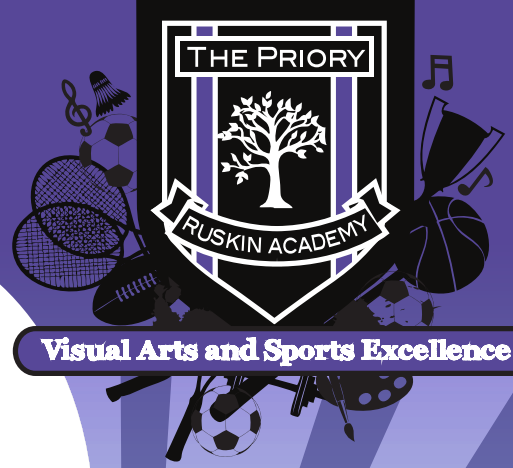


# The Priory Ruskin Academy Newsletter



July 2015

## Headmaster's Report

### Dear Parents/Carers

It's amazing how time flies! This time last year we had moved into the new building and were all settling into a superb learning facility. Has it lived up to its promise of providing an outstanding learning environment? The answer from student and staff voice is overwhelmingly yes. And we are still planning to build upon what The Priory Ruskin Academy can offer our students and the community. We hope that work will begin on the new Sixth Form Pavilion in September, with completion by July 2016. The new pavilion will provide six new classrooms, a study area, common room and changing facilities for sport. This is to accommodate the growing Sixth Form (which has grown from 7 to 150 students in 4 years).

We are always looking to improve on our systems at Ruskin and with this in mind we will be introducing online payments and cashless catering from September. The long term aim is for all payments to be made online, which will include catering, trips and events.

We have recently been awarded Careers Mark 6, ArtsMark and Enhanced Healthy Schools. They are two accolades that Mrs Scott and Mr Cairns have respectively worked hard on, which will impact positively on all our students. There have been numerous sporting, academic and personal successes, which is a reflection of the hard work of staff, the commitment of our students and support from parents.

Have a good summer and thank you again for your continued support.

**Mr Clive Shepherd**  
Headmaster



Visual Arts and Sports Excellence

## Top Stories this Term!....



# THE RUSKIN RUNNER

LATEST NEWS FROM OUR ASPIRING SPORTS SUPERSTARS

## REAL MADRID TRIP 2015

The Academy is eagerly awaiting the October half term trip to Real Madrid. Ninety six students are travelling to Madrid. During the trip they will train at Real Madrid's training facility Valdebabas, play against local opposition and watch a game. Fixtures are released for the 2015-2016 season on 23rd July and all eyes will be on the fixtures for the weekend of our visit. It promises to be the trip of a lifetime.

## FOOTBALL CONTRACTS

The Academy is delighted to celebrate the success of two year 11 students, Harry Gibbons and George McCartney. Both boys have signed contracts with Notts County and we wish the boys every success in the future.

Mr Gough celebrating Harry Gibbon's pro contract with Notts County at the launch of the Academy's new year 7 football strip.



## TRIP TO WELFORD ROAD TO SEE LEICESTER TIGERS

On 28th March, The Priory Ruskin Academy descended on Welford Road to see Leicester Tigers take on Exeter Chiefs in a Premiership rugby fixture. This was a very special day for the students attending. On arrival all students were given a replica Leicester Tigers shirt and were brought onto the pitch to be the 'Shirt Shakers' as the players entered the field of play. Being on the pitch at the same time as a number of England rugby players was very exciting for the students and staff attending. For the start of the game the students took their seats and saw a great performance from Leicester Tigers, winning 25 points to 15, and jumping into fourth place to take an away Semi Final to the very fast pace of Bath Rugby Club.



## SKY SPORTS LIVING FOR SPORT

This is the fourth year the Academy has been part of the Sky Sports Living for Sport initiative. The program this year is a mentoring program using year 12 students to mentor year 8, 9 and 10 students to increase participation and engagement in sport. We are very lucky to have Maria Bertelli, a GB Olympic volleyball player, as our athlete mentor this year. Maria had time to work with the year 9 volleyball team in preparation for their tournament at the Sainsbury games in Lincoln. Maria also inspired year 7 students by leading an assembly recalling her story to success in the 2012 Olympic games.



# ATHLETICS ROUND UP

The Priory Ruskin Academy fielded a full capacity of teams to the District Athletics Championships. One team really showed their strength; the Junior Boys have a number of gifted athletes who performed very well and finished in third place, just 5 points shy of Carre's Grammar in first and 2 behind King's in second. A number of athletes performed very well in the champs and were selected to represent the District at the County

Championships; Lewis Davey (Sprint Hurdles and High Jump), Marcel Ludew (Long Jump and 800m), Rohit Banda (Javelin), Praise Olalere (100m and 200m), Daniel Fielding (100m and 200m), Jack Pirie (Shot Putt), Sam Collens (1500m) and Oskar Grajewski (800m).

Three performers have since taken the honour of representing Lincolnshire at the Anglian Championships. Lewis Davey winning the sprint hurdles, Praise Olalere finishing fourth in the 100m and Jack Pirie finishing fourth in the Shot Putt.

Athletics is a real strength within the Academy and we urge all students to give Grantham Athletics Club a go.

Photo of Lewis Davey, Jack Pirie and Praise Olalere, who



## YEAR 7 CRICKET STARTS WITH A 'KNOCK'

The Y7 cricket team has got off to a great start with two friendly fixtures against Carre's Grammar School and Sir William Robertson. The team's first game against Carre's was a great learning curve for Ruskin; playing in a pairs style cricket match to enable all to bat and bowl. Ruskin lost the toss and were put into bat. After 21 overs Ruskin finished with a very respectable score of 134, Carre's followed and showed a good level of skill with the bat, winning the fixture by 30 runs. There was some excellent bowling put on display; Bradley Munns finishing on two wickets for only 16 runs, while Jacob Cant, Zak Draycott and Harry Olivant all took a wicket for a very small run count.

This experience made a real difference in the team's next fixture against Sir William Robertson. Again Ruskin batted first and put on a very similar 135.

However, it was the fielding display that put a huge amount of pressure on the William Robertson batting. Prior to the final over Ruskin had taken 10 wickets and they needed 4 runs to win. It all came down to the final ball, Bradley Munns bowled a straight line and took the middle stump out of the ground. The final result was Ruskin winning by one run. Training for takes place on a Wednesday 15:20 – 16:40 and is open to all year groups.

## TENNIS BOYS

The Y10 and Y8 boys have entered the county LTA team school tennis competition this year and have been battling hard against some exceptional players. The Y10 team consist of Thomas Edwards, Marco Agipito, Ashweyn Skoyles, Charlie Cann and Henry Turner, they are yet to win a match, but have come very close on 2 occasions. The Y8 team consists of Aidan Oliver, Oliver Bridges, Thomas Whiting, Zak Draycott, Michael Coates and Finlay Stewardson. They have already won one, and lost two incredibly close contests. All boys are playing regularly both after school and at Grantham Tennis Club. We are always looking for more players to join the team, so come to tennis practise on Wednesday and Thursdays after school to give yourself a chance.

## TENNIS GIRLS

The Y8 Girls Tennis team played against Tollbar Academy (Grimsby) on Tuesday as part of the Aegon Tennis League. The girls played exceptionally well and there was an obvious improvement in their performance compared to the previous week.

To set the scene, the girls suffered a narrow defeat against Healing A and Healing B. Both Healing teams lost to Tollbar Academy. Arguably, Tollbar were therefore the best team, however, when the girls played them on the following week we won!! It was a very close match and had to be settled by a shoot-out (similar to a tie-break) but the girls held their nerve and smashed the away team 10-0. End result: Victory for Priory Ruskin!



### Team

1st seed: Melanie Church

2nd seed: Romaizza Herrera

3rd seed: Alesha Allen

4th seed: Rhiannon Ellerby

## STAFF GET FIT!

Staff at the Academy have started a new fitness regime twice a week after school. In order to promote staff well-being at a particularly busy time of the year, many members of staff have chosen to sign up to a pilates and aerobics class taken by a professional pilates instructor. Staff well-being is an essential part of a successful school.

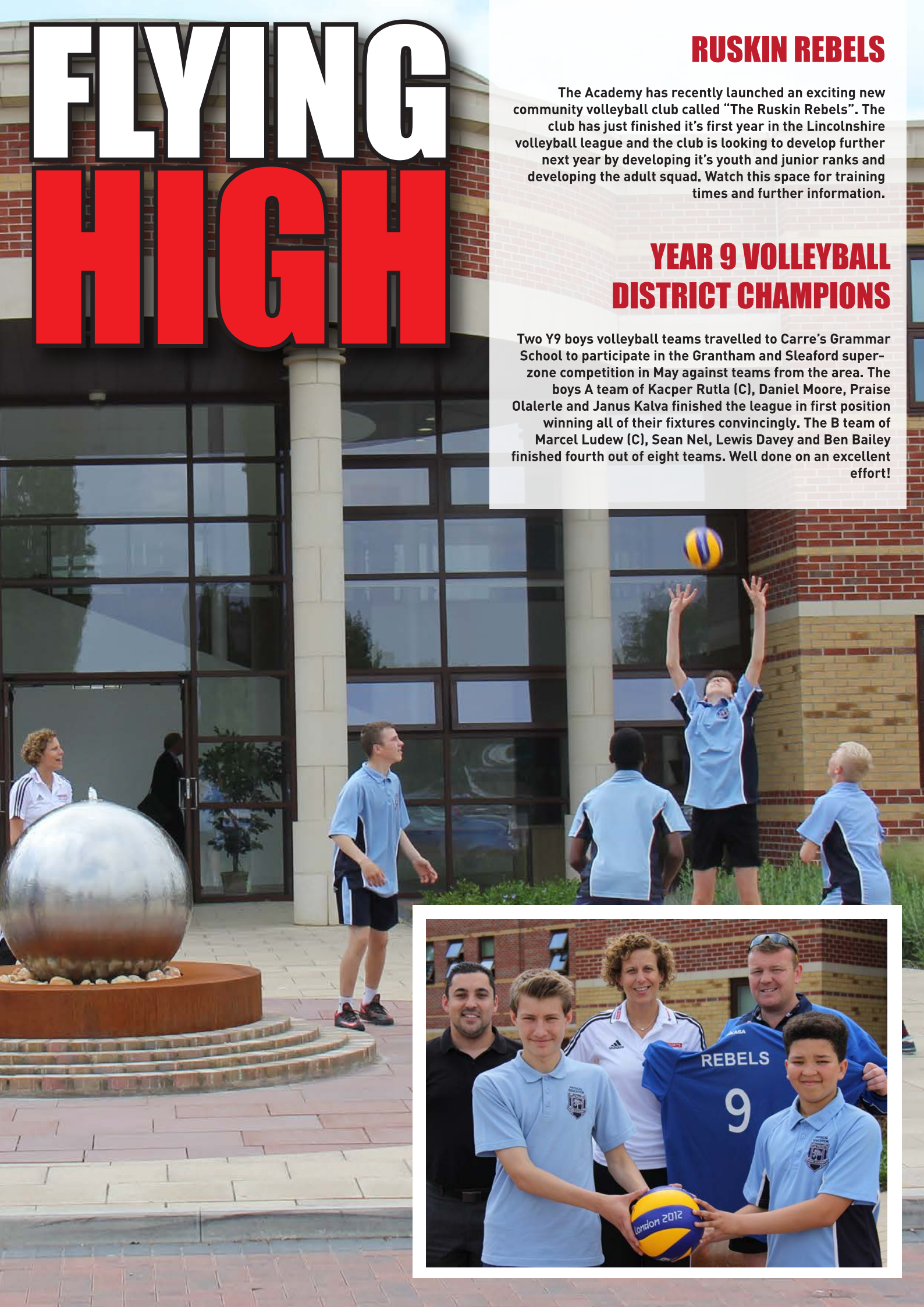
# FLYING HIGH

## RUSKIN REBELS

The Academy has recently launched an exciting new community volleyball club called "The Ruskin Rebels". The club has just finished it's first year in the Lincolnshire volleyball league and the club is looking to develop further next year by developing it's youth and junior ranks and developing the adult squad. Watch this space for training times and further information.

## YEAR 9 VOLLEYBALL DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

Two Y9 boys volleyball teams travelled to Carre's Grammar School to participate in the Grantham and Sleaford super-zone competition in May against teams from the area. The boys A team of Kacper Rutla (C), Daniel Moore, Praise Olalerle and Janus Kalva finished the league in first position winning all of their fixtures convincingly. The B team of Marcel Ludew (C), Sean Nel, Lewis Davey and Ben Bailey finished fourth out of eight teams. Well done on an excellent effort!



# ACADEMY CELEBRATES “ENHANCED HEALTHY SCHOOL” STATUS

Rebecca Reynolds, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator for South Kesteven, visited recently to celebrate the Academy's ongoing success as a healthy school. The Academy has been accredited as a healthy school for the past 5 years but has recently gained the enhanced accreditation. This award represents the outstanding collaborative work the Academy has done in all aspects of health and well-being. This is an award that all staff and students at the Academy can be extremely proud of as we are the only school in the whole of Lincolnshire to achieve this award! The Academy hopes to build on this area further in the next academic year by becoming an “innovation school” in the area of health and well-being.



# MOUNTAIN BIKING INITIATIVE GETS ON TRACK

A number of students have recently taken advantage of an exciting new initiative to increase opportunities to participate in mountain biking and develop cycling skills at the Academy. The Academy recently secured funding to purchase 20 mountain bikes and a trailer to transport them thanks to the tireless work of Mrs Wright, Head of RE and PD Coordinator, who secured the funding through Sport England. In addition, the Academy has been working closely with Jon Moody of Sustrans (Sustainable transport) who has delivered basic bike maintenance lessons to students on PD days. Some students have accessed mountain biking sessions at Sherwood Pines as reward for outstanding work in these sessions or for GCSE PE intervention. It is hoped this initiative will continue to develop further and all students will have the opportunity to access mountain biking in the future during curriculum time or as an extra-curricular activity, during their time at the Academy.



# DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE TRAINING EXPEDITION

Over the weekend of 6th and 7th of June, 16 Priory Ruskin students took part in a gruelling 18 mile round trip as part of their training for their Bronze Level Duke of Edinburgh expedition.

The students left the Academy at midday on the Saturday carrying every piece of equipment and all the supplies needed for the weekend ahead. In teams of 5 and 6 they plotted their route and undertook a 9 mile hike to Dukes Covert campsite near Ancaster, where they would spend the night under canvas. It was down to the students to plan, shop for and prepare all their meals for the weekend, ensuring that they refuelled properly after their hike making sure they had enough energy to keep them going. Whilst at the campsite the students took part in a full programme of activities designed to consolidate their existing knowledge and develop the skills needed in order for them to complete their qualifying expeditions.

Some of these included fire lighting, map and compass skills, as well as various team building activities.

Although the hike home on the Sunday proved challenging for some extremely tired individuals, all students put in a fantastic effort and managed to arrive back at the Academy in one piece and ready for their beds.

The students will now take part in 2 more expeditions planned for July and September which be based in the Peak District before they achieve their Bronze Level Duke of Edinburgh Award.



# PRIORY RUSKIN *Prom* 2015



Friday 3rd July was another successful Y11 prom at the beautiful Stoke Rochford Hall. As always, the students arrived in style; a classic London double decker bus, a Ferrari, a fire engine and even an Ice Cream truck. After this delicious three course meal the student awards were announced.  
Cute Couple – Harry Angeloni and Shona Meadows, Best Dressed Male – Lance Pabunan, Best Dressed Female - Molly Fowler, Prom King – Elliot Derby and Prom Queen - Nela Ondrejko. After the award ceremony the students danced the night away.



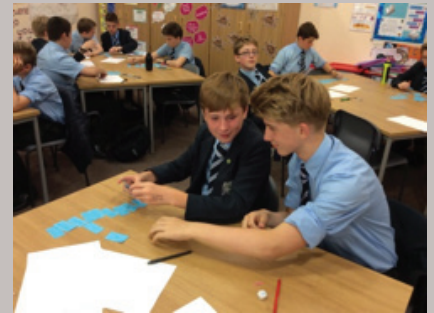


Growing up can be tough in the 21st century, so during our PD (Personal Development) days we aim to help smooth the transition from childhood to adulthood. On 2nd July, we considered how we could be more responsible for ourselves in a whole range of workshops. We were helped by a range of expert visitors including Matt from Positive Health, Jon Moody from Sustrans, PC Nettleton and PCSO Jason Possnett, as well as Careers Advisers from CfBT. One of the most important messages from the day came from our special guest, Cassidy Little, ex-Royal Marine who lost his leg in Afghanistan and winner of 'The People's Strictly'. His message was 'it is better to fail than to quit'. The great thing was that Cassidy did not just tell us this; he also explained how this philosophy has changed his own life for the better and helped him to cope with extreme adversity when he lost a limb having been blown up by a land mine.

**Pictures:**

- 1) Students in a workshop on tolerance and respect related to homosexuality.
- 2) Year 8 students in a workshop about online safety
- 3) Cycle Maintenance with year 9
- 4) Cassidy Little with some of our students after school. They stayed and talked to him for a good 20 minutes; no rushing home that night!

# PD DAY 2 JULY 2015



# Alfie takes on Quentin Blake!



## Year 7 Art Competition

Students at The Priory Ruskin Academy are regularly given opportunities to engage both with the community and local businesses. Recently, Y7 students were given the opportunity to work with a local author, Ms Sarah Hindmarsh, who writes books for children, such as 'The Mouse Who Howled At The Moon'. Following on from her visit, Ms Hindmarsh invited all Y7s to enter an Art competition in which she asked the students to create and illustrate a character for her next book. The winner of the competition was Alfie Hardman. He said, "I decided to invent a character called 'Thorn', a lizard, because it isn't a common species. Thorn is from Texas, he is brown with an ability to shoot blood out of his eyes!" His illustration will appear in 'The Animal Adventures', Series Book Four, (yet to be named). As an immediate reward, Alfie wins a copy of Book two, 'The Squirrel Who Travelled the World' and a winner's certificate.



Alfie Hardman with Sarah Hindmarsh

## ArtsMark

The Priory Ruskin Academy has become one of the first schools to receive an ArtsMark qualification under the new pilot scheme, being one of only ten schools across the UK to receive the qualification. The award acts as an opportunity to celebrate the excellent provisions in the Arts that Priory Ruskin offers.

Priory Ruskin is still in its first year as a solo site, after the merger of two local schools, the Academy now has its own sense of identity. As an Art specialist school, it has many resources and creative techniques that are offered to their students across the Arts. ArtsMark will allow Priory Ruskin to highlight areas of strength within the Academy, assess areas that need developing and ultimately create a better environment for the students to develop their education within the Arts.

The scheme itself is structured around 7 key components and judged against criteria based on leadership, curriculum design, CPD, student engagement, range of subjects on offer, partnerships and values and ethos. Lead by Mr Webb, Teacher of Art, and Mrs Rossington, Assistant Headteacher, the Academy is working alongside Arts Council England and the Mighty Creatives and aims to raise its current award status to platinum, the highest level of award.



# YOUNGSTERS LEND AN EAR TO TALES FROM THE PAST

Students from the Y12 Health and Social Care group were welcomed by staff and residents at Avery Lodge Care Home to work on an intergenerational project. Residents were encouraged to share their memories and talk with our students about how the world has changed over the years. Avery Lodge Care Home is working together with The Priory Ruskin Academy to support the students in becoming more aware and having an insight into care homes.

One female resident said, "It's been lovely being able to tell the young girls about our days in the Land Army and all we got up to; they were genuinely interested".

The girls in the group thoroughly enjoyed their morning at Avery Lodge and are looking forward to inviting some of the residents in for afternoon tea at the Academy.



# SIXTH FORM NEWS

At the end of June, The Priory Ruskin Sixth Form welcomed its latest cohort of Sixth Form students. With it being our biggest intake to date and with a significant proportion joining us from other schools in the area, the induction was designed to encourage students to get to know one another as much as it was to let them sample their chosen subjects before they embark on their Sixth Form education in September. Day 1 of the induction focused on academic introductions with students partaking in lessons for all three of their chosen subjects, conversely, Day 2 focused on building the strong team foundations essential for a productive and happy Sixth Form. With a trail along Grantham canal putting team working and observational skills to the test and culminating in a variety of fun activities and a BBQ at the Chequers Arms in Woolsthorpe-by-Belvoir, students finished the induction having had a lot fun and feeling ready for the challenge of Sixth Form in September and we can't wait to welcome them back!



# 'LETS GET COOKING CLUB'



Mr Esam has just started a 'Lets Get Cooking Club' which runs on a Wednesday after school. The aim of the club is to teach simple, healthy alternatives to some of our favourite meals, making dishes such as Sweet and Sour Chicken, Chicken Biryani and Boston Barbecue Baked Beans, as well as a few tasty treats such as Cinnamon and Apricot Cookies and Savoury Flapjack. Recipes were provided with the hope that students share their knowledge with family and friends and that healthy food doesn't have to be boring. The students who have participated have cooked many of the dishes at home and the feedback has been fantastic!

# DISASTER IN WADDINGTON

At 13:00 hours on 22.06.15 "Easy Crew", aka Mr Lennon's Year 11 GCSE Geography group, were called to a train crash in Waddington. Working swiftly and efficiently as a team they located and safely removed 2 adult casualties from a derailed carriage. Later that day they were called out in response to a level 9.0 earthquake which had destroyed many buildings. A casualty was safely removed from the third floor of a collapsed building. Obviously this was a training scenario put on by the kind people at Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue. The GCSE Geography students had studied the effects of the Japanese earthquake and now got first hand experience in seeing how emergency teams respond. Following the hectic day the group, along with Mr Lennon, Mrs Dodsworth and Mrs Hale went to the Dragon Inn restaurant for an all you can eat buffet. The trip and meal was a special treat for a group that have worked diligently throughout the 2 year GCSE course. A special thanks to Tracey Perrin for cajoling her husband, Station Manager Perrin (Reggie) into helping Mr Lennon arrange this day. Thanks also to Mrs Dodsworth for being on hand to help out on the day.

Look carefully at this picture, look beyond the Ford KA with a garage roof on it and you might just see Isaac Edwards making his way out.





# COMMEMORATION OF LANCE CORPORAL WALTER PARKER

The Priory Ruskin Academy students took part in a ceremony at St Wulfram's Church to celebrate the laying of a commemorative paving stone to mark the 100th anniversary and award of the Victoria Cross to Lance Corporal Walter Parker of the Royal Marines, during the Gallipoli Campaign in April/May 1915.

In the company of local dignitaries, senior officers of the Royal Marines, Cadets Ewan Birkby, Reece Morgan, Holly Smith and Sam Tattersall of 47(F) Squadron ATC, paraded alongside members of other cadet organisations and regular service personnel to show their respect for Walter Parker's 'consistent bravery and energy during the three days prior to 30th April 1915, when it had been necessary to evacuate almost every stretcher case over open ground and under fire', for which he was awarded the highest of military honours – the Victoria Cross. Walter Parker was born in Grantham in September 1881 and enlisted in the Royal Marines in 1914.



## MAGNA CARTA SPECIAL

Lord Cormack, Chairman of the Historian Lincoln Trust, and the Trustees invited representatives from The Priory Ruskin Academy to a special ceremony in Lincoln Cathedral, when a framed facsimile of Lincoln's Magna Carta was presented to a representative of each school in the County. The presentations were made by The Right Honourable the Lord Judge, former Lord Chief Justice. The event took place on 10th June with a welcome from the Dean and Lord Cormack. Magna Carta is the most significant document in our constitutional history, and is acknowledged throughout the English speaking world as the foundation of the rule of law. From this, our judicial and parliamentary system was developed. available in all instruments.



## WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

You work and earn money at the same time as you are learning and getting qualified. An Apprenticeship combines hands on training in the workplace with off the job training at a local college or a specialist training provider. Apprenticeship can be between one and four years. You must be 16 or over and not in full time education. Entry requirements vary depending on the type and level of the apprenticeship and the industry sector. There are hundreds of different types of apprenticeship ranging from engineering to veterinary nursing. Apprentices earn a minimum wage of £2.73 (October 2014) however, employers often increase this according to the industry sector and the level of the apprenticeship. SET UP YOUR ACCOUNT NOW.

## INVOLVE YOUR PARENTS

Fact: families are nearly three times as influential as teachers in helping school children choose between work and university. Headlines figures of £9,000 for tuition fees, added to the cost of living, are making some school leavers and their families think twice about the next step along the career path. In an uncertain world teens are taking more notices than many parents realise. Help your son/daughter think and plan ahead, supporting them in their choice.

## INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

At The Priory Ruskin Academy, we pride ourselves that we deliver the best opportunities in careers guidance. It is as much about inspiration and aspiration as it is about advice. We provide access to a range of activities and events that can inspire our students, including apprenticeship speakers, university visits, talks from employer's and a Careers Fair in October 2015.

We are delighted to say that The Priory Ruskin Academy have been awarded the Career Mark 6 Accreditation; this award is to recognise the careers programme that is delivered in all years, from Year 7 to Year 13. The award is about quality, including giving independent and impartial career guidance. It is about giving our students the confidence and skills that they need to enter the world of work. We can demonstrate to Ofsted that we are providing an efficient and effective careers programme.



The Mark of Quality for Careers Education and Guidance  
2015-2017

### CAREERS FAIR THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2015

A number of businesses and universities are already confirmed:

- Construction Industry
- Army
- Bishop Grosseteste University
- Apprenticeship-Positive Outcome
- RAF
- Siemens Engineering
- Police
- Sheffield Hallam University
- McCain Engineering
- Barclays Bank

# Performing Arts

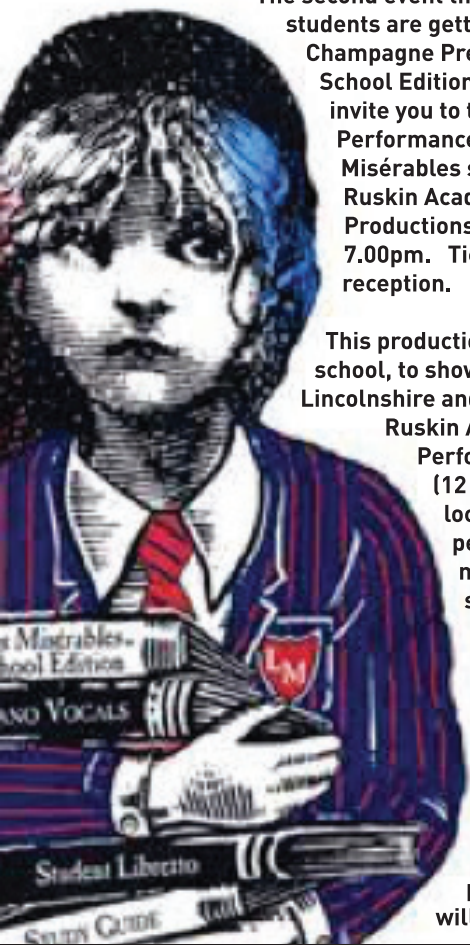
## PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER CONCERT

This term is a very busy term for KS3, 4 and 5 Performing Arts students at the Academy. First of all, they have their Summer Concert on 8th July 2015 at 7pm. This involves students from Year 7 to 13 including the Full Choir, Drama Club, Rock group, dance solos to mention but a few performances. Tickets are now on sale in the Student Reception.

## LES MISÉRABLES (SCHOOL EDITION)

The second event that the Performing Arts students are getting very excited about is the Champagne Premiere of Les Misérables School Edition. We would cordially like to invite you to the Champagne Premiere Performance on the opening night of Les Misérables school edition, at The Priory Ruskin Academy, in association with MJH Productions, on Wednesday 29th July 2015 at 7.00pm. Tickets are on sale at the academy reception.

This production has been commissioned by the school, to showcase the incredible talent in Lincolnshire and also highlight what The Priory Ruskin Academy is now achieving in the Performing Arts sector. The student cast (12 – 19 years old) is from a number of local schools and colleges. After the performance, there will be a chance to meet and chat with the cast if you should like to. The cast have been working extremely hard since February to produce what will be an incredible show. The performance has been produced and directed by MJH Productions, an award winning local theatre company specialising in high quality student productions. We would very much like for you to attend this event as our guest and be a part of this unique project that we hope will be spoken about for years to come.



## THE MOST UN-MISÉRABLE DAY OUT!

On Wednesday 10th June, the Y12 BTEC Music students travelled down to London on the train to see one of the longest running and most successful shows in London's West End – Les Misérables by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg. The students wanted to see Les Misérables because they had seen Miss Saigon earlier on in the year which was written by the same composers and they enjoyed the composers' style and wanted to hear more of their work. They were not disappointed and were treated to a 'carefully crafted masterpiece' (Reece Brailsford) and a 'spectacular feat of musical theatre' (Lucy Bishop) based on the French Revolution. We had fantastic seats in the stalls where you could see and hear everything with absolute clarity; the show encompassed a whole range of emotions from the bawdy humour of the treacherous Thenardiers to the heart breaking duet where Eponine expressed her desperately, unrequited love for Marius.

The trip was organised by Miss Haywood to reward the students for their outstanding commitment to their studies this year and also in recognition of the contribution they have made to live music at the Academy throughout the year including assemblies, Cultural Friday's, Sixth Form functions and public performances both at Academy and out in the local community. Mr Stephens and Mr Coppin also very kindly gave their time to accompany the students on what was an absolutely inspiring day out!



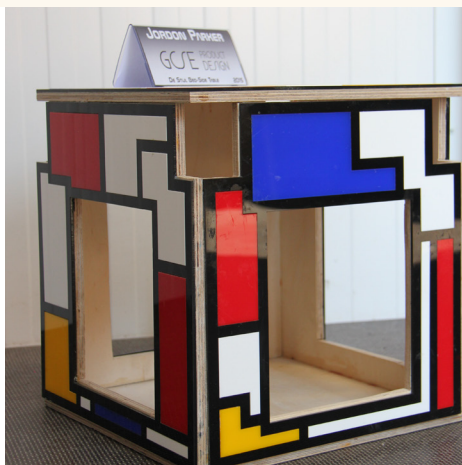
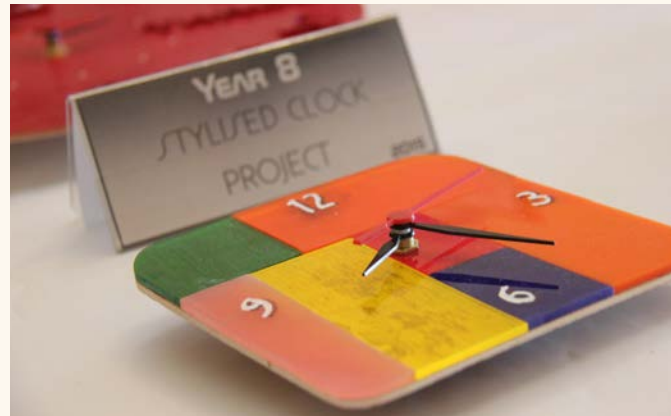
## VACANCIES IN MUSIC TUITION

Vocals, Piano/Keyboard, Guitar/Bass  
Drums, Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Sax) Mr Thomas – Vocal tutor,  
Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn)  
Please see Miss Haywood for further details – hurry, first come, first served!



# D&T SHOWCASE

Year 5 Open Evening saw the Academy open its doors and show Grantham the great work of our students. We thought we would use the opportunity to display some of the outstanding work in Design Technology over the last 12 months, A level, GCSE, BTEC and KS3.



## VISITING AUTHOR

In April 2015, Mrs Lesley Berrington visited the Academy and worked with a selected group of Y7 students. Mrs Berrington is the author of a series of books called 'Hattie & Friends'. Her books are used in hundreds of schools, nurseries & childcare venues to promote a positive image of disability for young children. It was a very successful event and Mrs Berrington is already planning a return visit to the Academy to judge a creative writing competition.



## WORK EXPERIENCE IN FRANCE

During February half term this year, Wellow Szymanski, one of our A2 French students, gave up a week of his holiday, to go to France with Halsbury Travel. After a very early start on a cold and dark Saturday morning, he, along with students from other local colleges and Sixth Forms, travelled to Metz where he had a work placement in a law firm lasting a week.

During the first two days he improved his language skills by translating documents based on business and criminal law. He also had an opportunity to visit a client as well as attend real court cases. Outside of work, he had plenty of time to socialise with people he met on the trip and most of all try the French cuisine. He also was lucky enough to watch France play football in the run up to the European Championship. The whole experience confirmed that he would like to study Law in the future at University. It also improved his fluency in French ready for his final oral exam.

## ANNUAL YEAR 7 TRIP TO FRANCE

During the summer term at The Priory Ruskin Academy, Y7 students have an opportunity to travel to The Priory Federation of Academies Trust's French Centre which is based in Normandy, France. This is an ideal opportunity for the Y7s to sample a new culture, get to know their peers and enjoy all of these things alongside their House Leaders. During their stay, they have an action packed week which includes visiting Bayeux, the D Day beaches and a slate mine. They all have the chance to practise their French speaking in the local market and the chance to eat the French delicacy of garlic snails. Exciting opportunities also include being taken to Cherbourg to visit La Cité de la Mer. In general, the whole week involves exciting experiences, exciting opportunities and an exciting addition to the school year!



## MACMILLAN 'BIG NIGHT IN'

A pleasing £329.68 was raised at the 'Macmillan Big Night In' held on Thursday 11th June for Macmillan Cancer Care. During the evening our Y10 Hair and Beauty students showcased their skills with hand and arm massages, nail painting and a very popular Paraffin Wax treatment; this had a queue all evening!

Students served refreshments, including scrumptious homemade scones kindly donated by Bloomsbury Bakery. There was a pre-loved book sale and the raffle proved a big success, with some great prizes donated by The Teaspoon Tea Company, The Cakehole, The Flower Shop, Elysium Beauty and Grantham Beauty Clinic.

With all the events taking place it was very heartening to listen to Simon Cross, a local volunteer for Macmillan, who attended and gave us an insight into the work Macmillan do and how our money raised will be spent. Simon's 11 year old daughter, Hannah, was diagnosed with cancer in August 2012 and sadly passed away last year in September.

A huge thank you to Mrs Geeson and all her helpers for organising a very successful evening for such a worthy cause.

# FUNDRAISING



Y10 Hair & Beauty students



## SUPPORTING GRANTHAM FOODBANK

Morris Academy Council has helped to support one of our local charities this term, our local Foodbank. The Academy was overwhelmed with donations from staff, students and parents. Students and staff also supported the Charity Bike Ride organised by Foodbank, on a very wet Saturday morning.



## RAISING MONEY FOR COMIC RELIEF

Our students raised £522.73 by hosting a Coffee & Cake morning, selling Red Noses and also Ducks for the Duck Race held in Grantham all for Comic Relief, cakes were donated by staff and students and is always very well supported. Sainsbury's also helped with cake donations. The money raised went to the whole Grantham community Comic Relief amount which totalled £11491.73.

## NEPAL APPEAL

Students at The Priory Ruskin Academy raised £665.77 from donations given by both staff and students to help towards the Nepal Earthquake Fund. Sixth Form students held a non uniform day and KS3 & KS4 students were asked to bring in £1 to help the Unicef appeal.

# RETIRING AFTER 14 YEARS...

At the last full committee of the governing body, Mr Mike Dixon was presented with a card and gift from the governing body, students and staff of the Academy, in recognition of his 14 years service and commitment to The Priory Ruskin Academy, and one of it's predecessor schools, Central Technology and Sports College. Giving a short speech, Mr Dixon said he was very proud of the tremendous staff and students at the Academy and paid tribute to Mr Shepherd's commitment to the Academy over the past 5 years.



Pictured with Mr Dixon are Mr Shepherd, Headmaster and Mr Milner, Chair of Governing Committee

## ATTENDANCE

The Academy attendance target is 96% and all students should strive to achieve this. The Government is reducing the Persistent Absence threshold with effect from Sep 2015/16 from 15% to 10%. This means that any student with less than 90% would be classed as Persistently Absent, which could result in a financial penalty. The likelihood of your child reaching their target grade will be seriously compromised due to them missing any learning opportunities.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

We would like to remind you that holidays within term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. In line with government legislation, you may be at risk of a fixed penalty fine. Leave of Absence Request Forms are available from Student Reception at the Academy and approval should be requested before any holiday is booked.

## COMING SOON... CASHLESS CATERING

A faster, more efficient school meals service is coming to The Priory Ruskin Academy.

The Trust-e Cashless Catering System provided by Nationwide Retail Systems Limited will now be used by our catering team.

This system will reduce queues at break and lunch times, provides anonymous free school meals to students and allow monies to be pre-paid for school meals. Registration of students will take place at the Academy on Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th July and we anticipate that the system will "Go Live" on Wednesday 3rd September 2015.

Further information on the system provided by Nationwide Retail Systems Limited can be found at [www.nrsltd.com](http://www.nrsltd.com)



Our school will soon be taking online payments for school meals

the easy way to pay



The new Agora ePayments system: is the quick and easy way to securely make payments to the school. Please speak to us for more information about making your payments the easy way.



## TERM DATES 2015

Last day of summer term  
Friday 17th July 2015

Staff Training Days  
Tuesday 1st September &  
Wednesday 2nd September

Y12 & Y12 students return  
Thursday 3rd September

All students return  
Friday 4th September

Last day of Term 1  
Friday 23rd October

Term 2  
Monday 2nd November

Last day of Term 2  
Thursday 17th December 2015