

 RUSKIN
A PRIORY ACADEMY
ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2022 Community and SMSC

A message from the Headteacher...

Welcome to our final newsletter of the academic year. After so many restrictions on our lives during the pandemic, it was great to start in September with a return to normal, a great deal more liberty to spend time with friends and family and routines being re-established within the academy.

We particularly missed the “added extras” of school life, so it has been wonderful to return to the traditions of summer term, full of events such as sports day, rewards trips, open days and transition visits for our new year 7.

We have also said a fond farewell to our year 13 and 11 students this term; they really have shown their resilience in the face of challenge, and I wish them all the very best as they continue to the next stage of their journey. This year, we will also be wishing our very best to two members of the senior team. Mrs Rossington, who has led personal development and enrichment with such creativity and energy is retiring. Also, the incredibly talented Mr Key, our deputy headteacher, who will be taking on the headship at our sister school, Priory Witham, in September.

This term has ended with an extraordinary heatwave; staff, students, parents and carers have been hugely supportive throughout, showing great flexibility and resilience; Ruskin tends to have a rather indomitable team spirit which gets us through challenges! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents, carers, staff and students for their continued support and making Ruskin such an incredibly special place. I hope you all have a wonderful summer, and look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

Ms Wyles

A Picnic fit for the Queen



The Priory Ruskin Academy pulled out all the stops to celebrate our wonderful Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Our Queen has become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, so we wanted to mark this milestone.

On Friday 27th May, Ruskin held a summer picnic- style lunch at the academy. The picnic feast consisted of

Great British treats from pork pies and scones to traditional triangle sandwiches. The academy was ‘royally ready’ thanks to our amazing creative staff who went all out and decked out the house blocks with traditional and classic colours.

From Platinum Jubilee flags, red, white and blue bunting and tablecloths..... we were ready to celebrate this historic occasion.



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

Twitter: @prioryruskin Facebook: The Priory Ruskin Academy



Letter to the Queen

2022 had one major talking point this spring: The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Her Majesty has celebrated seventy years on the throne, making her the longest serving monarch in our history. In honour of the occasion, students in Years 7-9 were set a challenge; to write a 100 word letter to the Queen, praising her for this outstanding achievement.

The students took up the challenge and have produced some amazing pieces of writing. They also had to follow a strict writing protocol. The letters discussed many historical events written by the Queen, including England winning the World Cup in 1966, the creation of the internet and the breakthrough of COVID-19 vaccinations.

Having read and sorted through dozens of entries, the following students had their letters sent to the Queen.

Congratulations on your amazing efforts!

Myles B (Y9)

Logan G (Y7)

Austin S (Y7)



Logan G's entry:

Madam

Many congratulations your Majesty, on the celebration of your Platinum Jubilee. This has come after your Silver Jubilee in 1977 and your Golden Jubilee in 2002.

During your time on the throne many amazing events have happened in Britain. These include in 1979 Margaret Thatcher becoming the first female Prime Minister of the UK. Pope John Paul II was the first Pope to visit the UK in 1982. But the biggest event for you as the Queen was the voting of Brexit on 31 January 2020 which saw the Withdrawal of the UK from the EU. We hope for good things for our country from this.

Your travels have also taken you to 110 countries across 6 continents, but no nation admires and appreciates you more than us here in Britain.

I have the honour to be, Madam, your Majesty's humble and obedient servant.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme is a life-changing adventure. It's all about going the extra mile. You learn new skills, broaden your horizons and make a difference whilst forming new friendship groups. DofE aims to teach the core subjects in life: team building, resilience, confidence and never giving up!



A selection of Ruskin students have successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, by undertaking a variety of activities in volunteering and skills based activities. This typically takes 3 to 6 months.



The group also attended a two-day expedition at Rutland water, where they used OS maps to navigate around the reservoir. Overall, a really amazing experience whilst having a brilliant time doing it. Well done!

Glitz and Glamour comes to Ruskin

On Monday 23rd May, Robin Windsor, a former dance professional from BBC's Strictly Come Dancing, waltzed into The Priory Ruskin Academy leading our students through a series of dance workshops and motivational talks.

The dance workshops were offered to students of mixed year groups; students really enjoyed learning from a variety of dance genres including the charleston and the jive. The jive choreography was taken directly from the audition process from 'Burn the Floor' which is about to tour the country once more. Our students were familiarised with the etiquette and demands of a professional audition process, including the speed that choreography is taught and remembered!

Robin's high energy and infectious passion for dance had everyone on the feet smiling and dancing with confidence. A fantastic time was had by all as he shared his expertise and enthusiasm for dance.



Our Year 12 students were also delighted to meet Robin as he delivered a motivational talk about his life journey, his struggles and his greatest love – dance!



Harry Potter World

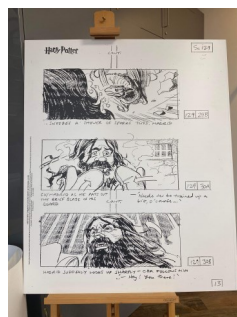
On the 22nd April, Year 7 students went on a magical trip to the Warner Bros. Studios in Watford, London.

There were some unique experiences that included a guided tour as well as interacting with real-life sets in the Great Hall and Gringotts Bank.

Students also had the chance to learn skills from professional costume makers in a privately led lesson at the studio education centre.

Highlights of the day were seeing real animatronics come to life and having the opportunity to ride a broomstick!

It was a wonderful day and most definitely, a trip to remember. We cannot wait to return.



HOCKNEY'S EYE

During the spring term Sixth Form students visited Cambridge to explore the David Hockney exhibition at The Fitzwilliam Museum. David Hockney is known as one of the most influential artists of our time and students were inspired by Hockney's drawings, paintings and digital artworks.

Mollie G, Y12 said, 'I really enjoyed the trip because it gave us an opportunity to have a close up look at some of Hockney's work. We enjoyed looking around the museum which was also full of other artists work. I found it beneficial to my studies as I was able to view some art that uses 'symbolism'. We also had chance to explore the city and look in some interesting shops, including a Harry Potter store!'



FAREWELL YEAR 13

The Year 13 leavers celebrated their achievements with a memorable afternoon of fun and games organised by staff from the sixth form team.

There was plenty to reflect upon, with many students having been at the academy since Year 7. There was laughter and tears during the emotional afternoon. Everyone at Ruskin wishes students the very best of luck ... it really is an exciting world so be sure to grab hold of all the opportunities you can!



WISEUP!

The final enrichment session of the academic year was a fun packed multi-activity afternoon facilitated by the team building company, WiseUp. The emphases of the outdoor challenges included resilience, communications and effective collaboration.

Students enjoyed trying to decipher their way through the obstacles whilst competing against each other.

This visit forms part of a fantastic programme of enrichment opportunities on offer to Ruskin Sixth Form students. The platform is a brilliant way to broaden experiences, expand your confidence and make new friends.



COMING SOON—OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUDDING JOURNALISTS!

From September, Sixth Form students will be producing their own newsletter talking about issues that are important to them.

If you would like to be involved please talk to Mrs Jackson

Artisan Makers Market



On Thursday 9th June, Ruskin hosted their first ever Artisan and Makers Market. Following in the footsteps of the ever successful Festive Fayre, the Artisan Makers Market was an opportunity for local makers and creators to come together and offer a delightful range of delicious treats, beautiful artworks and charming crafts.

Ruskin students did a superb job in representing the academy. Stallholders were particularly impressed with our CCF students who assisted with setting up of the stalls and by the student helpers who were there to assist with logistics. Alongside this, visitors to the event were welcomed to the market with the sound of beautiful piano music played by the incredibly talented Ella T (Y11).

The event was a huge success and raised a total of £510, which the art department will be using to create community artworks with our students.



Egg-cellent Competition

During the spring term, the science department held a competition during tutor time to design and grow the most unique cress heads. This competition provided an opportunity for a fun, cross-curricular project that was carried out in classrooms, combining Health and Well-being, Science and Technology.

There were over 250 entries across the academy, with some very creative submissions.

Student winners:

1 st place	Tia W (Y10) Italia M (Y10)
2 nd Place	Peyton-Leigh S (Y8) & Mariana A (Y8)
3 rd Place	Lydia B (Y7)

Staff winners:

1 st Place	Mr Webb
2 nd Place	Miss Pickering



3rd





CCF UPDATE



Report by Alex R (Yr12)

- ◆ 40 new Year 8 recruits have joined the Priory Ruskin CCF. They are now beginning their first year in the Cadet training course and will begin their cadet careers with the blue DofE initial expedition training.
- ◆ Year 9 cadets have advanced onto their second year currently continuing the leadership course and soon moving onto further expedition training.
- ◆ Lance Corporal Jacob M (Y12) has been awarded a yellow lanyard for completing his MOI for leading a full presentation and earning the ability to train and teach other cadets.
- ◆ Year 9 cadets have received 5 brassard badges
- ◆ During the Easter holiday, FS Pocock (Y12) successfully completed the Silver Gliding Scholarship at RAF Syerston, with 644 VGS. Demonstrating courage and passion, he earned his wings after 9 days of training and a solo flight to top it off. (pictures attached)
- ◆ Lcpl Levick (Y12) is now teaching our new Cadet recruits the drills and will be continuing to work them further through the year (supervised by FS Pocock).



Ruskin supports

Ruskin is always keen to support local charities. We are delighted this term to be able to contribute to the following:

The Children's Bereavement Centre - to support those children at one of the most traumatic time in their lives.

Edan Lincs – Ending Domestic Violence.

Lu Webb, Outreach Manager, was delighted to collect several boxes of



donations containing small items of toiletries. These were collected when we celebrated International Woman's Day in March

Trade Aid – Giving a Hand up not a hand out.

We delivered boxes packed with books that we no longer require from the Languages, Health and Social Care and Child Development departments.



West End Reward Trip—Matilda

As a result of achieving platinum in the Reading Passport, KS3 students were awarded with a visit to the West End, London to see the award-winning musical 'Matilda'. In order to achieve platinum you have to complete at least 20 reading related activities according to the books they have read over this academic year. This is a phenomenal accomplishment in the span of just one year. As an academy, we are proud of everyone that attended the trip as we believe their success needs to be celebrated.



Year 11 Prom is back!

The Year 11 prom was at Stoke Rochford Hall on Friday 24th June. Students were treated to a 3 course meal and some unforgettable dancing from their teachers! Girls were wearing elegant ball gowns and the boys looked dapper in their suits.

The much anticipated awards saw Christian C and Ella T receiving the most votes to be crowned Prom King and Queen. A great evening was enjoyed by all.

Have a wonderful summer break, Year 11, and we wish you all the best in your next steps.

Good luck.....

it has been a pleasure.



Careers at Ruskin

Engineering Day in Grantham

On Thursday 7th July Year 10 Engineering students participated in the first ever National Manufacturing Day. Grantham based Engineering and Manufacturing businesses opened their doors to local schools in order to highlight opportunities within the town for engineering careers and apprenticeships.

The seven local businesses (BGB, Viking Signs, Iconic, Grantham Engineering, Pentangle Engineering, Harlaxton Engineering and DLS Plastics) held short presentations together with a tour of their manufacturing facilities throughout the day along with visits to individual sites.

The aim is to encourage more young adults into a career within the manufacturing sector and promote the wealth of engineering diversity that the town offers.

Clare Hall, Marketing Manager, Grantham Engineering commented that it was a real pleasure welcoming Ruskin Students and that, 'they were the most engaged students they had seen all day. Their energy and ability to want to ask questions and challenge was great to see.' We look forward to being involved in this event again next year.



Careers Overview 2021/22

The Careers team have had a busy year rolling out their programme of workshops and events across the Academy. Below is a document, from our website, that gives a comprehensive look at the careers provision in each year group designed around the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks.

- 1 A stable careers programme
- 2 Learning from the labour market information
- 3 Addressing the needs of every pupil
- 4 Linking curriculum learning to careers
- 5 Encounters with employers and employees
- 6 Experiences of workplaces
- 7 Encounters with further and higher education
- 8 Personal guidance

Please click here: [PowerPoint Presentation \(prioryruskin.co.uk\)](https://prioryruskin.co.uk)

Step-Up Programme

Year 12 students attended step 3 of the 'Step-Up' programme on Monday 6th June. This initiative aims to ensure that students of high academic potential recognise Oxford as a realistic option.

This session was to get students talking and writing about their favourite subject—a good introduction to interviews and personal statement writing. Analytical reading and critical thinking skills were also covered. We look forward to continuing our work with New College, Oxford.

Careers Meetings

During the Summer term all Year 10 students received a one to one careers interview with a professionally qualified careers advisor.

This support helps students feel confident about choices and decisions on their journey to finding a positive career pathway.

Further support will be provided during Year 11.

SPORTS DAY 2022



This year proved to be another fun-packed Sports Day held at the Grantham Meres Sports Stadium. The sun was shining, the crowds were cheering and the competitors were going all-out to win points for their House.

It was great to have the whole school back at the Meres for this annual event and there were a number of excellent performances undertaken by our very talented students.

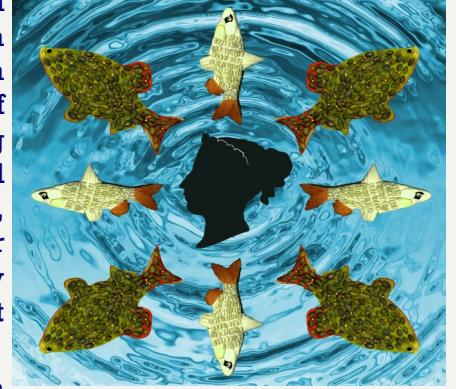
Well done to Knight House on winning the team event, and well done to every single member of The Priory Ruskin Academy who competed or supported the event. All round, it was a very successful day.



RIVER OF HOPE



The Thames Festival Trust announced a countrywide schools competition to design a flag for the Jubilee pageant. The Queen is a champion for the countryside, so the brief was River of Hope, an art based learning project linking schools around the world through the study of rivers. Mrs Quine, Strategic Student Support Lead, tasked her art group with this project. The design by Madeleine B (Y7) and Logan E (Y9) was sent off to London to be judged.



Their flag, based on local fish, was chosen along with 199 others to be shown in the pageant. A great result considering there were thousands of entries! Well done Madeleine and Logan!

HOCKNEY SUPERSTARS

ART SUCCESS

The wonderfully talented Jack B (Y7) has achieved ultimate art success! Jack's work has been selected to be displayed in the Royal Academy of Arts for their Summer Exhibition. This is a huge triumph for Jack as he has invested a lot of time and hard work into developing his artistic skills both in and outside of school.

Well done Jack!



WINNING BAKES

Daniel Lupton (Y7) recently took part in the Barrowby Village Baking Competition. He entered the 11-18 year old category and won! All who tried them will agree how fantastic the Platinum Jubilee themed bakes were.

Bravo Daniel!



CHARITY FUNDRAISING

Throughout the month of May, Logan G (Y7) and his younger sister completed an entire triathlon. Between them, they ran 26.2 miles, cycled 26.2 miles and swam over 750m. As a result of their hard work and dedication, they managed to raise a whopping £486 for the Royal National Institute of Blind People. This has enabled Logan to achieve three Ruskin Respects badges; Passion, Courage and Curiosity.

Brilliant work Logan!



RACE FOR LIFE SUCCESS

On the 12th June, Caitlin M (Y8) ran 5K to raise money for Cancer Research. She chose to dedicate the race towards her Grandma. Well done for doing something so brilliant Caitlin.

Keep up the good work!



Geography visit to Hunstanton

Year10 GCSE Geography students visited Hunstanton on 29th and 30th June, to investigate sand dune succession. The students worked really well and for some it was their first time visiting sand dunes and their first time doing fieldwork! After a hard morning of work, with mixed British weather to contend with, the geographers had the opportunity to enjoy a seaside lunch.

A fantastic fieldtrip provided students with further knowledge for their GCSE coursework folders.



THE SPORTS PAGE



FEATURE OF THE TERM:

The boys tennis team from Years 9 & 10 performed exceptionally well in the Lincolnshire LTA league. After playing matches against Kings, Horncastle Grammar and Boston Grammar, Ruskin triumphed as the champions of Lincolnshire! We have now qualified for the regional finals where matches will take place at the start of the next academic year. An outstanding achievement! Team: Joshua H, James T, Henry P, James W, Noah Q & John S.



RESULTS FROM THIS TERM:

Tennis: Ruskin's 'Play your way to Wimbledon' had an entry of 24 boys. The 2 finalists were John S (Y7) and James T (Y10), with James emerging as the winner, with a final score of 6-2. Ruskin entered 2 boys teams in the division one and 1 girls team in the division two of the Lincolnshire LTA Leagues. All teams represented the Academy extremely well and we look forward to their future development.

Athletics: Ruskin students competed in the Track and Field Championships and cup competitions. The junior and inter boys team both qualified for the regional B finals of the Track and Field Cup, with the Junior team finishing in a very respectable 3rd position. In the Track and Field Championships we had 18 students selected to represent the District at the County competition.

Well done to all involved.

Cricket: the U15 team managed to reach the quarter finals of the County Cup Competition knocking out William Farr before losing in a tight game to Queen Elizabeth High School, Gainsborough. The U13 team made it to the last 16, losing to William Farr.

Over the term we also played a number of friendly matches, noticeably one against Carres Grammer, Sleaford where Ruskin lost a very tight game in the last over.

Waterpolo: The first ever Ruskin water polo team competed in the Regional Cadet Competition in Northampton. Year 7 and 8 students played against 4 Independent Schools in the B league. We put in a fantastic performance and gained valuable match experience.

Our overall performance was: Win -1, Draw—2, Lose - 1

Rounders: Year 8 girls played their first ever district tournament resulting in 1 win, 1 loss and 1 draw. Year 9 girls won their district tournament, beating KGGS 8.5 – 5 and Sleaford High 9 – 5.5.

The Year 7/8 boys team and the Year 9 boys teams travelled to St George's and came away with 2 losses and 2 wins.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tennis: Yrs 9 & 10 boys regional finals in September.

Football: Boys and girls football will return to training and competition in September. The girls team will be entering the new 'Sister in Sport' Cup competitions.

Rugby: Boys and girls will commence training and fixtures in September. Each Wednesday will see a team travel to Newark Rugby Club for year group festivals as well other individual fixtures.

Netball: The girls netball training and leagues will begin with the addition of 'Sisters in Sport' Cup competitions across all year groups.

Badminton/Table Tennis: Extra curricular offering of these net sports to return in the refurbished sports complex,



KEY DIARY DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM 2022

Date	Event	Students Involved
5 September	First day of Term	All Students
15 September	Photograph Day	All Students
21 September	Lincoln University visit	Year 13 Sport Students
w/c 26 September	Reading Week	All Students
29 September	Tutor Evening / Learning Eve (KS3)	Year 7
30 September	MacMillan Coffee Morning	All Students
4 October	PD Day	All Students
6 October	Learning Evening (KS4)	Year 11
7 October	University & Apprenticeship Fair	Year 12
20 October	Sixth Form Open Evening	Year 11
21 October	Last Day of Term	All Students
31 October	First Day of Term	All Students
w/c 7 November	Mock Examinations	Year 11
9 November	Health and Care Careers Event	Year 12 H&SC Students
11 November	Remembrance Parade	All Students
11 – 18 November	Safari Trip	
w/c 14 November	Mock Examinations	Year 11
w/c 14 November	Reading Week	All Students
16 November	Grantham Flower Club Event	All Welcome
21 November	Performing Arts Practical Exam	Year 11
24 November	Parents' Evening	Year 7
29 November	Wreath Making Night	All Welcome
6 – 8 November	Disneyland Paris visit	
8 November	Parents' Evening	Year 11
7 December	PD Day	All Students
1 December	Ruskin Festive Fayre	All Students
16 December	Last Day of Term	All Students