

Priory News

Dear Parent/ Carer ,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support this term and also to celebrate the excellent learning that has taken place. I am constantly amazed at the capacity of our students to not only learn in lessons but become involved in the huge array of extra –curricular activities. It is the professionalism and dedication of The Priory School staff that enables such opportunities to become part of our school life.

I wish you all a Happy Easter and for those students studying for GCSE, AS and A level exams, remember to build in ‘down-time’ into your revision programmes.

Kind Regards

Geraint Edwards

Dates for your Diary 2017

Tuesday 18th April

Term starts for all students

Wednesday 19th April

Year 7 Parent Forum
Survey ends

Thursday 20th April

Year 7 Parents’ Evening

Friday 21st April

St. George’s Day
Cadets, Scouts, Guides
can wear their uniform

Tuesday 25th April

Year 11 - Supporting your child in their
GCSE Exams Talk
Main School Hall 7pm

Wednesday 26th April

Year 8 and 9
HPV vaccinations

Permissive Path

There is currently a permissive path through The Priory School’s playing fields that allows members of the public to walk across the field at any time. Walkers are meant to remain at the edge of the school fields but unfortunately this does not always happen. We also have difficulty in ensuring those persons using the path are bonafide walkers.

To support the safety and security of our site and students, it is the intention of the School’s Governing Body as the land owner, to close this path permanently from 31st July 2017 to the public. Access for students and staff of the school will not be affected. There are two alternative routes within easy access, either via King George’s playing field or Ickleford village.



RED NOSE DAY

Our joint adventure charity football match with Hitchin Boys School for Red Nose Day raised £4000—see page 4 for further details!



Teaching and Learning continued...

BIOLOGY IN ACTION



On Tuesday 14th March 2017, Mr Foster and I accompanied a group of 25 Year 12 and 13 Biology students to University College London (UCL) for a 'Biology in Action' Conference day. A full day of most interesting lectures including a lecture on the 'Secrets of the Oceans', 'Epigenetics', 'The workings of the human brain', 'A practical guide to being a primate' and an attempt to answering the question 'Is man just another animal?'. The day also included a session on Exam Techniques and Revision strategies. As one student put it: 'The day was a mind blowing insight into the complex world of Modern Biology'.

Mrs S. Brennan, Science Teacher

DEBATING COMPETITION



Ethan Macrae 10CH and Euan Gilfillan 10TV (along with audience member George Looker 10CH) took part in the Peter Lilley's Schools' Debating Competition on Thursday 16th March at the Houses of Parliament. After some minor delays on the Victoria line, we went through security and were escorted to a conference room by Peter Lilley's assistant. There were three KS4 debates; our team was proposing the motion 'This House would make voting compulsory'. The boys delivered their speeches with confidence and passion and they had some very positive feedback – apparently the judges

were split in terms of their decision! However, the team from St George's pipped it to the post and won the debate and, indeed, the whole KS4 competition. But the real prize was Peter Lilley taking all the schools into the House of Commons Chamber – what an experience! Well done Ethan and Euan – maybe we'll see you in the Chamber one day...

Miss A. Anderson-Bonner, English Teacher



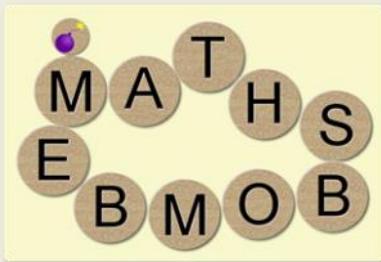
Teaching and Learning continued...

MATHSBOMBE

Congratulations to year 12 maths students, Jacob Harper, Odysseas Kalatzis and Meg Stephenson who came 40th out of over 500 teams nationwide in a maths puzzle competition run by the University of Manchester. As a team they had to solve 8 complicated puzzles like puzzle 4 given below. Only 1 in 10 of the teams who entered managed to solve all 8. Meg and Odysseas will be attending a two day puzzle event at the University in July.



MATHSBOMBE PUZZLE 4



Suppose you have 10 circular discs, each of equal radius, and each with one letter of MATHSBOMBE written on it. Arrange the discs in an arbitrary chain spelling out the word MATHSBOMBE. Each disc can only touch its neighbouring discs, and must only touch tangentially. No discs can overlap each other. The discs must close up so that the final E just touches the first M. See the illustration for an example configuration.

Now suppose you have another disc (labelled with a bomb) of exactly half the radius of the MATHSBOMBE discs. Place the bomb disc at some place along the chain so that it is just touching (without overlapping) one of the discs and is on the outside of the chain (for example, as illustrated).

Now roll the bomb disc once around the chain clockwise (without slipping and without sliding, with the bomb disc maintaining contact with the chain) until it returns to exactly where it started. The shape of the chain is such that the bomb disc touches every one of the letter discs during its motion.

How many times will the image on the bomb disc have rotated when it returns to exactly where the disc started? Enter your answer correct to two decimal places. For example, if you think that the bomb disc will have rotated 6.543... times then you should enter 6.54.



DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

On 21st March 2017 The Priory School supported Down Syndrome Awareness Day. Tom Sage invited students and staff to wear their funkiest socks in return for a small donation (with prizes for the best forms!). Fortunately the sun was shining as Tom had asked staff to volunteer to have wet sponges thrown at them in exchange for a small donation! At break times Tom sold lots of delicious baked goods too. Tom loved seeing everyone's socks around the school and it was great having lots of students asking questions to find out more about Down Syndrome. In total we raised £146, which is fantastic!



OLD SHIRTS, OLD SHIRTS!



If you are having a Spring / Summer wardrobe clear-out, if you are throwing out any mens shirts, please could you send them into school - to C1. We need painting overalls for the Gardening students - after Easter we will be making and painting furniture. Thank you.
Mrs K. Emsley

RED NOSE DAY

THE BIG MATCH – RED NOSE DAY

Our joint adventure charity football match with Hitchin Boys School for Red Nose Day was a complete success. The evening took place at Hitchin Town FC seeing a series of 8 half hour games. All year groups from TPS and HBS competed against each other including a KS3 girls match against HGS and a staff match. Although the overall result didn't go our way it was a great fun night for all. HBS took three wins with the remaining matches all ending in draws. With a total of over 1200 people supporting on the night a total amount of £4000 was raised between the two schools.

Thank you for your support.



Sports, Clubs, Activities and Results....

Well done to the U14 Girls Football Team that finished in fourth position in the recent District Tournament. They played really well against some difficult opposition.

The team was made up of the following students: Briony Arnold, Shanea Alleyne, Emma Dodd, Lauren Davis, Olivia Hair, Leah Cracknell & Kiera Taylor

Miss H. Foy, Head of PE



YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL TEAM WIN THEIR LEAGUE

Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys Football Team for winning their league this year and being promoted to the Division A for next year. They have had an outstanding commitment to the school club with 25+ players at every training session. They also secured some amazing wins with score lines of 9-0 and 7-0.

Thank you for all of your hard work!

Mr N. Jessney, PE Teacher

Congratulations to the Year 7 Netball Team. They played really well in the District Tournament on Tuesday 14th March. They progressed to the semi-finals after winning against Princess Helena College, Highfield, Marriotts and John Henry Newman B Team. They then beat Hitchin Girls School 4-1 in the semi-final. The TPS team played in the final against John Henry Newman. This game went to extra time, then more extra time and unfortunately JHN went on to win by one goal. They finished runners up in the District. They really were a credit to the school.

The team was made up of the following students: Rhea Lidder, Rhianne Lucas, Ashleigh Cooper, Kaitlin Moore-Haines, Macy Keeping, Macy-J Carpenter, Holly Long and Nina Stephens.

Miss H. Foy, Head of PE

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

15 students took part in the North Herts Schools Volleyball Tournament on Thursday 16th March 2017, proudly representing The Priory School. One girls' team and two boys' teams competed with fantastic results. One of the boys' team is continuing to the next stage of the tournament representing North Hertfordshire. The dedication all players showed to training has been outstanding, and the Priory Volleyball club is lucky to have such committed team players.

Congratulations to the following students:

Year 10; Ruby Boast, Tamzin Antony, Maya Gale, Sarah Fleetwood, Ameena Moulton, Rachel Swart Varnham

Year 9; Connor Ashby, Jeremy Veasey **Year 8;** Oliver Hawkins, Ben Blackford, Alfie Nellis, Billy Walker, Lewis Cheevers, Charlie Dear & Reuben Spanyol

Miss A. Mason

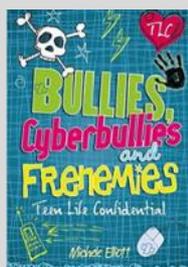


Library News

#SHELF HELP

BULLIES, CYBERBULLIES AND FRENEMIES BY MICHELE ELLIOTT

This book by the founder of Kidscape, (a helpline for parents of bullied children) gives a clear explanation of different kinds of bullying, not just physical bullying but



more subtle forms such as silent, emotional and “frenemy” (a combination of friend and enemy). There are excellent suggestions of strategies for coping with bullying and also sections on self-assertiveness and relaxation. It is easy to read with personal stories from many young people and responses to their issues.

Mrs Stovin

ON DISPLAY!

If you pop into **Waterstones Bookshop** over the next few months you will see a display produced by our Library Literacy Leaders!

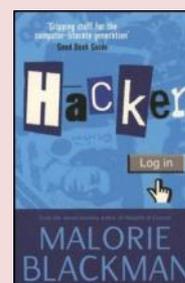
Waterstones are featuring **“The Priory School Book of the Month”** which will display a different student book review each month!

We will also be visiting Waterstones with the Library Literacy Leaders after the fundraising activities of Literacy Week to buy some new fiction.

So why not pop in and take a look at their efforts, we are starting off with this review of *Hacker by Malorie Blackman* written by Erin Dalrymple from 7CA.



Hacker by Malorie Blackman

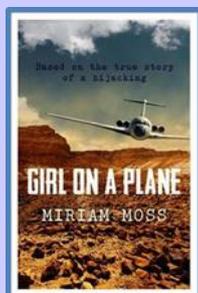


I would rate this book 5 out of 5 stars because it is amazing and filled with suspense which keeps the reader reading. I would recommend

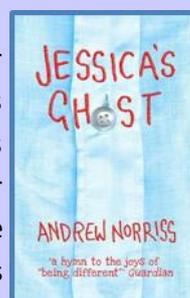
this book to anyone who is into mysteries and above 9 years old as it is quite a complicated plot for younger people to understand. I have really enjoyed this book!

By Erin Dalrymple, 7CA

NORTH HERTS BOOK AWARD 2017



On Wednesday 15th March 2017 we took a group of Young Carers and their guests to the annual North Herts Book Award which was held at St Christopher’s School in Letchworth. Students and Librarians from 10 schools in North Herts gathered to discuss the books chosen for this year’s award and voted on their favourites. The Junior Award went to **Jessica’s ghost by Andrew Norriss** while the seniors voted for **Girl on a plane by Miriam Moss**. After the voting was completed, the students listened to a lively and interesting talk by one of last year’s winner **Kim Slater** author of **Smart**.



Mrs Stovin and Mrs Plum

Here is a student eye view of the event:



“When I went to the book awards it was really great. We got to meet the author Kim Slater. We got to talk to her and do a Q&A session and she signed books. We got to meet students from all different schools and you were put on a table with different students and Librarians from North Herts.

We voted for our favourite book. It was really fun!”

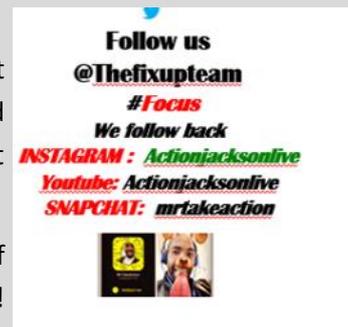
By Lily Harrison 7AD

Support & Guidance

ACTION JACKSON – YEAR 11 EXAM SUCCESS

On Wednesday 29th March “Action Jackson” visited Year 11 to talk to them about exam motivation and getting ready for the final push! He was so engaging and had the Year 11’s in fits of laughter, as well as allowing some time to reflect on what they are hoping to achieve over the coming months.

If students want to hear more from Jackson, they can follow him on a number of social media outlets and continue to be inspired and motivated every day! Remember, YOU ARE AMAZING!



Look after YOUR Wellbeing



As exams and end of year assessments start to increase, students can start to feel overwhelmed, nervous and even a little stressed! If you are, there are a number of things that you can turn to for support:

- www.kooth.com – free online counselling service
- Chat health – a free NHS texting service for help and advice 07480 635424
- Shelf help – try the great selection of books in The Priory School library
- www.healthforteens.co.uk - a great website designed for teens to get all sorts of help and advice
- Headspace app – a free app for 10 minutes of daily meditation activities. Try the free 7 day trial and if you like it, see Mrs Southall to get access to Headspace for free for a whole year!

It is vital that you look after your wellbeing and mental health. Eat well, sleep well, stay hydrated and most importantly, get help when you need it. For regular wellbeing updates follow me on twitter @SouthallMrs

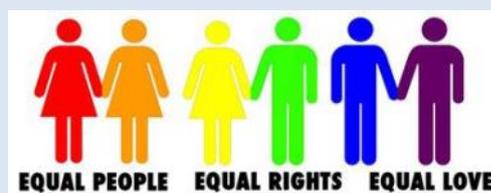
#SHELF HELP

Last year The Priory School were lucky enough to be selected to take part in Shelf Help - a National Programme being run in conjunction with Westminster University and the Reading Agency. Shelf Help is a series of student friendly books about wellbeing and emotional health, with topics ranging from bereavement and self-harm to anxiety and general wellbeing. The feedback we have had from students who have read the books has been hugely positive and now the teachers are having a go at reading these fantastic books! If you haven't read one yet, give it a go!

We now have a superb selection of books in our Library and a lovely wellbeing corner with all of these books along with LGBTQ+ and diversity related books, and mindfulness colouring in activities too. It would be great to see as many of our students and teachers there at break and lunch times as possible.

Watch out in the daily bulletin for our “Shelf Help” book of the week and if you feel that you want to have a chat

about some of the things you have read in the books, please do not hesitate to speak to your Form Tutor, Head of Year or anyone in the Pastoral base.



The LGBTQ+ drop in group has gone from strength to strength and we now have more than 30 students attending the meetings regularly! Students meet and have lunch together, chat, play games and quizzes, and talk about their amazing experience of meeting Sir Ian McKellan a few weeks ago! Students are now starting work on a new project to run a “Priory Pride” event with the support of myself and Mrs Harrison – it all sounds very exciting!! Students meet every Thursday lunch time in A14 – come along and join in the fun! I look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs. K. Southall

Careers & Guidance Information



The Priory School **CAREERS FAIR**

July 19th 2017 1.30-4pm

Part of Careers education is to allow students to have access to different local employers. We are keen to invite as many different employers to The Priory School to talk to students about their field of work. We are organising a Careers Fair later in the year for Year 10. We are keen for local companies to attend as well as larger more well known companies. Please contact me if you are interested - sally.emler@priory.herts.sch.uk



**WILLMOTT DIXON
CONSTRUCTION**



The Big Bang
UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair



BAE SYSTEMS



ARMY
BE THE BEST



the guardian



**Could your logo
go here?**

Are you interested
in having a stand
at our careers fair?



We offer apprenticeship training in:

Apprenticeships are available in a vast range of industry sectors with employers from large national companies to smaller local companies.

Engineering (Levels 2, 3 and 4)	Optical Retail (Level 2)
Greenkeeping (Levels 2 and 3)	Accounting (Levels 2, 3 and 4)
Hairdressing (Levels 2 and 3)	Business Admin (Levels 2, 3 and 4)
Barbering (Level 2)	Carpentry and Joinery (Levels 2 and 3)
Health and Social Care (Levels 2 and 3)	Customer Service (Levels 2 and 3)
Hospitality and Catering (Level 2)	Construction Management (Level 4)
IT (Levels 2 and 3)	Electrical Installation (Level 3)
Laboratory Technician (Levels 2 and 3)	Bricklaying (Levels 2 and 3)
Motor Vehicle Repair & Maintenance (Levels 2 and 3)	Plumbing (Levels 2 and 3)
Childcare (Levels 2 and 3)	Support Teaching & Learning (Levels 2 and 3)
Welding (Levels 2 and 3)	Town Planning (Level 3)

Contact us:

Email: apprenticeships@oaklands.ac.uk

Phone: 01727 737300

Website: www.oaklands.ac.uk/apprenticeships



A Guide For Potential Apprentices



What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a way for individuals of all ages (16+) and abilities to earn while they learn in a real job, gaining a real qualification and a real future. Hiring apprentices helps businesses to grow their own talent by developing a motivated, skilled and qualified workforce. Quality is key to apprenticeships – providing high quality training that benefits both apprentices and employers. There has never been a better time to employ an apprentice or start an apprenticeship.

How does the apprenticeship training work?

Apprenticeships can last from 1 to 4 years, depending upon the level of qualification and the industry the apprenticeship is in. Some apprenticeships will require the apprentice to attend college on a day release basis or attend some workshops at college, other apprenticeships may have no college attendance at all. For non-college attendance apprenticeships, the delivery is all based within the employer's place of work (unless functional skills training is required).

Ways to secure an apprenticeship



Social Media

Browse social media channels for new opportunities. Follow companies that interest you.



Research the company

Employers will ask you why you want to work for their organisation, so make sure you have an answer that will impress them. Look on the company's website to find out three things about them.



Update your CV

When was the last time you updated your CV? Don't forget to add all of the new experiences that you've gained.



90% stay in work after completing their apprenticeship.

1 in 3 apprentices are given a promotion within 12 months of their placement.

Over 200 workplaces in England offer apprenticeships.

Contact us for more information:

Email: apprenticeships@oaklands.ac.uk

Phone: 01727 737300

Website: www.oaklands.ac.uk/apprenticeships



Linked   YouTube 

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Come along and discover all the tools you need to take on the world



St Albans Campus

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SatNav users: AL4 0XS

Turn over
for all the
details you
need to...



Welwyn Garden City Campus

The Campus, Welwyn Garden City,
Hertfordshire AL8 6AH



Find out more and register your interest at:

www.oaklands.ac.uk

01727 737 000

Local Events....



COOKERY Camps

Holiday cookery camp for boys & girls aged 4-11
featuring unique food adventures each day!

Easter Camp in Hitchin

April 3, 4, 5, & 10, 11, 12, 2017 | 9am-5pm

Kitchen skills • Science experiments • Ingredient talks
Seasonal decoration • Visitors & trips • Planting & growing
Food art • Flavour mixing • Star bakes • Lots of tasting!

Please DON'T pack a lunch (or tea) — all meals included!

Spring activities

Food Focus- Honey, bees & Herts farmers
Seasonal & Local produce & Crafts
Tackle It- Tasting & flavoring as we cook
Themes-All-day breakfast, spring has sprung
Star *Make & Bake* each day
PLUS a loot bag for every cook!



£40
per cook
per day

Get in touch to book your child's place:
www.cookeryeatery.co.uk
Info@cookeryeatery.co.uk
07795 627 492



COOKERY Camps

Holiday cookery camp for boys & girls aged 8yrs +
featuring unique food adventures each day!

Easter Camp in Letchworth

April 6 & 7, 2017 | 9am-5pm

Kitchen skills • Science experiments • Ingredient talks
Seasonal decoration • Visitors & trips • Planting & growing
Food art • Flavour mixing • Star bakes • Lots of tasting!

Please DON'T pack a lunch (or tea) — all meals included!

Spring activities

Food Focus- Honey, bees & Herts farmers
Seasonal & Local produce & Crafts
Tackle It- Tasting & adjusting flavor as we cook
Themes-All-day breakfast, spring has sprung
Star *Make & Bake* each day
PLUS a loot bag for every cook!



£50
per cook
per day

Get in touch to book your child's place:
www.cookeryeatery.co.uk
Info@cookeryeatery.co.uk
07795 627 492



Easter Holiday Football Fun

Date	Time	Earlybird (by 29th March)	Full Price
Tues 4th Apr	9.30am-3.30pm	£15 per day	£20 per day
Weds 5th Apr	9.30am-12.30pm	£8 (half day only)	£12 (half day only)
Thurs 6th Apr	9.30am-3.30pm	£15 per day	£20 per day

Book all 2.5 days & save! Earlybird: £35/Full price: £50

- Skills sessions •
- Penalty Shoot-Outs •
- Mini Tournaments •
- 1st Team Match Tickets •
- Prizes & Certificates •
- FA Qualified & DBS Checked HTFC Coaches

AS-ROMA CAMP 4 Day Football Camp for 14-16 year olds 10th-13th April 2017

- * Official Nike Kit *
- * AS Roma Coaches from Italy *
- * 2 x training sessions per day *
- * Lunch included *

£150 per child. To book, contact Gary Wilson
07773180047/asromacampuk@outlook.com
AS Roma registration forms also available at
www.northhertsarena.com

TO BOOK, PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE RELEVANT FORM FROM OUR WEBSITE & RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO US AT THE ADDRESS BELOW.



For more information call
01462 720088 or email info@htcfc.co.uk
www.northhertsarena.co.uk
The Arena, Norton Road, Baldock, SG7 5AU

AS Roma Football Camp

4 Day Football Camp For 6-14 Year Olds

Easter Holiday 10th-13th April 2017

The Arena, Baldock, Hertfordshire SG7 5AU



Official Nike Kit

AS Roma Coaches from Italy

2 Training Sessions & Lunch each day

£150 per place. For more info contact: Gary Wilson or Dietmar Stöckle

T: +44 (0)777 318 0047

E: asromacampuk@outlook.com

www.northhertsarena.co.uk



Local Events....



HITCHIN

TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



LEAMINGTON
» SATURDAY 25TH MARCH 3PM - ELSP

CHIPPENHAM
» SATURDAY 8TH APRIL 3PM - ELSP
» WOMEN AT THE GAME – FREE ENTRY, PROSECCO & RAFFLE

BIGGLESWADE T.
» MONDAY 17TH APRIL 3PM - ELSP

TOP FIELD, FISHPONDS ROAD,
HITCHIN, HERTS SG5 1NU

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£150 for the week!
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SUMMER SCHOOL

Create a Show in a Week

Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August
9.30am-4.30pm
The Icknield Centre, Letchworth SG6 1EF

Contact Geraldine
07724 433914
hitchin@theatretrain.co.uk

10% Discount for Dressing Up for the Prom!



My name is Rosa Cristini & I own SoYou Boutique based in Leighton Buzzard.

We are in our third year of supplying prom dresses to local schools as well as surrounding areas.

Our commitment is to ensure students have a stress free Prom experience and includes our promise not to sell the same dress to another student at the same Prom. We keep a log of who is attending each Prom and the dresses purchased!

I am offering a **10% discount off** any Prom dress purchased at SoYou Boutique.

If you and 6 friends fancy hiring the Boutique, to start your search for that perfect dress, book in for a Prom Dress Party!

SoYou Boutique is a small business in Leighton Buzzard and we pride ourselves on supporting other local businesses and events. We rely on the support of our community, local businesses, schools & previous prom customers to direct new customers to us.

I look forward to meeting you.

Rosa Cristini, Proprietor

SOYOU BOUTIQUE LTD : 28A Market Square, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 1HE.

Tel. 01525 373235 m: 07721 038 823 www.soyouboutique.co.uk e: shop@soyouboutique.co.uk