

The Priory School

December 2022



Special Festive Edition

Issue 3



Mrs Alison Pope Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

As we draw closer to the end of term, the excitement is building for House Music. It has been fantastic to see so many pupils rehearsing and giving their time to this. We're incredibly excited it's back. However, if England make their semi-final position, we may have to look to either revise the time—further details will be coming out to you. The evening itself will not just be a House competition but we will also be marking the run up to Christmas with festive refreshments on hand. If you are able to, it will be great to see you there. We're already looking forward to the whole school production and talent show, next term.

In addition to House Music, this term has witnessed a huge increase in the number of students attending extra-curricular lunchtime and after school clubs. The number of staff voluntarily committing their time to this is a real testament to the way they wish to support our young people. If your child would like to try something next term, these clubs are all printed in their planners. Please also use their planners to gain an overview of key words, spellings, homework and units of work. Curriculum plans and the order in which they study topics in all subjects is also available on the school website on our curriculum section—please feel free to use this as a way of discussing the work your child is covering in class.

This term has witnessed Year 11 working incredibly hard up to and during their mock examinations. They have approached this period with an extremely conscientious and diligent attitude and should feel very proud of their achievements. Likewise, I've dropped into a number of Year 9 lessons where pupils have been preparing for their internal exams which followed close on the heels of the Year 11 mocks. With the run up to their Options choices, in the New Year, it was good to see them approaching these assessments with a clear focus. Extra information regarding this process will be sent out by Mrs Knight shortly.

A gentle reminder to please not drop off non-urgent items at school reception as this is proving difficult for the front of house team to manage, both in terms of releasing the gate but also getting items to students whilst trying to man the phone lines. If pupils have forgotten their PE kit they will be given a role to play in the lesson. We are also still encountering parents arriving to collect their child without our first aid team or reception being aware they are unwell. Pupils should ask to visit the medical room or reception, and once checked, we will contact you. Please don't come to collect them without speaking to a member of staff first, as pupils should not be using their mobile phones in school and we need a clear record of anyone leaving.

I have written separately about our recent change in skirts. The majority of our students wear their uniform impeccably well (thank you) but we also need to clarify expectations around uniform ready for the New Year. There is a separate section relating to this further on in this newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of the newsletter. I have included a link to the MS Forms, below, for parental feedback. The responses from last half term were incredibly valuable; please feel free to respond again or for the first time, as time is always taken to read and discuss the points raised.

<https://forms.office.com/e/EzKBKWyczj>

Wishing you all a very relaxed and enjoyable festive period.

Best wishes

Mrs Pope





Mrs Alison Pope
Headteacher

UNIFORM REMINDERS



Shoes

Shoes must be plain black, leather or 'leather look', not suede or canvas and not boots. Logos and trainers are not permitted. We are investing in a stock of school shoes; students who choose to wear the wrong footwear will be instructed to wear a pair of these.

Skirts

We are moving to a black, pleated skirt (please see separate email from the Headteacher). We have invested in a stock of sizes of black pleated skirts; students who choose to wear the wrong skirt or wear it inappropriately (too short) will be instructed to wear one of ours.

Jewellery

One pair of stud earrings only are allowed on health and safety grounds. Any other items worn, without medical need or religious significance (of which we will need confirmation to the school in writing), can be confiscated.

Normal school sanctions will be applied for any refusal around these areas.

Charity Non-Uniform

Charity non-uniform days are a great way to raise money and awareness for charity. Unfortunately, some students have not been dressing in an appropriate way for school. Non-uniform does not change our expectations regarding jewellery, only one pair of studded earrings should be worn, no other visible jewellery is permitted. Failure to comply with this will mean we have to cancel further non-uniform events until we are sure all students can dress appropriately for school.

Charity Non-Uniform

Charity non-uniform days are a great way to raise money and awareness for charity. Non-uniform does not change our expectations regarding jewellery, only one pair of studded earrings should be worn, no other visible jewellery is permitted. If this continues to be an issue we may have to cancel further non-uniform events until we are sure all students can dress appropriately for school.



Mrs Alison Pope Headteacher

A message to our parents and carers

We want to work closely with all of our parents and carers to ensure the regular communication between home and school remains strong.



Contacting the School via email

Supporting the young people in our care and managing the wellbeing and workload of our staff team is paramount. We want to continue to support our parents and carers by responding to parental queries at the earliest opportunity and have set out our ambition for positive communication below. Whilst our Headteachers, teachers and support staff are prioritising the smooth running of our schools, they may not be able to respond to emails straight away. In addition, for the wellbeing of our staff, as a Trust, we do not expect staff to respond to emails during their personal/family time.

Expectations for email communications between parents/carers and our staff:

Typically emails from parents/carers will be responded to during school working hours (8am-4pm).

Our staff will respond to you as soon as possible and typically within three working days. This does not include weekends or holidays. Part-time staff may take longer to reply. **If a response is urgent or in relation to a safeguarding issue, please call school.** The admin team will assess the level of urgency and may take a message to pass on to the appropriate member of staff.

Emails should be addressed to info@tpstrust.co.uk FAO: (name(s) of the member(s) of staff.

Please do not use Teams to communicate with staff members as we cannot guarantee it will be checked and can become intrusive in their own time. Some staff members may choose to use it to communicate with pupils around school work, project feedback and events, this should not be out of hours or on a weekend unless a teacher or tutor has agreed to this.

We will continue to monitor our approach to email communication to improve the process further and are welcome any feedback you may have.

As always, thank you for your continued support of school.



Mr Ian Peterson Chair of Governors



View from the Governors

As Governors, we are often presented with an array of performance data to assess the progress of the school. This data is arranged into two main categories, broad school level comparators and individual pupil targets (though the pupil level data is anonymised).

School Comparators

The two main measures of school performance are Attainment 8 (A8) and Performance 8 (P8). They both measure an average within the school of all pupils who undertook GCSE exams that year, based on their best eight results but which must include English and Mathematics. There are nuances in how the scores are calculated, with English and Mathematics normally being worth double any other subject.

A8 – This is an average of the scores for the best eight GCSE results, including English and Mathematics, calculated for each pupil and then averaged across the year group. In A8, the higher the score, the higher the average GCSE grades achieved by the pupils in that year group.

P8 – This takes the scores achieved by an individual in the SATS at the end of Primary School and then uses national data from pupils with similar SATS results to compare A8 scores. If an individual scores the same at SATS and A8 as the national picture, their P8 would be zero. If they score a higher A8 than their equals at SATS, the P8 would be positive. This is then averaged over the year group to give the school P8 score. It is a feature of the P8 comparator that a pupil who achieves a grade 9 at GCSE would still have a P8 of zero if their equals at SATS also scored a 9; it measures progression rather than absolute grades.

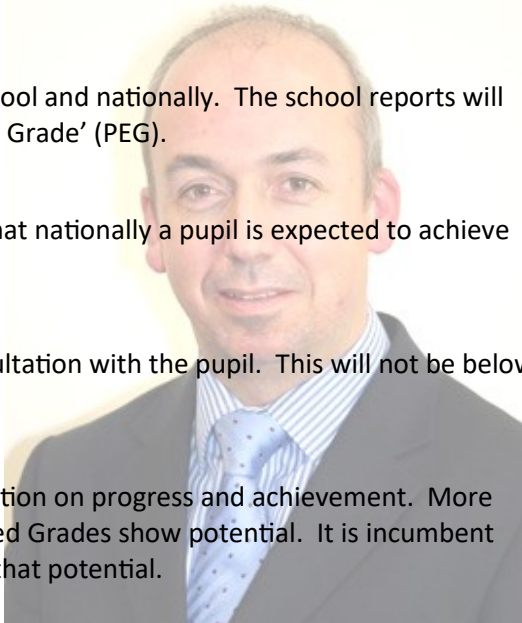
Individual Targets

At a pupil level, there are 'expected grades' from both the school and nationally. The school reports will list an 'National Expected Grade' (NEG) and a 'Priory Expected Grade' (PEG).

NEG – This is the baseline for the P8 listed above; the grade that nationally a pupil is expected to achieve given their SATS results.

PEG – An ambitious but achievable grade determined in consultation with the pupil. This will not be below the NEG but may be the same as it.

The purpose of all the performance data is to provide information on progress and achievement. More importantly, however, at an individual level the Priory Expected Grades show potential. It is incumbent upon us all to support the pupils of The Priory School to fulfil that potential.





Charity Update



Last year we set ourselves the aspirational target of raising £15000 for charity. There were a few hiccups along the way but students and staff rallied together to put on a myriad of different events. Some of the highlights were the trips to Area 51, Pizza Hut, The Charity Quiz nights and of course our amazing Colour Run. There were so many more individual triumphs and small group fundraising activities (too many to mention them all) but they all greatly contributed to our final total of £11665, a wonderful achievement considering the challenges we have all faced over the past two years.

Our charity year runs from summer half term to summer half term the following year; this gives our new Year 7 students the chance to hit the ground running in September because the fundraising activities for the current year are already well under way.

Last week, we voted for our three charities that we will support throughout the year and the students have decided support:

- ◆ The Dogs Trust
- ◆ Cancer Research UK
- ◆ The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

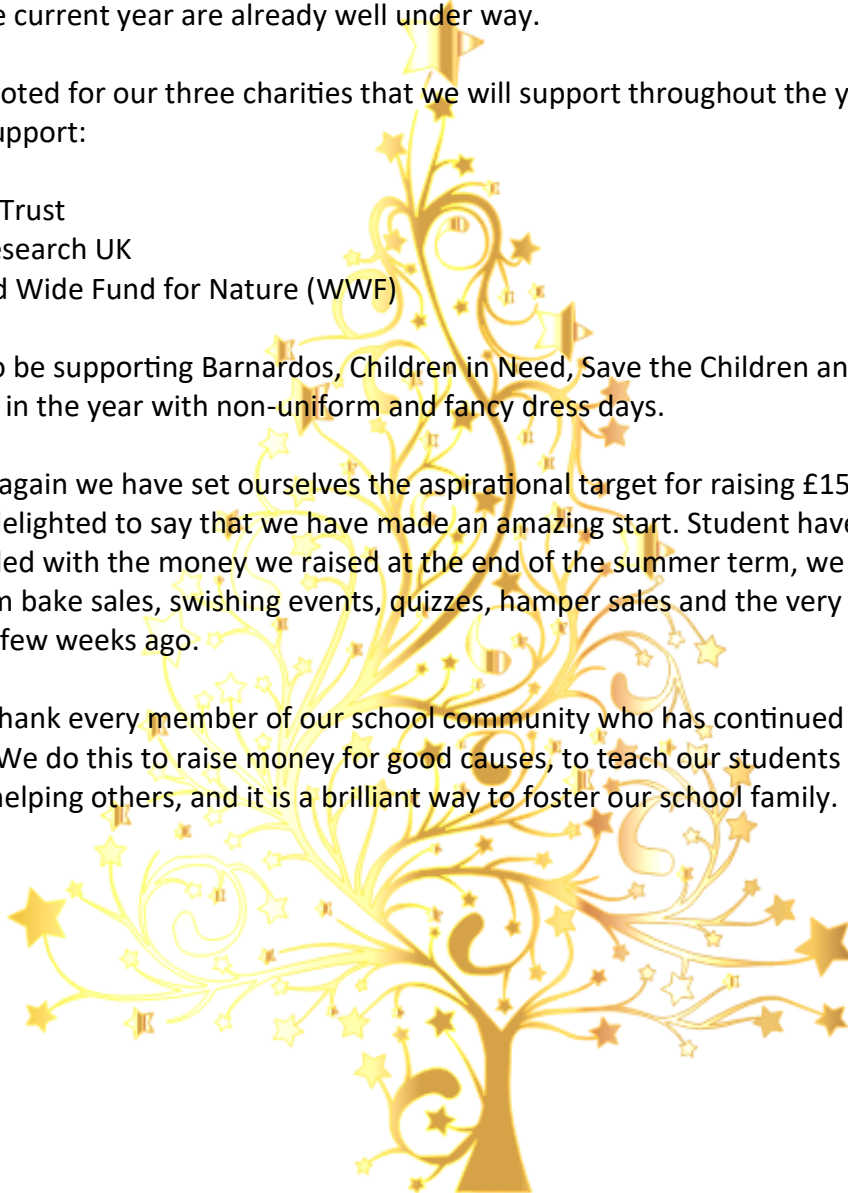
And we will also be supporting Barnardos, Children in Need, Save the Children and Comic Relief at different points in the year with non-uniform and fancy dress days.

This year, once again we have set ourselves the aspirational target for raising £15000 for our chosen charities. I am delighted to say that we have made an amazing start. Student have been very busy this term, and coupled with the money we raised at the end of the summer term, we have already raised over £2770 from bake sales, swishing events, quizzes, hamper sales and the very successful coffee morning held a few weeks ago.

I would like to thank every member of our school community who has continued to support our charity efforts. We do this to raise money for good causes, to teach our students about the importance of helping others, and it is a brilliant way to foster our school family.

Best wishes,

Mr Bucknall





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:

19th Oct 2022

Students	Form
Mollie G	7A
Erin B	7P
Matthew B	7F
Alice D	7F
Merryn E	7F
Beth K	7K
Jonty L	7P
Evie A	7F

2nd Nov 2022

Students	Form
Orin W	8H
Clare W	8H
Anhelina D	8F
Lucy C	8A
Ella S	8A
Lucy B	8P
Milly W	8K
Cam D	8K
Claire W	8H
Lucy N	8N
Sophia H	8N
Lois A-S	8P
Ella J	8K
Lucy B	8P

7th Nov 2022

Students	Form
Gabby P	9P
Rachel G	9N
Eve B	9N
Belle R	9H
Lily L	9A
Niamh M	9A
Charlie N	9P
Maisie J	9P
Cali E	9F
Tom E	9P
Eaofie B	9A
Joe T	9H
Charlie B	9F
James T	9P
Conor W	9P



14th November 2022

Student Name	Form
Charlotte R	10F
Maggie P	10H
Lucy W	10K
Elin H	10K
Darcey C	10F
Niamh G	10H
Niamh J	10H
Matthew P	10F
Zachary M	10P
Saffron W	10N
Marcie T	10K
Joe F	10P
James A	10F
Nathan S	10K
Jake S	10F
Josh P	10N
Kaitlyn L	10K





Headteacher's Breakfast



Headteacher's Special Award, 18th Nov 2022

Students	Form
Michaela G	11P
Thea M	11A
Santiago A	10H
Frederico R	9K

18th Nov



2nd Nov 2022





Headteacher's Breakfast



Student Name	Form
Gabby P	9P
Rachel G	9N
Eve B	9N
Belle R	9H
Lily L	9A
Niamh M	9A
Charlie N	9P
Maisie J	
Cali E	9F
Tom E	9P
Eaoife B	9A
Joe T	9H
Charlie B	9F
James T	9P
Conor W	9P
Cali E	9F

Student Name	Form
Beth K	7K
Henry R	7K
Mayir B	7A
Gwen M	7F
Anna L	7A
Mollie G	7A
Orla K	7H
Kristina P	7H
Alina M	7H
Jonty L	7P
Noah M	7K
Kristina P	7H
Eva B	7A
Mollie G	7A
Elliot H	7A
Olivia C	7H
Heidi B	7N
Gwen M	7A
Solomon Y	7F
Keira P	
Heidi B	7N
Harlow H	7K
Solomon Y	7F
Tristan B	7F
Daniel M	7H
Orla K	7H



2nd Nov 2022



Headteacher's Breakfast



Remembrance Day

Annually, The Priory marks Remembrance Day with a formal whole school gathering in front of our main buildings. It is an incredibly poignant event with readings from myself and School Captains, as well as a sounding of The Last Post and Reveille from one of our current students. In advance of the event, our Design & Technology and Gardening Club have been working with staff to produce a wonderful 3D poppy display from recycled materials. This has decorated the area where the whole school stand during the service, and has certainly helped to add to the atmosphere of the event.



Taking the time to mark the two-minute silence as a school community is integral to not only sharing in a national and international event but to the values that underpin our school ethos. We place great value of ensuring we provide an holistic education and experience for our pupils. It was incredibly moving to watch our young people mark the occasion in such a sombre and respectful fashion.



A Pope





Faraday Challenge



On the 3rd of November, twelve Year 8 students represented The Priory School in the Faraday Challenge, this year held at Adcote School. The students had to work as a team to solve an engineering challenge and ensure they met the brief, budgeted and purchased resources, which they then used to build a prototype of their design. Students then pitched their design to the Challenge Manager. All students were exceptional and we are delighted to inform you that one team actually won the challenge for that day. If their score is high enough, they may represent the area in the next round of the challenge. Well done to you all!



From Left: Jack, Louisa, Zara, Claire, Joe, Maisie, Teddy, Freya, Lucy,
Louie, Alex, Anna



Science Competition



Well done to all who entered the Science Competition and for presenting their research about the stick insect and snail lifecycles. Below is the winning piece from a student in Year 7. Two other Year 7 students were runners up. All were chosen by our year 11 house captains. Thank you. We hope you enjoy your prize!

-Mrs Hayman-Bant



How do Snails REPRODUCE? Heidi Bassett 7N

Hi, I'm a snail. A garden snail to be specific.

This is my friend, she's a ladybird. She'll help me tell you how snails reproduce.

There are over 30,000 known species of snail! every one of them is ...

HERMAPHRODITE This means they have both female and male reproductive cells.

Unlike ladybirds who are GONOCORIC - this means they are either male or female.

Out of 8.7 million animals species on the planet, snails are in the group (of under 30 animals) that are both male and female at the same time.

But WHY? Hermaphrodite animals exist because they most likely evolved due to a limited number of mating partners.

Even though snails don't need to mate, they mostly choose to do so, and sometimes, both snails get pregnant!

This technically means that snails are LGBTQ...

Why aren't all animals hermaphrodites?

Because snails and other hermaphrodites EVOLVED into being both genders probably because of not finding a mate.

hello? (3 miles away)

Unlike humans, snails lay about 1-200 eggs at a time!

batch of snail eggs

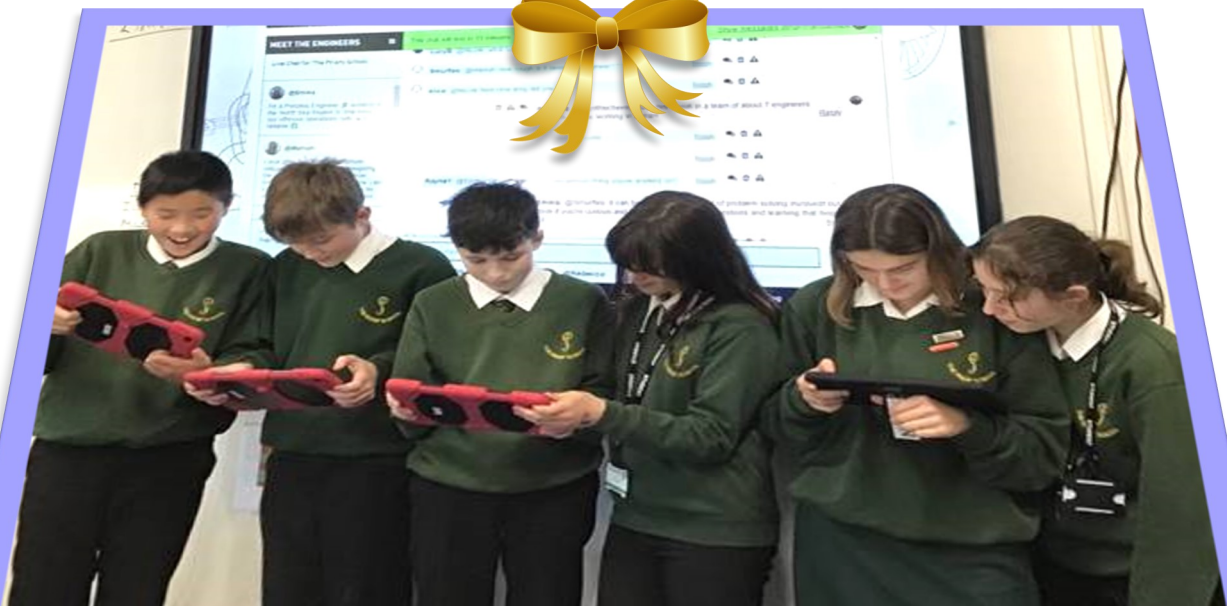
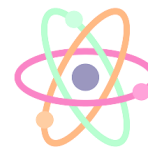
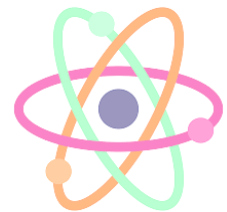
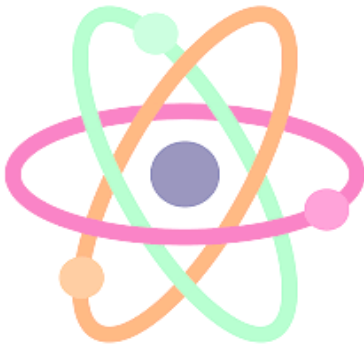
How'd I do? Snailed it!

what do I wear? fem. or masc.?

You too? You be!

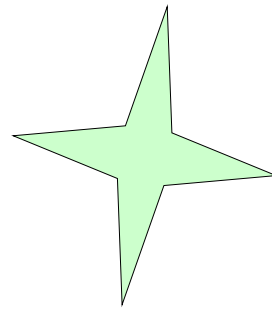
I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out of Here!

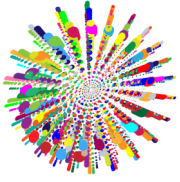
On 29th November, some Year 8 and Year 9 students logged into *I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out Of Here!* They had a live chat with engineers and geneticists about their careers, choices and pathways. All students loved being able to ask experts of the professions their queries directly about the subject and careers choices.



Hatched!

Year 7 would like to announce the successful hatching of a stick insect, Groot, to the Science Department; can you see her?



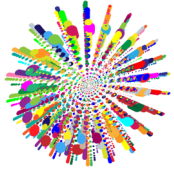


Art Trips



Art and Design students visited Shrewsbury Abbey for one of their art lessons. This was a great opportunity to draw this magnificent building from life and to experience the peace and calm of being in such a special place. The students will be producing artwork based on the photographs and sketches from their visit.



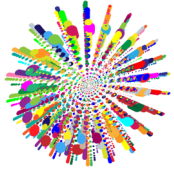


Art Trips



In November, we took 60 Year 10 Art and Graphics GCSE students to visit Tate Liverpool and the Walker Art Gallery. We were lucky to see the 2022 Turner Prize shortlist, and we all had a vote. The students collected ideas and images to inform their topic choices for their upcoming NEA. This was our first gallery trip for a long while, and it was a great day out!

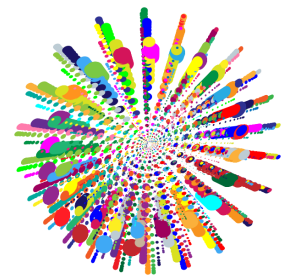


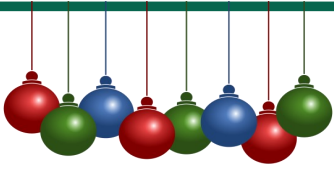


More Creativity!

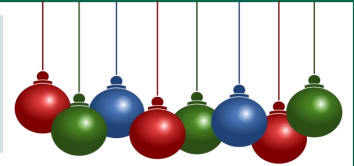


The Shrewsbury Drapers Company recently held a textile design competition. An exhibition was held at Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery. Schools from around Shropshire took part in the event. Congratulations to Priory School 2022 leaver, Lily Killeen, with her textile entry. Lily was awarded the Bronze Award in the Young Textile Designers category.





Library News



"Winter was made for warm blankets and big books."

Search our library catalogue online <https://u016357.microlibrarian.net>

Our Christmas tree is up, the fire is roaring (on the large screen) and blankets/cushions are on hand for those dark, chilly mornings. Pupils can drop in to help make mini book tree decorations during break and lunch, whilst also voting for their favourite Christmas film to be shown up here throughout the last week of term.

This half-term has been a busy one and we have marked Black History Month, World Mental Health Day, Non-Fiction November and Remembrance Day [Remembrance Day Book List.pdf](#) Each occasion gives us an excellent opportunity to refresh our displays and offer a variety of new reading choices.

Our popular reading raffle also continues. Checking out a book will earn you one ticket entered into a prize draw, borrowing a non-fiction book earns two tickets, and writing a book review of 100 words or more will get you three tickets! Another five winning tickets will be drawn out before Christmas. Prizes include hot chocolate book packs, the new Heartstopper yearbook, Stranger Things graphic novels and the Guinness Book of Records 2023.

Year 7 & 8 can access the library during break and lunch each Mon/Wed/Fri and Year 9 & 10 Tues/Thurs.

We are also open after school until 4pm to all. This is a great quiet time to get homework done, read, or quietly study. Computers are available during this time in the next room Mon-Thurs (Room 19).

As always, please do get in touch if you have any reading or book queries library@tpstrust.co.uk.

Merry Christmas!

Mrs Edwards & Miss Donegan



Student SPOTLIGHT

In October, Sam went to the European Parliament in Brussels with his mum where they met with MEPs. They spoke about the challenges facing people with skeletal dysplasia and how policy makers can help.

Sam B



Sam and his mum were the representatives from the U.K.; their friends from Slovakia, Spain, Finland, France, the Netherlands and Bulgaria also attended!



Student SPOTLIGHT

Downhill Racing

Noah K

Noah came 4th in the National and 3rd in the Regional Pearce Series overall.



Student Support



What we can offer in the way of support

- * Supportive conversations with Form Tutor
- * 5 academic lessons a day
- * Drop-in sessions to Student Support at break and lunch times only
- * A scheduled appointment with Student Support (not drop-in)
- * Time with the school counsellor/a mentor (if appropriate and available)
- * Referral to BeeU
- * Referral to Beam
- * Referral to tuition service
- * Referral for family support (if appropriate and available)
- * Regular contact with home – either via phone calls/planning meetings
- * Regular meetings with your tutor / HOH

Student Support



WELCOME TO

YOUTH DROP IN

SCHOOL YEARS 6+

Join us at the Meet Place for Games, Activities, Sports and Snacks!

4:30-5:30pm Tuesdays During Term Time

Follow us on Instagram - [themeetplaceyouthdropin](https://www.instagram.com/themeetplaceyouthdropin)

Trinity Churches



Winter Holiday Fun and Food in Shropshire

Book Now!

Spaces are available on the Winter/Christmas HAF programme.

During 19 to 23 December 2022, eligible children and young people aged 4 (reception class age) to 16, are invited to take part in a range of fun activities, happening at over 43 venues across the county.

To find out more please go to:
www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf



Student Support



Shrewsbury
Town Council



Young Shrewsbury's Youth Clubs are Back!

NEW! Tuesday Night it's

The Hive Youth Café!

5 Belmont, Shrewsbury SY1 1TE (Y7-11) 4:00-6:00pm

Young Shrewsbury's **Youth Café** will be focusing on information, Advice and Guidance for Young People (for example: careers & education) and include Music, Drama & Dance!

Arts & Crafts - including paper crafts, painting, sand art, Hama Beads, jewellery making and wool craft.

Entry is Free!... but remember to bring some pennies for our tuck shop!

Youth Café Sessions start at "THE HIVE" on Tuesday 13th September 2022, come and meet the Team

Hazel, Ellen & Andy

Contact the Youth & Community Manager Andy Hall for more Information 01743 344800 or 07976020819

andy.hall@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

"Come and Join the fun!"



Student Support



- *Would you like to know more about your child's development?*
- *Do you need support to understand your child's behaviour?*
- *Would you like a chance to meet with other parents with children of a similar age?*



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD GROUP

Wednesday 18th January 2023

The group runs for 10 weeks from the start date excluding the School Holidays

9.30am to 11.30am

Market Drayton Infant School
Longslow Road, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 3BA

To book a place on one of our groups or for further information on the services the Parenting Team offers please email Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk or us call on: 01743 250950



www.shropshire.gov.uk
General Enquiries: 0345 678 9000



House Music



House Music is right around the corner, taking place Wednesday 14th December. With disruption from the pandemic putting a halt to House Music for the past two years, we are very much looking forward to having you back for what is always a wonderful evening. The show starts at 5:30pm prompt, with doors opening at 4:30pm for a pre-show mince pie and (non-alcoholic) festive drink. This change in timings is to accommodate for the potential of England being in the World Cup semi-finals. The show will finish at 6:30 or soon after, meaning if England do get through there is ample time to get home ready for kick off!

At the time of writing, tickets are on sale on Parent Pay, but with the popularity of House Music, they may well have already sold out, and there will be no tickets available on the door.

Each house has spent hours and hours in lunch time rehearsals crafting their pieces, and it has been a joy to watch the wide range of material develop over the last term. In addition to the competition, there will be a preview from our upcoming school production of High School Musical and even a festive surprise at the end of the night! The below paragraph has hints to which song each house will be singing; see if you can work them all out!

Tickets for House Music usually sell out very quickly, so you should be counting your lucky stars if you managed to get some in time. When our students are up on stage singing, they will feel like they rule the world, but after all their hard work will be very tired — I am sure some of them will be struggling to still be standing, and might need somebody they love to wake them up when it's all over! We are very much looking forward to saying 'hi' to you all at this wonderful school musical event.

We very much look forward to seeing you on Wednesday.

Mr Austin
Head of Music
Head of Frank House





School Production



Back in the summer term of 2022, our magnificent students performed 'Chicago: High School Edition' and blew the audience away with their talent and professionalism. It was a tremendous return to live performances and the cast definitely set the bar high for future productions. They really were a pleasure to work with and produced a show that Priory will never forget! Well done to EVERYONE that took part – we are very proud of you all!



As we congratulate one cast, we eagerly move on to the next! We are delighted to announce that this year's school production will be 'High School Musical' and will be performed 16th and 17th February 2023. The cast have been committed to their rehearsals and are looking forward to performing one of the songs in the upcoming House Music show on 14th December. Tickets for the production will be on sale nearer the time – please look out for further correspondence.

Miss Jones

Head of Drama





School Production





Futures Focus



Futures Focus

A quick update on the careers activities for this half term and what is coming up in the New Year – there is lots!

Y7 Enterprise Challenge

All Year 7s were challenged to make paper cups to hold water for 30 seconds as part of an enterprise day focusing on their employability skills including: communication, listening, team working, leadership, problem solving, resilience, and creativity. Competition was fierce as teams worked to make the most profit by purchasing their raw materials, manufacturing their cups on a production line, and selling them to customers who would only accept the highest quality. A great event for all students, who really enjoyed the challenge.

Year 7 Introduction to Kudos

All year 7 students have now received their Kudos passwords and had an introductory session using it during Life. Kudos is the UK's most popular impartial careers guidance and information program that helps young people plan their future and make informed decisions. Students are encouraged to research information about different careers they may be interested in to find out what is involved in those jobs, the qualifications needed, and ways to get into the profession. Kudos also includes labour market information showing number of people employed in the profession, expected growth of jobs and average salary information. Please visit <https://kudos.cascaid.co.uk> and log on with your child to discover more.

Year 10 Work Experience

We already have over 30 students who have secured their work experience placements and 20 who are awaiting confirmation from EBL (work experience portal). Please encourage students to make contact with as many placements as possible and use the EBL database but remember, new companies can be added at any time. If your child requires any further support to upload their placement to the work experience portal, please ask them to come and see me in school.





Futures Focus



Coming up in the Spring Term:

National Apprenticeship Week – 6th February 2023.

Year 8

Will learn about Labour Market Information from the Department for Work and Pensions during their Life lesson.

Year 9

Will learn about 'What Employers Want' from the Department of Work and Pensions during their Life lesson.

Will be visiting the Apprenticeship, Employment and Skills Show on 16th March – please look out for letters about this in the New Year.

As part of preparing Year 9 for choosing their GCSE options, time will be spent in Life lessons launching The Priory School options programme as well as thinking about what subjects might be useful in potential careers that interest them using Kudos. Students all have access to Kudos at home; if they have forgotten their password they simply need to click on forgotten password and a new link will be sent to their school email address to reset this.

Year 10

50 students will have the opportunity to visit Birmingham University on 13th January. The visit will include a campus tour, course Pictionary and a question and answer session with university students to help Priory students learn more about what it's like to study at university.

All students will also have a talk from University of Chester about student finance, including some myth busting facts about finance for university.

As part of National Apprenticeship Week, we will be hosting our annual virtual apprenticeship event for Year 10, where students will hear from a number of apprentices about what it's like to study for an apprenticeship. This will include a range of different levels including degree apprenticeships.

Year 11

Students need to apply for their post 16 place before February half term.

1:1 careers appointments will continue on Thursdays with our Careers Advisor, Kim Weston – please email careers@tpstrust.co.uk if you want to arrange an appointment.

Priory students have been invited to attend Shrewsbury School University Fair on 17th February. It is one of the largest university fairs outside the West Midlands so this is a great opportunity to speak to admissions teams and gather more information from a range of universities. More information will follow in the New Year.

** If you are able to offer your support with any events or would like to know more about our careers education, please contact Mrs France at info@tpstrust.co.uk.





English At Work Day



Written by Sophie Harwood and Martha Fleet – Y9.

On Wednesday the 16th of November, Year 9 students all made their way to the hall as the English department had arranged a two hour long English at Work day set up for them. So, what was English at work day?

English at Work day split the whole of Year 9 in half (red band period 1 and 2, and green band had period 3 and 4); we all lined up in our groups of eight and then entered the hall and taken to our first speech. Each speaker was given ten minutes to inform the groups of eight about how English is useful towards their everyday lives and how they use it in their future careers.

The speakers were told to add some fun to their speeches so for example, there were quizzes, games, chocolate, and other enjoyable stuff to participate in. We asked more students what they liked the most about the English at Work day and most of the responses said that they liked how the speakers were inclusive and engaging.

This year, we had a range of different speakers, just like all the other years, and they all had different things to talk about such as a recruitment company, different colleges (e.g. Telford and Shrewsbury College), a fitness worker, someone from Love 2 Stay and people who worked in the technology industry; they all linked their jobs to how English is important.

Overall , we really enjoyed the day of learning something new and how English impacts our everyday lives. The speakers left us all motivated as they helped us to understand the importance of English outside of school and GCSEs.

We would also like to thank Love to Stay (Salop Leisure), Beeline Personnel, Severn Partnership Ltd, Telford College, Shrewsbury Colleges Group, Llanyon Bowdler, New Era Printing, Interactive Opportunities Ltd and Bodytech for their time and support with the English at Work and Careers event. If you would like to find out more about our community links please visit <https://prioritytpstrust.co.uk/community/business-and-organisation-community-links/>



Alumni Update



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

We were delighted to welcome Judy Arliss and Gloria Lewis, members of our Alumni Network, to the school on the 16th November.

Judy and Gloria spoke to Year 9 students at our English at Work and Careers Event for the morning. This annual event covers the importance of English skills in the workplace and career opportunities.



Alumni comments about their time at The Priory School

"I would love to get involved with The Priory School as much as I can to give back to the community who undoubtedly shaped me as a person."

"I went to SSFC after leaving Priory and now work as a business manager for a music management company. My highlight was creating a band's 50th Anniversary Tour and having them sing "Don't Stop Believing" to me on FaceTime!"

"Since leaving Priory and attending Veterinary College in London, my highlight has been when I have travelled to Zimbabwe and worked in a vaccination clinic"

"Since leaving school in 2000 I am now a solicitor with experience in criminal law. The highlight of my career has been successfully defending those wrongly accused."

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!



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



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Festive FUN!



Top 3 Christmas Songs

- * WHAM - Last Christmas
- * Band Aid - Do They Know it's Christmas
- * Wizzard - I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day



Fav Traditions

- * Decorating the tree in my Christmas hat (sometimes Santa suit) using new decorations and ones from childhood, mulled wine close by, log burner going
- * Boxing day walk in Christmas hats



Christmas Giving

- * Schools Reverse Advent Calendar is amazing!
- * Instead of doing Christmas cards, I donate to Donkey Sanctuary and Hillside Animal Sanctuary, and buy bags of dog food for Hillbrae Dog Rescue



My religion over the festive period: *Be kind, and where you can afford, be generous*



*The Priory School wishes you a very
Merry Christmas*



And a Happy New Year!