

15th December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As this second module draws to a close, and the festive season is nearly upon us all, we have all taken time to reflect over the last two weeks of the many achievements accomplished either as individuals or groups of students. In our termly presentation assemblies, it has been lovely to witness many, many students awarded with awards highlighting once again their commitment to our five core values of Inspiration, Aspiration, Respect, Resilience and Innovation.

As with any 14 weeks in our academic calendar there has been much to enjoy. The most recent being our annual Carol Concert where we were once again dazzled by so many talented musicians and writers. It has been lovely to welcome parents and carers from Years 7, 8, 11 and 13 to their annual Parents' Consultation Evening and meet current and new parents and carers at both our Year 6 and Post 16 Open Evenings. Students have spoken highly of both the national and international trips in which they have taken part and from conversations, have also enjoyed the numerous sporting fixtures and music competitions in which they have been involved. We are also delighted to have been awarded Language Hub Status, in recognition of the strong curriculum and delivery in the Modern Languages Department. Whilst this does not change any language teaching and learning in our academy, it does mean that partner schools will benefit from expertise and resourcing and our own students may benefit from further resourcing and practical opportunities. This award sits alongside our current accreditations - a Computing Hub for the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE), a Science Learning Partnership and a Stimulating Physics Network (SPN) Lead school. We were pleased to provide some year groups from Heighington Primary School with a base following the flooding at the start of the October half term. Due to a delay in their temporary accommodation being completed we shall continue to support them until February half term.

Sadly, this term we say goodbye to Mrs F Jays (Business), Mrs E Mason (Second in Science) and Mr A Willetts (Teacher of Science). We are very sad to be saying goodbye and I am confident you will join me in thanking them for their hard work and dedication while at the Academy and wish them well for their future adventures. We have three new members of staff joining us in January; Mr D Carvalho (Second in Science), Miss J Coles (Teacher of Science) and Mr N Falvey (Teacher of Business/Economics). In addition, I am pleased to announce Mr B Smith (Teacher of Drama/Head of Year) will also be gradually returning to the Academy after his illness and subsequent operation. Next term he will only be supporting some Drama lessons and Mrs R Curran will remain as Head of Year 9.

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The Priory Academy LSST is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust. For further information please contact:

The Priory Federation of Academies Trust, Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW **Telephone:** 01522 889977

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Form

Our new sixth formers are now well settled into life here at LSST and, along with other students, are grasping all the additional opportunities available to them in the sixth form. It is great to see so many of them volunteering in lower school lessons and helping with sporting clubs after school. After Christmas many of them will start their roles of responsibility within our Prefect Team, as Subject Ambassadors and also as Wellbeing Ambassadors.

## Assessment

This module saw the Year 11 students complete their GCSE mock examination series. This is always a busy time for the students and also an important experience as we prepare them for the summer examinations. The grades students have been subsequently awarded will be going home with module grades at the end of the module, and time will be spent with classroom teachers going through the papers to hopefully identify areas for improvement. Year 13 students will be undertaking their mock examinations upon their return from the Christmas break, with examinations starting on 4<sup>th</sup> January and finishing on 18<sup>th</sup> January. Please find a timetable for this on the academy website, located [here](#).

## Charity

Since the start of this term, the Fundraising and Charity Team (FACT) have been busy raising awareness of, and funds for, a variety of charities and good causes. Money has been raised for Young Minds, Children in Need, Save the Children and, through Jamie's Legacy, CEFOVID. As well as this, over 1500 items have been donated to Lincoln Foodbank. We really do thank you for your support of these different activities and the difference they make to the recipients.

## Enrichment Activities

The Priory Passport continues to go from strength to strength and it is wonderful to see so many students participating in a range of enriching activities both in and out of the Academy. There is a wonderful range of activities available both during and at the end of the Academy Day and with clubs as diverse as songwriting and trampolining, there is something for everyone. All extra-curricular participation earns house points towards the annual House Cup, as of course does entering (and perhaps winning!) house competitions. So far this year we have had some fantastic house competitions, with stories, photographs and cookies being amongst the results of students' participation. Currently, the leading house is Castille with 30,174 points – there is plenty of time for students to earn points for their houses in the New Year!

## Uniform and Attendance

Thank you for your efforts in supporting students to sustain high levels of attendance. To help support parents and carers the government and NHS have produced a range of information which may be useful. Please see the following links for more details:

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

[Back to school week – Everything you need to know about school attendance - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://blog.gov.uk)

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance please contact your child's Form Tutor, Pastoral Manager or Head of Year to discuss how we can support.

May we take this opportunity to ask for your continued support in maintaining our high standards of uniform. We have very high expectations of the standard of student uniform and do appreciate the crucial support of parents and carers in this. Full details of the academy uniform expectations are available here:

[The Priory Academy LSST - Uniform \(priorylsst.co.uk\)](https://priorylsst.co.uk)

Some key points to note are:

- No nose piercings are permitted – this includes Year 12 and 13;
- Ear piercings can only be one silver or gold stud in the lower lobe of each ear – no earrings (Year 12 and 13 students can have additional ear piercings);
- No bracelets, no necklaces, only one plain ring;
- Coats must be plain navy blue or black – no hoodies - After Easter coats must not be worn in lessons;
- Blazers must be worn at all times – In Years 12 and 13 suit jackets must be worn at all times;

Please remember that, should your child require any additional items of school uniform, we still have a large stock of preloved items available. If you would like to know whether we can help, please do get in touch on [uniform@prioryacademies.co.uk](mailto:uniform@prioryacademies.co.uk)

As always, I thank you for your ongoing support; it is very much appreciated and essential if we are to achieve the very best for your child/children here at the Academy. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and relaxing two-week break. We look forward to welcoming all our students back to the Academy on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Hopkinson  
Headteacher

