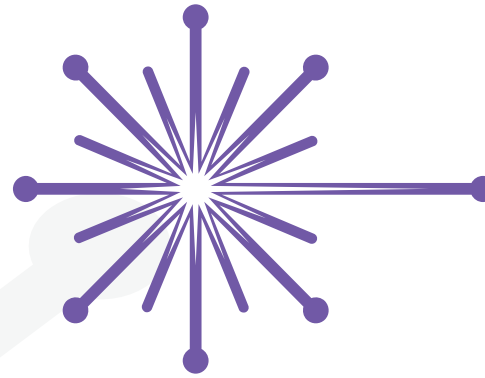




THE PRIORY ACADEMY

LSST

Priory Press

Module 1 - Edition 1



Arctic News

Samuel and Eleanor

Scientists Warn Against Climate Engineering

New methods have been discovered to artificially change the environment of the Arctic and Antarctic, such as thickening the ice and releasing reflective, microscopic particles into the environment. This may seem like a great idea, but scientists have warned us against it after looking further into it. The forty scientists mentioned that not one method managed to meet the basic criteria for the environmental risks.

As well as the scientists' warning against it, geoengineering (deliberately changing the Earth's climate to prevent global warming) is one of the most controversial topics out there, and if it were done, many people would be extremely unhappy. However, there are some widely accepted methods, such as planting more trees to remove carbon dioxide, and using machines too.

The main concern from scientists is that these methods could alter weather patterns around the world, making the climate extremely random, and the weather unpredictable. They have also said that there are much better alternatives to the methods that we can use before we even begin to think about following the suggested new methods.

Geographical News

Aurora

Afghanistan Earthquakes

On 1st September, a powerful 6.0 magnitude earthquake struck the town of Jalalabad in eastern Afghanistan. This resulted in over 1,400 deaths and left approximately 3,100 injured. A 5.2 magnitude tremor followed, which resulted in another thousand estimated casualties. Numerous villages were left destroyed, particularly around the Kunar province and the border with Pakistan.

Rescue operations are currently in progress, and many citizens are in urgent care with fatal injuries. Reports indicate that eight thousand buildings were completely destroyed, and many more have restricted access due to landslides and aftershocks.

This is significantly the worst disaster that Afghanistan has seen in recent years, and has been compared to the October 2023 Herat earthquakes (approx. 6.2 magnitude).

Agriculture News

Theodore

Help Needed in Moving Giant Squash

A Stourbridge man has grown an amazingly-sized squash, with it clocking in at 340 kilograms. Lee Herrington, famous for breaking two world records with the world's longest and heaviest runner bean, wants to enter his squash into a competition, but there is one problem: it is too heavy to move!

Former MP, Suzanne Webb OBE, and Cradley North and Wollescote Ward Councillor Ryan Priest, have teamed up to help Mr Herrington get his squash to the show. "It would be great to help Herrington get his squash to the show," said the pair. The task will be harder than it looks though. "He is looking for someone with a bobcat machine or tractor capable of handling the allotment terrain and skilfully lifting the giant squash onto a pallet, then onto a vehicle for transport." They are looking for companies that can help.

The Malvern Autumn Show starts on the 26th of September, and lasts for three days. Lee has appeared in Guinness World Records before and hopes to do it again and win the red card: first place! "I just need your help to lift it and get it out of here!" he says. But can he do it?

Academy News

Isaac

How Do GCSE Options Work, and Does School Provide Enough Choice?

GCSEs can be very scary for some people. When moving into year eight some people think “Well that was a difficult first year, surely it can’t get harder”, And then they find out that in year eight you choose your GCSE options. Of course, for others this is expected and may even be the reason they choose this school, as LSST students choose options a year earlier than many other schools. This school does this to allow for more time to be spend on your options which means more time doing the subjects you enjoy and less doing those you don’t .

Here at LSST, we use the Ebacc system; this is in effect a fancy term for core subjects. This qualification requires that an individual passes Mathematics, English Literature and Language, at least two sciences (from Biology, Physics, and Chemistry), either Geography or History, and a foreign language. We also do core PE. The Ebacc is a very common qualification that is useful for CVs and further education applications. You can then pick two of the nineteen options provided. These can be viewed on the LSST SharePoint by going to [LSST SharePoint=>Year Resources=>Year Eight Resources=>Final Options Booklet KS4](#). Later in the year, there are opportunities to learn about the courses of each subject so this article will only cover the more complicated options. (Continued on next slide)

(Continued from previous slide). There are multiple different options when it comes to Science. One can opt to do any two sciences over five lessons a week (this changes to four in year ten) without using one of their free choices. So, you could do Biology and Chemistry and then Textiles and Economics, with the latter two subjects being your free choices. There is also the option to do Separate Science; this is where all three sciences are learned across seven lessons a week and this does require an option. Therefore someone could do Separate Science and Business as their options. There is one final choice; however, students are selected by their teachers for this one. Accelerated Science is where all three sciences are studied in only five lessons (the same amount of lessons as Combined Science). It is harder, of course, but the advantage to it is you get all three Science GCSEs without using a free choice.

MFL also provides multiple options. One can choose to do German, French, or both. If you choose to do both, you are a dual linguist and do not do core PE. Instead, you are provided access to the school gym for free.

Geography and History have a similar system to the Languages in that you have to choose at least one, or you could use an option to do both subjects.

It is important to remember that if you find out you don't like one of your options when you eventually receive your timetable in Year Nine, you can change your mind for the first week or so, but Year Eight is the time to try and find out what you do enjoy by going to any clubs that interest you or asking your teachers questions about the subjects at GCSE level. The more you find out now, the easier your options will be.

World News

Oliver and Ellie-Rose

Gun Crime

As many people know, gun crime is a very large problem all over the world, but also in places like America. It often happens in robberies and gang fights; this also ends up leaving lots of innocent people caught in the crossfire. One reason for this is that guns are too easy to get and are especially dangerous in the wrong hands. It doesn't just affect the victims, but also their families and communities. This also means others might feel unsafe in their own town.

As many people are aware, guns were involved in the death of Charlie Kirk, and when he was up on a stage talking about his political views, he was shot in the neck and rushed to a hospital where he underwent surgery but was later pronounced dead.

There are clear examples of why gun crime is so high and many say this is why we need world governments to state laws preventing gun crime from occurring.

What's your opinion on gun crime?

Animal News

Ava

Two Cheeky Young Bears Escape to the Honey Shop

On Monday 23rd June, two cheeky young European brown bears named Mish and Lucy were reported to be consuming “a week’s worth of honey” by Wildwood Devon – a conservation charity. This strange event caused sixteen people to be locked into a play barn as a safety precaution, and the rest of the park evacuated at about three o’clock that afternoon.

The director of zoological operations at Wildwood Trust, Mark Habben, stated that emergency procedures were carried through and that the locals were “Not in harm’s way”. He explained that an investigation had been started with the aim of figuring out how the bears managed to escape. “Both bears are extremely happy. The team were very, very calm - as were the bears at all points. The public were not in harm’s way, emergency procedures did the jobs they were intended to do.”

Once Mish and Lucy got past security, they headed to a staff area and a code red was announced. The bears are now safely back in their enclosures. Wildwood Devon made a post on social media concerning the event: “The exhibit is secure and we are grateful to our staff and visitors for their cooperation, which helped us to resolve the situation swiftly and safely.”

Opinion Article – Astrology

Younis

Astrologers Predict Big Changes Ahead: Uranus Begins Its Backward Journey Through Gemini

The planet Uranus started moving in reverse through the zodiac sign Gemini. This rare cosmic event is expected to shake things up in how we communicate, think, and even connect with others.

This backward motion, which many astrologers call retrograde, began on the 15th of September and it will last until early next year. During this time, astrologers think that people may notice unexpected changes in their routines, sudden insights, or even tech-related issues.

So why would this matter? According to astrology, when Uranus travels through Gemini -a sign linked to ideas and speech- it can create new ways of thinking or challenge old habits. You might find yourself rethinking how you talk to others, how you use technology, or even how you express your emotions. It's a great time to pause, reflect, and stay open to new possibilities.

Astrology fans around the world are already tuning in, hosting online workshops, and even sharing tips on how to stay grounded during this cosmic shake-up. Whether you're deep into astrology or just curious, astrologers say that this planetary change is a reminder that change is part of life - and sometimes, the stars give us a little nudge to grow in the most unexpected ways.

Gaming News

Anton and Noah

New Sonic Racing CrossWorlds

The new *Sonic Racing: CrossWorlds* game will be available to from the 25th September. The devices that it will be on consist of Play Station Four and Five, Xbox Series X/S, Xbox one, PC (Steam and Epic Games), and Nintendo Switch (on Nintendo Two on a later date). There will be three versions of the game: Physical Standard Edition, Digital Standard Edition, and Digital Deluxe Edition. This new game will add characters from other games like Sonic Prime, and a seasonal pass packed with guests, vehicles, and tracks from other iconic franchises such as Minecraft.

Sonic racing: CrossWorlds will be featuring characters from other Sonic universes such as Sonic, Tails, Knuckles, Shadow, and Dr. Eggman. There will also be characters from other SEGA franchises such as Joker, Kasuga Ichiban and other characters (guests) like Hatsune Miku.



Picture taken by Anton Sanderson