The Priory Ruskin Academy Newsletter

April 2014

Headmaster's Report

Dear Parents/Carers

As another very busy term draws to a close, we are anxiously awaiting the big move into the new building. The first day back after Easter, Wednesday 23rd April, will be (hopefully!) a normal day, with students during period 1 and 2 acclimatising to the new surroundings. There will be some disruption with parking, so please could I request that no students are picked up from the front of the Academy.

Students have made excellent progress this term and with the Year 11 exams coming up we are more than ever stretching and challenging students to achieve their full potential. We recently had a Year 7 and 8 consultation evening, looking at making the Key Stage 4 three years opposed to two (this means students will start their GCSEs in Year 9). This was a very positive evening and over the past two weeks, over 400 parents have attended Options evening.

As ever your support is crucial and materials found on our website (which is due to be relaunched after Easter) will aid you in helping your son or daughter's learning at home please go to our website and click on the revision badge:

http://www.prioryacademies.co.uk

Our vision is to be an outstanding Academy in the next two years. We are very close to achieving this accolade and could not do this without your continued support.

Have a good Easter

Mr Clive Shepherd Headmaster



Visual Arts and Sports Excellence

Top Stories this Term!....



















At and Design Extended Homework



The Art department were blown away this morning when Joe Carter (8P1) brought in his amazing extended art homework on Masks. Well Done Joe!



Adana Design

STUDENT WORK GALLERY

Some of our fantastic work by our very talented students from this year so far!



Joe Brighten Yr 9



Dominik Niewiadomski Yr 10



Scott Haywood Yr 10



Joe Mayes Yr 7



Ginny Fenton Yr 9



Billy Churcher Yr 10



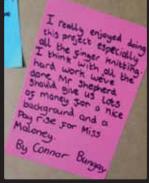
Yorkshire Sculpture Park as an enrichment opportunity where they viewed famous sculptures from the likes of Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Anthony Gormely and had the chance to create their own on the day.

The students are now working on their own Hepworth inspired sculptures.









Miss Maloney's year 7P2 have created a beautiful hamsa hand based on the style and culture of Mehndi and India. The hand stands at over 5 foot and has been painted, stitched and embellished.

Visit our art and design website-

www.prioryruskinartanddesign.co.uk to keep upto date with our department and be first to know about day trips and overseas visits - including our new one to Paris in October 2014!



Standard Community



Gregory House

Mrs Spencer

Gregory House is registered for thirty-two residents and offers a team of skilled and friendly carers, able to provide care for older people, while also welcoming respite and day care needs.

For 7 years Mrs Spencer in the Fashion Department at the Priory Ruskin Academy has been working with the residents turning their Silk Paintings into 'keepsake cushions'. She has involved students in helping with the machining and construction.

These cushions are often treasured memories for the families when they lose a loved one.

Photography Trip

Mrs Renshaw-Turner

GCSE Photography students went to the Yorkshire Wildlife park. Students spent the day photographing the huge variety of animals that are there, as part of their GCSE

Photography coursework portfolios.

It was a fabulous day, lots of great images taken



Mr Martini was not impressed when students started taking photos of him having his lunch...

Phew!

the exam is over

GCSE Fashion students completed their exam on Friday 21st March and Monday 24th March. It was a long stressful 6 weeks ending with a high pressure two day exam. The students did really well completing some excellent fashion work. The ten Hour GCSE Art exam will be held on Friday 28th March.





PAYTON'S PHOTO WINS!

Year 10 GCSE Photography student Payton Brown, was one of the 5 winners of the LINCS FM Wrates Young Photographer of the Year competition. Payton took this photo of a bike and winners were announced live on Lincs FM. The winning photos are displayed on their website. The theme was 'School Life' and Payton took her image during a school photography lesson.

Her prize consists of two canvases of the photo, one for Payton and one for the school plus a 'Studio style' photography lesson for her class given by Wrates Photography on Friday 14th march.







MR. THOMAS & MR. COPPIN ON TOUR WITH LAWSON! O

Music Tuition Week

Miss Haywood

On Tuesday 25th February, Y7 - 10 were treated to an assembly which included a live music performance by our singing teacher, Mr Andy Thomas and our drum teacher, Mr Peter Coppin. They played a song called 'A Thousand Miles' and then shared some of their experiences as musicians which included going on tour with McFly and Lawson!

The theme of the assembly was to highlight how rewarding playing a musical instrument or singing can be and to share with students the opportunities that being a musician can offer in life.

As part of the week, we also had 'Meet the Teacher' sessions at break times with Mr Copsey on guitar, Mr Coppin on drums, Mr. Thomas for singing and Mr Viles for piano, woodwind and brass. This proved to be very popular and

lots of students came to try out an instrument or sing with the teachers and have decided to give it a go!

If you are interested in learning to play a musical instrument or sing, please come and talk to any of the Performing Arts staff and pick up some information!

Miss Haywood Head of Performing Arts



Priory Ruskin Full Choir

Mrs Rossington

At The Priory Ruskin Academy, we are really proud of our ever growing full choir. The choir is for anybody who loves to sing and is willing to work with a group of energetic, dedicated and enthusiastic students.

There are over 50 students who meet up once a week in the music room and sing for fun with Mrs Rossington on Tuesday lunchtimes at 12.40pm. At the moment, the choir are learning songs in preparation for the launch of the new build. They sing a range of styles and are learning to sing in 3 part harmony. What a joy to listen to! Once we move into the new build, the aim for the Academy is to have a KS4/5 choir. Anybody who is interested in joining the full choir should speak to Mrs Rossington, Assistant Headteacher; she is always pleased to welcome new members - including staff!

INSPIRED BY....

On Tuesday 11th February, the Y10 and Y11 Performing Arts students gave a short, informal performance exclusively for their parents and families in the Drama studio.

The title of the performance was 'Inspired by...' and the students used professional performers or an experience that they had had in their lessons or with the performing arts industry as their starting point.

Their inspiration included George Sampson, the Performing Arts trip to see 'Wicked' in the West End and the trip to MADD (Midlands Academy of Dance & Drama). The performance was all part of their coursework and they had to work together as a production company to plan, rehearse and organise all aspects of the performance including front of house, sound, lighting, health & safety and the performance running order.





Year 10 Boys Performing a dance routine to 'Right Here, Right Now' by Fat Boy Slim and 'Inspired by' their Skill Development lessons on Dance. The acts included a variety of disciplines including singing, dancing, acting and live music.

The finale was a Musical Theatre number that the students learnt at MADD and was choreographed by Emma Clayton who is currently working as a Director on the Mama Mia world tour. All the students really enjoyed this in particular; as did the parents who asked for an encore!

As part of their follow up work, the students had to write about the strengths and weaknesses of the performance in order to help them to develop their skills further. They also asked parents for some feedback as part of that process. Many of the parents commented that they found it very entertaining because of the variety in the content and one of the comments received said that the 'Priory Ruskin Academy had a lot of talent!' so well done KS4 Performing









German Christmas Market

In December last year staff and students went to Cologne to see the famous and beautiful German Christmas markets. We visited four of the six Christmas markets during our stay and also went to Siegburg to experience the historic and medieval market in the town square which included jugglers and entertainers.

From our youth hostel, we were able to walk to the different markets in Cologne each day; all had a different theme such as fairy tales and chocolate and one even had an ice rink. At night, the markets were particularly spectacular, all lit up with fairy lights and full of the enticing aromas of festive food and drink. Students had time to wander round and buy gifts for family and friends as well as soak up the atmosphere.

The chocolate factory is not to be missed! On our return journey, we stopped in Aachen to visit the famous Christmas market there, which takes place in the streets and squares surrounding the cathedral.

The trip was a huge success and enjoyed by all and this year we will be offering the trips to students who will either be studying German in Year 8 or as a GCSE option, to experience the Christmas markets for themselves. For students who will be taking French in Year 8 or as a GCSE option, we will also be offering a trip to the French and Belgian Christmas markets this year. Letters will be sent out to students soon but if you have any questions, please see Mrs Carter or Mrs Taylor in the MFL department.





RUSKIN



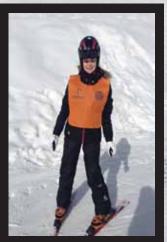
Annual Ski Trip

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR ASPIRING SPORTS SUPERSTARS

Mrs Esam



During half term, fourteen students from the Academy, along with students from the other Federation Academies travelled to Foppolo in the **Italian Dolomites on the** annual ski trip.



The trip was a huge success and the conditions for skiing in Italy were absolutely fantastic. The group consisted of beginners and those who had skied before but by the end of the holiday the beginners were skiing down from the top of the mountain and had made fantastic progress over the week. The group had a great time and made new friends while also learning new skills and having fun. During the week they dined at a traditional Italian pizzeria and also enjoyed sledging and a disco night! The students were a credit to the Academy and themselves and some are already looking forward to the ski trip in 2015.

The U14 Boys Basketball & the U14 Boys Badminton represented South West Lincolnshire SSP at the Sainsbury School Games County finals on Wednesday 5 March. The Badminton team were 4th & the Basketball team were 5th.

Badminton Squad -(see image right)

- **Rohit Banda**
- **Christian Agapito**
- **Peter Alipio**
- **Henry Turner**
- **Jacob Cant**

Basketball Squad

- **Paulius Vysniausras**
- **Dainius Jonikas**
- **Tom Edwards**
- Kasper Maslanka
- **Ryan Taggart**
- **Janis Kalva**
- Ryan Holboj
- George Lodge Sam Desmond

We also had Young Badminton Officials & Young Ambassadors supporting the event!

Young Badminton Officials

Karl Baillie Y12 Samuel Knight Y12 George Mitchell Y13 Bethany Thompson Y13/14 Dillon Flaherty Y13/14 Jack Railton Y10 Amie Martin Y10 Paul Nelson Y10 Billy Heard Y10

Young Ambassadors

Max Everett Karlie Fincham Kenna Clark Lucy Frisby Megan Davies Jasmine Bailey Harry Gibbons Elliot Derby Oliver Buchan Papworth

NETTED IT!

The Academy Trust Sports Association Cup 2014

On Monday 3 March the Priory Federation netball team travelled to Nottingham University to play in the Academy Cup. With recent trials taking place across the schools 6 girls were chosen from The Priory LSST, 2 from The Priory Witham and 2 from The Priory Ruskin. The girls who had never played together before seemed apprehensive and quiet but got on with their warm up together and were quickly ready to go on court. Throughout the games our attacking players Kate Andrews and Juliet Price linked up beautifully on court, Emma Gregory and Katherine Davenport made a great new partnership in defence. With some lovely strong defensive play from Chelsea Smith and Ella Wood in mid court the girls were unstoppable when they turned over the



FINAL SCORES

WITW

St George's Academy A team

WIN

St George's Academy B team

27-1

WIN

David Ross Education Trust



Well Done to our KS3 Badminton team

School Games County finals.

that competed for SWLSSP in the Sainbury

U16 Football

U16 Boys Football team are through to semi-final of cup after beating Bourne Grammar and Carre's Grammar schools.

Cyle Evans
Nathan Jessop
Charlie Copley
Daniel Moulds
Rui Cardoso
Frazer Wingad
David Olalare
Jack Foyster
Oliver Hayward
Ian Goode
George Collett-McCartney
Harry Gibbons
Louis Bland
William Barron
Connor Doughty





skillForce workshops

Mrs P Mitson

During this term Skillforce have visited the Academy to work with Y8 and Y10 students. Skillforce are a charitable company, mainly ex-services personnel, who provide a range of activities for schools. Our projects were based around: team-building, communication skills, problem solving skills, literacy and numeracy activities and really just having some fun! Amongst a whole range of activities the students: built towers from drinking straws; negotiated for extra materials; built and set off pop bottle rockets; made models from giant Meccano; cooked on camping stoves and even set up tents in the Great Hall! All the students involved were offered a day during term time and many took the opportunity to come back during half term to take part in holiday activities. Skillforce has been a really exciting project for us and one we hope to repeat in the very near future. Well done to all involved.

Congratulations to Ruskin students Max Everett, Karlie Fincham & Kenna Clark. who won the YST Young ambassador National award for 'Best increasing participation project" Read on the find out more about what they achieved....

The Legacy Challenge is a resource for schools which has been designed and published by Lincolnshire based sports charity Inspire+. To ensure that the Legacy Challenge is accessible to all pupils across the whole of Lincolnshire, Inspire+ has been working in conjunction with the School Sport Partnerships of Lincolnshire network to ensure that this is possible.

The South West Lincolnshire Young Ambassador Steering Group, which is made up of the local Gold and Platinum Young Ambassadors are assisting in the delivery of this county wide initiative which has engaged almost 27,000 primary school pupils across the county of Lincolnshire, the Legacy Challenge has also subsequently trained over 450 Bronze Young Ambassadors from the 130 different schools that are currently engaged. These 450 Bronze Young Ambassadors have now gone back to their schools to encourage their fellow 27,000 pupils to lead a more physically active and healthier lifestyle. The Legacy Challenge has given these Young Ambassadors a platform which they can demonstrate and promote why it is important to be more physically active, to lead a healthier lifestyle and most importantly a fun and interactive way to do so. It has become apparent that the 450 new Bronze Young Ambassadors are crucial in the Legacy Challenge success within their school

The Legacy Challenge aims to have over 30,000 pupils actively engaged by the end of the year, with over 500 Bronze Young Ambassadors being trained to promote this initiative within 170 schools across the County of Lincolnshire; this wouldn't have been possible without the support and dedication from the South West Lincolnshire Young Ambassador Steering Group, which have now helped to create a lasting health legacy.

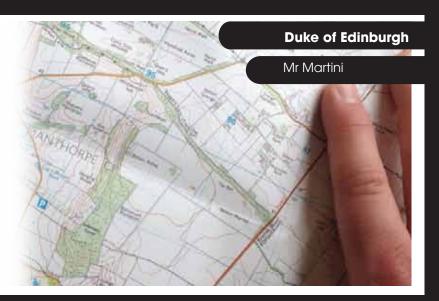


On the 29th /30th March three teams from various years groups at the Academy will be taking part in their



practise expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. They will be responsible for planning their 8 mile route, packing their supplies and setting up their camp. They will be putting into practise skills that they have learnt over the last 4 months, including map

reading, bearings, first aid, camp craft and nutrition, fitness and teamwork.



Support in Primary Schools

Working with our local feeder Primary schools is vitally important to The Priory Ruskin Academy as we realise that these students are our future.

We have invested a lot of time and effort in working with primary schools, both teachers and students and as a result, we consider them to be an integral part of our school. This term, we have been working with the following schools:

Primary school vocal workshop at Grantham Music Festival 2014

In March 2014, Grantham Music Festival had their "52nd" festival at Finkin Street Church in Grantham.

Over a two week period students and adults performed on a variety of instruments and also song in the festival.

MFL Support in Gonerby Hill Foot

Many subject teachers at Ruskin are keen to help develop good practice in our local feeder Primary schools. As part of our school community plan, Mrs Carter (Head of MFL) has been supporting staff at Gonerby Hill Foot Primary school to teach French to Year 3 and 4 students and also, more recently Year 5 and 6.

Maths at Barrowby C of E Primary school

Mrs Vance, Teacher of Maths, has been visiting Barrowby C of E Primary School to support their Gifted and Talented students. She has been working with 10 Gifted mathematicians and helping them to move from a Level 5 to a Level 6. At the same time, she has been giving staff ideas of how to inspire and motivate students in maths lessons in a creative and fun way.

Mrs Rossington, Assistant
Headteacher and AST Music
teacher, was invited to open
the event by leading a vocal
workshop with over 300 primary
school children and parents.
Then, the children from nine different
primary schools proceeded to sing a
wide range of songs which
entertained parents,
grandparents and friends.



Thinking of a Career in Teaching?

School Direct Training Scheme

If you, a member of your family, or a friend is thinking of becoming a teacher, we could be able to support you.

Our Academy is a member of the Lincolnshire Teaching School Alliance and there are a number of training places still available to start in September 2014.

The Alliance operates a School Direct training programme and training places are available in:

ENGLISH, MATHS, PHYSICS, GEOGRAPHY, CHEMISTRY, LANGUAGES, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND HISTORY.

For more information, please visit:

www.lincstsa.co.uk

Gifted and Talented Maths workshops in Primary Schools

In February 2014, Mrs Vance was given the opportunity to go in to Barrowby Primary school and work with small groups of Year 5 and 6 Gifted and Talented mathematicians. She worked in the school for 5 weeks and the pupils worked mostly on their algebra skills. Although the main focus of the sessions has been to develop their mathematical thinking by working through algebraic Came activities, encouraging the pupils to explain and justify their reasoning at all times, the pupils also completed some Level 8 work and higher level GCSE questions.

All pupils were fantastic and proved to be highly gifted at Mathematics.

Mrs Vance enjoyed every minute of this 'stretch and challenge' venture and Mr Batey, the Headteacher at Barrowby Primary school said how much the students had benefited and enjoyed working with The Priory Ruskin on this project.

One of the children from Barrowby told Mrs Rossington, `Mrs Vance is an amazing teacher and she makes maths really fun!`.

Mrs Vance really impressed the school with her enthusiasm and passion for maths. She is now looking forward to her next Primary school adventure!

FUNCRAISING STARSSING SPESSION

Ruskin Dog Show 2014

Mrs Renshaw Turner

Following on from last year's hugely successful event," the Academy will be hosting its now annual Dog Show on Saturday 21st June at the Queensway site to raise raising money for Lincolnshire, Essex & Trent Boxer Dog Rescue (a registered charity). The show opens at 11:00am and judging commences at 12.30pm with Best in Show being announced at approximately 2:45pm.

There are 8 classes to enter your dogs, including Best Puppy, Best Adult, Best Veteran, Dog with Best Expression, Happiest Dog, Best Family of Dogs, Dog the Judge would like to Take Home and Best in Show (please see entry form for full details).

We have a fully qualified judge attending on the day, Mrs C Murfin, and rosettes and prizes will be awarded from 1st to 5th place in each class. Entry forms are available from Academy reception and can be completed in advance or on the day.

Other activities include:

- · Tombola
- Raffle
- · 'Up-Cycled' Dog
- Home-made Dog Biscuits Stall
- Cake Stall
- Dog Portrait competition
- Quizzes and Activities

Donations are welcome for the up-cycled items and cake stall, tombola and raffle.









Ruskin Swimarathan

On 8th February, 40 students and 4 staff from The Priory Ruskin

Miss Thompson

Academy rose early to take part in the Rotary Club of Grantham's 25th Swimarathon at the Grantham Meres Leisure Centre.

All staff and students alike showed a fantastic

determination and dedication as they swam for an hour with smiles on their faces. High spirits and wonderful encouragement between the teams, along with a little competition of course, led to the completion of over one thousand lengths! So far, we have raised over £200.00 in sponsorship, which is increasing daily as participants return their pledges. The final sum shall be of great benefit to local charities in Grantham.

It was a truly wonderful morning that demonstrated the great sense of community within the Academy.

World Book Day

Mrs Geeson

The Priory Ruskin Academy have had a very busy week celebrating World Book Day. An assembly was held for KS3 students introduce Usborne books for schools Ready Steady Read! Students and staff were invited to make a 'Book in a Box'; some fantastic examples were brought in by talented students and staff alike.

On World Book Day itself we held our very own 'Mastermind' challenge; a member of staff from each House had 10 questions fired at them under a spotlight and pressure from students cheering them on, sweaty palms were had but Mrs Taylor, Mrs Gibson and Miss Catnach were joint winners with Mr Finch claiming to have very difficult questions on his selected book!

Students were given their £1 off vouchers and we held a very successful Book Fair after school with Usborne Books.





Calling all crafters...

Pamper/Craft Evening

Thursday 27th November 2014 Free stand /table 6pm – 8pm

If any parents run business nail bars, craft stalls, cupcakes, books, cards, candles, jewellery, flowers etc. and wish to book a space/table

To register their interest with the main school office.

Fundraiser for Multiple Sclerosis

Chloe and Sophie Scorer held a cake sale (kindly baked by Mr Esam) along with a raffle and tombola for students and staff. Here they are with Mr Gough, their Head of House, handing a cheque over for £168.20 to Michael Cundall, Chair of Grantham and Sleaford Multiple Sclerosis.





Sport Relief 2014

Sport Relief is a biennial charity event from Comic Relief, in association with BBC Sport, which brings together the worlds of sport and entertainment to raise money to help vulnerable people in both the UK and the world's poorest countries. Sport Relief 2014 saw the entire nation pull out all the stops again, and we at The Priory Ruskin Academy PE department assisted by Mr Mason and Mrs Geeson are proud to have done our part to support those less fortunate than ourselves.

Our day started with all year groups from years 7 to 11 taking part in our Wiggly Sports Relief Mile. A massive effort was made by all the students with some great results achieved not only in running but fancy dress and dance offs at the start of the races a wonderful atmosphere all through the morning. Special thanks to Jack Palin who kept us all entertained with his wonderful vocals and the sports commentators keeping us up to date with on the spot interviews with competitors.

Well done to all students (and staff!) who completed the mile successfully!

All through lunch time the students were keen to be involved in several fund raising activities;

Penalty Basketball Shoot Out run by Mr Cracknell, Beat Mr Briggs In the Cricket Bowl out competiton and score a penalty against Mr Gunterall very popular activities. Rugby was also included with the rugby Punt test activity run by Mr Sayle.

We are pleased to say we have amassed an amazing £1000 pounds which will be able to be added to the national figure of £53 million. This money helps to change lives, both at home in the UK and across the world. It helps in improving the lives of vulnerable young people in the UK, and enabling some of the world's poorest people to gain access to vital services such as health and education. Well done to all of you and a massive thanks for your enthusiasm and participation.









FASTEST mile

Year 7

Luke Rowland 6.53 Melanie Church 7.41

Year 8

Lewis Davey 6.24 Chelsea Smith 8.42

Year 9

George Lodge 6.38 Lucy Dagleish 8.28

Year 10

Tiago Fernandes 6.33 Hannah Perez 9.13

Year 11

Nathan Borthwick 7.30 Lucy Bishop/ Chelsea Rogers both 11.53







Big Thanks to food tech



Students baking cakes



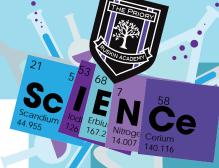
Year 7's Jared Hackney with his home baked cricket cake - Brill!



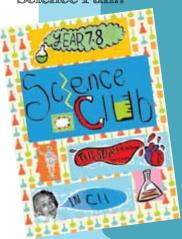
Miss Wilkinson, Science

Science Club started once again this year, an after Academy club for year 7 and 8, where students can come along and try out Science experiments which they would not be able to do in Science every day. Each week sees a dedicated group of students coming along and working together, making interesting creations or completing cool experiments. So far this year, we have carried out a number of activities including making and launching bottle rockets, chromatography, making sparklers, and shrinking apple heads.

We had a huge turnout for a session on making a lava lamp, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Coming up in Science Club we have a Making an Electromagnet and a Forensics session after Christmas.



Come along on Tuesdays, 3.20pm - 4.20pm in C12 for some Science Fun!!



SIXTH FORM ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

The Sixth Form academic programme started on Wednesday 25th March.

Dr George Davidson, Senior Lecturer at Nottingham University and former mastermind winner spoke to all the students who are taking A- Level Science about what to expect as they take their studies to University.

They were able to ask detailed questions relating to work load, working methods and what to expect in their post degree world.

The students really enjoyed it and found it

The students really enjoyed it and found it incredibly useful.



Academy Uniform Shop

The Academy uniform shop will be closed on Friday 4 April at the Queensway site. It will be open in the new building during the Easter holidays on Wednesday 16 April from 10:00am to 4:00pm only.

Opening hours from Wednesday 23rd April 2014: Monday 12:00pm – 4:00pm Wednesday 12:00pm – 5:00pm Friday 12:00pm – 4:00pm

The Academy Uniform Shop has its own entrance to the right of the main entrance, near Student Reception.

DATES FOR THE DIARY April - July 2014 23rd April - Back to School 5th May - May Day Academy Closed 23rd May - Last day of Term 5 and June - Back to School 26th June - PD Day 27th June - Year 11 Prom 10th July - Visual Arts Evening 18th July - Sports Day at Meres
18th July - Sports Awards Evening
18th July - Last Day of Term