



RUSKIN A PRIORY ACADEMY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Term 6 2017/2018 Community and SMSC

A message from the Headteacher...

Even by Ruskin standards, this has been an incredible year! There have been a number of highlights which really exemplify the values that we aim to bring to life as part of the daily experience of the Academy. From our outstanding progress scores to the participation levels in our baccalaureate, our staff and students really have made manifest the benefits of intellectual curiosity and thinking. A further highlight has been the growth of our teaching hub, which has seen a number of teachers from around Lincolnshire and beyond sharing best practice and developing teaching and learning – it's not just the students who continue to learn!

It was also a real pleasure to welcome Geoff Barton this term to finally open the Pavilion; he was rightly impressed by our students – and a special mention should go to Amelia Stewart and Callum Boyle, who gave readings on the theme of Journeys and the stunning vocal performance of Sophie Spilsbury. The building looks fantastic, with the art work of our students looking incredibly professional as are the facilities to support wider independent learning, a theme that we will continue to grow and develop next year.

Of course, the Ofsted inspection and subsequent outstanding grading this year has also been rewarding. With this comes the responsibility of ensuring we continue to maintain and improve the provision for our students. Their success is richly deserved; guests to the school hold them in the highest regard – they are fantastic ambassadors and advocates of the school and it has been a real pleasure to see them engage and flourish in all aspects of academy life.

I wish staff, parents and students a restful summer break ahead of what promises to be another exciting new academic year.

Ms R Wyles

Sixth Form Pavilion Officially Opened

On Friday 8th June Ruskin's new Sixth Form Pavilion was officially opened by Geoff Barton, General Secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders. The stunning new building has classrooms, study rooms and a café style restaurant, providing essential additional space and facilities as the academy's Sixth Form continues to expand and flourish.

The celebration, attended by current Sixth Form students, members of staff, governors, as well as Headteachers and board members from the Priory Federation of Academies Trust, featured speeches from students, Amelia Stewart and Callum Boyle, and a beautiful vocal performance from Sophie Spilsbury.

Ian Jones, CEO of the Priory Federation of Academies Trust, addressed the audience commenting on Ruskin's 'infectious passion for all it does' and how the new building would now give 'more space for Ruskin students to express that passion in their endeavours'. Rachel Wyles, Headteacher, spoke recognising the 'fantastic build' but stressed that it was 'the values and spirit housed within that really makes Ruskin'. Guest of honour, Geoff Barton said he was 'honoured' to officially open the new Sixth Form Pavilion at Ruskin; a 'stunning community school with wonderful students, staff and ethos'.



Don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Facebook for up-to-date news and events!

Twitter: @prioryruskin Facebook: The Priory Ruskin Academy



DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES: RUSKIN'S POPULAR FESTIVE NIGHT WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2018!

Learn New Skills - Get Sewing!



Two groups, 7B1 and 7B3, have been working on Van-Gogh inspired landscape textile panels this term. In addition to hand sewing and fabric painting, the students have all had lessons on using our electric sewing machines and have utilised this new skill to help them embellish their work by machine. Every student has learnt a new skill towards their Ruskin Respect Creativity Awards. Well done to all!



Year 5 Mathematical Workshops

This term saw Ruskin host a series of Mathematical workshops for local primary schools. The workshops gave primary children the opportunity to see how much Maths relates to so much of what we do and the world around us as well as how much fun maths can be! From spiral drawing, to estimating building sizes to algebra codebreaking - the students were kept busy. Year 7 students assisted with the morning and it was a pleasure to see them interact with the Year 5 students...answering their question about Maths but also about life at secondary school. A big thank you to all that took part and supported.

GCSE French Students Travel to the Priory French Centre



On Monday June 25th a group of Year 9 and 10 GCSE French students went out to the 'Centre des Etoiles' in Normandy for 5 days.

The trip was packed with many learning opportunities to consolidate the GCSE French curriculum. These included a visit to an Oyster Farm, a goat farm and a German Bunker complex at the French Canadian Juno Beach - where all tours were conducted in French with a native speaker.



Students enjoyed a visit the market at Courselles where they resourced and purchased ingredients for a picnic. They also ate at an authentic French restaurant where they all (very competently) ordered their meal using the language they have studied at the Academy and the French Centre. This experience will be incredibly valuable as they move towards their GCSE examinations

Roll on September: Year 6 Transition Day

3rd July saw over 200 incredibly enthusiastic Year 6 students arrive at the Academy as they enjoyed a taster day - sampling what life will be like for them when they join Ruskin properly in September. Students enjoyed a tour of the Academy and a range of taster lessons. They were all evidently excited about starting secondary school with us in the new academic year and found the student helpers (selected from our current Year 7) particularly helpful and insightful.



Good Times: Year 11 Prom!

This year the Year 11 Prom was held at Belton Woods Hotel. Students were treated to a 3 course dinner and some unforgettable dancing.



The much anticipated awards saw Jakub Nowak and Morgan Medina receiving the most votes to be crowned Prom King and Queen.

Good luck Year 11 - it has been a pleasure...enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing all those joining Sixth Form on Wednesday 5th September.

A big thank you must go to all the staff involved in such a successful event.

Ruskin Sports Leaders: Mini Olympic Games 2018

The Mini Olympic Games 2018 saw primary school teams come together at the Meres to take part in different Olympic and Paralympic sports on Tuesday 19th & Wednesday 20th June. This year over 1200 students in over 70 teams from 38 local primary schools attended these events and took part in fourteen different sporting zones. More than 20 Sports Leaders and Young Ambassadors from The Priory Ruskin Academy supported them on these days. The Young Ambassadors also helped select and organise Local and National sporting stars to attend and inspire the 1200 students that attended. This year these included Sophie Allen (Team GB Swimming), Jonathan Broom-Edwards (Paralympian-Athletics) & Sam Ruddock (Paralympian-Athletics).



Careers Service Update

Ruskin's Careers Service has been busy this year, supporting our students as they think about and implement their future plans. Activities this year have included workshops delivered by The Skills Service, Apprenticeship & Tomorrow's Engineers to name just a few. In addition we have welcomed excellent guest speakers from the RAF, enjoyed visits to the NEC and the Universities Fair and enjoyed meeting parents at the Engagement Evening for Year 12s. Next year's careers plans will be just as exciting with a Careers Fair held at Ruskin on the 17th October.

Writer and Performance Poet Inspires Creative Writing

July saw students enjoy a fantastic workshop with the multi-talented writer, performer, theatre-maker and musician Jemima Foxtrot. It was a thought provoking session that encouraged student to express their feelings and use the 5 senses to help develop some really creative work.



Year 9 Geography Field Trips

On Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th June Year 9 Geographers went to Lincoln city centre. The students each chose an urban geographical issue to investigate from a choice of waste management, pollution or traffic congestion. The students worked from Lincoln Castle down Steep Hill and the High Street collecting data to help answer their investigative question. In the afternoon the students were tasked with testing out the questionnaires they had designed on members of the public. Many were nervous about this but once they started the students grew in confidence and were both engaging and articulate. Members of the public actively sought out accompanying Ruskin staff to comment on how impressed they were with the students.

Open Day 2018

Ruskin held its annual Open Day and Evening on Thursday 28th June. The Academy was a hive of activity and the vast numbers of visitors meant our staff and students were kept on their toes! A particular thank you must go to our many student helpers - they are the ones that bring our Academy to life and show people what being part of our special community is all about.



YOU HAVE RAISED £10,275

SINCE SEPTEMBER 2017!

Since the start of the 2017/18 Academic Year, you have helped Ruskin raise **£10,275** for over **nine incredible charities** as well as food collections and clothes donations!

From non-uniform days to cake sales, from fashion shows to coffee mornings, your donations have made a real difference.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!



GRANTHAM
PASSAGE



CANCER
RESEARCH UK
KIDS & TEENS



Lifeline 4 Kids

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT

Students Experience Fascinating History of Justice



On Friday 29th June, the English Department took a group of 30 students to the National Justice Museum in Nottingham as part of their 'Crime and Punishment' Unit. They attended a court room workshop, where they all took an active role in a trial about knife crime. Several students deserve a particular mention here, including Dominic Marvin, who played the role of judge to perfection and went on to sentence the defendant to a particularly harsh 30 years in a high security prison and Daniel Arthur, who took on the role and demeanour of a very professional Prosecution Barrister and really rocked the wig! Each student took on a role, from Court Usher and Clerk to an array of convincing witnesses and a group of contemplative members of the Jury. The trial took around an hour to enact and was enacted in a decommissioned Court Room which still retained all the grandeur and splendour of a Victorian Court of Law.

In the afternoon students enjoyed a tour of the prison courtyard and viewed the gallows, listening to the story of a condemned prisoner who pointed us in the direction of the 'pit'. The boys – in particular – seemed to find the dummies of a sleeping prisoner terrifying and there were some healthy screams from the darker and more dingy areas of the prison! Following this, students went around the exhibition, viewing a variety of different prison cells and gaining lot of interesting and, at times, disturbing, information. They 'met' Elizabeth Fry who taught them all about Prison Reform and the importance of learning new skills and helping prisoners to turn their lives around whilst in jail. She also taught them all how to bow and curtsy properly – which was a bonus! Following on from this, students participated in a debate about Capital Punishment where each group was given a side to advocate.

Alton Towers: Year 11 Reward Trip



The Year 11 annual rewards trip to Alton Towers took place on Tuesday 26th June. Students invited to attend were being rewarded for their attainment, effort and achievement throughout this academic year. Each student has had a 'Ruskin Passport' - an incentive scheme that is unique to Ruskin Year 11 students and logs all academic progress across their curriculum. The Passport has been used to monitor individual progress and students who received this trip to Alton Towers have been committed to achieving outstanding progress.

A blistering day was enjoyed by all, allowing the students to relax now the GCSE examination period is over. Ruskin students are definitely fearless when it come to the hair raising rides that Alton Towers has to offer. Staff possibly opted for the more sedate rides!

Well done to all Year 11 students for their dedication this year. We wish you every success for the future and look forward to welcoming many of you back to Sixth Form in September.

Science Ambassadors Excel In STEM Competition

The Priory Ruskin Academy Science Ambassadors recently took part in a STEM competition at Bishop Grosseteste University in Lincoln. They won awards for their abilities to: program a robot to perform specific tasks, build a vehicle that was both faster and went further than the oppositions and produce an uncannily accurate E fit of a rather dubious looking mobile phone thief!



Farewell Year 13



The Year 13 Leavers' Party, celebrating the achievement of Sixth Form students, was held on 4th July at The Angel & Royal Hotel in Grantham.

A wonderful evening, which included an excellent meal in the King's Room, was enjoyed by both students and staff. There was plenty to reflect upon, with many students having been at the Academy since Year 7, and there was both laughter and tears during the emotional speeches.

Everyone at Ruskin wishes them the very best...it's an exciting world out there so make sure you grab hold of all the opportunities you can!

A Level Psychology: Masterclass

On Tuesday 26th June, a party of Year 12 Psychology students attended a Psychology Masterclass at Bishop Grosseteste University in Lincoln. The title of the masterclass was called: 'It's no laughing matter: The psychology of humour'. Students heard a lecture by Dr Sue Becker on the reasons why people laugh and also had an opportunity to complete a number of questionnaires measuring their style of humour and whether they experienced fear or joy at being laughed at. The masterclass gave attendees a short experience of what it is like to attend a university-style lecture whilst immersing themselves in the culture of an academic institution. Judging by the laughter heard throughout the morning, the masterclass was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone that attended.

Stunning Outcomes for A Level Artists

Hardworking Year 13 Art students were pleased to complete and display their projects and final outcomes for moderation in June. The varied and exciting pieces were the culmination of the students in depth personal investigations, as well as their formal exam outcomes. The striking results, displaying work produced over the entire year, demonstrated a varied range of styles and skills, from paintings, drawings and 3D work to large scale mixed media texture exploration, projections, installations and lighting experiments.

Craig Martini, Head of Art, said, "The students have worked exceptionally hard throughout the duration of the course and it's incredible to see all of their efforts finally pieced together and presented so beautifully. It's rare to see such a variety of quality work from a small A Level group and I'm extremely proud of them for what they've achieved."



Amelia Britten
Growth and Decay



Chloe Mae Cooper



Lily Dixon



James Fletcher



Lily Dixon
Nature Transformed



Chloe Mae Cooper



Amelia Britten
Lighting



Cole Eardley



Eleanor Britten



James Fletcher
Nature Transformed



Eleanor Britten
Mother and Child

[illegible]

Year 9 Design Technology Students Impress at Lincolnshire Show



On 20th & 21st June Year 9 Design students headed to The Lincolnshire Show to enter the Lincolnshire Schools Challenge. After three busy months researching and planning (including actually growing the potatoes!) they had ultimately developed a new brand of potato based snacks. They produced all the marketing, packaging, logos, websites and uniform themselves for their brand – 'Ruskin's Special Spuds'.



On the Wednesday they pitched their project to three judges from the show and they did incredibly well under pressure. On the Thursday they were interviewed by BBC radio Lincolnshire which was aired the following morning.

Staff (Mrs Greenfield in particular!) are so proud of their achievements, they really represented Ruskin perfectly and showcased their skills.



Guest Student Article by Ben Doughty: Year 10 Geography Field Trip

On Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th June, Year 10 Ruskin Geography students journeyed to the Norfolk seaside area of Hunstanton for their physical Geography fieldtrip. During their visit, they collected data and surveyed the terrain of the coastal area. The group of Geographers were split into two sets: one set exploring the sand dunes and evaluating how they have formed and their role in coastal wildlife and defences; the other set scouted the beach, collecting measurements of the coastal defences and determining whether the defences are working efficiently to protect the coast. Later they set off into the town to issue the public with questionnaires, which would be collected and organised into data charts and graphs. The students asked the public whether the coast was aesthetically pleasing and if the coastal defences and sand dunes are sustainable and effective. Their results and collected data were written up and evaluated as it would be used as exam knowledge for the fieldtrip GCSE exam which they will sit in the summer of 2019. Overall the students enjoyed their trip and learnt facts and figures about the coast and the importance of teamwork.



Sports Digest Term 6

Term 6 has seen the culmination of all the athletics, rounders, cricket and tennis fixtures.

The junior boys completed the track and field cup after qualifying for the regional round. The final was organised and run by Ruskin staff and students, and saw a very high level of competition undertaken. The Ruskin junior boys' team finished 6th with a score of 293 points. At this event two performances really stood out; Brandon Allen who ran the 100m in 12.9 seconds and Charlie Plant in the 300m with a time of 42.7 seconds, both securing 21 points for their event. Joshua Crane of Year 10 competed in the Regional Combined Events Championships after qualifying first in Lincolnshire. Joshua had been placing a great deal of time into developing his throws of discus and javelin, the work certainly paid off with him increasing his score by over 200 points and finishing 10th at the regional event. Joshua is a year young and with continued focus it is hoped he will improve further next year. Lewis Davey also competed at the regional event for the senior boys, after a great last season Lewis had great expectations and he stood up to the challenge winning his first combined events as a senior athlete. Lewis also represented the county at the English Schools' Track and Field Championships in the 400m event. He came a very respectable 5th in the final with a time of 48.7 seconds. A previous student of the Academy, Praise Olalere, also competed at the nationals in the 200m, Praise came through all the previous round and

qualified for the final before finishing fourth in a time of 21.82 seconds.

The Academy is very pleased to announce that we have started to use Grantham Cricket Club for our home fixtures. The club has been very supportive in offering the pitch for our use which is certain to help us develop the numbers of students involved in the game and increase the standard of cricket. Our first fixture here was a success with the U13 team beating St George's Academy of Sleaford.

In tennis the teams have not seen quite the standard of success achieved last year. However there is a very good team developing in our junior boys with a very strong Year 7 contingent who will, in years to come, prove to be a true force to be reckoned with.

The annual Academy Sports Day was held on Friday 6th July. It was a great success with some excellent individual performances. There were a vast number of records broken and Knight were the final house winners on the day. A huge well done to all the students that took part in the day, to the students that supported their house teams and to all staff for enabling us to hold this great whole school event.



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ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

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KEY DIARY DATES FOR TERM 1 2018/19

Students Involved	Date	Event
Year 7 & 12	5th September	Term 1 2018/19 Begins (Y7 & 12)
All	6th September	Term 1 2018/19 Begins (All students)
Year 10 & 12	11th September	Photography trip to Trentham Gardens
Year 11	13th September	Performing Arts trip to West end
All	19th September	Photograph Day
CCF	17th - 21st September	CCF Adventure training week
Year 11	20th September	Year 11 Learning Evening
All	28th September	Macmillan Coffee morning
Year 7	4th October	Year 7 Parent Tutor evening
Year 11	18th October	Y11 Parents Evening
All	19th October	End of Term 1
All	29th October	Term 2 Begins

Messages For Next Term

You will have noticed that we now have fences around the perimeter of our Academy. The gates will be locked at 8.55am each morning and will remain locked throughout the Academy day to ensure the safety of our students. It is therefore imperative that students arrive on time for the start of the day (which is 8.45am). All visitors to the Academy should report to main reception at all times.

From September all students should wear a helmet if they are riding their bikes to the Academy. A 10% discount has been negotiated for all helmets, lights and reflective clothing with Halfords. Vouchers for the discount are available from our main reception, simply take the voucher with you when purchasing any of the above safety items.

Could we also remind you that the Ruskin switchboard number is 01476 410410. All communication should come through this number.

