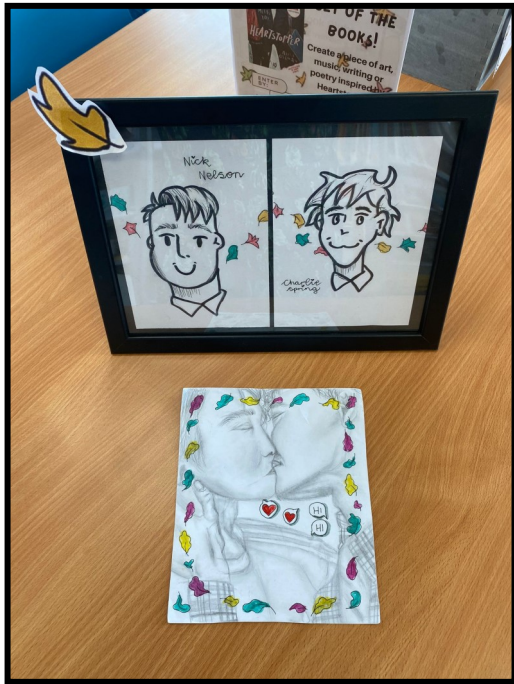
Please get in touch if you have any further reading or book queries...library@tpstrust.co.uk.

Mrs. Edwards & Miss Donegan

Our Top 5 Books borrowed this Summer Term....

1. Heartstopper Volume 1 by Alice Oseman
2. When the Sky Falls by Phil Earle
3. Heartstopper Volume 2 by Alice Oseman
4. Heartstopper Volume 3 by Alice Oseman
5. Tsunami Girl by Julian Sedgwick





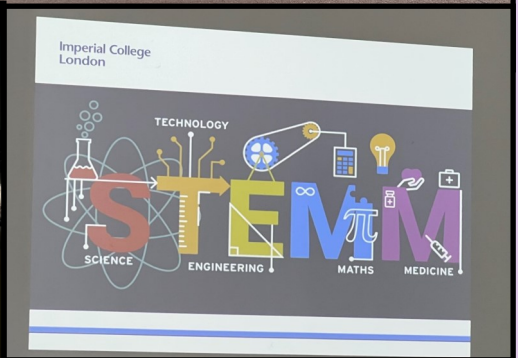
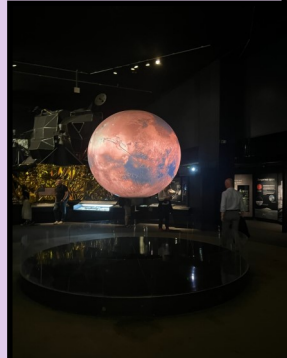
HEARTSTOPPER COMPETITION

We have had the collection of Heartstopper books since the Netflix series aired, and they have proven to be immensely popular. To celebrate Pride month the Library ran a fan competition to win a full set of the books, and the winning entry belongs to Lucy B 8P. Well done Lucy!"



Visits

Year 10 students were selected for a STEM residential visit to the Imperial College London, organised by Shrewsbury School. Thanks to the trip organisers and to our students for being such a credit to the school.



FANTASTIC! BRILLIANT! AMBITIOUS! PERSEVERANCE! ARTY! LOVED THE COOKIES!

Are just some of the words that Year 5 children from Coleham Primary School used to describe their Clay Morning at Priory in June.

We had over 60 young artists visit the Art Department over 2 days. Pictured are just some of the creative creatures that they produced just prior to firing.



Student Support

Summer Holiday Fun in Shropshire



Have fun with your friends, learn new skills, gain confidence and get involved!

Shropshire Council is working with local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to run an exciting holiday programme this summer, Shropshire HAF (Holiday Activities and Food).

There are free places available on the programme for children and young people aged 4 to 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and for those who have been referred onto this programme by a professional.

Take part in sports, arts, cooking, forest schools and lots more fun activities, happening across the county. Free nutritious meals will be provided at each session.

View the 'What's On' guide to find out what activities are available www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf

For more information please click here:

<https://shropshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/>

If you require a code from the school, please email: info@tpstrust.co.uk and mark for the attention of Student Support

For any other queries about the programme, please email:

HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk

Do I look like I care?



Could this be you?

Young carers often go unnoticed

If you are a young person under 18 and you help to look after someone in your family, either physically or emotionally, who has an illness, a disability, a mental health problem or a substance misuse problem, you are a young carer.

Contact us to find out how we can support you:

07990 045045

shropyc@crossroadstogether.org.uk

www.crossroadstogether.org.uk

Crossroads Together is the trading name of Crossroads Care Cheshire, Manchester and Merseyside limited. Registered Charity No. 1073268. Registered office: Overton House, West Street, Congleton, CW12 3JF. A Company limited by guarantee registered in England No. 3354493. Registered with the Care Quality Commission. Patrons: Rt Hon Lord Bradley, Fiona Bruce MP & Sir Nicholas Winterton.

Useful Links to Resources for Families:

- 'Worrying About Money?' Leaflets- free hard copies available through SophiePadgett@cabshropshire.org.uk
- Online, interactive version: <https://www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/shropshire>
- Shropshire Larder - <https://www.shropshirelarder.org.uk/>
- Shropshire Council Cost of Living webpage - <https://shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/>
- Information about Free School Meals - <https://shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/>
- Shropshire Family Information Service - <https://shropshire.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare/parents-and-carers/shropshire-family-information-service-0-19-years/>

The Shropshire Council Cost of Living webpage includes links and advice for specific money worries, including :

- Cost Of Transport
- Debt and borrowing
- Rent or Mortgage Help
- Help with Energy Bills
- Help with water rates
- Financial help for people with disabilities
- Help with pensions



The Children's Society

EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE UNDER 25

Monday - Drop In's at The Lantern, Meadow Farm Drive, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NG
From 12pm - 4pm (last session 3:15pm)

Tuesdays - Drop In's at Wellington Beam, 9 Market Square Wellington, TF1 1BP
From 10am - 6pm (last session 5:30pm)

Thursdays - Drop In's at Wellington Beam, 9 Market Square Wellington, TF1 1BP
From 10am - 6pm (last session 5:30pm)

This service is run by The Children's Society. Proud to be part of Bee U.



School Production

CHICAGO

HIGH SCHOOL EDITION

On Monday 11th July our cast performed to Year 7 students and a group of Year 6 students from St. George's Primary. During the Matinee, students performed Act 1 along with some key songs. From Act 2.

It was fantastic to be back on stage following a long absence due to Covid, and many of the students congratulated the performers with a magnificent round of applause.

The show will also be performed over 3 nights to parents/carers and more details of this will follow in the next edition of the newsletter.

Well done to all involved for their hard work!





Diary Dates & Reminders

Term Dates 2022-2023

Autumn Term 2022

Main Term: Wednesday 7th September - Friday 16th December

Half Term: Thursday 20th October - Friday 28th October

Christmas Holiday: Monday 19th December - Tuesday 3rd January

***PD Days:** Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th September

Thursday 20th & Friday 21st October

Spring Term 2023

Main Term: Wednesday 4th January - Friday 31st March

Half Term: Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February

Easter Holiday: Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th April

***PD Days:** Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Summer Term 2023

Main Term: Monday 17th April - Tuesday 25th July

May Day : Monday 1st May

Half Term: Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June

ALL DATES ARE INCLUSIVE

*** School closed for students**

Any 1pm finishes will be communicated in advance

Open Mornings and Evening September 2022

Open Mornings 9-11am Monday 26th to Wednesday 28th September

Open Evening 6-8pm Wednesday 28th September

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SY3 9EE

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✉ info@tpstrust.co.uk

🐦 @PriorySch

🌐 <https://priory.tpstrust.co.uk/>