



THE PRIORY ACADEMY

LSST

19th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Fifteen weeks of the academic year complete! As always, in addition to the normal curriculum, it has been busy module with visits - local, national and international, mock examinations, outside speakers, Parents' Evenings and 6th Form Open Evenings. It was lovely to welcome last year's Year 13 students and their families back to the Academy for their Prizegiving Ceremony this week and meet many families a couple of weeks ago who had come to watch our Christmas Concert.

Staff Goodbyes

Sadly, we say goodbye to three teaching members of staff: Mrs Roylance (Art); Mrs Thorburn (Modern Foreign Languages) and Mrs Stephan (Modern Foreign Languages). I know you will join in thanking those staff for their hard work and support they have given to our students and wish them well on their onward adventures. New teaching staff have been appointed, and students and their families will be updated of these changes in the New Year.

6th Form

Our Sixth Form Open evening was very well attended at the start of the module and it great to see so many conversations taking place about future pathways. Applications are currently open for Year 11 students to apply for their sixth form place and we would encourage students to apply as soon as possible.

<https://www.prioryacademies.co.uk/6thformapplications>

Year 12 students have settled in extremely well to sixth form life and are getting involved in the enrichment activities on offer. We have a new team of Wellbeing Ambassadors now fully trained along with an enthusiastic group of House Ambassadors. Prefect applications have been made, and the new team will be ready to start their duties once we return after Christmas.

The Year 13 students have been incredibly busy this module organising the Winter Fayre for lower year groups. It was fantastic to see each form group put together a competitive activity for younger students and it proved to be very popular with everyone who attended. A massive well done to all students who were involved in providing this traditional Winter Fayre and in doing so raised funds for their Prom.

Headteacher: Mrs J Hopkinson

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

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Assessment

This module the Year 11s sat their mock examinations in preparation for the summer series. On the whole students worked well throughout this period, and results for these will be going home alongside module grades on Friday 20th December.

Year 13 mock examinations start straight after Christmas break, on Thursday 9th January. Students have been sent their personal timetables, and the full timetable can be found on the website, linked [here](#). It is important that these examinations are taken seriously; it is the last chance the students will have to sit full length papers in the New Hall before the Summer.

Lastly, module grades for Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 will be given to students on Friday 20th December and available through SIMS Parent App on Saturday 21st December. They will consist of an ATL grade and a predicted grade. The predicted grade is the grade we expect the student to be able to attain at the end of their course. Should you have any further queries about module grades, please contact the relevant Head of Year or Mrs H Moss (hmoss@prioryacademies.co.uk)

Charity

In the run up to the Christmas holiday we have once again excelled ourselves in donating to local good causes. In October over £300 was raised for Young Minds and in November we organised nearly 100 shoeboxes to be sent to Eastern Europe as part of Link2Hope's annual shoebox appeal. At the start of December almost 300kg of food was donated to the local foodbank. More recently, £450 has been raised for Save the Children through the annual Christmas Jumper Day appeal. We thank you for your support in all these endeavours.

Social Media

You will hopefully have seen an upturn in our use of the Academy Facebook page during this academic year to share good news stories, as well as promoting and publishing events. We love to share successes of our students – should you wish your child's achievements marked in this way please contact their Head of Year who will pass this on to the relevant staff.

Enrichment Activities

Modules 1 and 2 have been their usual hive of enrichment activity, with a wide variety of house activities available to students from all year groups. From poem writing to pumpkin carving, to bleep tests, to paper aeroplane competitions there has been incredible participation across all year groups. We have also had whole year-group activities in the form of quizzes and bench ball and have some plans in the pipeline for whole school activities to come later in the year. Watch this space!

Uniform and Attendance

As an academy, our aspiration for all pupils is that their attendance is 100%, for them to get the best from their learning. Whilst absence is sometimes unavoidable, where this is not the case, we ask that you work with the Academy and ensure your child(ren) is/are in school. In accordance with the Department for Education, any pupil with an attendance level of 90% or less, or who has more than 3 days of unauthorised absence in a 6-week period, may receive a fixed penalty fine, or other legal intervention.

Punctuality to the Academy is also vitally important. Students who arrive late to the Academy have an unsettled start to the day, disrupting their own and their peers' learning. In addition, punctuality is a key life skill, that we are keen to promote and reinforce. As a result, persistent lateness will be challenged, and sanctioned, where

appropriate. We urge you to contact the academy if you feel you would benefit from any support around this. Thank you to you all for your continued support to maintain high levels of attendance and punctuality and if you do feel you need any support in these areas please contact your child's Form Tutor, Pastoral Manager or Head of Year.

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

Some key points to note are:

No nose piercings are permitted;

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;

Any jumper worn must be a plain navy V-neck jumper with no logos and must be worn under the blazer;

Blazers must always be worn – In Years 12 and 13 suit jackets must always be worn;

Second Hand Uniform

We would like to remind parents and carers that we hold a vast stock of pre-loved uniform on site. If you would like to enquire whether we have an item of uniform which your child may need, please do get in touch via

LSSTuniform@prioryacademies.co.uk

Health and Safety

We appreciate the need for parents and carers to collect students at the end of the school day and that this does create busy traffic conditions at the entrance/exit of the Academy. Recently we have had increasing contact from residents and businesses in the vicinity of the Academy, where parking to collect students has caused direct issues with access to their properties. We therefore request that if you are collecting students from the Cross 'O Cliff Hill entrance to the Academy, you come into the site and use the tennis court parking and collect your child(ren) from there. Please do not park in the residential areas in the vicinity of the Academy entrance. If you are collecting students from the Sixth Form entrance at the top of Clayton Road, do note the parking restrictions and double yellow lines in place, and please plan to meet students away from both here and Urban Street. This area can become very busy, and this can then impact on the locality. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain positive relationships with our neighbours.

We thank you as always for your continued support and for working in partnership with us as your child continues their secondary school journey. May we take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable break. We look forward to welcoming all our students back on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J Hopkinson
Headteacher