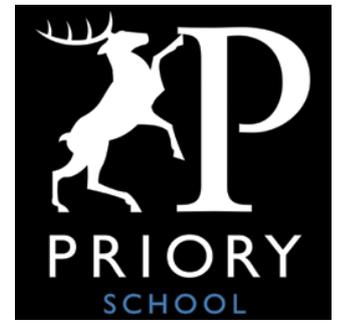


PRIORY POST



ENJOY • RESPECT • ACHIEVE

March 2016

A HARVEST OF TALENT

The animals took over when the Expressive Arts' production of Animal Farm took centre stage in the main hall in Priory. Head of Drama Mr Young writes:

Congratulations to everyone involved in this year's Faculty Of Expressive Arts' school production. Following on from the success of Daisy Pulls It Off and Back To The 80s! over the last two years, the Drama

Department produced the play, Animal Farm based on the novella by George Orwell and performed it in the main building for three evenings in February.

Over 400 people saw the production including our Year 11 pupils who are studying the book for their English GCSE, Year 6 pupils from Fernhurst Junior School and family, friends and staff who came to support

the pupils involved. The cast and backstage crew consisted of 26 pupils from all year groups who had been rehearsing the play since September last year, directed by Mr Young and Miss Gapes.

Year 9 Jack Jackson who played Benjamin the Donkey said: "I really enjoyed performing in Animal Farm and spending time with new friends in rehearsals."

Languages teacher Ms Eustace, who also came along, added: "I really enjoyed seeing the play all the way through yesterday. The pupils have done an excellent job and it's great to see them working so independently! We definitely have some stars in the making. Congratulations to all."



IMPORTANT SPRING TERM DATES

THURSDAY 24 MARCH
last day of spring term

MONDAY 11 APRIL
*INSET day -
no pupils in school*

TUESDAY 12 APRIL
*first day of summer
term for pupils*

MONDAY 2 MAY
Bank Holiday Monday

**MONDAY 30 MAY -
FRIDAY 3 JUNE**
half term

MONDAY 6 JUNE
school reopens

WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE
*Year 10 Parents'
Consultation Evening*

TUESDAY 19 JULY
end of the academic year

AT **PRIORY** SCHOOL

We: **EMBRACE CHALLENGES**
PERSIST IN THE FACE OF SETBACKS
CELEBRATE EFFORT
LEARN FROM CRITICISM
DRAW INSPIRATION FROM OTHERS



We have a
GROWTH MINDSET

INTRODUCING PRIORY LOCAL GOVERNING BOARD



With the change of status of Priory School to become an academy as part of the Bohunt Educational Trust, the role of school governors has changed quite a bit. Much of the policy making for the school, the appointment of the Headteacher, and financial oversight, is now the responsibility of the Trust Board, and the local governing boards work in partnership with the Trust Board.

However as the Priory Local Governing Board (as we're now called) we have considerable responsibility still for providing oversight of the School Improvement Plan, and the Headteacher provides regular reports to Governors to demonstrate progress and highlight challenges.

As Governors we have been particularly keen to encourage more communication and engagement with parents, and for the school to seek regular feedback from staff, parents and pupils about their experiences of school life. Our new Headteacher, Stewart Vaughan, has been actively building on previous work in the school to develop this, and we want to see this continue.

At the beginning of this academic year, we decided to have a reduced number of Governors and to have what's called a 'single tier' structure. So we no longer have governor sub-committees. Instead we all meet three times a term and consider all the agenda items together. Each Governor now has a Link Role which connects with an aspect of the School Improvement Plan – this means that as Governors we can be better equipped to hold the school and the Headteacher accountable for the School Improvement Plan, and to contribute our views to the Trust Board.

Current Priory Governors are:

Carolyn Barber (*Chair*)

Stephen Morgan (*Vice-Chair*)

Ray Morton (*Chair of BET Board*)

Stewart Vaughan (*Head of Priory*)

Neil Strowger (*Chief Executive, BET*)

Adey Adeneye

Leonie Banham

Jennifer Collighan

Mick Wade

Ruth Nabholz-Duncan

Pippa Saunders

Richard Mason (*staff*)

Susan Thomas (*staff*)

Our Clerk to Governors is Andrew McVittie, and if you'd like to contact governors please email amcvittie@priorysouthsea.org

In future editions of Priory Post, I plan to cover a couple of issues considered by the Priory Local Governing Board in recent months.

Carolyn Barber

Chair, Priory Local Governing Board

EASTER TIME

Dear Parents and Carers,

Easter is for many a time of rebirth and regeneration; the days are becoming lighter and the countryside regaining vibrant colour as winter draws to a close.

This past term has been shorter than others but as you will enjoy reading in

this Priory Post, there has been an awful lot going on both inside and outside of classrooms.

We look back over a term of highlights: the wonderful "Animal Farm" production, sporting success and exciting trips home and abroad. We look forward to the Dance Show, Year 11 completing their GCSE courses, Year 7/8 trips to France, visits to the Houses of Parliament, MP visits to debate the EU referendum and rewards

trips for our wonderful pupils towards the end of the summer term.

Might I conclude by wishing you and your families an enjoyable Easter break and for those in Year 11, to enjoy some relaxation alongside your revision sessions in school and at home. GCSEs are only a month away...

With warm wishes

Mr Vaughan



PRIORY'S CADETS LEARN THE DISCIPLINE OF WEAPON HANDLING



Our cadets have now begun to take more responsibility for themselves and others and over the last few weeks the army has begun weapon training with them. This ensures the cadets listen carefully, follow instructions, practice self-awareness and have respect for the immediate environment. All of this builds character and leadership – and on this note, two of our force have already been promoted. Well done to Rhys and Emily, who are now Corporal Fitzgerald and Corporal Brett.

These photos show the rapt attention to the Sergeant's instructions and the respect with which cadets are taught to handle weapons. We are really proud of the start we have made at Priory and look forward to growing our CCF over the coming months and years.



ENGLISH

On Thursday 28 January 13 Year 7 pupils attended Fratton Park to participate in the Portsmouth Literary Quiz.

In preparation, pupils committed to reading four chosen novels. On the day pupils answered questions on general knowledge and the chosen books. They also had the chance to meet the authors and have their novels signed. Although we did not win everyone had an enjoyable afternoon. The pupils represented the school in an exceptional manner.

Thank you to Mrs Feltham for arranging the trip.



Certificates were awarded to all the pupils. Congratulations to:

Samad Amin
Ujjal Amin
Alisha Blackham
Emma Burton
Bella Hemsley

Robert James
Liam Giles
Anna Jones
Jude Parker
Muntaha Rahman

Jacob Stevin
Laurence Trinh
Matthew Wilson

SPORTS REPORT

Here's a run down of some of the recent success and valiant efforts from the PE department

Date: 21st January	Football – Year 10	Event: 5-a-side	Opponent: Portsmouth Schools	Result: 2nd Place
Players: 6 pupils Alfie Tong, Harry Leeming, Jamal Ahmed, Anton Oceanu, Danny Galvin, Tom Curley		Report: The boys narrowly missed out on 1st place to a well organised Springfield team. The boys were a credit to the school, showing plenty of resilience to come back from losing positions in two games.		
Date: 27th January	Football – Year 10	Event: Portsmouth League	Opponent: Milton Cross	Result: 5-1 Win
Players: 14 pupils Alex Dudman, Dylan Edwards, Bayley Whitcombe, Henry James (C), Faras Seibou, Harry Frost, Jacob Wade, Benedict Duncan, Joe Johnson, Tanatswa Kanjanda, Shaquille Gwenge, Luke Blay, Kyle Elston		Report: The Year 10 footballers have had a good season and continued their current form with a 5-1 victory over close neighbours Milton Cross. A brace from both Johnson and James with a neat finish from Wade ensured the boys were rewarded with the goals that their superiority deserved. A special mention to Dudman who produced a great double save just before half time to keep Milton Cross at a two goal distance to ensure they were always at an arm's length throughout the game.		
Date: 3rd February	Football - Year 10	Event: Portsmouth Cup QF	Opponent: King Richard	Result: 2-0 Win
Players: 14 pupils Alex Dudman, Dylan Edwards, Bayley Whitcombe, Henry James (C), Faras Seibou, Harry Frost, Jacob Wade, Benedict Duncan, Joe Johnson, Tanatswa Kanjanda, Shaquille Gwenge, Luke Blay, Kyle Elston		Year 10 footballers are now in the semi final of the Portsmouth Cup against Admiral Lord Nelson. King Richard's were unfortunately unable to field a side meaning that Priory were awarded a walkover into the next round. Priory will be looking to avenge the earlier defeat in the season to Admiral where the boys played with only 10 men but only narrowly lost out on a share of the spoils.		
Date: 4th February	Football – Year 8	Event: 5-a-side	Opponent: Portsmouth Schools	Result: 4th Place
Players: 6 pupils Nelo Paliotta, Ben Hatherley, Aidan Bone, Harry Giles, Toby White, Niyaj Niyazov		Report: A group of six students who haven't played for the full Year 8 team were given the opportunity to represent the school at the annual 5-a-side tournament held at ROKO in Hilssea. The boys were a credit to the school, managing to find the net in every single game they played. Many thanks to all the other Portsmouth Schools who attended to make it such a friendly, yet competitive event.		
Date: 3rd February	Football – Year 8	Event: Portsmouth League	Opponent: Milton Cross	Result: 5-2 Loss
Players: 14 pupils Syd Davies, Oscar Noyce, Jack Farminer, Charlie Musson, Oakley Alexander, Harrison Davies Garside, Leon Snow, Daniel Moseley, Jamie Rees, Harry Bannister, Louie Hughes, Joshua Graney.		Report: The Year 8 footballers played against a talented Milton Cross eventually succumbing to defeat after putting up a solid resistance for large parts of the game. A goal towards the end of the first half from Hughes brought the game back within touching distance to 2-1 and after the half time break Priory came out strong but were caught on the break by a great attacking move from Milton Cross. A great finish from Davies-Garside brought the game back to 4-2 but whilst going in search for the goals needed to rescue a point, Milton Cross were able to extend their lead and finish as 5-2 winners. A resilient performance from an ever improving Year 8 team.		



ART

RAISING THE BAR IN ART

Professional artist Sandy Curry visited Priory for a day-long workshop, specifically targeting Year 10 pupils aiming to get their grades to a C and above.

The parent of one participating pupil wrote: "It really motivated him and inspired him. He enjoyed it very much and is currently thinking seriously about a career in art."

The results were some absolutely stunning landscapes - as you can see here:



WE ASKED YOU ANSWERED

HERE ARE SOME OF THE HEADLINES FROM LAST TERM'S STAKEHOLDER SURVEY THAT WAS UNDERTAKEN WITH STUDENTS AND PARENTS/CARERS.

STUDENTS

- 81% feel well looked after by their tutors
- 80% feel that they are clearly told how to improve their work
- 68% agree that behaviour has improved at Priory School this year
- 74% agree that they are learning more in lessons

PARENTS/CARERS

- 96% agree their child is taught well
- 96% agree that their child is happy at school
- 95% agree that their child is well looked after
- 95% would recommend Priory to another parent

WE'RE LISTENING...

There is a lot of positive and encouraging feedback from our survey on improvement in the school.

There are also aspects that show we have areas to develop. These include:

- Looking at the quantity and quality of homework being set
- Improving teaching and learning so that students get a consistently good experience in every lesson
- Addressing the behaviour of a small number of students.

YEAR TEAM MESSAGES

YEAR 7

Portsmouth Foodbank Year 7 Enterprise Challenge 2016

We are really excited to be partnering with the Portsmouth Foodbank by taking part in their Enterprise Challenge over the coming months.

After an assembly explaining what the Portsmouth Foodbank do and setting out the rules of the Challenge, Year 7 pupils have been getting into teams within their tutor groups. Teams have been asked to submit their company name and idea to Mrs Farrar by Friday 26 February and will then be given a £10 start-up by the Foodbank to help them on their way. As part of the Challenge, teams will need to keep an account of all their expenditure and income so they can easily show how much they have made. At the very least, teams will need to return the £10 start-up (although, of course, we hope they will do much better than this!). Teams will also need to negotiate with the school and, indeed, any location (outside clubs, etc.) about when and where they want to trade their product.

The aim of the Enterprise Challenge is to make as much profit as they can between now and Friday 27 May; this profit will go towards fundraising for a new storage facility for the Foodbank. It will give pupils an invaluable insight into how to set up and run a small business and we hope it will inspire them to greater projects in the future.

The winning team will receive a prize, donated by the Foodbank, details of which will be confirmed later.

On behalf of the Portsmouth Foodbank and Priory School, we wish you all the best in your ventures and look forward to seeing your businesses grow!

Mrs White

YEAR 8

Year 8 continues to go from strength to strength. A busy start to 2016 saw excellent communication with parents via AfA week and then a busy Parent Consultation Evening. The Year 8 team are feeling really positive about the year group as a whole and we are all genuinely proud of our students. As this newsletter is released, so too will the latest round of reports, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns surrounding this.

Mr Harding

YEAR 9



22 amazing Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit the Portsmouth Museum on Friday 29 January to participate in a free Creative Writing workshop with the famous author Aoife Mannix. The workshop was offered by the museum as part of a Creative Writing competition which was won by Ben Singh last summer.

They had the opportunity to explore museum collections, which included puppets, characters and figures from popular children's TV shows and use them as an inspiration for writing their own story. Aoife was very impressed with the enthusiasm and amazing ideas the group came up with.

They were perfect representatives of Priory School.

Ms Chadwick

YEAR 10

On Tuesday 23 February, Year 10 were invited to attend a Careers Fair. This was an opportunity for pupils to explore opportunities available to them once they leave Priory School. The event was held in our Sports Hall, and pupils had a full hour to speak with visitors and explore the stalls, taking leaflets, prospectuses as well as lots of 'freebies'. The visitors were extremely impressed with the Year 10 pupils, stating that they showed maturity, curiosity and most importantly good manners. Well done Year 10 - another proud achievement as a year group!

Year 10 - Careers Fair Pupil feedback.

Luke Blay - 10 Coghlan: Priory pupils were given the opportunity to open their mind to what they may see themselves doing after school and maybe even further. Whether they want to become an engineer, a Doctor, or even the Army. Whatever they aspire to be.

Some pupils including myself will not know at all. To help us with this, people from Colleges, Universities, and Apprenticeships came in for this fair, to broaden our knowledge of what there was and what we could do. There were so many subjects available that would help us along to whatever we might want to be in the future and tell us more about what specifically they would have to help.

This seemed to be a big help to us and made us think more about what options are open to us. Understanding what we can do is important and knowing more about it was interesting and very helpful. These decisions are not far away...



YEAR 10 CONT...

Chloe Birch - 10 Coghlan: I really enjoyed visiting the Portsmouth College stall. It was good. I want to attend Portsmouth College when I leave Priory School.

Dylan Edwards - 10 Gapes: It was good! I spoke with Portsmouth College.

Miss Gapes (Year 10 Tutor): Pupils asked lots of questions; proud tutor!

If any pupil or parent/carers wish to discuss Colleges/further education, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Johnston

YEAR 11

The countdown for Year 11 has well and truly started following their Year Group picture on Wednesday 24 February. They have all been working astonishingly hard and fingers crossed that their GCSE exam results match the effort they have been showing throughout Year 11. I am sure I speak for all the staff in the school in wishing them all the best for the upcoming Pre-Public Examinations in March and especially their GCSE exams in the summer.



We have also booked the Historic Dockyard Boathouse Number 7 as the venue for this year's Prom. The date has been scheduled for Friday 15th July which we are all looking forward to. More information to follow...

Mr M Graham (Year 11 Progress Leader)

LANGUAGE DAY AT CHICHESTER UNIVERSITY

On February 4 I accompanied 10 of our Year 8 linguists to Chichester University. We had been invited to participate in a language skills day based on the Olympics to be held in Rio in the Summer.

The pupils were put into teams and had to work together with pupils from other schools on completing various activities which focused on translation skills as this is a new part of the GCSE.

Each activity had a sport element to it and the winning team was the one that had accumulated the most points at the end of the day.

All our pupils were a credit to the school and exhibited some excellent language skills giving a presentation in a different language. A special mention must go to Maddie Smith who was part of the winning team and came away with a gold medal!

Mr Mason



Pupil quotes:

"The day was great. I met new people and gained the confidence to talk in front of people I didn't know"

"I really enjoyed it and it really helped me improve my vocabulary"

"It was lots of fun!"

DISNEY DELIGHTS YEAR 9

32 Year 9 pupils took a science trip for four days to Paris, France, staying at the Cheyenne Hotel in Disneyland Paris. Staying in an American Ranch-Style hotel, the Pupils had some days of science fun!

On the first day they ventured into central Paris, taking in the sites and one of the most awe-inspiring engineering feats in the world the Eiffel Tower! We had our very own photographer Katya Graham.

The pupils took part in science seminars at Disneyland to learn how a rollercoaster is born from an idea and the science that goes into making it and running it. Pupils and teachers alike then went to “try out” the roller coasters ... some several times! ... with some voices being lost from the screaming and pure excitement.

Snow fell on day three much to everyone’s delight. The science of fireworks and lasers were discussed after the amazing closing parade and show on our last night.



Mrs England-Wood tracked steps throughout the trip and just under 80,000 steps were taken in four days! That smashes the daily target of 10,000.

The pupils in their school hoodies were great ambassadors for the school and Mrs England-Wood is very proud of them for the way they conducted themselves on the trip. Well Done Year 9!



ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

Priory School has embarked on achieving the prestigious Princess Diana Award for Anti-Bullying with the implementation of the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. The pupils range from Year 7 to Year 10 and they have all received intense training in order to carry out their daily responsibilities.

They are in full swing helping out various pupils around the school with any problems they may face. They are currently working together to create a whole school initiative in order to raise the awareness of Anti-Bullying at Priory School as well as helping the staff create a calm, welcoming environment in lessons and at break-time. Their work is industrious and appreciated massively. Hopefully we can achieve the Princess Diana Award in the coming years which would be an



Mr Graham, Mr Davies and Miss Thompson

incredible achievement. All the pupils have been issued with an Ambassador badge so they can be easily identified by pupils and staff. It looks like this....