

# Priory News



**"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit."**

Aristotle (348BC – 322BC) – Greek critic, philosopher, physicist & zoologist

## Headteacher's Commendations:

(When a Headteacher's Commendation (HTC) is awarded a letter of congratulations is sent home and a badge of excellence, with a certificate, are presented in assembly to those students who, at whatever level, show exceptional achievement in an activity, in or outside of school. We also announce their success in our weekly Priory News.)

### Year 9

**Craig White** for his exceptional achievement for showing, through his imaginary diary, a highly mature understanding of a soldier's life in the First World War.

**Sophie MacDonald** for her exceptional achievement in gaining a 7b for her Year 8 assessment recently.

### Year 11

**Adam Jones** for his exceptional achievement for being selected to train with the Great Britain training squad & for coming third in his age group at national level.

**Adam Jones** for his exceptional achievement in taking part in the 5k race to raise money for the British Heart Foundation recently.

### Peter Loach

This week has seen the performances of our School Production of 'Les Miserables – School Edition' On Tuesday we performed to some 240 primary school students and to full houses on Wednesday and Thursday evening.

The students were absolutely fantastic and performed in such a professional way. They were focused, dedicated and extremely talented.

For those of you who were lucky enough to secure tickets, I am sure you enjoyed the show. For those who didn't, then hopefully you will manage to next year. What are we doing next? Watch this space!

Pictures of the show will follow in future newsletters!

Thanks must go to you, the parents, for supporting our school and our show. We've had a great time!



## Free School Meals

Have your financial circumstances changed recently? Are you entitled to claim for support for your child such as Free School Meals and School trips.

Many parents are not claiming for the benefits their children are now entitled to through a change in working/ home circumstances. We have found this is either due to lack of knowledge about the support available or not wanting to be seen applying for these benefits and your child being identified.

At The Priory School this is not a problem. We have one smart card and this does not identify how the money is added or where the money comes from. All students go through together and at no time will your child be treated differently.

In order to register, you simply register with Herts County Council using the web link: [www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/canhelp](http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/canhelp) Alternatively you can phone 0300 123 4048. The application process itself takes about 10mins.

You are eligible to apply if any of the following apply to you:

- Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, with a taxable income no more than £16,190 and not in receipt of Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after employment finishes or after you start to work less than 16 hours per week

Financial support for school trips is available from the finance department at the school. Please contact 01462622300 ext 212.

## Building Works at the School

Over the Easter break we will be commencing two major projects at the school:

**Café expansion – to increase the size of the Café by over 50%. This project will be completed by the end of the summer and will support additional students and decrease waiting times.**

**Science block refurbishment – complete replacement of the exterior, window repair and the installation of climate control units. This will complete the overhaul of the block and make it far better for students' learning during the year.**

Please watch the progress on the school's website

**AUTISM TALK ON WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH  
FROM 4-5.30PM AT PLINSTON HALL, LETCHWORTH**

This is an open forum for school staff, professionals and parents/carers to attend and listen to Ros Blackburn speak of her experiences leading a life with autism.

After a very cold football tournament with patches of snow, the Yr 9 Football team played brilliantly to win the district 5 aside competition last night.

The boys are as follows:

Billy Harris, Morgan Simpson, Mark Nelson, Alfie Pyper, Eraklis Economides, Hayden Lawless.

**The Priory School PSA present**



**NIGHT**  
**WITH FISH & CHIP SUPPER**  
**At : The Priory School**

**Sat March 23rd 2013**  
**7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

**Licensed Bar & Tuck shop**

**Adults £7**  
**Children £5**  
**( Tickets include fish'n'chips )**

**£10 prize for a full house**

**Dates for your Diary 2013**

Monday 18th March  
Yr 10 Work Experience Week

Tuesday 19th March  
Yr 8 Parents' Evening

Thursday 21st March  
Yr 9 Holocaust Day

Friday 22nd March  
International and Community Day

Saturday 23rd March  
PSA Bingo Night

Sunday 24th March -  
Wednesday 27th March  
Geography Sorrento Trip

Monday 25th March  
Yr 9 Charity Week

Thursday 28th March  
Sport Relief Day

Friday 29th March  
Good Friday - School Closed

**EASTER BREAK**  
Friday 28th March -  
Friday 12th April

Monday 15th April  
**INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS**

**U13 Girls' County Cup:**

The Priory Girls marched their way into the semi-finals with a tough 4-1 win against Mount Grace School in Potters Bar. The opposition started off really strongly going 1-0 up by an amazing individual who lifted the ball over Chloe's head into the back of the net. Even though we were 1-0 down we didn't let it get to us, with our heads sailing high we soon responded by two excellent goals by Emily. At half time we came off the pitch knowing that it was still anyone's game, but with good encouragement from our teachers we went back on the extremely boggy and sludgy pitch and got ready for the second half. We were struggling for chances but all of a sudden a defensive error from the opposition enabled Amy to tap the ball in the net. Not long after, a goal keeper error gave us an indirect free kick of which again gave Amy a tap into the back of the net to secure our 4-1 win which put us through to the semi-finals. **Well done girls: Chloe Keller, Katie Harrison-Webb, Ellen Francis, Ellie Nellis, Eden Richards, Beth Jordan, Sophia Crawley, Molly Norman, Amy Gooderham, Hannah Deacon, Rachel Parry, Chloe Grimshaw, Maddie Hartwell, Courtney Edwards.**

By Amy Gooderham 8JY