RUSKIN
A PRIORY ACADEMY

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2021 Community and SMSC

A message from the Headteacher...

Welcome to the festive edition of our newsletter! It is wonderful to see so many and varied extra-curricular activities beginning to return to the academy calendar; I know the students welcome these many opportunities, particularly after the difficulties of lockdown- the academy as we know it is definitely re-emerging and flourishing this term.

Our traditions and values are important to us at the academy, and this is perhaps epitomised by our Remembrance Day tribute. This poignant and reflective shared moment is now, due to our growing numbers, the only time we are able to gather together as a whole academy - and we have been unable to carry out this moment of honour and respect for two years. So, it was particularly moving to see all the students assembled once more; I could not have been more proud of their respectful reflectiveness, dignified manner and exemplary behaviour.

A further festive tradition has also been reinstated this term, with all of our Houses and the Sixth Form enjoying a Christmas meal together for the first time in two years. As ever, the art department added to the seasonal atmosphere with a stunning display and many of the students created their own sparkle by taking part in our annual Christmas jumper day, all in support of Save the Children. At this time of year, we do encourage ourselves to think of others and show a generosity of spirit; this is seen not only in the excellent response to the Rotary shoebox and foodbank appeal, but also in the students' daily interactions and respectful behaviour towards each other.

Although we continued to be challenged by the times we find ourselves in, I am incredibly grateful to work with such a dedicated body of staff and wonderful students at Ruskin. I would like to thank them, and all of our parents and carers for all you have done to support Ruskin; it is so appreciated. I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas time and a bright and hopeful new year!

Stunning Christmas Display

Ruskin's Art Department and Year 12 Art students have been busy transforming the main foyer for Christmas 2021.

This year's wonderful display is a Nutcracker inspired scene that has been a collaborative effort from all staff within the Art Department. Mr Martini built the imposing 3D Nutcracker structures with their aesthetic designed by Mollie G. Mollie, with the help of Alana C, took the lead on painting the two figures whilst Fausta T and Stefania P created and painted the presents, with the rest of the Year 12's on bauble and present wrapping duties. Mr Webb, with the support of his Art students across all year groups, constructed the beautiful blue Christmas tree. As always, Miss Allsop was also on hand throughout, as general fairy godmother of the Art Department overseeing proceedings.

Mollie said, "Helping to design and decorate the nutcrackers was great fun. Working on the large scale 3D structures was difficult but was also really rewarding to see the finished outcome on display."

A fabulous effort by all involved to see this incredible display come together to create such a beautiful final outcome.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Facebook for up-to-date news and events!
Twitter: @prioryruskin Facebook: The Priory Ruskin Academy

DIARY DATE: READING WEEK W/ C 17th January 2022

Every year, on 26th September, the European Day of Languages takes place. This promotes a love of language learning in and out of the academy whilst encouraging tolerance and understanding of different cultures.

Did you know that at The Priory Ruskin Academy there are 21 different languages spoken by our students? In addition, it is not only the MFL department that are plurilingual: Mr Cairns speaks French at home, Dr Corlett speaks Afrikaans, Mr Jeruska speaks Polish and has a GCSE in German while Mr Finch speaks Spanish! We are a very talented community!

During the week, assemblies were held to talk about how important languages are. We also had Key Stage competitions for students to compete both individually and as Tutor groups.

In addition, each House block was decorated with colourful European flag bunting.

Watch this space to see what will be happening next year.

DYSON PROJECT

As part of the BTEC Year 9 Engineering course students have been learning how things work by taking them apart! The Engineering Box is provided by the James Dyson Foundation and has become a popular annual event for the Engineering Department.

The students have enjoyed getting their hands on a real product and improving their practical skills while learning about polycarbonates, polyoxymethylene and acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS). As part of the project they have learned about how plastics are made, the difference between thermoplastics and thermosetting polymers and the sustainability of different polymers.

In future lessons students will learn about the processes which formed the components of the Dyson vacuum cleaner and develop an understanding of product specifications.

House Christmas Lunches

Throughout December, the House Christmas lunches took place. This event is a wonderful opportunity to bring staff and students together in each House to enjoy a two course home cooked Christmas dinner.

The restaurant was packed each day with Ruskin Christmas spirit and a variety of festive attire!

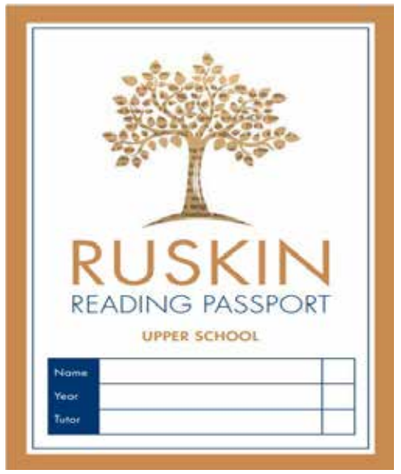
A special thank you goes to the Ruskin catering staff who worked tirelessly to ensure these fantastic festive House events were enjoyed by all.

READING AT RUSKIN

We are delighted to launch the Ruskin Reading Passport. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to record their reading progress and gain rewards in the process.

The Passport will give students the opportunity to log the books they have read and complete activities linked to Ruskin's reading values. Outlined within the Passport are different incentive packages (Bronze to Platinum) depending on commitments and achievements. Activities will contribute towards earning instant prices and rewards.

Students have committed to the programme and many have already completed their bronze award and some have even managed to reach silver. A great achievement!



Mr Flemming, Teacher of English, "It's incredibly important that students read, not only for academic purposes, but to learn and grow as people. The incentive to read is something that can be easily lost nowadays and it's such a shame to see this in students. The new reading passport is an excellent opportunity for all students to find their passion in reading and challenge what they will read moving forward. I think it can rekindle a sense of purpose to reading by giving the opportunity for students to win prizes for their efforts."

Inspiring Author: Sophie Cleverly

We are delighted to announce the arrival of our new 'Book Vending Machine'. The vending machine is linked to the incentive scheme of our recently launched Reading Passport. One of the rewards from the passport will be to allow students to select a book that they will be able to keep.

Mrs Geeson, Reading Room Manager says, "The vending machine will be regularly updated and stocked with new and classic titles that will appeal to all."

Sophie Cleverly, a popular author, visited Ruskin and was pleased to see her titles stocked in the vending machine. Her new novel 'The Violet Veil Mysteries' is a popular choice with many of our students as well as the Scarlet and Ivy series.

During her visit Sophie inspired our Year 8 students as she shared her journey to becoming a writer and explained how she found her inspiration. She also stressed the importance of reading a lot and suggested that everyone should read widely in order to find one's own reading voice.

Students were also given the opportunity to have their books signed which proved very popular.

#ChildrenInNeed2021

Ruskin students and staff dug deep on Friday 19th November and raised over £300 for Children in Need. The Academy held a very busy cake sale, selling plenty of cakes and biscuits at break time.

A big thank you to staff, students and parents for the generous donations.

6th Form News...

Head Boy and Head Girl

Ruskin is delighted to confirm the appointments of our Head Girl and Head Boy 2021 - 2022, at the Academy.

After a selection process Liam W and Ellie M impressed the panel with their motivational ideas, leadership skills and complimentary personalities and have been successful in securing the positons of Head Girl and Head Boy.

Liam is an outstanding role model for all students and excels in his studies whilst Ellie personifies our Ruskin values, particularly of Passion, Curiosity and Wisdom. Other appointments are Jodi W as Deputy Head Girl and Kaan Y as Deputy Head Boy alongside a group of student Senior Leaders to help uphold the Ruskin values across the Academy.

The interview process was very competitive and all candidates did extremely well in their interviews and delivered outstanding presentations. This process is concrete affirmation that at Ruskin we are producing well rounded students who are true citizens of the 21st century. We would like to wish our new Sixth Form leaders the best of luck in their new roles.

Visit to St Wulfram's Church

Sixth Form students enjoyed a photography trip to the fabulous Gaia Exhibition in St. Wulfram's Church on 3rd October.

The display was designed to highlight the dangers of climate change.

The event allowed photography students access to the work of the artist, Luke Jerram, which included a stunning installation that depicted a replica of the earth. This was set inside the stunning interior of the Church.

Students used this opportunity to add to their photography A level portfolios.

The Church also had a selection of displays, stalls and educational exhibits, alongside the art, to highlight how to make positive lifestyle changes.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Ruskin's Sixth Form Open Evening was held on Thursday 18th November. It was incredibly well attended by prospective Sixth Form students and their families. A huge thank you to staff and students who helped make the event a huge success. Presentations by the Headteacher, Sixth Form Lead and Head boy and Girl were given to a packed audience in the Great Hall at 6pm and 7pm.

The deadline for applications has now passed but if you wish to discuss your future options please contact the Sixth Form Lead at: acairns@prioryacademies.co.uk

UCAS UPDATE

After another successful UCAS year, 51 students accepted their university places in Summer 2021.

26 students applied to Russell Group universities with 21 receiving offers. Those that accepted their Russell Group include:

Marni E	University of Leeds, Education
Oliver D	University of York, Interactive Media
Matt C	University of Leeds, Interdisciplinary Science with Foundation Year
Theo B	University of Nottingham, Sport Rehabilitation
Georgina S	University of Liverpool, Veterinary Science
Grace M	University of York, Biology
Ellie A	University of York, History
Max B	University of York, Law
Alfie H	University of Manchester, Criminology
Josh D	University of York, Psychology
Molly T	University of York, Politics with International Relations
Andras S	Durham University, Sport and Exercise Science

Marcel S applied to Cambridge University but was unsuccessful after interview, however, on results day he was eligible to apply for a place at a different College under their 'Adjustment Scheme'.

The cycle has now started again with the current Year 13 cohort. So far, 76 students have set up UCAS accounts and no doubt more will decide to apply before the January deadline.

A GREAT DEBATE!

A team of seven Sixth Form students took part in a debating competition against Caistor Grammar School, debating the motion 'this house would make fines for civil and criminal offences proportionate to the wealth of the individual'. Ruskin took the pro stance. After speakers, Jaynna C, Sam O and Callum O had concluded there arguments the Ruskin 'squad' (which consisted of 4 more scribes) waited with bated breath for an agonising two hours before it was revealed that we had beaten the opposition. The chair made particular praise to Ruskin's use of body language, tone and overall speaking flair.

Ruskin are now through to the next round which will take place next year.

STORY TELLING with Year 13

During Reading Week our Year 13 BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts students performed a series of Storytelling Workshops aimed at the younger students within the academy. Year 7's were treated to a storytelling of Mulan by Avishek G, Year 8's enjoyed Sofia L's darker interpretation of Little Red Riding Hood whilst Jodi W engaged the audience with the story of Robin Hood.

KS4 students were re-told a modern interpretation of one of the most famous fairy tales, Cinderella. Charlotte H delivered this with the focus linked to the basic plot of a young girl who finds herself in difficult circumstances which she valiantly overcomes.

Students were also given time to explore the Reading Room, participate in drama games linked to the theme of storytelling whilst enjoying a selection snacks and drinks!

Year 13's would like to thank members of Ruskin's Drama & Musical Theatre Club who supported them with their market research to prepare for the event.

GRANTHAM FOODBANK

Article by Abby T, Year 12

I've watched news coverage from around the world about the worldwide pandemic over the last 18 months. The impact it has had on families near and far tore at my heartstrings. So many people have lost so much; loved ones, jobs, homes and more. It made me think "what could I do to make one small difference?"

As a child, waking up on 1st December felt just as exciting as going to bed on Christmas Eve. The thought of my advent calendar with its 24 doors, containing chocolates, gave me butterflies in my stomach. Knowing that every day in December I could eat chocolate before breakfast was a real treat! With Christmas fast approaching, I thought I could bring a little sparkle of joy (and chocolate) into family homes.

With the help of my peers, friends and family we collected 114 advent calendars that I took to the local foodbank so they could distribute to children in our community. I would like to wish everyone a joyful and peaceful Christmas time.

SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT

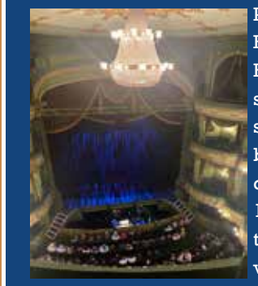
The challenge for our food technician, Mr Esam, was to teach Sixth Form students essential kitchen skills, safety, culinary techniques and food experimentation, in preparation for university life. All dishes were made on budget whilst making nutritional choices to support the enjoyment of food and maintain general health and wellbeing.

Student favourites included Turkish style food, pasta dishes and ragu. As well as having the opportunity to cook they were also taught formal food technology which further developed their skills and knowledge on diet and nutrition.

This six week cookery course forms part of the Sixth Form enrichment programme that runs every Wednesday afternoon. The students are pictured here with their completion certificates – happy cooking!

Performing Arts Trips

Theatres finally re-opened and not a moment was wasted in getting back to live shows. Year 8 kicked off with a trip to The Nottingham Playhouse to see Willy Russell's, 'Blood Brothers'. This spectacular show showcased skills in both literacy and drama studies. Year 11 students were treated to a West End visit, experiencing 'Mamma Mia' at the Novello Theatre in London. It was a great pleasure for students to finally be back experiencing live theatre performances to enhance their learning within the curriculum.



It wasn't just the theatres that re-opened but the Performing Arts colleges have opened their doors too. Year 10 dance enthusiasts were invited to the Midland's Academy of Dance and Drama (MADD), in Nottingham, to undergo training from professionals in the industry. MADD is a college that prides itself on disciplined all round training for the experts of tomorrow. During the visit they experienced what it would like to be a dance student as well as receiving professional dance tuitions.

It wouldn't be Christmas without a pantomime! 2020 pantomime season was a wash out but 2021 was back to normal. Year 7 students spent an afternoon at The Guildhall Arts Centre, embracing some good old fashioned fun to the hilarious pantomime, 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

To close this busy term was a journey to the fictional kingdom of Arendelle, to watch 'Frozen', the West End Musical. With incredible effects, jaw-dropping scenery and all the songs we know and love - this was a stunning end of term experience. This trip was a reward for students in KS3 to KS5 for outstanding commitment and work in the extra-curricular dance clubs over the year.

School Scientist of the Year Awards 2021

The School Scientist of the Year Awards is an annual event recognising and rewarding young people's efforts in Science. The Ceremonies took place over two evenings and were hosted by the University of Lincoln with keynote speakers from the School of Mathematics and Science along with Life Sciences.

20th September was dedicated to the Schools Physicist of the Year followed by School Scientist of the Year on the 21st. Across the two evenings Ruskin saw eight students celebrate their successes with families and guests at the event. Mr Brooks, Teacher of Science, attended the Ceremonies and was proud of the students stepping up to collect their awards. He said,

"these Awards are a great opportunity to celebrate achievements in Science and to recognise students hard work and enthusiasm. Hopefully this will motivate the young people to continue their Science journey."

Award Winners:

Year 10 Physical Sciences	Julia G
Year 12 Physical Sciences	Hubert G
Year 10 Biology	Toby M
Year 12 Biology	Liam W
Year 10 Computer Science	Lexie B
Year 12 Computer Science	Matthew H
Year 10 Chemistry	Emily N
Year 12 Chemistry	Ben A

Huge congratulations to all Ruskin winners and we wish you every success in your future scientific endeavours.

Year 7 Team Bonding Day

On 8th October, Ruskin's first ever Team Bonding Day took place. This event was for Year 7 students with the aim of instilling a sense of being part of a House team as well as engaging with our core Values; Wisdom, Courage, Passion, Generosity and Curiosity.

Each House sat together and it was very hard to decide who cheered the loudest for their teammates, the noise lifted the roof off! Each House team took part in individual games such as building the tallest tower of cards, solving a tarsia puzzle and a card sort. The card sort was completed in perfect silence; the staff supervising the event loved this one!

Arena games of rowing and basketball were also taking place for preselected House teams so a busy afternoon in the Sports Hall was had by all.

It was a fantastic event, the students loved it, their behaviour was exemplary and their enthusiasm was sky-high. It was amazing to see the students pulling together as a team and several asked, 'When can we do it again?'

Many thanks to all the Year 7 students and to all the staff who helped supervise the afternoon.

Oh, and who won? The Green team…well done, Morris!

Results:
1st Morris 21 points
2nd Hockney 20 points
3rd Hepworth 15 points
4th Mackintosh and Knight 11 points

CALLING ALL KEEN SWIMMERS

Diary Date: Rotary Swimarathon—Friday 4th February

Ruskin's Christmas Fayre is back!

2nd December saw the return of Ruskin's Festive Christmas Fayre, signalling the start of the Christmas period. With more vendors and visitors than ever before, the evening was an opportunity to get a head start on Christmas shopping with an abundance of stalls to browse. There was something for everyone, from handmade decorations, to food and drink treats, clothes stall and pet gifts.

A big thank you to all staff and students who assisted on the night, as well as the twenty five plus local businesses who attended the event and helped make it a very successful evening.

The event raised over £900 with proceeds going to The Grantham Passage at this important time of year.

FESTIVE CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

During November our students were invited to show off their artistic flair by designing the artwork that will feature on The Priory Ruskin AcademyChristmas card.

This very popular competition received over 300 outstanding entries across the 5 Houses. The judging panel were looking for something colourful, a vivid imagination, and of course, originality.

Due to the high quality entries the panel initially picked the best 5 from each House, then selected the first place House position and finally the overall winner. The winning artwork was designed by Mya W, Year 10 from Mackintosh House.

Thank you to all who entered and congratulations to the top House designs!

Overall Winner: Mya W, Year 10

EVERYONE CAN DO MATHS: EVERYONE CAN!

BARVEMBER

Ruskin's Maths Department embraced Barvember 2021

During the month of November they provided free resources as part of the Barvember initiative. White Rose Maths are a team of dedicated maths specialists who develop Maths education in both Primary and Secondary settings.

Bar modelling is a method for students to be able to represent problems making them easier to solve. This visual technique is a way to support and understand mathematical concepts.

As part of this initiative, each day in November, 5 mathematical problems and a challenge question were provided by White Rose Maths. This was shared with teachers in Ruskin's Maths Department to be used within their classes across KS3 and 4.

Students embraced these challenges and even shared their work on Instagram, some of which has now been reposted by White Rose Maths as examples of great work.

The highlight was the efforts of a Year 9 class being rewarded with a bar modelling kit prize for using their new skills and working out the weight of a sheep. This has now been made into an interactive display which can be found in the Maths Department.

Careers at Ruskin

Health and Social Care students learn about the life of a GP

Dr Karen Burton, a local General Practitioner visited Health and Social Care lessons to discuss career pathways into medicine and other health related careers. Students, in Years 9, 10 & 12, listened to a presentation and were given the opportunity to ask lots of questions about her experiences and her journey along with others questions relating to the variety of careers in the Health and Social Care sector. This visit has hopefully given the Year 12 students lots of information to help them with their UCAS applications next year, at the same time helping and inspiring the younger students with their future career choices and maybe even their A Level options. It was a real pleasure to have Dr Burton visit the Academy to speak to the students about her work.

Careers Meetings

Year 11 and 12 students are in the process of receiving their one to one careers interviews with a professionally qualified careers advisor.

This meetings are to help and support students to feel confident about choices and decisions on their journey to finding a positive career pathway. Support is provided to identify personal skills, explore interests and discover future opportunities.

Year 10 students will be receiving their interviews during the summer term.

Ruskin Careers Team:

Careers Lead:	Mr R Johnston
Careers Officer:	Miss L Pexton
Careers Advisor:	Mrs R Stephenson

The Ruskin Careers team are located upstairs in Mackintosh House block.

Year 12: University Fair

On Tuesday 3rd November, Year 12 students took a trip to the Leicester King Power Station for a university fair followed by a visit to De Montfort University.

Students had the opportunity to explore and speak directly to representatives from a variety of universities. It allowed them to talk to specialist people about their career aspirations and gain advice on potential pathways. Presentations on Student Finance and Personal Statements were also available to attend.

Students left the fair feeling well informed about future decisions and what to expect with university criteria, choices and entry requirements.

As well as the university fair, a whistle stop tour of De Montfort University was included, looking at the different courses and facilities it had to offer. The final destination was to visit the Food Court on campus where a variety of different foods were on offer!

Miss Pexton, Communications and Careers Officer said, "the trip was the first insight a lot of our students have had of university life and ignited excitable conversations about post 18 education and choices."

UK university search

YEAR 13 UNIVERSITY VISIT

On Wednesday 8th December, Year 13 students visited the University of Lincoln. On arrival to the striking city centre campus, students were given the opportunity to meet student ambassadors to guide them to the many courses available and to get a sense of what it's like to be a student at the University of Lincoln.

They could enjoy a guided tour of the stunning waterfront campus, visit academic facilities, accommodation and meet with academic staff and undergraduates from subject areas.

Meeting the tutors and speaking to expert staff gave students the chance to discuss things that matter to them on an individual basis. This trip has helped to understand pathways that may await them after their Sixth Form studies, They also managed a little Christmas shopping exploring the city of Lincoln!

OXFORD STEP-UP

The morning of Friday 3rd December, approximately 20 Ruskin students, participated in the first of a trilogy of meetings with representatives from Oxford University.

The aim of the workshop was to inspire Ruskin students to aim for the best universities in the country as well as aiding them in the process. The session provided an insight on the cultural phenom's of the university as well as details on accommodation, how to make a competitive application to highly selective universities and barriers that might stand in the way of students applying.

This is the first of many, very exciting opportunities for students to engage in and gain an understanding on the admissions process to top-level universities, such as Oxbridge and the Russell Group.

LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE EVENT

Year 12 Health & Social Care students visited Lincoln University on Wednesday 24th November with an aim of helping to support potential future careers choices.

Staff from the NHS and care organisations across the county showcased the vast range of healthcare careers currently available in an effort to help 'grow our own' talent in Lincolnshire. The event consisted of market style stands managed by various health professionals advocating their specific roles to give expert advice and guidance to the visiting students. Careers available to explore included: mental health, nursing, ambulance and paramedic, dementia care, radiotherapy, clinical engineering, infection control and many more. There were also representatives from different education and training providers on hand to explain different pathways and entry requirements into the various careers. This included details of current job opportunities, including apprenticeships from employers across the sector.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the event, gaining knowledge which will help them to decide on future career choices within the Health and Social Care sector. Miss Wright was asked what she would like to be when she leaves school which definitely boosted her self-esteem no end!

Student Finance

On Monday 29th November, students in Year12 and 13 were invited to learn more about university life, funding and living costs. Lewis Clarke, Communications, Development and Marketing Officer from the University of Lincoln delivered a presentation offering comprehensive information and advice on all aspects of student finance.

After the presentation, all students participated in a question and answer session with an opportunity to talk, with Lewis, one to one at the end of the event.

Going to university is a life changing step and we do our best to ensure Ruskin students are making well informed decisions about post 18 options. To support this, many more events will be offered during Sixth Form, including personal statement writing, interview skills and university campus visits.

Magic of Christmas Jumper Day

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day is now in its 10th year, so we were celebrating a pretty BIG milestone!

This beloved festive tradition is now a firm favourite in the Ruskin calendar for both staff and students. We all dug out last year's jumpers, added tinsel to our boring old ones or visited local shops to purchase a new festive show pieces to allow us to take part in the fun on Friday 10th December.

Generous donations were made which amounted to the grand total of over £600. A great effort Ruskin!

This event always adds to the Academy's festivities whilst supporting a wonderful cause and contributing to the vital work with children across the UK.

#LestWeForget

On Remembrance Day at 11am, staff and students stood in silence to honour members of the armed forces who died in the line of duty. Cadets marched with order and dignity with Stanley P, Year 12, calling the entire parade to attention.

Ms Wyles, Headteacher, paid tribute to those who had fought and sacrificed their lives across conflicts, whilst the Head Boy and Girl read poems.

Once again students and staff showed their support for the cause by wearing poppies and raising money that will go towards supporting the Royal British Legion.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

25th - 28th November

As part of our work with the local community, Mrs Geeson, Reading Room and Community Manager, arranged for Ruskin to sponsor a tree in the recent Christmas Tree Festival at St Wulfram's Church.

A small group of staff were involved in helping Mrs Geeson with the planning; Miss Popper, Miss Allsop and Mrs Quine. They chose a Nutcracker theme, with characters from the ballet representing the Ruskin Values:

Curiosity - Clara
Courage – The Nutcracker
Generosity – Drosselmeyer
Passion – The Sugar Plum Fairy
Wisdom – The Snow Queen

Students helped to create and paint decorations and a small selected group accompanied Mrs Geeson to the church to decorate the tree and assemble the display. The crowning glory was a colourful nutcracker figure to adorn the top of the tree, made by Miss Allsop.

The students also had the opportunity to view an impressive installation of life-size paper angel sculptures, created by the church's artist in residence, Anne-Marie Kerr.

Our display was very well-received by visitors and received lots of positive feedback. A big well done to all those involved! The display has now transferred to Student Reception for staff and students to enjoy in the countdown to Christmas.

ROTARY SHOEBOX APPEAL

Ruskin students supported the annual Rotary Shoebox Appeal again this year. Working in Form groups students all contributed to a box with specific donations for either boys, girls, babies or teenagers. For many recipients, the gift of a shoebox will be the first present that they have ever received and it lets them know somewhere, somebody cares.

Pictured are Student Council members who lead on this project for their House.

The Rotary club said that they are always overwhelmed by our dedication to this charity and would like to thank Ruskin students, parents and staff.

Sports Digest Christmas 2021

What a term for The Priory Ruskin Academy! We have seen great individual and team success across of number of sports.

Across all year groups, netball has over sixty girls who regularly attend extra-curricular clubs; this has enabled us to field an impressive 13 teams this year! All have performed exceptionally well in the district tournaments with our Year 7 and 9 teams finishing in 3rd place. A number of 'friendlies' have taken place; we have won against St George's and Belvoir and lost against KGGS and Belvoir. Students in Year 9 and above have had the opportunity to play against established adult County and local league teams in midweek fixtures. These matches have helped the squads to improve their skills by playing these tougher experienced players.

All Ruskin netball squads have made a great start to the netball season and we look forward to their successes next season.

A number of opportunities have been offered this year for competition football. All year groups are competing in the National Cup, County Cup and District Leagues. The majority of games this term have been in the ESFA National Cup and after the Christmas break the County Cups and District Leagues will be in full swing. We wish all teams the best of luck.

2021 Tennis Competitions have now come to a close. After qualifying from the County round of the LTA Youth Schools competition in the Summer term, the U16 Boys' tennis team played their regional round against Repton Independent School. This was a great experience as the Ruskin team would get the opportunity to play at a top class tennis facility and compete against a team that has won the National Competition numerous times. Our boys did exceptionally well and fought hard in a very competitive set of matches. Despite all their efforts, Repton won all matches. However, all matches saw Ruskin take between 3 and 5 games. Well done to Alex H, Joshua H, James T and Harry C on a great run in this prestigious competition.

Cross Country has resumed again and for the first time in two years Ruskin runners have been back on the cross country tracks. The District Schools Cross Country Championships held at Belton House proved to be a great success. In the team event, schools compete to gain points for their first 6 runners' home. With 8 competing schools, Ruskin finished in the following positions: Year 7 Girls: 3rd Year 7 Boys: 2nd Junior Girls: 6th Junior Boys: 4th Inter Girls: 4th Inter Boys: 2nd

Individually, a large number of Ruskin students qualified for the district team to compete at the County Schools Championships on Saturday 15th January by finishing in the top 20:

Year 7 Girls:
Isla M (4th), Serenity-Louise V (6th), Kyrah E (15th), Mia S (19th)

Year 7 Boys:
William M (2nd), Ben J (9th), Matthew J (14th), John S (16th), Austin S (18th)

Junior Boys:
Hayden W (2nd), Connor W (3rd), Jacob F (14th)

Inter Girls:
Sophie T (7th)

Inter Boys:
Jake W (11th), Carl B (16th), Jack C (17th), Jake B (19th)

In rugby, we have been competing in a series of central venue fixtures taking place at Kesteven and Newark Rugby Clubs. These events have been a huge success with more and more students keen to be involved in the sport. Since returning to contact rugby we have been impressed with the progress all our teams have made. A special mention must go to the Year 10's who have made an impressive start by winning every game; a form we are hoping to keep for the rest of the season.

Weekly Basketball training with Mr Cairns and a number of Sixth Form BTEC Level 3 Sports Students, has been popular this term. Teams for U14's and U16's have been entered into the Lincolnshire Schools League with their first fixture being drawn against Carre's Grammar School. Both teams performed exceptionally well but on this occasion the opposition was too strong but with continued hard work and commitment we are confident of bringing home their first win in the very near future.

Badminton club has again been exceptionally popular with students practicing before and after school and lunchtimes in preparation for the upcoming County tournaments. We have played a series of friendlies against Bourne Grammar and are pleased to report that the teams are looking very strong and we aim to be dominant in these fixtures.

RUSKIN
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ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

KEY DIARY DATES FOR SPRING TERM 2022

Students Involved	Date	Event
All Staff	4th January	Staff Training Day
All Students	5th January	All Students Return (Week A)
Year 11	7th - 12th January	Mock Examinations
All	w/c 17th January	Reading Week
Years 12 & 13	17th—28th January	Mock Examinations
Year 9	19th January	Teen Booster and MenACWY vaccinations
Year 12	27th January	Oxford University Trip
Years 11 & 13	1st February	London Galleries Trip
Years 12 &13`	2nd February	London Cultural Trip
All	3rd February	PSHE Day
All	4th February	Swimarathon
Year 11	10th February	GCSE Performing Arts Exam
Year 13	10th February	Parents Evening
All	11th February	Last Day of Term
All	21st February	All Return (Week A)
Year 8	24th February	Parents Evening
Year 11	2nd March	Performing Arts Exam
All	w/c 7th March	Reading Week
All	7th March	The Great Big Dance Off
Years 12 & 13	8th—10th March	Performing Arts Trips to London
Year 11	15th March	GCSE Performing Arts Exam
Year 12	17th March	Parents Evening
Year 11	23rd March	GCSE Performing Arts Exam
Year 12	23rd March	UCAS Exhibition, Lincoln
Year 12	25th March	Oxbridge Conference—LSST
All	1st April	Break up for Easter Holiday

• Wisdom • Curiosity • Generosity • Courage • Passion