

# Priory News

Educating Students for Success in Life

## APPEAL FOR SPONSORS FOR SPORTS PRESENTATION EVENING

The Priory School is currently looking for local companies that would be willing to sponsor the school's annual Sports Presentation Evening in July when we celebrate the successes of our students in school and community sports. We would ensure that we promote this sponsorship both in the local press and through our school newsletter and website.

We are also looking for any local companies that would be willing to sponsor or support sports kits. We would ensure that the name of the company is on the kit and promoted as above.

If you are able to help us in any way please contact Helen Foy, Head of Department for Physical Education: [helen.foy@priory.herts.sch.uk](mailto:helen.foy@priory.herts.sch.uk).

## EXAM INVIGILATORS REQUIRED

We require exam invigilators for the upcoming examination series starting 14th May and finishing 28th June.

Previous experience is not necessary as full training will be given. However, a current appropriate DBS (formerly CRB) check is needed and will be submitted by the school.



You will be required to start at 8.30am for morning sessions and at 1pm for afternoon sessions.

For further information please contact the Examination Office on 01462 416974 or [paula.gee@priory.herts.sch.uk](mailto:paula.gee@priory.herts.sch.uk).

## LOST PROPERTY

Lost property items are now being logged on a spreadsheet and listed in the daily bulletin for students to see.

The list will be sent out to all parents every Friday via InTouch.

To claim an item, students will need to report to Reception (either at break time or lunch time) where a member of office staff will accompany them down to the lost property cupboard.

Any unclaimed items at the end of term will be given to the Clothes Bank.



## Dates for Your Diary

### W/c Monday 12th March

- Post 14 Learning Pathways Interviews Begin
- Charity Week 2
- National Apprenticeship Week
- British Science Week

### Monday 12th March

Trip to National Apprenticeship Show, Milton Keynes

### Wednesday 14th March

Trip to RAF Henlow

### Thursday 15th March

- Year 12 UCAS Convention Trip
- Trip to see 'The Play That Goes Wrong' (Drama)
- Intermediate Maths Kangaroo Challenge
- Trip to Big Bang Fair, Birmingham

### Friday 16th March

Non-Uniform Day (pay £2; see p10)

### 17th to 21st March

Year 8 Trip to Spain

### Monday 19th March

- Launch of Head Boy/Girl Applications
- Spring Concert, Main School Hall

### Tuesday 20th March

Year 12 Oxbridge Conference

### Wednesday 21st March

Sport Relief Charity Football Matches at Hitchin Town FC

### Thursday 22nd March

Year 11 Maths Mock 2

### Friday 23rd March

Term ends at 3.30pm

# Teaching and Learning

## FIRST NEWS VISITS THE PRIORY SCHOOL

What a brilliant experience some of The Priory School students had on Friday 12th January when Courtney and Molly came in from *First News*, the only newspaper aimed specifically at young people.

Firstly, our Literacy Leaders got to check out the teen newspaper's new 'ihub' comprising an interactive web page that lets students get involved with current affairs, a weekly poll about different matters, quizzes and puzzles which range from anything from the weather to political news, all of which fits into every subject within education and all parts of the curriculum.

Then some of our students got to look at the actual newspaper and were able to discuss their opinions of it.

Some feedback from the students was:

"I don't really read newspapers but *First News* is better to read because it's fun to read."

"I like the information about films and the presentation of the paper."

"I thought it was fun because it was different to things we usually do." - Zara

"I thought it was really fun and the best English lesson I've ever had because the people were really friendly and there were lots of activities to do. They made us feel confident and secure because they were calm and friendly." – Kaitlin and Brooke

As an extra, Courtney and Molly ran a Q&A session with some of our Year 11 students. They gave lots of good tips and advice about how to get into journalism and the world of work in general.

"Molly and Courtney from *First News* gave amazing and reassuring advice on journalism that will definitely benefit me in the future!"

To top it off, we had these lovely comments from the *First News* team about the school and our students:

"I appreciate how welcome they made us feel and how accommodating they were. It was really nice to see what seemed like a genuine interest and enthusiasm for *First News* from both teachers and pupils."

"You have such a lovely school with some really engaged students who were so eager to learn and be involved with *First News*. It was amazing to go in and be able to work in such a warm environment and have our jobs made easier by the amazing staff and students, and it was really nice for us personally to see how the children reacted to *First News* and hear any comments or questions they had about it.

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to be involved with the school. It was such a fantastic day and you were beyond helpful."

Altogether an amazing day and one we hope to repeat in the future!



# Teaching and Learning

## SIXTH FORM HISTORY TRIP TO BERLIN

On Thursday 25th January we left for Berlin and arrived in the late afternoon and had dinner at the hotel. On the Friday we got the train to the former concentration camp of Sachsenhausen where our tour guide showed us around the memorial site. We learned about what people would have experienced whilst at the camp and heard the stories of some individuals and about the importance of remembering the lives of those who suffered there. It was a fascinating, sobering and thought-provoking experience that will live long in the memory.

The following day we visited the remaining parts of the Berlin Wall and found out about the escape attempts from East to West Berlin. After that we went to Checkpoint Charlie which was the crossing point in the Berlin Wall for the Allied Forces (including Britain). After lunch we went to the Topography of Terror where we saw the remains of the Gestapo basement and learned about the victims of the holocaust in the museum located where the SS and the Reich Main Security Office were during the Nazi regime. We then spent some time at The Holocaust Memorial (on 27th January, Holocaust Memorial Day) before seeing the book burning memorial. We had dinner at the Mall of Berlin in the evening where some of us tried the local Berlin delicacy *Currywurst*.

On our last day in Berlin we visited the Reichstag where we had a guided tour of the Bundestag (German Parliament) building, followed by a walk up the glass dome with a great view of Berlin. We went on to see the Soviet War Memorial and The Brandenburg Gate later the same day. On the way back to our hotel we walked alongside the Berlin Wall where we saw wall art on the East side. We flew back to Luton, arriving late on Sunday night with tired feet after a great trip to this historical city.

Amy Warren, Year 12



# Teaching and Learning

## ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS PUBLIC-SPEAKING COMPETITION

On Thursday 8th February, two Intermediate teams (Madeleine Lardeaux 7KA, Felicia Austin 7KA and Emily Carpenter 7KA; and Sam Johnson 8CA, Elliot Mainwaring 8HF and Sky Griffin 8CV) took part in the Intermediate District Semi-Final of the Rotary Youth Speaks Public-Speaking Competition. The Year 7 girls, who spoke about university fees in a confident and mature presentation, didn't make it through unfortunately. However, the Year 8 boys came third and go through to the District Final in March!

On Thursday 22nd February, Harry Huckle 11NJ, Ethan Macrae 11CH and Euan Gilfillan 11TV took part in the Senior District Semi-Final of the same competition. Presenting on the topic of the media's power to ignore, they came second and also go through to the District Final!

We have entered many teams in this competition in the past but have never been able to make it to the District Final, so we are exceptionally proud of and pleased for these students. However, all teams have done the school extremely proud with their confidence, eloquence, passion and sheer hard work in preparation for this competition. A huge well done to all participants and extra congratulations to the teams that have gone through.

The Intermediate District Final is on Monday 26th March and the Senior District Final is on Tuesday 27th March, both to be held at Van Dyke Upper School in Leighton Buzzard. Feel free to come along and support our students!



Miss Anderson Bonner, English Department

## LOCAL AUTHOR ZOE FOLBIGG VISITS THE PRIORY SCHOOL

On 23rd February we had the pleasure of meeting local author Zoe Folbigg. She published *The Note* last year and her current book has just gone to publication. Zoe delivered a talk to some Year 7 students on how to be an author and write successfully, and students from Ickleford Primary, Wislhere Dacre and William Ransom also attended.

Zoe told us about the history of her writing and how she became an author, explaining where the inspiration for her ideas came from. She taught us how to overcome fears of being judged as a writer and how to develop resilience and perseverance, even when people don't want to publish your work!



Zoe gave us ideas about how to write our own novel and then we spent some time writing the opening to our novel. It was great as throughout the session she continued to give us advice about how to write a good novel. This was a massive help to us as it could help us determine our future careers.

Many thanks to Zoe for coming to see us and for helping us to have a really fun and enjoyable morning. The work that was produced by all students is going to be put into a special book in the library, so everyone can read it!

Hana Williams 7SF, Sonny Weston 7SF, Joe Blackford 7SF and Sam Smith 7SF

# Teaching and Learning

## BRAIN DAY

Year 12 and Year 13 took part in a 'Brain Day' on Friday 2nd March run by Dr Guy Sutton who is the Director and Founder of Medical Biology Interactive and an Honorary Consultant Assistant Professor at the University of Nottingham Medical School.

The day included university-style lectures on the structure and function of the brain, as well as insights into schizophrenia and forensic psychology.

Dr Sutton was extremely knowledgeable and passionate about his topic and kept us all enthralled for the duration of his presentation.

The culmination of the day was the dissection of a sheep brain, which enabled us to compare the structures and functions to those of the human brain. Those students who chose to were able to hold the brain and examine it close up.

The visit not only gave us an introduction to practical neuropsychology but left our brains considering all sorts of ethical and philosophical questions:

How much control do we have over our behaviour?

Does free will really exist?

We are hoping now to invite Dr Sutton back again next year to talk on other neuropsychological topics.

Miss Wilcox, Head of Psychology & Sociology Department



# Teaching and Learning

## PRIORY SCHOOL STUDENTS HUNT FOR THE HIGGS BOSON AT CERN, SWITZERLAND

Students from The Priory School have been inspired by a visit to CERN, home of the Large Hadron Collider.

During the visit in February the students discovered how CERN is helping to answer some of the most fundamental questions: How did the Universe begin? What are the basic building blocks of matter?

Scientific breakthroughs, such as the discovery of the Higgs boson, require experimental machines on the large scale, and the students gained an appreciation of the technical and engineering challenges that the multinational experimental collaborations at CERN face.

The UK has been a member of CERN since the organisation was founded in 1954. Membership allows British researchers to take a wide variety of roles that contribute to CERN's ongoing success, from recently qualified technicians and university undergraduates gaining their first taste of working in an international environment to PhD students analysing experimental data and experienced engineers and physicists leading projects or representing their experimental collaborations. The Priory School students' visit was led by a member of the CERN community who talked from personal experience about their contribution to CERN's research programme.

Students also visited the UN Palace in Geneva as well as the History of Science Museum and the Natural Science Museum in Geneva. The trip was a success and is being planned again.

Mrs Bonner, Science Department



## Teaching and Learning



# The Priory School's Spring Concert

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 7pm

*Come along and watch the talent of TPS students and have a lovely evening.*

With performances by Senior Choir, Junior Choir, Chamber Choir, Woodwind Group, Brass Group, String Group, Big Band, Orchestra, Percussion Club, Ensemble performances and even the Staff Choir!!!

Tickets cost:

Adult £5  
Child/Concession £3  
Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children/concessions) £13



If you have any unwanted presents, eg unopened skin care products, please send them to the Music Department to donate to our raffle. Thank You!

*We are currently fundraising for our tour in July to Germany*

## Health & Wellbeing

Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust

# HEALTH FOR TEENS

TEXT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE FOR  
CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH ADVICE AND SUPPORT:

**07480 635 050**

**HEALTHFORTEENS.CO.UK**

TWITTER: @HEALTHFORTEENS1 #HEALTHFORTEENS

# Teaching and Learning

## LITERACY QUIZ

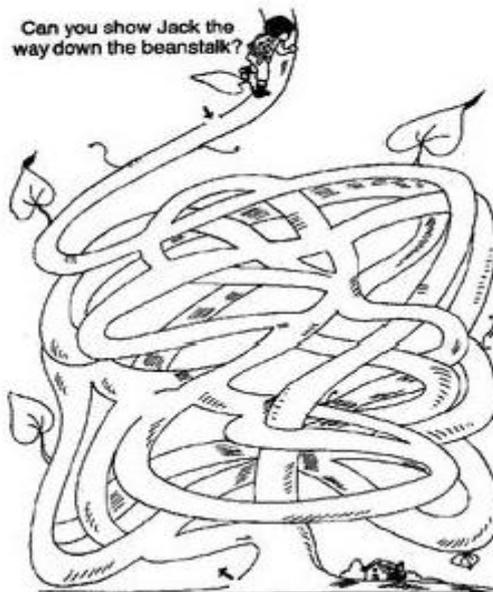
The quiz below has been created by Literacy Leader Erin Dalrymple 8CA.

Ms Farman, English Department

### Literacy Games Page

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

BEATRICE  
BENEDICK  
CLAUDIO  
DON JOHN  
DON PEDRO  
HERO  
JULIET  
LADY MACBETH  
MACBETH  
OTHELLO  
ROMEO  
WITCH



# Sports Fixtures & Results

## FIXTURES

### Tuesday 13th March

Year 7 Netball Tournament at John Henry Newman School.

### Tuesday 13th March

U14 Girls' Football Tournament at John Henry Newman School.

### Wednesday 14th March

6<sup>th</sup> form rounders match versus Hitchin Boys School and Hitchin Girls School at The Priory School.

### Thursday 21st March

Charity Sports Relief Football Event at Hitchin Town Football Club from 5pm to 9pm (see page 12).

## FOOTBALL

After a fantastic season the Year 9 boys football team have made it through to the District Football Final. It's a great achievement for them as it was their first year in Division 1 after being promoted last year and they have finished top of the table!

The final will take place next Thursday at St Christopher's School in Letchworth and they will be competing against John Henry Newman to be district champions. Good luck to the Year 9 team!

## DISTRICT SWIMMING GALA

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the District Swimming Gala in February. There were 10 schools competing and The Priory School had some fantastic results.

It was a great event to watch and the students were a credit to the school.

Junior Girls 50m Backstroke	Saira Haria	5 <sup>th</sup>
Junior Boys 50m Backstroke	Jamie Long	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Intermediate 50m Backstroke	Alfie Nellis	6 <sup>th</sup>
Junior Girls Medley Relay	Saira, Holly, Lilly, Ashleigh	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Junior Girls 50m Breaststroke	Lilly Nellis	7 <sup>th</sup>
Intermediate Girls 50m Breaststroke	Ellie Eva	4 <sup>th</sup>
Junior Girls Freestyle Relay	Saira, Holly, Lilly, Ashleigh	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Intermediate Boys 25m Butterfly	Dylan Cole	1 <sup>st</sup>
Junior Girls 25m Butterfly	Ashleigh Cooper	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Senior Girls 50m Butterfly	Ellie Nellis	1 <sup>st</sup>
Junior Girls 50m Freestyle	Holly Long	5 <sup>th</sup>
Senior Girls 50m Freestyle	Isabel Pearcy	1 <sup>st</sup>
Senior Boys 50m Freestyle	Jack Brown	5 <sup>th</sup>
Intermediate Girls 50m Freestyle	Zoe MacDonald	1 <sup>st</sup>
Intermediate Boys 50m Freestyle	Luke Griggs	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Junior Girls Overall		3 <sup>rd</sup>
Senior Girls Overall		3 <sup>rd</sup>
Total Girls Overall		3 <sup>rd</sup>

# Charity

## CHARITY WEEK

Our PIXL Edge ambassadors (pictured here at their graduation in April 2017) have been busy planning and preparing charity week events to raise money for Sport Relief which starts next week!

They are also working with Miss Gresser and Mrs Southall to launch The Apprentice PIXL programme in Year 7 as well as working hard on their Graduate accreditation. We can't wait to see them graduate at Westminster Hall again next year, alongside our new Year 7 apprentices! Well done Daniel Rankin, Lily Anthony Sharp, Nicole Masters, John East, Vaughn Doggett and Connor Jeffries. Keep up the great work!



Mrs Southall, Assistant Headteacher

## RED NOSE DAY

The Priory School will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 16th March to raise money for Sport Relief. The £2 donation will include a ticket to the Charity Football Match at Hitchin Town Football Club on Wednesday 21st March (see below for more details.)



**WILLMOTT DIXON**  
SINCE 1852



# THE BIG MATCH 2



**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 at Hitchin Town FC 5pm-9pm**

**Charity Football Match Hitchin Boys vs. The Priory School**

**Car parking \* Licensed Bar \* Food \* 8 matches**

**Tickets £2** Non Uniform Day Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March & on the gate

5 pm Year 10    5.30pm Year 9    6pm Year 11    6.30pm Girls match KS3  
7pm Staff    7.30pm Year 7    8pm Year 8    8.30pm Seniors



# Charity

## THANK YOU FROM CANCER RESEARCH UK

The Priory School has received this lovely thank you letter below from Cancer Research UK for its donation of £454:



## EX-STUDENT AMY GIBBS TO RUN LONDON MARATHON FOR DIABETES UK

Amy Gibbs, a previous Priory School student, will be running the London Marathon this year for the charity Diabetes UK.

Here is the link for her Just Giving page for you to sponsor her amazing efforts for this great charity:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/amy-gibbs95>

Good luck Amy!





**YEARS 8, 9 & 10**

# **TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY**

**THURSDAY 19TH JULY**

Please see InTouch message for full details



OAKLANDS COLLEGE

# Apprenticeships Jobs Fair

- Meet employers recruiting apprentices now and for this coming September
- Speak to current apprentices and College tutors
- Apply for apprenticeship job vacancies in various industries

## When?

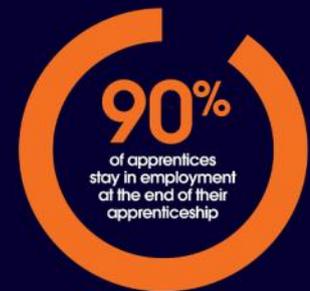
Tuesday 20th  
March 2018

4pm - 7pm

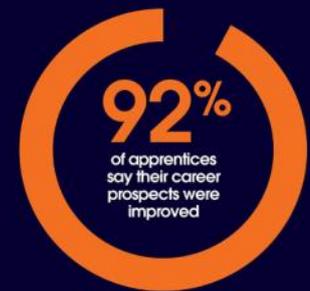
## Where?

Oaklands College  
St Albans Campus  
Hatfield Road  
St Albans  
AL4 0JA

SatNav: AL4 0XS

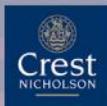


Apprentices can  
earn around  
**£100,000**  
more in their lifetime  
than other employees



Some employers we're  
working with include:

structo



MORGAN  
SINDALL

proform  
PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL

dormakaba

STANTA  
St Albans Enterprise Agency



ALDENHAM  
golf & country club



PINNACLE  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS



Renelec  
CHALGROVE

PURCHASE DIRECT



Monarch

Aircraft Engineering



e: [apprenticeships@oaklands.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@oaklands.ac.uk)

t: 01727 737 040





**Performing Arts**  
*Letchworth*



# FREE INVITATION TO OUR *Beauty & The Beast* OPEN DAY

Stagecoach Letchworth would like to invite you and your child to join Stagecoach at our **FREE** Beauty & The Beast Open Day!

Stagecoach offers professional training for children of all abilities aged 6-18yrs. Your child will enjoy participating in singing, dance and drama, and you will have the opportunity to discover and experience what stagecoach can offer your child together during a short presentation! You can ask any questions at the end of the session and chat to our professionally trained teachers about their individual lessons.

So, if you have a child between 6-18yrs who loves the idea of performing come along and join in the fun, or just drop in for a chat and a look around 😊

## OPEN DAY

**SATURDAY 17th MARCH 2018**

**2pm - 5pm**

*(Workshop 2pm-4pm/Presentation & Display 4:15pm-5pm)*

**6 - 18 years**

**The Grange Jr School, SG6 4PY**

**To book your place please call:**

**07964 099740**

Please note that space is limited and bookings are taken on a first come first served basis.

Principal: Jasmine Decker Tel: 07964 099740 E-mail: [letchworth@stagecoach.co.uk](mailto:letchworth@stagecoach.co.uk)  
A Stagecoach School operated under franchise and independently owned by Jasmine Decker

## Local Events

**GET ACTIVE  
THIS EASTER!**

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



**SIGN UP FOR A**

**FREE BMX**

**TASTER SESSION**

 Norton Common Skate Park,  
Letchworth Garden City

Ex-British BMX Champion,  
**Jools Allen** will be on hand  
to help you gain new  
skills and steer you in  
the right direction.

**Beat the holiday  
boredom, sign-up  
and experience  
the ride!**

**Bike and safety helmets  
will be provided**

**Date: 03 and 04 April 2018**

**Sessions: 1 hour sessions  
running from 10am – 4pm**

**Minimum height for Riders: 110cm**

**Age: 10 - 16 years of age**

**Ability: Must be able to ride a two wheeled bike**

**What to wear: Long sleeves, long trousers and suitable footwear**

**To book a FREE session or for more information:  
email [bmxtaster@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:bmxtaster@north-herts.gov.uk) or ring 01462 474291**