



THE PRIORY ACADEMY

LSST

Dear Parents/Carers

As always, at the end of a term, I wish to update you with news from this term and developments for the Academy as we look head into Module 3. Remember for the most important and up to date news stories please view <https://www.priorylsst.co.uk/> and then the News tab. Alternatively you can use Twitter, @PrioryLSST, or Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/priorylsst>.

Sadly, we say goodbye to three members of staff this term. Mrs Gray, our Boarding Administrator, Mrs Shelton, an LSA, Mr Bowmar, a Science Technician and Mrs Goodwin, a caterer. I am sure you will join me in thanking those staff for the contribution they have made to the Academy as a whole and for the support they have provided our students during their time with us and wish them well in their futures.

I am pleased to inform you that the refurbishment work has now been completed in the Mathematics and Modern Foreign Language areas and work has started to remodel and refurbish the Science laboratories. The new environment is certainly making a difference to our students and we are confident our improvements in the Science areas will do the same. We thank you and your children for their support and cooperation as this improvement work to our environment continues.

Congratulations to Year 11 students who have been very busy with mock examinations recently and who coped very well with the pressure. Their results will be reported home at the end of the module. Please do get in touch with your child's subject teachers or Mr Smith if you have any questions about these results. Year 13 students will do doubt be looking forward to their mock examinations which start immediately on our return in January. Finally, of course, good luck to all Year 11 and 13 students for the last 6 months of their courses.

It has been a busy module for careers guidance. We hosted our Awareness Careers Day in November to which over 40 local and national employers including BAE Systems, Siemens, Wilkin Chapman and Duncan & Toplis came along. Students in year groups 9 to 12 were given the opportunity to attend. In addition, Years 12 and 13 were able to listen to career focussed talks from Scanlinc, Andy Wilson Financial Services, Lincoln City Council, Lincolnshire Police, Langley's Solicitors and Inzpire. For those interested in careers within the STEM industries, an external training provider came in to deliver an employability skills workshop, covering CV writing, completion of application forms and interview skills. We also hosted The Lincolnshire Talent Academy in Module 2 on National Allied Health Professionals' Day with physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nutritionists, radiographers and speech and language therapists present. They each delivered a 30-minute talk to groups of Year 11 students. On this day we were able to make the event academy wide and welcomed students from Priory City of Lincoln and Priory Witham. The careers tool KUDOS has also been launched to Years 9 to 13 students. This is an online careers planning and monitoring tool. It allows students to investigate different roles and provides direct links to university and college

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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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courses and apprenticeship vacancies. Each of our students has their own log in and we are able to monitor activity and respond to any questions our students raise. Year 7 and 8 will begin to log into KUDOS in Module 3 when we will also have more employers in to talk about what they do and the different career journeys they have had.

We have seen more successful fundraising in the Academy, with the fundraising efforts raising over £3,500 in total so far this year. The module started with 43 shoeboxes being sent to Eastern Europe, filled with lots of festive treats and essential items. The students enjoyed a non-academy uniform day, bake sale and Pudsey badges to raise over £2,000 for Children in Need. FACT (Fundraising and Community Team) made the decision to change the Christmas jumper day to a local charity this year with the £850 raised going to the Lincs and Notts air ambulance. This year, we have continued to support the local foodbank, bringing in over 650 items, with the Sixth Form donating over half of these- a great effort. Finally, the students sold candy canes to raise money to support WWF, which is our international charity this year, as nominated by students, raising over £85 as well as spreading some festive cheer. Next module will focus on raising money towards our local charity, which this year will be Sophie's journey. Many thanks for all your support this year.

Our House Events have continued to be varied and engaging with unprecedented levels of participation across all year groups and staff too! We have had photographic events such as our autumn pictures competition, creative events such as pumpkin carving and writing poetry, sporting events such as whole year group Bench Ball as well as our ever popular 12 Days of House Christmas. One of our Christmas events had 126 quizzers competing at the same time which shows real House Spirit! Staff continue to get involved too with our Mystery Monday Quizzes and Staff Sports. We look forward to maintaining participation levels and imaginative events into the New Year.

This academic year the Priory Association have been as active as ever and with a few new members, they are busily planning the year ahead. The PA are predominantly made up of parents, and by liaising closely with staff, are able to support extra-curricular activities for all students across the Academy. Recently they have made a contribution towards the purchase of a new grand piano, which will of course benefit those students involved in musical performances and dramatic productions. They have also contributed towards the cost of a flight simulator for use by the Academy's Combined Cadet Force. The Year 7 Book Buzz event, in which all Year 7s participate, is also a regular benefactor of their support. The Priory Association Quiz, an annual event, was the first fundraiser this year, followed by the bar provision at the Senior Prizegiving evening, both of which are valuable additions towards future requests from within the Academy. If you would like to become a member of this friendly and engaging group, who work tirelessly for the benefit of our students, then please consult the website for times and locations for future meetings.

As ever we strive to keep our students safe not only in the Academy but on their journeys to and from the Academy and continue to ask for your support in this. In assemblies and during tutor time this module there has been a focus on students staying safe as they travel to and from the Academy, particularly with the difficult weather conditions we have endured. Please can we ask for your continued support in working with students on ensuring they act responsibly and safely on their way to and from the Academy on all forms of transport. Can we also take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that students should not be on the academy site unsupervised after the end of the day. Unless students are taking part in a supervised activity, they should not be on the academy site after 15.20. As well as all the after-school activities that are available, there are supervised homework sessions in U24 and H2, which run until 16.05 at the end of the academy day if students need to be supervised beyond this time. It is also important to note that students should not be leaving the academy site at the end of the day and then coming back on to site, unless this has been arranged with a member of staff.

Now we are in the depths of winter please ensure students are dressed appropriately for the winter weather and continue to adhere to our uniform code:

<https://www.priorylsst.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform&pid=51>

Particularly at this time of year can I remind you that coats, hats, gloves and scarves must be plain navy or black and there should not be any fur trims on coats. Thank you for your continued support in upholding our high standards of uniform.

In the unlikely event that adverse weather causes the Academy to close, we will of course let you know as soon as possible. We will aim to put out information via Lincs FM and Lincolnshire County Council and by announcements on Twitter, Facebook, In Touch and the Academy website as soon as we possibly can.

With a full and always eventful Module 2 now complete may I finally take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a peaceful New Year. I do look forward to welcoming all of the students back safely on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Hopkinson
Headteacher

