

PrioryNews

Educating Students for Success in Life

AMAZING ATTENDANCE!

Last school year, we had 68 students who didn't miss a day of school all year.

This is a fantastic achievement and shows their dedication to getting in to lessons and making the most of what school can offer.

Unfortunately, they are too numerous to mention individually here, but each student will receive an R20 and a Headteacher's Commendation.

Well done to you all. Let's see if we can beat that figure this year.

HEADTEACHER COMMENDATIONS (HTCs)

We have stocked up on badges and resumed with commending students nominated for HTCs last term – those students who are due badges will be invited to receive them over the coming weeks.

In September Year 9 students Lois McSorley and Jessica Westgate were awarded their red badges. They received their first nomination for an HTC for their outstanding Y8 Holocaust projects.



OSHO

Details of the out of school hours clubs for the Autumn term 2019 can now be found in the Information section of the TPS website:

<http://www.priory.herts.sch.uk/information/curriculum/out-of-school-hours-opportunities/>

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 10th October

- 5.30-9pm Open Evening; school closes at 12.40pm

Friday 11th October

- INSET Day; school closed

Tuesday 15th to Thursday 16th October

- 9-11.30am Open Mornings

Tuesday 15th October

- 6.30-7.30pm Parent Info Session 'Five Ways of Wellbeing'

Wednesday 16th October

7pm Intermediate Recital Evening

Friday 18th October

Wear it Pink Day

w/c 21st October

Year 8 Wellbeing Surveys

w/c 4th November

Year 7 Wellbeing Surveys

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

7-9pm Years 7 & 8 Halloween Disco

Wednesday 6th November

Skiing Trip Information Evening

Thursday 7th November

- 9-10.30am Senior Maths Challenge, Hall
- Year 12 'Aspects of Tragedy', London
- Year 12 Performing Arts Trip to 'Kinky Boots' Theatre Trip, Milton Keynes

Friday 8th November

Student Service Uniform Day

SPORTS FIXTURES

Please see page 10 for a list of sports fixtures up to half term.

Teaching and Learning

DID YOU KNOW?

CHEWING GUM AND ENERGY DRINKS

These are two items which our young people are keen to spend their money on and bring in to school. We do not permit them.

Energy drinks come in all colours, flavours and sizes and we have seen a real trend in students buying these and drinking them before school and through the day. Many of these drinks contain quantities of caffeine and sugar that are hugely counter-productive to their focus and concentration in class and can have potentially harmful effects on their health.

As with all schools and public spaces, chewing gum is a real blight on our community. Pavements, tables, chairs and carpets can become covered in it over time. We have spent a significant amount of money on cleaning our paved areas this summer using a specialist company and they look much better for it.

Please support us in ensuring your child does not bring energy drinks, sweets or gum to school. Those caught doing so will be sanctioned according to the behaviour policy.

Thank you in advance for your help.

CHANGES TO DETENTION PROCEDURES

Please note a change to our detention procedures this year. Should your child get a detention, this will normally be an hour long, from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. However, if your child brings work and is productive during this time, they may leave at 4.15pm.

Please also note that a missed detention results in a longer SLT detention. These are an hour and a half and run on a Thursday night. Students missing this detention will be placed in the exclusion unit (EU) the following day (Friday). Any time in the EU is followed by an hour long after-school detention.

YEAR 13 LITERATURE TRIP TO BRIGHTON

Our Year 13 literature students had a brilliant day in Brighton on Friday. They learned a lot about Brighton itself whilst brushing up on their knowledge of Graham Greene's 'Brighton Rock'.



Teaching and Learning

TPS CHARITY AND FUNDRAISING WORK

Welcome back everyone and we hope that you have had a restful and peaceful summer holiday.

Our work with Humanitas is now officially launched and we are pleased to announce that there is a calendar of events planned for the course of this academic year.

Each month there will be a whole school event to showcase the wonderful things we do at The Priory which students and staff can participate in. These will be shared with our partner school in Ghana who will reciprocate by sending us material back to share with our staff and students.

Each monthly event is in line with an international day of celebration. The aim is to share cultural experiences between the schools and to develop a really strong link in the future.



HUMANITAS
working for humanity

Humanitas School Partnership Youtube Calendar

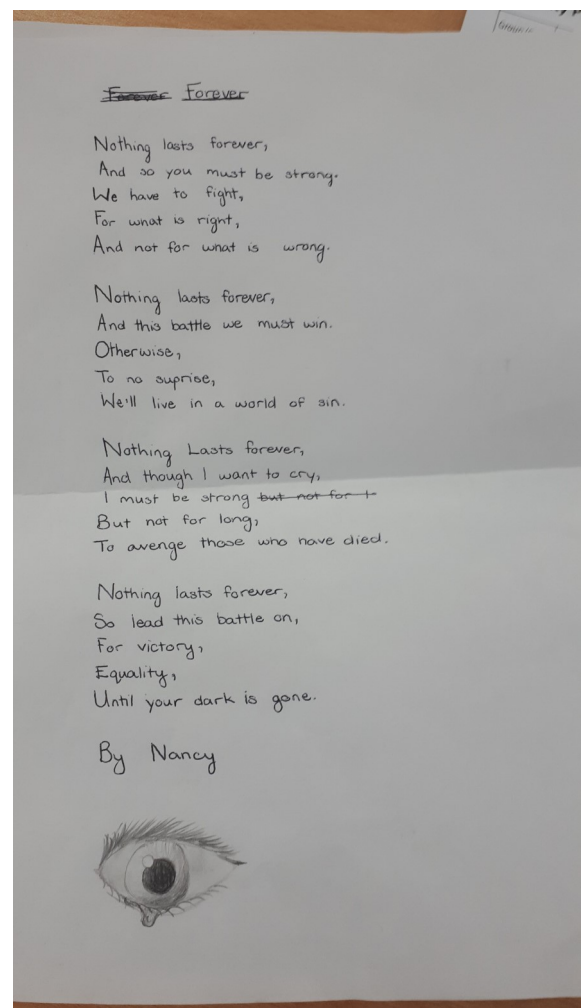
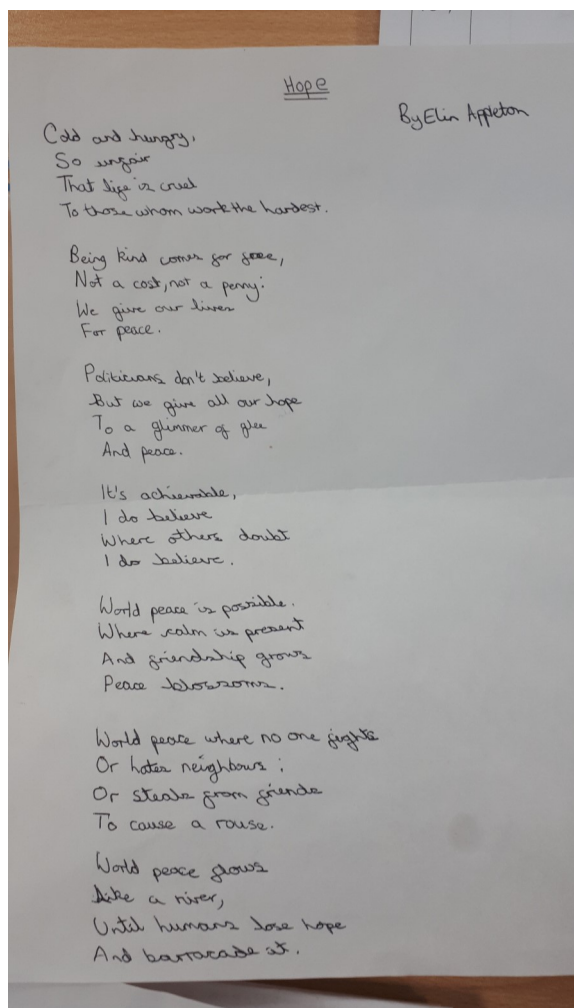
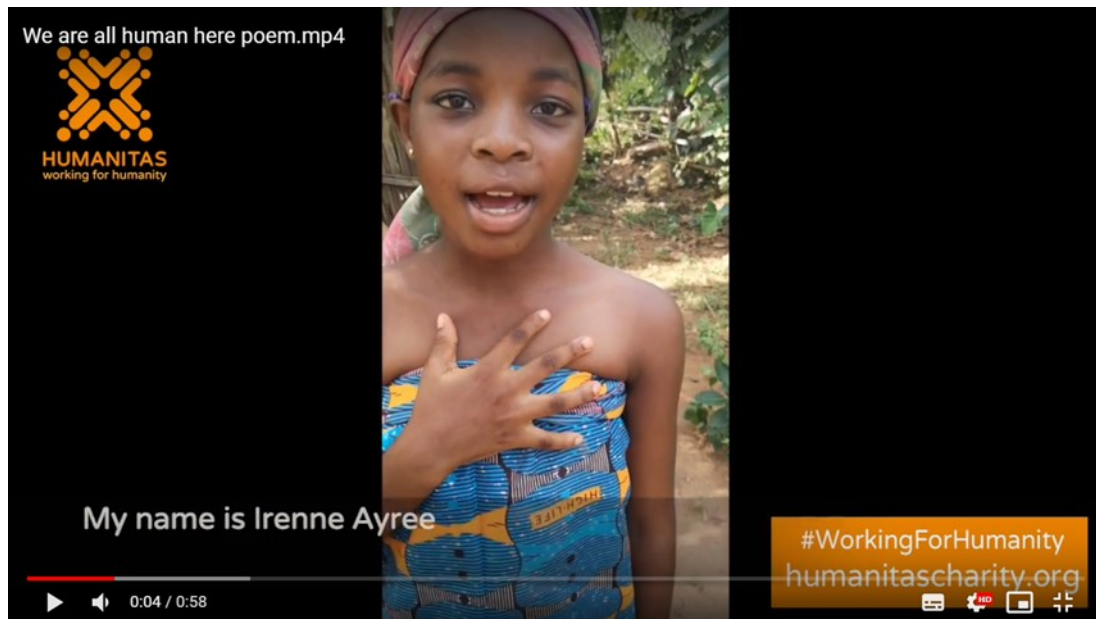
Month	Month Theme	Humanitas Content Ghana	School UK Suggested content	Release
September	International day of literacy International day of peace	We Are All Human Here poem	Poem about world peace	30th September
October	World teachers day 5TH OCTOBER	Interviewing Sir William	Get to know the teacher. Interview your teacher - Kids interview their teacher. As a class make a list of questions they would like to ask. Then nominate a class representative to interview the teacher. Another student can record interview.	4th October

Teaching and Learning

September saw students enter a poetry competition about world peace in line with International Day of Literacy and International Day of Peace.

Congratulations to Nancy Adderley, Elin Appleton and Charles Harrington who were selected as the winning entries by Mr Rainforth and a group of sixth form students. A massive thank you to all students who entered the competition, who all receive an R1 for entering.

Nancy and Elin recorded their poems and these have been shared with the partner school in Ghana, who have returned their entry!



Teaching and Learning

RIDING FOR HUMANITAS

A massive thank you to the following students who participated in the Humanitas charity bike ride on 21st September 2019. It was a gruelling 35-mile bike ride or a leisurely 10-mile ride around Hitchin to raise money for Humanitas to help support the fantastic work they do in Ghana.

Theo Fairchild Granger (10LC)

Dylan Walker (8RC)

Samuel Lacey (8SR)

Jacob Pledge (8SR)

Somaan Mirza (CH)

Thomas Bannister (FP)

All students who participated will receive an R5 for their efforts in raising money for Humanitas and giving up their time to take part. A huge thank you to the parents who came along to support as well as the volunteers on the day, selling food, drink and motivating the riders!



JENES FOR GENES DAY

On 20th September we held our annual Jeans for Genes Day and are pleased to announce that we raised £683. A massive thank you to staff and students who contributed to this fantastic cause.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We raised about £280 from our staff coffee morning and student cake stall – our senior sixth form team organised and managed the latter. A lot of cake and fun was had! Flo Head our charity senior prefect said:

“MacMillan is a charity which helps many people all over the UK, including our students at The Priory School. Last Friday, The Priory School managed to raise £280 in a highly successful, coffee morning bake sale. As the charity senior prefect, I am incredibly grateful to be involved in The Priory School’s charity work, such as partaking in runs (colour. mud and Santa!) and many events throughout the year.”



Teaching and Learning

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AT TPS

The Priory School Eco-Committee has now been formed and its members have started the new academic year with a positive attitude towards making the school more environmentally friendly and sustainable.

The first step to becoming an Eco-School has been achieved now that we have an established Eco-Committee. We have students from Year 8 to Year 13 who have continued the good work started last year, and the Eco-Committee will be launched with Year 7 in their forthcoming assemblies.

An Eco noticeboard has been created in the school café area to inform students of developments in school with regards to the environment.



Last week students conducted an Environmental Review of our current practice and the information is currently being inputted into the application form. This will help us to identify which areas of school we would like to prioritise as part of the Eco Schools award.

Plus Mrs Hamer gave a wonderful presentation to the committee last week on how she is reducing waste in her house as well as single use plastics.

CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE VISIT

On 20th September, Mr Rainforth took eight students with him to a climate change conference at the Rothamsted Research Centre in Harpenden.

The day was coordinated by our local MP, Bim Afolami, and TPS students had the opportunity to meet him to discuss their concerns and suggestions for how we could become more sustainable in Hitchin and Harpenden area.

It was a fantastic day and the students were fortunate to be exposed to people from industry, politics and education. They sat in on talks about ecology, economy and energy led by experts in their field. The aim was to help devise strategies for how to make these more sustainable in line with the recent government target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.



Music News

MUSIC MARK

We are very pleased to announce that following a nomination by Hertfordshire Music Service, the Music Department has been awarded the national recognition of 'Music Mark'. This highlights the ongoing excellent provision we provide for our students and the opportunities made available to them. We are very proud of this award and have already received some positive feedback on our twitter account (@tps_musicdept) regarding this.

The certificate is now proudly displayed in the reception area for people to see as they arrive into school.



HERTS MUSIC GALA

We are very excited to announce that we have, once again, been successful in applying to perform in the massed choir for the Herts Music Gala on Sunday 8th March in the evening. This year, Mrs Creak also submitted an application for us to be one of the solo school performances and we are very excited to announce that we have been successful with this application as well. We are now busy trying to decide which piece we would like to perform to showcase our students. Junior, Senior and Chamber Choir will be taking part and letters should be with you. Please can you complete these as soon as possible so that we can confirm numbers and make sure we select the best possible material. The Priory School will be performing in a solo spot at the Royal Albert Hall!



If you would like to support us, then tickets are available from the Royal Albert Hall. Please note that there are two performances that day. We are the EVENING performance.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

All of our ensembles and instrumental lessons have now started and it's great to see lots of students attending. We do still have some availability for some instrumental lessons and if you are interested in your child taking lessons then please contact Mr Ankers (matt.ankers@priory.herts.sch.uk) in the first instance. Please note that if your child is in receipt of free school meals, then there is a possibility that you may be entitled to lessons for either a 50% or 100% reduction.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We have two performance events this term: our Intermediate Recital Evening on 16th October and our Christmas Concert on 11th December. In addition to this, our Junior Choir will be carol singing at Sainsbury's on 14th December to raise money for our local homeless shelter, and our GCSE Music Classes will be attending a performance of 'Wicked' in the West End on 12th November.

Please do contact me if you have any queries or questions regarding any of these or other music events:

lindsay.creak@priory.herts.sch.uk

PE News

RFU ALL SCHOOL PROGRAMME

The Priory School has recently become part of the RFU All School Programme. This programme is designed to encourage more young people to participate in rugby. We are very appreciative of the support from the RFU through All Schools.

On Tuesday 24th September four students and Mr Omar attended a kit-designing workshop at Twickenham Rugby Stadium. This workshop was sponsored by Canterbury. Students attended and designed a brand new school rugby kit. This kit will be made and then delivered to us to wear for rugby matches, tournaments and festivals. The students (and Mr Omar) had a fantastic day. The students who attended were:

Luke Duffy

Emma Harris

William Toffa

Lola Ellis

They have designed a brilliant rugby shirt and we look forward to using them for our teams!



SHOUT OUT TO BEAT SCHOOL UNIFORMS

We would like to thank Beat School Uniforms for their ongoing support for our students and staff. Beat very kindly agreed to sponsor a new set of athletics vests for the school teams. This is a very generous gift and we are very grateful for this.



PE News

ATHLETICS RESULTS 2019

Congratulations to all students that were part of the athletics squads last term. We are delighted with the results from the leagues, which show the commitment and effort that students applied. We are very proud of all of our students that represented the school in the district leagues. The results below are from 12 schools in each league. A particular congratulations to the Year 9 boys team that were this year District League Champions!

Year 7 Girls: 6th Place

Year 7 Boys: 6th Place

Year 8 Girls: 5th Place

Year 8 Boys: 6th Place

Year 9 Girls: 3rd Place

Year 9 Boys: 1st Place and District League Winners

Year 10/11 Girls: 8th Place

Year 10/11 Boys: 5th Place

In the overall completion both the overall girls and boys teams finished in 4th place in the district. In the combined whole school competition The Priory School also were awarded 4th place.



ENGLISH SCHOOLS ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS: UNDER 15 ATHLETICS

Jess Astill ran in the U15 athletics championships and made it to the final, coming 7th! Well done Jess!



England Athletics U17 & U15 Age Group Championships		
Result: T69 U15G 300m Final		
1	Nandy KIHUYU	Hallamshire Harriers Shef
2	Rebecca GRIEVE	Pitreeve AAC
3	Emilla ROCK	Vale of Aylesbury AC
4	Sophie WALLWORK	Pitreeve AAC
5	Jenna Jane HILDITCH	Victoria Park City of Gls
6	Isabel WHITE	Longwood Harriers AC
7	Jessica ASTILL	Stevenage & North Herts
8	Favour JOSEPH	Sale Harriers Manchester



FIXTURES UP TO OCTOBER HALF TERM 2019

Tuesday 8th October 2019

Senior Netball vs John Henry Newman

Year 7 Football vs KJAR

Wednesday 9th October 2019

Year 8 Football vs Thomas Alleyne Academy

Year 10 Football vs Thomas Alleyne Academy

Tuesday 15th October 2019

Senior Netball vs Highfield

Year 9 Football vs KJAR

Wednesday 16th October 2019

Year 8 Rugby Festival at Thomas Alleyne Academy or Stevenage RFC

U13 Girls ESFA Cup Longsands, St Neots

Thursday 17th October 2019

Year 10 Netball vs John Henry Newman

Year 8 Basketball vs Hitchin Boys School

Year 7 Football vs Knights Templar School

Monday 21st October 2019

U16 Girls Football vs Fearnhill

Tuesday 22nd October 2019

Boys Badminton vs Fearnhill

Wednesday 23rd October 2019

Year 7 Rugby Festival at Hitchin Boys' School

Year 8 Football vs John Henry Newman

Thursday 24th October 2019

Year 9 Netball vs John Henry Newman

Secondary Girls Badminton at The Priory School





 
official education partner

Club Partner
Hitchin Town FC

**2020-21 RECRUITMENT
OPEN FOOTBALL SESSION
FOR CURRENT YEAR 11S**

Friday, 1st November 2019, 5-6.30pm
The Arena, Norton Road, Baldock, SG7 5AU

PRO DIRECT ACADEMY
HITCHIN



**GIRLS
BASKETBALL**

**NEW SEASON
2019-2020**

NORTH HERTS KNIGHTS BASKETBALL CLUB
PENDLETON SPORTS CENTRE
ETONBURY ACADEMY
Stotfold Road
Arlesey SG15 6XS

Girls only session
Monday 5pm- 6pm
£5.00 per session*
(1st session FREE)

* Plus annual Club registration
fee of £20.00 and Annual Basketball
England Membership Fee of £8.50



**Come along and see us at a training session
or for further information visit:**

www.nhknights.co.uk

or email jodaniels_nhknights@btinternet.com

Local Events/News

THE YOUNG DOCTOR PROGRAMME

London • Ages 15-18

7th December OR 26th January 2020

King's College London (KCL) & University College London (UCL)

On the Young Doctor Programme, a group of high-ranking doctors will immerse you in a series of interactive role-plays, simulations, seminars, and Q&A sessions, to give you a 360-degree experience of practising medicine. You will also be coached on how to maximise your chances of gaining entry into a top medical school.

You will leave the programme having gained a competitive advantage over other aspiring medics, and a brilliant experience to include on your UCAS application.



YC HERTFORDSHIRE PROJECTS

iDENTITY

iDENTITY project provides a space in which young people aged 13-17 who identify as LGBTQ can meet other LGBTQ young people in a safe and supported environment, facilitated by professional youth workers.

Young Women's project

The Young Women's project is for young people aged 14-17. The project seeks to increase young people's awareness and understanding of healthy relationships, concurrent to addressing issues around self-esteem and confidence.



Royston health & wellbeing project

This project is for young people aged 14-17 and this term, will also be looking at healthy relationships and self-esteem this term, in addition to young person led activities such as arts and crafts, games and music.

North Herts Youth Council

The youth council is a group for young people who want their voice to be heard and represented across local services. The group is for 11-17 year olds and young people who attend will have the opportunity to be involved in training sessions, take part in interview panels and feedback into local services in addition to carrying out local social actions.

Young Men's Group

This term, the Young Men's Group will be running our Positive Alternatives programme, focussing on increasing young people's awareness about the consequences of knife/gun crime and developing their understanding of staying safe.

More information: <https://www.ychertfordshire.org/support-for-young-people/youth-projects-in-your-area/north-herts-projects/>

Local Events/News

EXPLORECYBER!

at Hitchin Girls School



CYBER CRIME SCENE

October
30th
& 31st

CYBER CHALLENGE IN A BOX

The cyber defence forces are worried that a cyber attack targeting the UK is imminent. In a race against time, you and your team must sift through evidence, solve clues and finish puzzles. We're depending on you to defeat the attack!

PLUS...

- 1. THE HUMAN COMPUTER**
Transform friends and programme their every move
- 2. CYBERLAND**
A whole world of games to expand your understanding
- 3. CYBER CAREERS**
Cyber security expert exposes real life in the industry

For more details and to book your ticket visit **EVENTBRITE:**
<https://tinyurl.com/y4qeno46>

www.cybersecuritychallenge.co.uk/explore cyber



An event for families

ADDITIONAL NEEDS WELLBEING DAY

Morning coffee, morning and afternoon workshops including an introduction to arts therapies and mindfulness and yoga; light lunch and chance to chat with a range of agencies and services!

Workshops accommodate both parent/carer and child; places are limited and booking is recommended

www.eventbrite.co.uk

MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER, 10:30AM-2:00PM

The Letchworth Centre for Healthy Living, Hitchin Road,
Letchworth, Hertfordshire, SG6 3NA

FREE EVENT



TALKING TEENS



THURSDAYS

**7th, 14th, 21st, & 28th November
5th & 12th December 2019
7.00 - 9.00pm**



Our FREE 6 week course for parents and carers of children aged 12-19 will cover:

- The Teen Brain: Recognising the physical and emotional changes taking place during the teenage years and why their behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understanding risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate during a conflict situation.

**MRS HOWARD HALL
(The Underwood Room)
Norton Way South
LETCWORTH SG6 1NX**

I have already changed my attitude towards my 12 year old daughter by understanding her behaviour rather than being annoyed by it. The results have been quite remarkable.

Pre-booking essential

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on:

07512 709556

bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk

www.supportinglinks.co.uk

QUOTING REFERENCE SL339



This course is provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council

'Very well delivered and engaging sessions'



team@keystoneworkshops.co.uk
@KeystoneWS
KeystoneWorkshops

Social Media – Keeping up with the Kids - Talk

0-5 yrs 6-12 yrs teens



Summary



Social media is used by all generations. However, the difference between what the parents and their children use platforms for can be vast. Parents frequently use platforms differently to their children and even use completely different platforms to their children.

It is important for parents to keep up with technology and not fall behind. It can quickly develop into an area where parents and children don't discuss issues because we don't fully understand what is going on.

Parental confidence is key! This talk is designed to run through the main ways popular apps are used and the associated pitfalls of the most popular applications to help parents keep up with their children. Generational difference mean that it is unlikely that most parents will be completely on the same page but this talk provides an opportunity to ask questions and learn the main functions in a conducive environment.

Who is this talk for?

This talk is aimed at parents of children of ALL ages but is mainly to help parents learn for themselves first to build confidence and awareness.

We will not deal with bullying or screen time issues in this talk.

What will parents gain from this talk?

- An overview of security settings, privacy settings on the following popular applications: Snapchat, WhatsApp, TikTok, Facebook and Instagram
- Top tips about each application you might not have known about
- The problematic elements of each application

Event Details

Date: Mon, 14th Oct 2019
Time: 19.15-21.15
Location: The Sandpit Theatre, The Ridgeway, St Albans, AL4 9NX
Cost: £19.50pp

About our speaker

Nika Jelendorf is Media Diversity Institute's resident Social media expert. She has worked on social media campaigns across Europe, in varied sectors and ranging from small local campaigns to national ones that reached millions of people. Aside from her interest in everything digital, Nika has been teaching human rights education and public speaking for over a decade to high school and university students across the globe.

Click to Book Now

Events are regularly updated, for a full list of future events visit: www.keystoneworkshops.co.uk