

Priory News



GUILLEM BALAGUE SPEAKS TO STUDENTS ABOUT ALL THINGS FOOTBALL

On Tuesday 7th November The Priory School welcomed esteemed sports journalist, broadcaster and author Guillem Balague to speak to an eager group of students about all things football.

Balague, a local Hitchin resident and Director of Football at Biggleswade United, described a path through a hugely varied career which began as a 12 year old aspiring writer and football fan. Balague explained his dream to write and tell stories about football – and that this is a dream he has followed like a dog with a bone.

He described to Priory students how after securing a job with a Spanish football magazine he took the initiative to approach Sky Sports about simply visiting their headquarters, then at two minutes' notice jumped at the chance to appear in front of the camera to talk about Spanish football. From here, his journalistic career took off and he was rewarded with regular work with Sky Sports. He now hosts shows on the radio and television in both Spain and England and has written several biographical books on, among others, Pep Guardiola, Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and most recently Spurs manager Mauricio Pochettino.

Students were enthralled by his tales of meeting the world's best footballers, how to get into writing and how to make the most of the football teams to which they now belong. Here's hoping we have the next Harry Kane in our midst at The Priory School!

Huge thanks to Guillem and his team for giving up their time.

Mr Foster, Assistant Headteacher

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 13th November

Charity Week 1 commences.

Thursday 16th November

Year 10 & Sixth Form - Skills Show in Birmingham

Friday 17th November

Non-Uniform Day (fancy dress optional) for Children in Need. Pay £1.



Thursday 23rd November

Year 12 - A-Level Conference, London

Monday 27th November

Occasional Day

School closed to students.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas lunch will be held on Friday 15th December. Tickets are now on sale from the finance office or the café till at the fantastic price of £3. We will provide a three-course meal: soup; turkey, lamb or vegetable option; plus three choices of sweet. All wrapped up in bundles of seasonal joy!!

Teaching and Learning

PRIMARY SCHOOL TRANSITION EVENT

On Friday 3rd November six Year 7 students represented The Priory School at a primary transition event at Hitchin Girls' School. Year 6 students from the local area came to hear students from Hitchin Boys' School, Hitchin Girls' School and The Priory School discussing various topics, including getting to and from school, what to expect on Induction Day and what kinds of support you receive when you start secondary school. Hana Williams, Nicholas Witham-Mueller, Lara Tobin, Jamie Long, Morghan Lathane and Hayden Jardine gave excellent and informative speeches before then thinking on their feet to answer challenging questions from the Year 6s. They were excellent ambassadors for our school and should be very proud of their



TEA WITH THE HEADTEACHER

Congratulations to Kaira Dixon (8RO) who won a reward of tea with the Headteacher, which took place on Thursday 12th October. Kaira took four of her friends along.



CLEANER VACANCY

The Priory School are looking for an enthusiastic, energetic and reliable cleaner to join our team.

- ◆ Monday to Friday 3.30pm till 6pm (12.5 hours per week)
- ◆ Term time plus one week
- ◆ Hourly rate of pay £7.52

If you are interested in the post please contact Nicola Blake, Personnel Manager (nicola.blake@priory.herts.sch.uk; 01462 622300 ext 202).

STUDENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

On Wednesday 1st November Laney Laws-Randall (9AR) was successfully nominated as the Key Stage 3 senior representative for the Student Leadership Committee.



In order to ensure that the views of the students are listened to and acted upon, Laney will be attending meetings with Mr Edwards and the rest of the Senior Leadership Team, the Head Boy and Head Girl, and the Governing Board.

The competition was tough, and Laney along with four other students in Key Stage 3 had to deliver a speech to their peers. Everyone gave a superb speech, so well done to all of you!

We would like to give a huge congratulations to Laney and welcome her to the senior representative team.

We are now looking forward to our Key Stage 4 nominations on Wednesday 15th November.

Mrs Southall, Assistant Headteacher

CAREERS

We are always looking for parents interested in talking to students about their careers.

If you can help, please email Mrs Emler: sally.emler@priory.herts.sch.uk

TWITTER

 A reminder that The Priory School has a Year 7 Twitter account. Parents can follow: Miss Gresser @TPS_Year7

Teaching and Learning

HEALTH & SAFETY - PE

At The Priory School we strive to ensure that your child has the most positive experience of Physical Education. This involves experiencing a range of different activities in a safe learning environment. To ensure this is the case please could I ask for your cooperation in ensuring or reminding your child of the following:

- Students are required to wear sports trainers for Physical Education lessons. Converse, Vans, plimsolls or hi top trainers are not suitable. All trainers must be tied up securely.
- Students must remove all watches for lessons. Students are not allowed to wear any other jewellery at The Priory School.
- Students should have shin pads for football and hockey lessons.
- Gum shields are required for contact rugby lessons. Students will be advised of this by their PE teacher.
- Students may wear tracksuit bottoms in the colder, winter months. These must be plain black.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding this please do not hesitate to contact me:
helen.foy@priory.herts.sch.uk.



Helen Foy, Head of PE

SCUBA DIVING TRIP TO LANZAROTE - OCTOBER 2018

An exciting new school trip is open to current Year 9-12s, and this will run during October half term 2018... the first ever Priory School scuba diving trip!

The trip runs for the duration of the half term break and will be to Lanzarote. No experience of diving is necessary to take part in this amazing opportunity during which students will gain an internationally recognised scuba qualification that lasts for life.



Details are being given out in relevant assemblies and students can collect a letter with full details from the table in the SLT corridor. Replies must be in school by Tuesday 28th November.

YEAR 7 HALLOWEEN DISCO

The Year 7 Halloween disco was organised by the Year 11 Prom Committee in order to help fundraise for their prom. The disco was a huge success and enjoyed by all, with 130 students attending. There were a number of different spooky Halloween games stalls, refreshments, competitions, as well as a Year 7 dance off to end the spooky night. We hope this is the start of many more Halloween discos to come in the future, and would like to thank the Year 11s that helped with the organisation and the Year 7s who attended.

Year 7 students commented:

"We really enjoyed the spooky Halloween maze experience it was brilliant!"

"Dressing up was awesome!!"

"Never been to a Halloween disco that was as fun as this."

"This was the best disco I've been to."

Year 11 Prom Committee



HEAD LICE

There have been a few reported cases of head lice. Please check hair regularly and treat accordingly. Thank you.



Teaching and Learning

YEAR 9 TRIP TO THE WW1 BATTLEFIELDS, BY FREDDIE CARDY (9AR)

Friday:

We met at the coach at 5.45am, but excitement was high when we boarded the Eurotunnel en route to Ypres, Belgium. Entering Belgium, we noticed how flat the countryside was (a big impact on the fighting), and at about 1pm we stopped at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery to have lunch and learn about the stories of some of the bravest men (and women) that were buried in the cemetery in WW1. After that, we headed into Ypres to the Flanders Fields Museum and found out about the horrors that the Great War brought to the region. A quick walk up the street took us to the famous Menin Gate, where our tour guide told us about the battles of Ypres and the devastation they brought to the city.

We would return to the Menin Gate in the evening, but before that (and dinner) we went to a Memorial for the German soldiers, which was quite different to the previous one as the soldiers had to be buried in mass graves because there simply wasn't room for them all to have individual ones. After dinner, it was back to the Menin Gate for the famous last post where some students from The Priory School got to lay a wreath.

Saturday:

After breakfast in our hotel we headed straight to France, bound for the Somme, but shortly after leaving Ypres we stopped at the small memorial for the Hertfordshire regiment that fought in the local area. Our first stop in the Somme area was the memorial for the soldiers that came to France from Newfoundland (Canada) and fought in the famous Battle of the Somme. We visited the museum before walking inside the remains of the trenches, which are still visible today.



Next, we had lunch at a memorial dedicated to some soldiers that came from somewhere a bit closer to home - Ulster (in Northern Ireland) - and we learnt about the key role that the Irish soldiers played in the Somme battle. Following our stop at the memorial our next stop was a memorial for South African soldiers and slaves in Delville Wood that were cruelly forced to fight in WW1. Incredibly, only one tree in the wood remains standing after the battle to take one forest!

The final stop in France was Thiepval Memorial (20 miles north of Amiens). At Thiepval three students laid a wreath with The Priory's logo on it in the center of the massive memorial. Then it was back to England on the coach, where everyone reflected on a brilliant trip!



New Feature

The Literacy Leaders will now be compiling a quiz page for each edition of the school newsletter. The one below has been created by Jess Halford in Year 8.

Ms Farman, English Department

Literacy Quiz!

Language Devices Wordsearch

Q A X U W F P T H N R R M D N
B D Q E B N T H L O E K E O B
L J X A R D W B H P F R I Y R
K E U T L M D P E Q U T W P N
C C N V N L A T I M A G E R Y
A T L Y D T I S H C O T M E G
B I W Y E T Q T I N G J R R C
H V E M I P F F E M Y K W Y M
S E X O K K I E Y R I B K O X
A S N F C N I I U X A L E E O
L D I I O I L Y J X T T E C Q
F X N S S E C N A L I B I S K
F O R E S H A D O W I N G O B
Y E C M N U E X S B T Z G L N
P D P A H A S V T J B Z D X F

ADJECTIVES
ALLITERATION
FLASHBACK
FORESHADOWING
IMAGERY
METAPHOR
PERSONIFICATION
REPETITION
SIBILANCE
SIMILE

What is this Book?

Can you guess the book title and its author from the zoomed-in cover?



Who said this Quote?

Can you guess which famous author said this?

'If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely.'

Dingbats

Which book character is this?



What book is this?



How Many?

Can you answer the questions correctly?

1. How many plays did William Shakespeare write?
2. How many children were there in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory?
3. How many Harry Potter books did JK Rowling write?
4. How many witches were there in Macbeth?

What is this Book? Answer: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by JK Rowling.

Dingbats. Answers: Verruca Salt and War Horse.

How Many? 1. 38 plays (and 154 sonnets). 2. 5 children. 3. 7 books (but 8 films). 4. 3 witches.

Sports, Clubs, Activities and Results

BADMINTON



Last week The Priory School entered the Herts School Games badminton competitions.

The U16s boys A and B teams attended and played well, with the A team coming second in both singles and doubles.

The U14s and U16s girls attended and all played well, with congratulations to the U14s who won and will now represent North Herts at the Herts Youth Games.

Mr Coverdale, PE Department

GOLF

Harry Walker 11SR, Kiertan Sangha 9MA and Kes Sangha 7JW competed in the recent Herts Secondary Schools County Team Golf Champs at Essendon Golf Club.

Competing against schools from all over Hertfordshire, the three boys came a creditable third, narrowly missing out on top spot by just three shots.

Each school had a maximum three players per team with the top two scores counting. Harry 40 points (handicap 17), Kes 30 points (handicap 15) and Kiertan 33point (handicap 7). Individually Harry was 5th, Kes 20th and Kiertan 30th from a field of over 60 competitors.

Knights Templar and Simon Balle schools topped the leader board with 78 points with the priory third on 75 points.

Mrs Churchman, PE Department

HIP HOP



Adam had an amazing week in Copenhagen competing at the IDO World Hip Hop Championships as part of team GB with his partner.

On the first day they were placed 31st out of 68 pairs in the adult category for hip hop pairs.

Then later in the week they were placed an incredible 8th in the world in the electric boogie adult pairs and because they were the last British pair in the final 12 they are now no. 1 in the UK in this category.

Finally he was part of an 18 man formation team called Elysium who were placed 9th in the world and again as they were the last British team standing they are now the no. 1 team in the UK and will be taking part in auditions for the World of Dance competition at the end of November.

The Priory School and Adam's family are very proud of Adam and what he has achieved as a result of training hard. Congratulations Adam!

Miss Foy, PE Department

Charity News

CHARITY WEEK

W/c 13th November is our first Charity Week of this academic year and it will be to raise money for Children in Need.

Last year, we had a superb Charity Week for Children in Need and we raised £1700 from a range of activities such as a talent show, cake sales, fancy dress and a non-uniform day.

We are hoping to replicate this same success this year, however we would like to raise £2000! As a BBC partner school, any money we raise will be matched by Lloyds Bank!



This year, our non-uniform day is on Friday 17th November - students pay £1 and wear what they want, even fancy dress!

All week we will be selling Pudsey-themed goodies like Pudsey ears, wrist bands, keyrings and much more!

All of the money raised will go directly to Children in Need, so please get involved!

For more details on our Charity Week, please see Mrs Southall.

HITCHIN'S CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX PROJECT 2017

What a superb effort from our staff and students for this year's Christmas Shoebox Appeal!

Around 70 shoeboxes were prepared and filled by students and collected from the school on Friday 3rd November.

These shoeboxes will be going to families and children for whom this will be their only present on Christmas morning.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to donate a shoebox or items for a shoebox. I am sure there will be some very happy faces on Christmas morning!

A very big thank you and well done to Phoebe Deller in Year 10 who organised this appeal with the support of Thomas Bannister in Year 10.

Mrs Southall, Assistant Headteacher



FUNDRAISER FOR THE LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST

Assistant Site Manager Mr Long is going to be donating his hair to The Little Princess Trust. If you would like to make a donation please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/therightthingtodo>. Alternatively, Mr Long will be accepting cash donations. Students or staff that might also be willing to donate hair can contact Mr Long for information: ryan.long@priory.herts.sch.uk.

Local Events

BEDWELL RANGERS FC

Bedwell Rangers FC are seeking a few more players for their Under-15s girls team. Essentially this is a team for Year 10 girls, but Year 9s are also allowed to play in this age group. For further information please send an email to Derek Fieldsend: derekfieldsend@btinternet.com.



BEDWELL RANGERS FC UNDER 15 GIRLS

Arsenal Ladies Platinum Sister Club

REGISTERED CHARITY 1131242



PLAYERS WANTED

**We are looking for a few more
School Year 10 girls to strengthen our
Under 15 squad playing in the
Hertfordshire Girls Football
Partnership League**

**We are an FA Charter Standard Development Club
with a priority of child protection, quality coaching &
Implementation of the FA Respect Programme**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

 derekfieldsend@btinternet.com  **Bedwell Rangers F.C.**

 **Derek Fieldsend 07981 013467**  **@BedwellRangers**

Hitchin Christmas Tree Lights Switch On Competition

Join Ladder 87 Company on
Friday 24th November 2017
at Hitchin Market Place to
'Light Up Hitchin!'



How would you like to switch on the Hitchin Christmas Tree Lights and turn up in Dennis the Fire Engine? (ages 4-16 years)

All you have to do is visit our website at:

www.ladder87company.com

and click on the 'Light Up Hitchin' Competition button. Fill in your details to be in with a chance of winning!*

**Let's be as one and
'LIGHT UP HITCHIN!'**

* Full terms and conditions available on our website at www.ladder87company.com.

Closing date for entry: 18th Nov. 2017

One lucky winner will be collected from their house in Dennis the Fire Engine, get to ride in Dennis with their loved ones to the heart of Hitchin Town, and walk on stage with The Ladder Crew to press that button and Light Up Hitchin!



In partnership with

Hitchin **BID**

© 2017 Ladder 87 Company