

# TERM 1

## 2015-2016

# THE PRIORY RUSKIN ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER

### SEPT - OCT 2015

## COMMUNITY AND SMSC

### Forthcoming Cultural Events

#### TERM 2

**Victoria and Albert  
Museum**  
11th November

**`Oh What a Night`**  
20th November

**Indulgence Evening**  
26th November

**Belgium & German  
Christmas market**  
2nd and 9th  
December

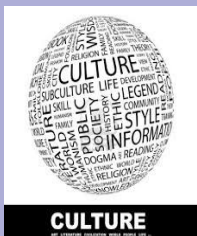
**Clothes Show Live**  
7th December

**Primary School  
Christmas Concert**  
8th December

**Carol Service at  
St Wulfram's  
Church**  
14th December

**House Singing**  
15th December

**Pantomime**  
16th December



# Headteacher Report

Dear Parents/ Carers

Half term is upon us with a vengeance. It's been a busy seven weeks with Year Group Award Ceremonies, a Key Stage 4 learning evening, over 90 students departing for Madrid, our sport teams doing incredibly well and our Sixth Form making a successful transition into their Level 3 studies.

Our new Year 7 students have made a great start to the Academic year – they are settled and talents are shining through. We aim to make the transition into secondary education as seamless as possible, with outstanding support and communication. If you have any questions please contact the Head of House or Form Tutor in the first instance.

We hope that work will begin on the new Sixth Form Pavilion in the New Year, which will provide us with six new classrooms, study room, common room and changing facilities for sports. This will give us the space to accommodate the rapidly growing Sixth Form, of which has recently achieved some of the best results in Lincolnshire.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Mr Shepherd  
Headteacher

## KEY DIARY DATES FOR TERM 2

### Parents Evenings

Year 9	Thursday 19 November 2015	4:00pm – 7:00pm
Year 12/13	Thursday 28 January 2016	4:00pm – 7:00pm
Year 11	Thursday 11 February 2016	4:00pm – 7:00pm
Year 8	Thursday 25 February 2016	4:00pm – 7:00pm
Year 7	Thursday 28 April 2016	4:00pm – 7:00pm
Year 10	Thursday 16 June 2015	4:00pm – 7:00pm

### Learning Evenings

KS4 Parent/Student	Tues 20 October 2015	6:30pm – 7:30pm
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### Options Evening

Year 8	Thursday 4 February 2016	6:30pm – 7:30pm
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### Open Evening

Sixth Form	Thursday 3 December 2015	6:30pm - 8:30pm
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# THE PRIORY RUSKIN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



**\* SEPARATE  
SHEET FOR  
COMMUNITY  
PE**

## COMMUNITY AND SMSC

### Welcome to Year 7 '2015'

On 3rd September, The Priory Ruskin Academy welcomed 230 enthusiastic new Year 7 students in to the Academy. The Academy's focus is to support every student to meet or exceed their potential during their time at the Academy as well as encouraging them to push their own boundaries by trying new things, finding new passions and enjoying a varied and happy educational experience.

The students have an array of enrichment opportunities to look forward to including: educational trips both within the UK and further afield such as France, Germany, Italy and even Kenya as well as the annual ski trip, regular inspirational guest speakers at assemblies, trips to the West End to see shows such as Wicked and Matilda, the

opportunity to support local charities and get involved in community work, participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, a Cadet Force, working with professional artists, competing in local and national sports fixtures as

well as a huge variety of sporting and non sporting clubs after school. There really is something for everyone. We wish them all good luck as they embark on their journey in secondary school.



## KS4 & 5 Trip To Trentham Monkey Park



In September 2015, KS4 and KS5 photography students went to Trentham Monkey Forest

in Stoke on Trent. It is part of the international breeding programme for Barbary Macaques. There are 140 free roaming monkeys which means the photo opportunities were quite amazing as the views were unobstructed. A great days work!

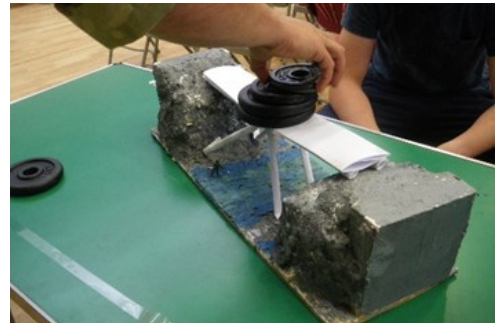


**CULTURE**  
NOT LITERATURE COLLECTION WORLD PEOPLE LIVE ...

**Wider Community**



## Careers Event—The Royal Engineers



On 9<sup>TH</sup> Sept 2016, The Royal Engineers (The Sappers) visited The Priory Ruskin Academy, organised by Mrs Scott, Head of Careers. This event provided our

students with the opportunity to meet The Royal Engineers face to face; students were selected for the event either if they had shown an interest in the Armed Service, were a member of the Air/Army

cadets or if they were studying construction.

The day was focused around team building and communication. A great experience for all.

## Trip To York University

On the 18th September, 26 students from Year 11 were given the opportunity to attend York University for the weekend to experience university life. Students attended lectures and workshops, put on by Ruskin teachers, aimed at helping students achieve their potential in the upcoming GCSE examina-

tions. Students also had the opportunity to go on tours around York University during

their 'Open Day' to allow them to see what sort of facilities and courses a typical university has to offer. The trip concluded with a real university experience as Ruskin students were then given the opportunity to visit York city centre and enjoy some retail therapy as well as being scared senseless during a personalised tour of the York Dungeons.

**YORK**  
UNIVERSITÉ  
UNIVERSITY



## Macmillan Charity Coffee Morning

On Friday 25th September 2015, students at The Priory Ruskin Academy held a Coffee Morning to support the Macmillan Charity. Staff, students, parents and members of the local community all took part by supporting the charity event with either cake donations, raffle prizes or by actually enjoying a slice of cake! Mrs Geeson, Academy Council Charity

Co-ordinator, organised the event and said "It is fantastic to see the Academy and the local community coming together for such a worthwhile charity. The students and staff worked really hard and people have given so generously".

A special thank you must go to M&S,

Grantham Beauty Clinic, Grantham Bowling, Weatherspoons and Gonerby Post Office who kindly provided some of the raffle prizes on the day.



# Charity work driven by the Student Council

Last term, the Academy Council students raised £325.00 by collecting loose change during Form time, driven very much by Yr11 student, Luke Bellamy. Luke decided to support this particular charity after reading an article about Alana Mills, a three-year-old girl who is undergoing chemotherapy for Leukaemia at Queen's Medical Centre. Organisers of various charity events are hoping to raise enough money to help Alana

fulfil her dream of going to Euro Disney.

Academy Council Coordinator, Mrs Vicki Geeson said, "The community is very much at the heart of The Priory Ruskin Academy.

Our students raised over £7000 last term for local, national and overseas charities".



## Opening of the Reading Room

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015 was a momentous occasion for The Priory Ruskin Academy Reading Room as we had the pleasure of it being officially opened by Dame Jacqueline Wilson. Deputy Head, Mrs Wyles, Chair of Governor's Mr Milner, Reading Room Manager Mrs Geeson along with Lincs Children Book Group, of whom the Academy belong and have a strong working relationship, were delighted to be able have such a grand opening.



The Reading Room is a very popular venue in the Academy, having a holistic, relaxed feel with soft seating area, allowing students to read a variety of books, daily papers and maga-

zine's whilst enjoying a hot chocolate or latte! There will be a plaque mounted outside the Reading Room to commemorate this special occasion.



## Year 8 Netball - Victory!

It seems our Y8 Netball team are unstoppable! After a huge win in the last game against St George's (6 goals), the girls powered through the KGGS first team and beat them by another 6 goals.

Last year we were close, but this year we won!

**Ruskin 13—KGGS 7**





# Opening of the new build 2015

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The Priory Ruskin celebrated the official opening of the £13.5 new building. The new build was formally opened at a ceremony on Wednesday 7th October. Staff, students and dignitaries celebrated the official opening with a tour of the Academy's state-of-art facilities before enjoying performances from the Academy choir, Gifted and Talented dancers, Sixth Form music students and afternoon tea provided by a selection of Year 11 GCSE Food Technology students. Frank Green CBE, Schools Commissioner, was

guest of honour and officially opened the new building, unveiling a plaque during the event. Headteacher, Mr Shepherd, said "Staff and students are so proud of the journey we have taken and continue on. Having formed in 2010, The Priory Ruskin Academy has developed an ethos of respect and aspiration and that, coupled with our unrivalled facilities, outstanding teaching and a great OFSTED report last year is what makes Ruskin really special. It is fantastic to see staff and students so excited about the future".

## MUSIC LESSONS

*Lessons are available for all students on a variety of instruments in school. Please see Miss Haywood.*

*Year 7 students have continued to receive free brass tuition.*



## Annual Awards Ceremonies

On the week starting 12th October, Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and Sixth Formers were given Awards for Progress and Effort in a wide range of subjects. Altogether, there were five Awards ceremonies in which parents and the relevant Year group were invited.



## Visit to RAF Cranwell

On 8th October 2015, 24 students and staff from The Priory Ruskin Academy attended the Sir Isaac Newton Schools Lecture at RAF College Cranwell. Ruskin Engineering students, Cadets and Sixth Form students took front row seats in Whittle Hall to join over 400 students from Lincolnshire schools. They were all there to listen to a captivating lecture from Professor Mark Miodownik from the Institute of Making, in which he talked about the development of materials and how they have influenced the World around us

and will continue to do so by helping mankind to make even more amazing advances in the future. From the humble beginnings of the discovery of glass, leading to major advances in science and engineering, Mark enthralled the audience by talking about new materials such as bio-glass and active materials for use in health and medicine, and offered his view of a future involving self-healing and replicating buildings!





## Trip to see 'Wicked'

some sets and staggering special effects! Everybody had a wonderful day and they were truly inspired by the quality of the performances. It also made the students think about the way that the Wicked Witch is portrayed in 'The Wizard of Oz' - was she really evil? It made them realise that there are two sides to every story! When everyone returned to school, a lot of people asked them if they had a good day? Ms Haywood said "It was absolutely **WICKED!**"

On Wednesday 21st October 2015, the Year 10 and 11 Performing Arts students travelled by coach to the West End of London to see the musical, 'Wicked'. They were treated to outstanding vocals, awe-

Wicked Witch is portrayed in 'The Wizard of Oz' - was she really evil? It made them realise that there are two sides to every story! When everyone returned to school, a lot of people asked them if they had a good day? Ms Haywood said "It was absolutely **WICKED!**"



## CAREERS FAIR



On 22nd October 2015, the whole school were given the opportunity to participate in a Careers Fair which was organised by the Head of

Careers at Ruskin, Mrs Scott. There were over 15 organisations that participated in the Career Fair including RAF, Army, McCain Engineering, QHotel, Barclays Bank etc. At the Careers Fair, students were given the opportunity to meet and talk with representatives from a range of organisations offering advice and options for their future.



The aim of the day was to provide students with the ability to reflect on a full range of educational and career opportunities that are available to them. Hopefully, students will now be able to make challenging and realistic plans for their future!

## Lincolnshire v Hunger: Song Competition

A committed group of Year 7 students have gained third place in a song writing competition and as a result, they have won £300 worth of vouchers which can be spent on musical instruments.

Lincolnshire v Hunger is a project created by an existing Lincolnshire based charity who believe that it is a basic human right for people not to starve in the 21st century. They set up a song

writing competition to raise awareness of this. The Academy students had to compose a song for the competition; they worked hard together to come up with a catchy melody and meaningful lyrics. After they recorded the song, the students were invited to a charity event in Lincoln to collect their prize, where they enjoyed an afternoon consisting of Djembe drumming, African food tasting and a fashion show.





# Visit by Jacqueline Wilson



At the start of half-term, children from local Primary schools and also from The Priory Ruskin Academy were all invited to the academy Great Hall to meet the famous author, Jacqueline Wilson. Over 200 children visited the school including many of our Year 7 students to meet this prestigious writer.

She spoke to all of the children and read part of her new book, 'Little Stars'.

One little girl said, "I can't believe she actually wrote all of the books that I love to read!" There was a bookshop at the event with a range of Jacqueline's other titles on sale: they all sold like hot cakes!



## Cultural Friday

*The Priory Ruskin Academy is committed to educating students in a rich and varied curriculum. Next term, Cultural Friday includes lunchtime workshops on 'Victorian London', 'The Universe', Art and Beauty, to mention but a few...*

## PE Extra Curricular Activities

The Priory Ruskin Academy has a very comprehensive extra-curricular programme in many subjects, including PE. Morning sessions run from 0800 every day in the sports hall, lunchtime sessions and after school activities (Mon-Fri).



If you would like any further information on the extra-curricular activities in PE, please do not hesitate to contact The Academy PE Department. If you would like general information about other subject areas, please contact Mr Brand.

## Specialism Report: PE

The Priory Ruskin Academy PE Department has made a great start to the 2015 academic year. Pupils have been showing a great deal of interest and enthusiasm towards curriculum based lessons and numbers of pupils attending the varied extracurricular program have been at an all-time high. With the new fields opened for use, it has been a joy to see the return of home fixtures at The Academy. This term has seen fixtures attended across all year groups in the sports of Netball, Rugby, Boccia and Football. Although it is early in the season, a number of these teams have shown a

great deal of promise. The girls' netball teams have made some early strides beating the local opponents of KGGS and Walton Girls' in recent league fixtures, as well as bringing home the winners trophy in the Kesteven Small Schools competition. The U13, U14 and U16 rugby teams are currently topping the league in their respected groups with a 100% win record against Bourne Academy and Deepings. The boys' football teams have been competing in both the National Cup and Kesteven District League fixtures. Some highlights so far

include comprehensive wins over Sir William Robertson Academy at a number of age groups, and a 3-2 win over local rivals Kings at Year 7.



## SEN Staff Raise Funds For Boccia



Members of the  
Academy Boccia  
Team 2015

After last terms success with the new Boccia team Mrs Dixon and Mrs Luczak (SEN staff) realised the equipment they had in the Academy needed updating. So,

Mrs Dixon and Mrs Luczak decided to try and raise enough money to buy a new specialised Boccia ramp, balls and case for the school team. To do

this they held a cake sale, nail painting, guess the weight of the cake, guess the sweets in the jar and collected

spare change from Form groups and altogether, raised a massive £315.

Mrs Dixon's husband also helped with the fund raising by opening a 'Just Giving page' on Facebook where friends, family and local businesses could donate. In total he raised a fantastic sum of £680. They raised enough money to purchase all of the Boccia equipment which the students are now enjoying. Well done to everyone who was involved in this.



## Primary School Maths Workshop

Staff at The Priory Ruskin Academy have continued to work with our local feeder Primary schools e.g. Barrowby, Harlaxton and Huntingtower. One area that we have focussed on this term is improving students' ability to solve mathematical problems. Ms Quinn, Maths Teacher at the

Academy has planned a variety of Primary maths workshops which develop students' confidence and understanding in Mathematics thus leading to an improvement in achievement. Feedback has been very positive from both students and staff:

"I learned a lot in the lessons and I really enjoyed

maths..." **Olivia**

"I really enjoyed learning about triangular and square numbers..." **Lola**

"They absolutely loved the shape session...Thank you." **Member of staff**

"We have learned lots of new stuff, like square and cube numbers, nets..."

**Kayleigh**



Students from  
Huntingtower  
Primary school.



PRIMARY TRANSITION



# Rotary Club Charity Event: Business In A Box



Mr John Asher from Grantham Rotary Club

Mr John Asher from Grantham Rotary Club collected a cheque for £425.00 from Mackintosh House Captains, as shown in the picture.

In the Summer term, Mackintosh held a fund raising week which included Sports Day non uniform.

The money raised will be able to buy a full Business in a Box` that will be sent overseas.



*"The World  
has been  
United in  
Learning!"*

## World Maths Day 2015

The Priory Ruskin Academy was registered to take part on the World Education games, an event to support **UNICEF** on a quest to bring education to all children across the world.

Year 7 and 8 took part in World Maths Day across the Academy on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Within maths lessons, students were given the opportunity to compete worldwide with other schools through 'Mathletics', against a total of 6 MILLION other students. Our students found themselves competing against students from Nigeria, Macedonia, Russia, Mexi-

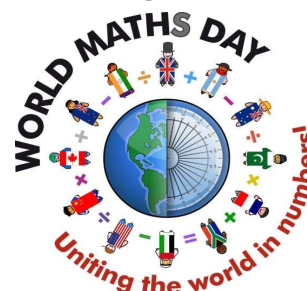
co, Estonia to mention but a few.

Within other curriculum areas staff encouraged students to use numeracy skills within their subjects, be it creating the perfect spiral using angles and rotation, representing and analysing data, calculating Scrabble scores for key words and a whole range of other activities.

As a result 169 MILLION UNICEF points have been earned. '3P Learning' will now translate those into cash to fund a huge number of education projects in association with UNICEF, including the purchase of over 130 Schools in a

Box - giving vital education to thousands of students in need. Well done to everyone, staff and students who participated, on such as fantastic achievement.

**The world has been united in learning!**



## Trip to Tate Modern

In September, 49 students from Year 11, 12 and 13 travelled to the Tate Modern gallery to visit a Pop Art exhibition. The students benefited from a first-hand inspiration and the experience of seeing work on a much larger scale. Also included in the trip was a walk along the Thames to have a look at the Graffiti Park which was fabulous inspiration for all the students to use in further projects. Each term the department offer a range of trips. In November, the Year 10 GCSE students are going to the Saatchi and Victoria and Albert Museum and in December there is a trip to the NEC to the Clothes Show Live.

Alexander Calder

Performing Sculpture

Barbara Hepworth

Sculpture for a Modern World



THE EY EXHIBITION

The World Goes Pop



Frank Auerbach



CULTURE

## UNICEF AWARD

Students and Staff at The Priory Ruskin Academy have been working hard towards achieving UNICEF's Rights Respecting School Award. It is an initiative designed by UNICEF to educate young people about the 'United Nations Convention on the rights of the child'. Students have been discussing articles from the convention in form time and relating it to

topical events from around the globe. The objective is that our students will become aware of 'the right of the child' and to encourage young people to have a voice whilst appreciating that life for Children and young people differs greatly around the world.

Students have also been discussing the charter in their curriculum areas including

unicef



All of us have rights,  
with that comes responsibilities,  
our responsibilities at Ruskin are to always  
**aim high and show respect.**



Religious Education, Geography and History. We hope to gain our Award in November 2015 when we will be being assessed by representatives from UNICEF.

## Sewing Bee

The Sewing Bee Club was launched this term to give Year 7, 8 and 9 students the opportunity to learn new skills related to textiles and fashion. This term the students have learnt to design and make an appliqued cushion. All students have been taught how to thread and use a sewing machine and in fur-

ther projects will be learning how to embroider and silk paint. We have had a regular membership of 12 students; but I am quite keen to invite any other students who would like to learn some skills as I am ably supported by Mrs Scott who is head of Careers at the Academy.



Year 7 students

