

July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

It is extremely hard to believe we have come to the end of another academic year. It really does not seem eleven months since I wrote to you all in September looking forward to the year ahead. The year, as always, has been very busy with many of our students achieving above and beyond their aspirations both inside and outside of the classroom.

It has been lovely to see many more of you now following our daily success stories and news events through our three social media forums: the website, (http://www.priorylsst.co.uk/), Twitter (@PrioryLSST) and Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/priorylsst). Thank you to you all who have registered and are now using the Parent App and SIMS Pay for paying for academy visits. We will continue to support parents and carers as they register for these services. From September, payments for Priory Leisure will also be made using SIMS Pay rather than paying by cash at our student reception.

Sadly, as in previous years, we have some staff leaving us this summer. In addition to Mrs Barker and Mr Fearn from our Learning Strategies Team, Mrs Newton, Mr Morris, Mrs McGinley, Miss Baxter, Mr Frith, Mr Moran, Mrs Palmer and Mrs Trimble are also leaving us. Some have been with us for a year, while others for twenty five years. I am sure you would all join me in thanking those staff for the hard work, time and dedication they have devoted during their time at LSST and wish them well on their journeys ahead.

The Priory Association, the parent / teacher group, has also continued to support our students throughout the year, details of which can also be found on our website. This year they have donated £400 towards the Year 7 Book Buzz event, which enabled the author Curtis Joblin to pay a visit. They have also held a successful family quiz evening this year and have supported the prize-giving event held in December by providing a bar. Here they raised over £415 whilst supporting our academy musical on two nights, as well as more recently being part of the Arts Extravaganza evening. These funds can now be used to support extracurricular events for all students and of late, a donation has been made towards the purchase of a new grand piano. The Priory Association will always welcome support to assist in their fundraising endeavours and further information can be found on our website under the *Parents* tab.

FACT (our Fundraising and Community Team) have continued to fundraise successfully over the last two modules. Module 5 saw the Year 12s take part in Benchball to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust, raising over £200. A fantastic event organised by the Year 12 students. During Module 6 the FACT team sold cake and ice pops at sports day raising over £75 for charity. In total this year, the Academy has raised over £1500 for the Teenage Cancer Trust and £255 for Aquaboxes. This goes alongside the thousands of pounds already raised for Children in Need, Comic Relief, hundreds of pounds raised for Lincolnshire Rape Crisis, and many items donated to food banks earlier in the year. An excellent effort from all involved.

Over the final two modules of the year, there have been numerous enrichment activities in support of our House System. There have been competitions for new insertions into the daybook such as a cycling safety poster

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competition as well as a wellbeing competition which we hope will help raise awareness of these topics. We have seen further Priory Impossible events with Years 7 and 8 competing in a series of physical escape drills and codebreaker exercises to achieve their escape and subsequent house points and prizes! There was an excellent turnout for Sports Day with students making banners to support their House and researching sportspeople who represent the Academy's values to help inspire and support their fellow athletes. The Staff House relay was particularly memorable and we hope Mr Dinnie's injuries heal quickly in time for the summer break! Staff participation has remained high in House Events with high participation in Mystery Monday conundrums as well as the yearly Mastermind competition which finished this week. It was great to have our first reward trips for those with the most House Points in each year group with the students choosing between watching Toy Story 4 or Jump! Well done to those students who have worked hard on House Competitions, achieving House Points in lessons and through praise and AtL grades. Finally, a massive well done to our House Champions this year Castille. Castille denied Avalon who put in a great effort in the last module but ultimately came second, with Sempringham third and Alexandria fourth.

With the summer break almost upon us I would like to remind parents and carers to collect any medication we currently store for their child by Friday 25th July 2019. Unfortunately, we cannot allow students to take medication home with them. Any medication left in the Academy over the summer will be disposed of.

Although this term is only just drawing to a close please remember that the full uniform list for September 2019 is on our website (under the 'Parents' section). Please note that for September 2019 the new PE kit items will be compulsory for all students in Year 7 and 8 and are available to all other year groups. I would encourage you to check this if you have any questions about the uniform expectations. We would like to emphasise in particular that trousers must be straight cut in style and with regards to piercings, students are only permitted one pair of plain silver or gold studs in the lower lobe. Students arriving back to the Academy in September with incorrect uniform will not be permitted to go into lessons if the issue is not rectified. Therefore, should you have any difficulty purchasing the correct items of uniform please do not hesitate to contact the Academy.

The Academy expects that a student's attendance will be 100% in order to ensure that they are able to perform to the best of their ability. To help maintain attendance levels please can we ask that any appointments be made outside of the academy day where possible. However, we understand that some absences are unavoidable and we wish to work with families in these instances. Please do not hesitate to contact the Academy if there is anything you wish to discuss concerning attendance and what can be done to support you/your child. If a student is absent from the Academy then they will be expected to catch up on any missed work and their Form Tutor and subject teachers will support them with this. If your child is going to be absent then please contact the Academy on 01522 889977 in the morning, stating a reason for their absence. If your child's absence goes beyond one day we need to be contacted on each subsequent day of absence.

The term dates for 2019-20 and 2020-21 are also available via our website (found under the 'Parents' section). Please be aware that all students, Years 7 to 13, return on Wednesday 4th September 2019.

It has been lovely to see many of you this week in our end of year Prize giving ceremonies where we can recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students. As always, thank you all for your ongoing support and I wish you all a very safe and enjoyable summer break.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hopkinson Headteacher