



Welcome to the final newsletter for this academic year. Over the last two modules, there has been a lot happening across the Academy in terms of career engagement including students going out to visit employers and employers coming in to talk to students.

As a department, we have organised visits by guest speakers into the Academy from Streets Heaver, an IT software company explaining the different career opportunities within their company and about the diversity of IT careers and pathways, Knight's Solicitors who talked about the different pathways to become a solicitor as well as the different roles within a solicitors. Aerosparx came in, along with a representative from ASI Newark; they spoke about aviation careers, which included the ground crew as well as pilots and different courses and routes into gaining the right qualifications. We had a lecturer from the medical department from Lincoln University to talk to the students about Health Care careers. We also had a local company called eComOne come in and speak about digital marketing and search engine optimisation. We had the pleasure of listening to a senior lecturer in astrophysics from Lincoln University, who himself has discovered three planets, speak about different areas of physics and astrophysics, what the educational route could be and jobs in this field. Along with Miss Scarratt, we had an ex-student come in to talk about careers in Dance and Dance Science before holding a workshop for students taking GCSE Dance. We had some student ambassadors and a schools engagement officer from Loughborough University carry out a STEM project with a group of Year 12s about sustainability and the future of businesses. Our final guest speakers for this academic year were Duncan and Toplis, who spoke to students about the different pathways into careers in accounting and taxation. Students from all year groups have had awareness sessions on careers and the different pathways as well as careers embedded in their curriculum.

During the year, our Subject Ambassadors have organised career talks for Year 12s, which have included but not limited to Film Studies, Accounting, Graphic Design, Product Design and English Literature. All the guest speakers are alumni. Mrs Cavill from our business department organised for two local employers to come in to speak to Year 9 students, who are taking GCSE Business, which helped embed their curriculum studies by relating it to real life scenarios.

For the first time we launched physical work placements for the whole of Year 10. We had students going out to a variety of employers, including primary schools, vets, retail, design and manufacturing, travel and tourism, sports coaching, rescue kennels, the rail network, a water company, a farm, electrical and mechanical engineers, the police, the RAF, the University of Lincoln and many more. We also had students who attended a residential Physics Outreach Programme at Leicester University and another group who attended the Athena STEM Programme at Loughborough University. The students have benefited from this programme immensely, as it has given them a taste of the working environment and it has allowed them to experience life outside of school and the responsibilities that come with it. We had some amazing references from the employers including:

Headteacher: Mrs J Hopkinson

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"She's been a huge asset and a help to everyone in our team and we've thoroughly enjoyed having her over these past few days. Welcome back anytime."

"It has been a delight to have him in the class the past few days, and he has many skills and qualities of a great future teacher."

"I just felt the need to reach out and say not only is he a credit to his parents, but LSST also, representing himself and the school really well. We really wish him all the success and luck in the future and we are convinced he will be successful in the chosen field he goes in."



During the week of work placements, Mrs Billett and Mrs Morgan-Brown took it in turn to spend a couple of days with groups of students at eComOne and the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance. At eComOne, the students spent time learning what the business is about and each member of staff's job role. They then had tasks to complete, with one group deciding they would like to present it to the rest of the staff, which took courage and they did with great enthusiasm.

During the visit to LNAA, we were fortunate enough to be able to speak to one of the paramedics, one of the doctors, the pilots, the Chief Operating Manager and the fundraising team. There are many varied job roles when working in any business, so it was great the students could hear from the non-clinical staff as well as the clinical staff.





For our final visit this academic year Mrs Billett, Mr S Fearn and Mrs Morgan-Brown took 36 students, from across three year groups, to the University of Hull. We met Chris Landridge, a Team GB athlete, who has won six medals including a Gold in the Commonwealth Games in 2018. The students came away with a wealth of knowledge about what sporting degrees the university offer. They met a few lecturers, who gave them a taster of what they could be studying. All students came away with handfuls of free goodies; however, some were luckier than others. During the day, the students took part in mini competitions and the lucky winners took away shirts, which Chris Landridge wore at the Rio Olympics in 2016, special Team GB bags and T-shirts.









All our students have shown that they hold our academy motto at heart showing courage and courtesy throughout all the visits we have taken them on and towards all visitors who have come into the Academy to speak to them.

Over the past couple of months, we have met with students who asked for a one to one meeting from a range of year groups for a variety of reasons. Some students needed advice on how to start thinking about their next steps, some knew what they wanted to do but not how to go about it and some needed reassurance that they were doing the right thing. We are always here to help students, so if any student would like a meeting with staff in the Career Hub to discuss their pathway, for help with completing an application form or writing a CV please ask them to email directly to Mrs Billett <u>abillett@prioryacademies.co.uk</u>, or Mrs S Morgan-Brown <u>smorganbrown@prioryacademy.co.uk</u>. Alternatively, they can speak to their Form Tutor, Head of Year or their Pastoral Learning Mentor who can email the Career Hub to request a meeting.

During the next academic year, we will run more events like these as well as a Careers Fair, which we have not had for the past two years due to Covid. The start of the academic year we will have meetings with the new Year 13s completing their UCAS application especially the early entry students, whose deadline is the 15th October. They have already started their UCAS application during a drop down day and are now planning and writing their personal statements. We will also give support, advice and guidance to those not wanting to go to university but are thinking about alternative pathways. We will see the new Year 11s, who will be making their post-16 choices, those students making decisions at key transitional stages, SEND and PP students and anyone who needs career support, advice and guidance.

This list below is a few websites we use. They have a magnitude of useful information, opportunities and webinars for parents, as well as students, so you can help support your child's career path. There are also a few websites listed below that the students can use to gain virtual work experience, which they can use on their personal statements or CVs.

- Success at School Success at School: Search Jobs and Courses
- Government Find An Apprenticeship <u>Find an apprenticeship (findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)</u>
- Amazing Apprenticeships website <u>Amazing Apprenticeships</u>
- Springpod <u>Search for apprenticeships | Springpod</u>
- Get My First Job Search | GetMyFirstJob | Apprenticeships, Degree Apprenticeships & Work Experience
- Success Beyond School Events for Parents | InvestIN
- Success Beyond School Workshops and Summer Schools <u>Choose Your Career | InvestIN</u> these all have a cost attached to them.
- NHS Talent Academy Virtual Work Experience <u>Work Experience | NHS Talent Academy</u>
- Speakers for School <u>Virtual Work Experience</u> | <u>VWEX</u> | <u>Speakers for Schools</u>
- Springpod Virtual Work Experience <u>Free Virtual Work Experience | Springpod</u>
- Information regarding student finance <u>Student finance GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>
- Rate My Apprenticeship <u>Students Advice Archives | RateMyApprenticeship Blog</u>
- Find your perfect role in the creative industries Creative Careers (discovercreative.careers)
- <u>Getting into film, TV, games, animation and VFX ScreenSkills</u>
- <u>Creative Journeys (creativejourneyuk.com)</u>

Yours faithfully

Mrs A Billett Careers and Pathways Lead Mrs S Morgan-Brown Career and Pathways Assistant