

The Priory Ruskin Academy

Term 3 Newsletter 2016/17

A message from the Headteacher...

This term, we have been very much forging forward with a number of plans at Ruskin. It is great to see that our much anticipated new build is finally being developed; we are looking forward to extending our sporting facilities and creating a Sixth Form space which we can share with the wider community.

I am also very pleased to announce the successful launch of The Priory Ruskin Baccalaureate for Key Stage 3 students; we feel that it captures our values as an academy and encourages students to be accomplished, well rounded citizens for the future. Our Ruskin Respects awards are designed to constantly enable students to strive for our shared goals in learning, progress, health, creativity and community mindfulness; our values are worn proudly by so many of the students who have worked hard to gain their badges in recognition of their successes. This has been coupled with a focus on reading and independent learning, aspects which are so fundamental to securing best possible outcomes for students, to create an award that will be nationally recognised by the Baccalaureate Trust.

At Key Stage 4, our students are now entering a crucial time in the lead up to final examinations. There is so much on offer at the Academy to support students during their last few weeks in Year 11, and I would kindly ask you to encourage your child to attend the lunchtime and after school sessions available to them in all subject areas.

As ever, thank you for your continued support of the Academy; I always enjoy meeting parents during events at the school and value your feedback, support and ideas.

Ms R Wyles

Investing in the Future: Work Begins on New Sports and Sixth Form Centre

Work has started in earnest on Ruskin's new Sixth Form and Sports Centre. Diggers arrived in January and are already making swift progress on the foundations. The new building will enable students to benefit from an extended Sixth Form provision as well as the facilities to further develop the successes and talents enjoyed through the Academy's sporting specialism. Headteacher, Ms Wyles, said, "The additional phase of building is another milestone in Ruskin's incredible journey so far. It will ensure our students benefit from state of the art sporting facilities to match the existing high standard of coaching and development they receive. Combining this sports centre with increased, dedicated Sixth Form space will enable us to take more students at KS5 as well as extending our already comprehensive Sixth Form curriculum. This level of investment puts Ruskin in a strong position for the future, ensuring our students continue to get maximum benefit, not only from our superb facilities, but also from our dynamic and forward thinking approach to learning". Take a look at the plans below – we think they look fantastic and are really excited about the facility which is planned to open in January 2018.

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Rotary Swimarathon 2017



A huge well done to all Ruskin staff and students who took part in the Rotary Swimarathon on Saturday 4th February. The Priory Ruskin Academy managed to fill all the lanes in the Grantham Meres Leisure Centre pool for their session and the teams swam over 1000 lengths in the 50 minute slot! Sponsorship, at the latest count, stands at over £800 (with more still being collected), this money will all go to local charities through the great work the Rotary Club does.

Sixth Form Performing Arts Students Get Lessons From The Professionals: Disneyland Paris



On Monday 30th January, 16 Sixth Form Performing Arts students from The Priory Ruskin Academy set off to Disneyland Paris for three days.

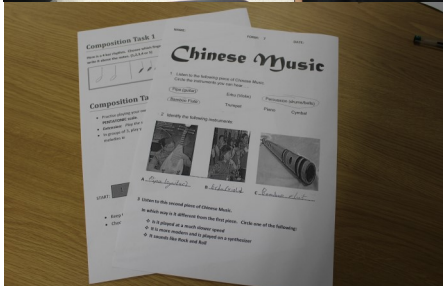
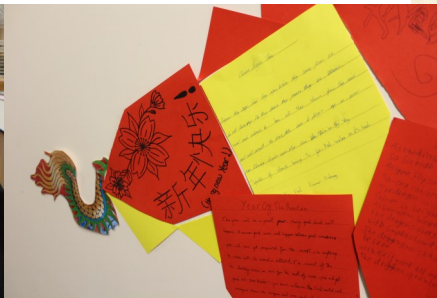
After a long day travelling on Monday, Tuesday saw the students get into the parks to take part in a seminar and workshop led by Disney performers and, of course, to see the magical scenery and rides that Disneyland has to offer. The students attended a seminar on being a Disney performer, learning about 'Disney Values', the audition and casting process, how Disneyland compose suitable music for each part of the park and much more. The students then took part in a workshop led by two professional performers at Disneyland Paris - one of which was the vocal coach for Disney's 'High School Musical' movie in 2006. During the workshop, the students were able to choose from a selection of songs from different Disney movies and then take what they had learnt in the prior seminar to create a short performance based on their chosen song. The students then gained professional feedback on their performances and they seemed to impress their experienced audience, despite the short time-scale they had to work to! After the workshop, the students had the opportunity to walk around the park and take advantage of the fun attractions in the Disneyland parks before having their evening meal in one of the famous Planet Hollywood restaurants. An inspiring, insightful (and really fun!) trip for this talented group of students.



Chinese Cultural Day

On January 26th, in preparation for Chinese New Year, students enjoyed a taste of Chinese culture. Staff cleverly crafted normal lessons to give a twist of China across the curriculum.

Activities included Chinese inspired art, looking at Chinese poetry and even composing Chinese music. Mrs Rossington, Assistant Headteacher, said: "SMSC is interwoven into our curriculum at Ruskin but it's great to use certain key dates in the cultural calendar to take a small step back from the normal curriculum and do things a bit differently. The students all seem to have had a wonderful day. A huge thanks, as always, to our creative staff body who have made this relevant and interesting".



Ruskin First School to Launch KS3 National Baccalaureate

The Priory Ruskin Academy is excited to work with The National Baccalaureate Trust to be the first school in the country to develop this nationally accredited award at KS3. Its purpose is to reveal those students who engage fully with all aspects of Academy life and the wider community, thus revealing themselves to be 'rounded students'. In due course we expect this to become a prestigious award similar to that of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme.

It is fundamentally built on our very successful Ruskin Respect awards which are: Aiming High, Learning, Health, Community and Creativity. It is developed further with the introduction of a specific independent learning project which culminates in a presentation to a panel. The completion of a reading passport is also a requirement and reveals that students have engaged in a wide reading programme. All the information about the award can be found on our website.

Below is Ciara North who is likely to be the first ever student to receive this award!



Avery Lodge Residents Join Ruskin Academy for Christmas Party

This happened on the penultimate day of term 2 and so just missed out on the last newsletter but it was such a lovely event we wanted to make sure we shared it with you all.

Residents of Avery Lodge Care Home were invited in by The Priory Ruskin Academy for an afternoon of Christmas entertainment on 19th December. The Food Technology, Music and Health and Social Care departments joined together to put on an afternoon of activities to get everyone into the festive spirit. Home made mince pies, sausage rolls, chocolate truffles and tea loaf were made and the residents, students and staff thoroughly enjoyed their festive food.

After enjoying the food, a selection of performers from different year groups sang various songs on stage, allowing the residents to have a sing-a-long and for everyone to get their feet tapping and hands clapping along with the music.

The afternoon was finished off with a craft activity where some of the Year 10 Health and Social Care group helped the residents to paint a Christmas tree and take it home with them as a small gift from Ruskin.



Ben Smith Collects Money Raised By Ruskin



Fresh from his appearance on BBC Sports Personality Of The Year, Ben Smith returned to Ruskin to collect over £100 of money raised by the Academy in support of his 401 marathon challenge, which saw him complete 401 marathons around the UK last year. Ben is now in the process of setting up a new foundation to carry on the legacy of The 401 Challenge. The objective of the 401 Foundation will be to offer grants of between £2,500 to £5,000 to grass roots projects that focus their efforts on building confidence and self esteem along with tackling mental health and self development issues for all ages.

New Age Kurling: Storming to Success



On Thursday 2nd February, we took our New Age Kurling teams along to St George's in Lincoln for the Kurling festival. There were 12 teams in total, with the top 4 going through to the Summer Games in July. Here's how they got on...

After a successful rounds stage, both Ruskin teams progressed to the semi-finals playing against...each other! Displaying a good sense of sportsmanship both sides found this rather amusing but, once play commenced, they played as they have been taught and with a true sense of competition. Ultimately Priory B came out as winners in a closely fought game: 5-3.

It was then into the finals and play offs to determine who would qualify for the Summer Games:

Final: Priory B vs John Fielding B: 4-3

Play offs: St Georges B vs Priory A: 4-0

Final Positions:
1st place Priory Ruskin B
2nd Place John Fielding B
3rd place St Georges B
4th place Priory Ruskin A

A huge well done to both teams...bring on the summer games!



Focus on: Ruskin Reelers

Ruskin Reelers was founded in September 2016 and is run, twice a week, by Miss Dodsworth and Mr Garratt. Students get to watch a variety of different genres including science fiction, animation and gothic horror. The main connections between these films has been the alien creatures and robots that can be found in them, which has kick-started the group to begin designing and creating their own characters. The students are on

their way to becoming movie critics by writing reviews and creating posters for the films that they have watched.

Their most exciting project yet has been entering a national competition linked to the release of the Lego Batman movie. Students have to create their own superhero logo and describe their powers as well as reasons for fighting crime! Keep your fingers crossed for them as, if they win, all the Ruskin Reelers

members will get to enjoy a free screening of the new movie!

If you are in KS3 and are interested in joining, we host film club Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime in HEP 4.



Year 13 Students Raise Sponsorship Money for Sense



Year 13 students from Mrs Scholefield's Business class have raised over £225 hosting a cake sale and FIFA tournament. All money

raised will go to Sense, a charity that supports children and adults sensory impairments and deaf blindness, through sponsorship of one of our alumni, Thomas Liddiard, who is running the London Marathon this year. Good luck Tom!

Pictured is Sean Nel (Y11) who, along with Daniel Arthurs (Y7), won first place.



United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Challenges

Earlier in the year Ruskin entered students, at a Senior and Intermediate level, into the UKMT Individual Maths Challenges. The challenges take the form of lively, intriguing multiple choice question papers, designed to stimulate interest and a sense of competition in Maths in students nationwide.

The Senior Maths Challenge saw all Year 12 Maths students entered, as well as two students from Year 13. Adam Garnett and Harvey Fuller achieved 'Best in Year 12' certificates, with Nathan Tang achieving a silver award. Adam Clark achieved a gold award, along with 'Best in School' and also progressed on to the next round, the Senior Kangaroo Round. Only 2000 students nationally make it this far so it is an amazing achievement for Adam – well done! The results for this round recently came in and Adam achieved a very respectable points score, narrowly missing out on progressing on to the British Olympiad round held in London.

The Intermediate Maths Challenge took place on February 2nd with sixty Year 10 students taking part. Aaron Temple-Fielder achieved a silver award and the 'Best in School' certificate, Seb Kielczewski, Kyle Davidson and Aksels Binovskis also achieved silver awards and Luke Rowland, Aidan Oliver, Max Hardy, Callum Turner, Anthony Howell and Wiktor Pyrz all achieved bronze awards.

The Junior Challenge will take place later in the year with able mathematicians from Year 8 entering – good luck to all and watch this space for results!



United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

Coffee Morning and Bag Packing Raises Over £900 For Action Against Slavery

A charity coffee morning held in January, along with bag packing in the busy festive period, has raised over £900 for Action Against Slavery, in conjunction with the Rotary Club, Grantham. Thank you to everyone who attended, donated and helped out - what a fantastic total!



Getting Ruskin Reading (even more!)

The first Reading Week of 2017 was another huge success - a massive well done to HEPWORTH HOUSE who topped the table for most reading quizzes completed.

We are planning some fun activities for World Book Day, taking place on March 2nd, so look out for communication coming out soon!

A big thank you to all students (and parents!) who have donated books to the Reading Room over the last few weeks. Please keep doing this as they are so appreciated by Mrs Geeson and our students. Reading is proven to have such a positive effect across all curriculum areas for students so the more our

Reading Room has groaning shelves packed with books the better! It is really important that these are suitable for our Renaissance Reading programme, which requires students to take a text/quiz on the books they have read, so please follow the link below and enter the title or author of the book and, if it appears, then we will gladly give it a home in our reading room!
<http://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx>





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Adult tickets £10 each,
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KEY DIARY DATES FOR TERM 4

Students Involved:

ALL	20th February	Term 4 2016/17 Begins
Select Students	22nd February	Sky Sports Boccia Competition
Y9 PA & Photography	7th March	Harry Potter Studios Trip
Select Students	8th-9th March	Yonex Badminton Championship
Y9	8th March	Health & Social Visit to Avery Lodge
Y9	14th March	Maths Trip
DofE Students	17th-18th March	DofE Training Weekend
Y10	17th March	Science Fair - NEC Centre, Birmingham
Select Students	18th March	National Cross Country Championship
ALL	20th-24th March	House Rowing & Badminton Competitions
Y8	28th March	Amy Winehouse Foundation Workshop
ALL	31st March	Term 4 2016/17 Ends
ALL	18th April	Term 5 2016/17 Begins



Healthy Schools



Bronze



Specialist Schools
and Academies Trust
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY