



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. This one is particularly important to me as, according to the government's road map, we are close to having the school operating as normal again, from 21 June 2021.

Over the last 14 months we have tried our best to provide our students with a safe environment to learn in and at the same time a rich curriculum for their attainment. I am delighted to say that we are planning to discontinue the bubble system on Monday 21 June. Our plan is to have the school back to normal for the last four weeks of Term 6, thus giving all of our students the opportunity to experience the full school offer. Our plan is to change everyone's timetable so students can experience curriculum areas such as, practical lessons in: science, Design and Technology, Drama and Art. More information about this will be with you shortly.

I am sure that by now you have received our offer for Summer School for our Years 7 and 8. Mr. Uffendell has worked really hard to create an amazing offer for our students that combines academic support but also outdoor experiences. I do hope you will take this opportunity and encourage your children to attend these days.

Equally important, we are planning further opportunities for our Years 9 and 10, for next year, in terms of extra school days and tuition when needed. Again, more information will be with you at the appropriate time.

As mentioned earlier, we are planning to bring the school back to its previous arrangements on 21 June. This will automatically mean that students must wear their full school uniform on a daily basis. They will not have to wear their PE kit on PE days anymore as the changing rooms will be operational. Furthermore, the government has announced that there will be a revised guidance for the use of face masks in school, around

the middle of May, and we will let you know as soon as we have received this information. At this point, I would like to remind you that we expect all of our students to be equipped with the right uniform. Please refer to our if you are unsure. Also, please let us know if you need any help with the purchase of uniform.

Here, at PCSA, we pride ourselves in terms of our communication with parents and carers. We are always willing to get back to you addressing your concerns and have useful discussions. Ultimately, it is this process that will allow us to make the school better for all. However, I would like to remind you that Facebook will not give you any answers to these concerns or the opportunity of a useful dialogue with the school.

At this point I would like to extend a warm welcome to our 300 new PCSA students who will join us in September 2021. I would also like to thank the parents and carers who once again have chosen PCSA for their child's education. As always, my pledge is that all PCSA staff are committed to the safety, progress and well-being of your children.

My final words are for our Year 11s. They have been brilliant and they are a fantastic bunch of young people; kind and resilient. We are committed to a process of fairness and transparency in terms of their GCSE grades and we have sent you the appropriate correspondence on this matter. Please contact myself or Mr. Uffendell if you need any clarification on this matter.

As always, I want to thank you personally for your support over the last 14 difficult months. Hopefully, the adversity of the past will create a stronger sense of community around us based on care and kindness for each other.

Best wishes

Angelos Markoutsas
Principal



FEATURED INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Lockdown Learning



TKASA Sixth Form
Page 9



Return to School



Zoom with Fiona Bruce
Page 25



Parents and carers,

Thank you for your super support over the last few months; we have really appreciated the many comments of support. March 2019 does seem a long time ago! We are now fully back.

It is great to see all our students back in our schools. The true value of 'face to face' education and the wider aspects of schooling have certainly been seen in this last year. I am now sure that our PCSA students and staff will delight, even more than normal, in the simple school processes of being with friends, riding a bike in each day or just taking part in the myriad of sport, drama and music 'after school' clubs on offer. Of course, this is never just 'after school' – it is part of the very fabric of what we mean by 'school'. These sorts of activities will continue to be a huge part of what we offer across our group of schools at PCSA, WCSA, TKASA, Castle Batch, East and West Huntspill, Pawlett and St Anne's – this is always a clear pledge from us. We will continue to make sure all our schools have a great 'after school' offer – it has always been a very strong part of our provision at PCSA.

We hope to have seen the end of lockdowns for a very long time. Again, thank you to all our PCSA parents, carers and students for your very good humour and patience through what has been a difficult time for us all. Unfortunately, a couple of our longer serving staff have been extremely ill during this terrible time – school staff are not exempt from COVID-19. We continue to wish them well in their long recovery. Throughout the pandemic we have been very mindful of staff welfare and safety and, as I note, bar a couple of staff, all is thankfully well. We now look optimistically forward to the next stage of TPLT's development with the primary schools with East and West Huntspill joining us on April 1st – this onboarding work has continued despite the pandemic. So, we will soon be a group of seven schools spread across nine sites – 5,200 students with 720 staff. We have a healthy balance sheet and have some audacious plans for this coming September; we think our MAT size is one which enables plenty of alignment and joint opportunities whilst not getting too big and thus too far ahead of ourselves – we have now a really excellent local offer for our families which is focussed on great outcomes for our students and a super place to work for our staff.

The purpose of TPLT is to advance education for public benefit. TPLT will facilitate knowledge building through professional development, with a determination to improve curriculum and pedagogy.

On March 1st we were delighted to see that PCSA had, once again, over 300 first choices for the new Year 7 entry. So, PCSA will have 300 new Year 7s joining Mr. Markoutsas and the dedicated team of staff this coming September. We were similarly really pleased to see WCSA's first choices increase by 11% - so, 256 new Year 7s are off to WCSA. We have also



been delighted to see the growth of the Sixth Form at TKASA (Highbridge), with 50 entering in 2018 to 100+ entering in Year 12 in September – this is fantastic. Please do consider TKASA, which has a great reputation of sending students to the very best universities, as an option if you have a son / daughter in Year 11. Have a look at the TKASA website and please do request a 'safe' tour of our Sixth Form should you wish. Many of our TKASA Sixth Formers are off to Oxford and Cambridge this year – great work by all involved.

We also have been working very hard 'behind the scenes' to advance our Alternative Provision (AP) and we hope in the next year or so to open two new AP centres in both WSM and Highbridge. These centres will cater for students who need extra behaviour support and guidance. Also, from September 2021, and planned before the pandemic, we propose to provide many more of our students with a Chrome Book - a Google enabled laptop. We now have 576 Chrome Books across our schools and we will be issuing another 733 devices in the secondary schools in May. Great work by Simon Merrick (Head of TPLT IT) and all our IT professionals.

More details on both of these exciting initiatives will soon follow from Nathan Jenkins, who is joining our Central Team as our Head of School Improvement on April 1st. My thanks to Gail Webb MBE, who has been in this role over last four years. Gail has done a really tremendous job bringing forward great improvements at both WCSA and TKASA in particular. As we all know, both schools were in the lowest OfSTED category of 'Special Measures' in the recent past – 2016 and 2018; they are certainly not there anymore. We wish Gail well, with our great appreciation.

As always, please do contact me directly if you need to talk about anything. I am very happy to assist at any time. All our staff will continue to make sure we reply quickly to all our parents and carers. We do produce a brief video update each term about all the great work we do as a Multi-Academy Trust – please have a look on school websites. Finally, remember we do have a thriving teacher training programme, as a MAT, which is fully funded and 'salaried'; if you know of anyone who would like to 'train to teach' from September 2021 or 22 please do get in touch. It's a great job.

Stay safe with my thanks,

Neville Coles
CEO - The Priory Learning Trust
Neville.coles@theplt.org.uk

THE PAULA RADCLIFFE CENTRE
THE PRC GYM



MEMBERSHIP

PUBLIC: £21 PER MONTH

SPECIAL OFFER!

JOIN NOW WITH NO JOINING FEE!

**USE CODE BELOW
PROMO
CODE: **MAY21****

**EXPIRES 9TH JUNE
2021**

**LOCATION: THE PRC, PRIORY
COMMUNITY SCHOOL, QUEENSWAY,
WESTON-SUPER-MARE, BS22 6BP**

INSTAGRAM: THEPRC
FACEBOOK:
PAULA RC PRIORY
TWITTER:
HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/PRIORYPRC

HTTP://THEPRC.ORG.UK/



The enthusiasm Year 7 have shown for their education and the return to school has demonstrated both their ability to adapt and their positive attitude towards life. With restrictions being eased and an ever hopeful return to normality students are embracing Period 6 activities and enjoying the freedom of childhood again.

As a year group they have accumulated over 215,000 achievement points across all subjects, both academic and creative, in and out of school.

We have 16 students who have individually received over 1000 achievement points, and 150 with 750+.

Our top students in the year are Ellie Bavin 7B4 & Samuel Booth 7B6. Well done !

I continue to be overwhelmed by the warmth and goodwill that many of the year group have shown peers and staff. Students have not only openly supported each other, they have immersed themselves in the Priory way.

Mr Wilmot will be holding the Year 7 Interview Challenge during Term 5. This is a great opportunity for students to explore and navigate the world of employment and to understand the relevance and importance of academic study.

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a privilege it is to be part of the next generation of young people making a positive impact on the world. I am lucky to be surrounded each day by kind and thoughtful students who I am sure will make a positive impact on the world.

My final note as always, is to be kind (to yourself and others), and be the change you want to see in the world.

Miss Dodson
Head of Year 7
lee.dodson@pcsa.org.uk



It's been my pleasure to be part of Year 8 and see the students return after lockdown with a grown-up and positive attitude.

Every student has taken these changes in their stride and I am so proud of the whole year group.

Their learning and engagement over the lockdown was a great achievement and I had so many lovely conversations with teachers and home which was lovely to hear.

Faculties set numerous challenges on twitter over lockdown to which the Year group took with both hands and ran with it "quite literally in the PE challenge".

Some of the baking that Year 8 produced was amazing. I even joined in and became a twitter addict.

All the achievements above have been celebrated in The Good News Post which is amazing.

The students have tried their very best this cycle, and I can see this when present in the students' lessons.

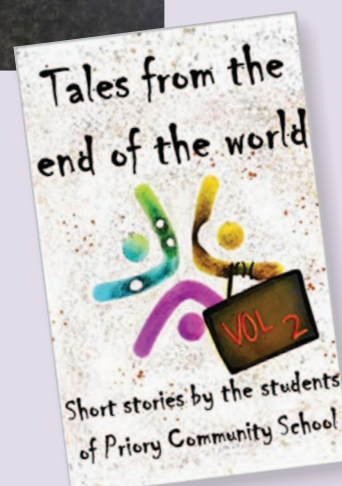
I am so proud of the whole year group and proud to be their Head of Year. I hope the students keep learning, listening, enjoying school, staying and continuing to be the great year group that they are!

Mrs. A Boyce
Head of Year 8
abigail.boyce@pcsa.org.uk



PE set a challenge of Walking, running and cycling to which so many students participated. It was great to see the students using their daily exercise to take part in this challenge.

PCSA creative writing students wrote an eBook of dystopian themed short stories. 'Tales from the end of the world volume 2' which was available to buy on Amazon. I am so lucky to have a very talented year group.



During a difficult time for all I would like to start by saying a huge well done to all Year 9 students. I am extremely proud of all students for showing great resilience and ambition during these strange times. They have continued to work hard throughout these unprecedented times we find ourselves in. Returning after the winter lockdown has been a challenge for us all but something that all students have achieved.

OPTIONS:

Students have finally made their decisions about what options they are going to take for KS4 from September 2021. As always, the discussions had with students demonstrate the aspirations they have and what they need to succeed. I am extremely excited to accompany them on the journey they are going to embark on.

LOCKDOWN:

Despite the difficult times we found ourselves in a few weeks ago, it is important to applaud all students for their efforts during the lockdown. It was a tough situation to be in and they were resilient throughout. Google Classrooms were used in order for students to continue to learn day-to-day through regular guided lessons by teachers. The engagement Year 9 students had during this time was outstanding and once again I applaud them for this.

RETURN TO SCHOOL:

As always, it's the best feeling in the world for a Head of Year to see students return to school happy, excited and ambitious. Since students returned on the 10th March, they have applied themselves superbly.

They have continued to 'work hard and be kind'. Once again, our fantastic students have demonstrated that they can adapt and be resilient when faced with challenging situations.

For me, this term has again been a rewarding one, despite the unprecedented times. Seeing all students "WORK HARD and BE KIND" via Google classroom, following social distancing measures around the local community as well as when they returned to school has been outstanding.

It is fantastic to be back in school, seeing smiling faces, happy people and students trying their best to be successful. With Year 10 fast approaching, we are



continuing to see our students mature and develop into young adults.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents and carers for the continued support you have given me and the fabulous Year 9 tutor team here at PCSA. Please continue to contact us if you have any questions.

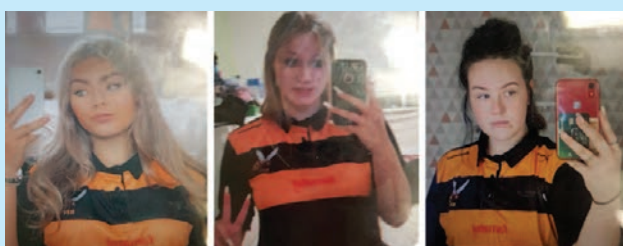
Mr. J Caulfield
Head of Year 9
jake.caulfield@pcsa.org.uk





Year 10 students have made an outstanding start to the Spring term and we are all thrilled to see them back in school. Lockdown was tough for all and to have 'some normality' resumed has been needed by both teachers and students - I can honestly say I am incredibly proud of the resilience our students have shown during these challenging times.

My twitter feed has been alive with news of Year 10 students' engagement in PCSA Sports Challenges, outside club events and much more! I am especially proud of the Under 15 Girls Rugby at Hornets. The team held a 24 hour paddle board session to raise money for their upcoming International Tour to Gibraltar RFC. Each of the girls had a one hour slot through the night. So far the team have raised over £2,000!



Looking lovely Meg, Izzy and Evie in your new kit for your Tour - Good Luck Girls!

As you can see House Matches have resumed and it has been wonderful to see the competitive side of students returning!

Since we have been back at school we have had a number of students who have joined the 400 Club. These students have been awarded over 400 positives



for their excellent attitude to learning, outstanding contributions to lessons and homework to name but a few! Well done to the following:

Veronika Jagelaite (10A2)

Ben Golding (10A3)

Charlie Tedder (10A4)

Charlotte Reid (10A4)

Olivia Alford (10A3)

Our teachers have introduced additional sessions for our students after school called 'Prep for Success' and these have already begun for Year 10. Thank you to those that have attended already, and to those of you who have yet to attend, come along!

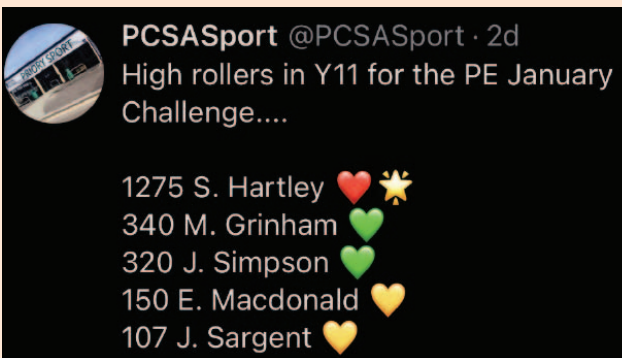
In regards to 'Work Experience', I know that James Wilmot, our Director of Careers, will be writing to you all with more information - please do look out for this news and contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you to all our parents at PCSA - we are aware that, working as a team, we can support your child(ren) to achieve their potential. Thank you for all your continued support as we move into the final term of Year 10.

Mrs. Petrou
Head of Year 10
rhian.petrou@pcsa.org.uk

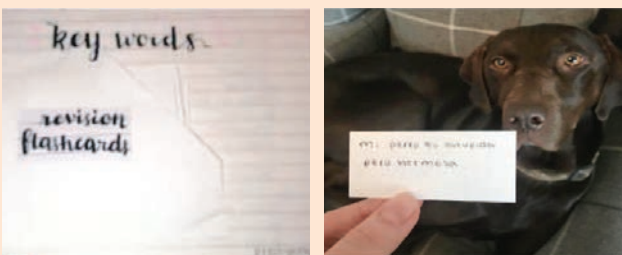


Year 11 students have had a great start to the Spring term. I know that students have been through a difficult time, but I could not be prouder of their engagement, positivity and tenacity in dealing with another lockdown. I have been impressed with the outstanding work that students have managed to achieve and their participation in the online PCSA Sport challenges. It has been wonderful to see how dedicated students have been with their work and lovely to see photos that have been sent in of their home learning.



PCSASport @PCSASport · 2d
High rollers in Y11 for the PE January Challenge....

1275 S. Hartley ❤️⭐
340 M. Grinham 🍀
320 J. Simpson 🍀
150 E. Macdonald 🍀
107 J. Sargent 🍀



I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing about how students made the most of their lockdown time, whether it was spending time with family, going for walks, bike rides or learning new skills. Thank you to Nathan, Owen, Connor and James for sending me lovely photos of Wales. You can just about see it, if you look closely.



Having returned to school, Year 11 students have continued their lessons with determination and eagerness with many successes, with the majority of students accumulating a considerable amount of achievement points. Particular recognition must go to the following students who have gained the most achievement points to date for their hard work and positive attitude to learning. All these students are excellent role models for the rest of the year group.



Chester Coldwell (11A2)
Emma Roberts (11B1)
Abel Luke (11A5)
Joshua Best (11B1)
Isabelle Board (11B1)

Prep for Success sessions have continued for our Year 11 students. All subjects that have taken place have had a high number of students attend. This has demonstrated the commitment that Year 11 have towards their education. Future sessions are scheduled throughout the year. This is open to all Year 11s to attend. I look forward to seeing them at future sessions.

As announced to you earlier in the term, we have now completed the final arrangements and are pleased to announce that there will be a Prom for Year 11 students. It will take place on Thursday 1st July 2021 at the Batch Country House (<https://batchcountryhouse.co.uk>).

We can't wait and look forward to sharing an enjoyable evening for students to celebrate their time at PCSA.

Miss Rees, Head of Year 11,
abigail.rees@pcsa.org.uk



We are delighted to announce the exciting news...

PROM

Will be taking place on the
1st July 2021



- The Priory Learning Trust's Sixth Form is just 18 minutes by train from Worle Station!
- Year 12 students travelling from Weston receive a £600 travel bursary!
- To help with independent learning all Year 12 students receive a new Chromebook or £150 towards an IT device of their own choice!
- We offer a broad range of traditional A levels and vocational subjects
- Our gifted and talented programme includes a FREE masterclass programme and residential trip to the University of Cambridge!
- Boost employability skills by joining a range of societies, clubs and competitions: Young Enterprise Company Programme, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Law Society, MedSoc, Debating Society, Music Club, PsychSoc, Model United Nations, Art Club etc.
- Receive excellent careers, apprenticeships and university advice and guidance and secure top quality work experience placements: Aardman Studios (Bristol), Natural History Museum (London), Bishop Fleming (Bristol)...
- Participate in our Year 12 international trip: Morocco, Iceland, New York City, Italy...

- Jenna Edgar studied at PCSA until Year 10 and in 2020 she decided to join TKASA 6th Form, making the short journey by train every day



- Jenna studies three A levels: Maths, Physics and Art and she is also completing a Level 3 Extended Project (EPQ) as part of her application to university to study Architecture: "I love the smaller class sizes here and the extra support you receive from teachers"
- Jenna, but not her chameleon, is part of our gifted and talented programme, a member of our Oxbridge Society and participates in our masterclass programme with the University of Cambridge!

SUPPORT

The Priory Learning Trust's Sixth Form is a supportive and aspirational place to study and you will receive expert guidance and opportunities that will enable you to fulfil your potential and go up to a top university or on to a prestigious apprenticeship.

RESULTS

The exam results at TKASA are excellent: from 2017 – 2020 students achieved or exceeded their A level target grades, in 2020 54.36% achieved A* - B grades and a 100% pass rate. In 2018 92%, 2019 79% and in 2020 84% of our students went up to a university of their choice!



GOOD NEWS

There are places still available in Year 12 for September 2021! Email Mr. Gaskell, Head of Sixth Form for a bespoke tour after school: jgaskell@tkasa.org.uk

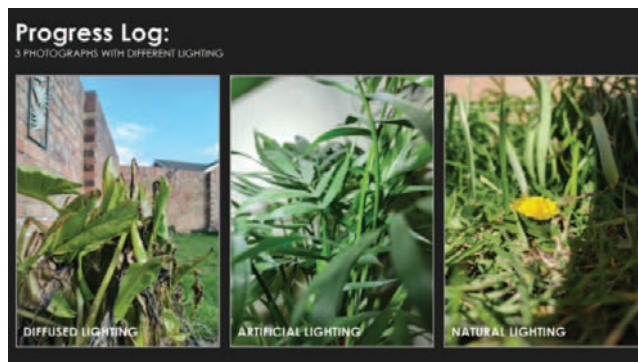
You can also apply via the website or pick up an application form from Mr. Wilmot (james.wilmot@pcsa.org.uk).

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY

Creative Students

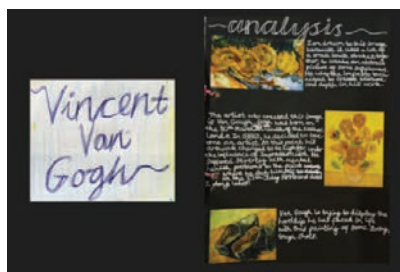
We are very proud of our GCSE art and photography students - who are busy with their coursework at the moment.

We are particularly impressed with their ability to work independently and develop meaningful ideas in response to their chosen theme.



All of our art & photography students are showing off their creative skills and are proving to be extremely resourceful and productive.

They continue to produce some fantastic outcomes in both subjects and are creating some wonderful pieces of work. Well done!



DRAMA & MUSIC

Production Announcement

Would you like to be part of the legendary school show at PCSA? Then here is your chance!

The creative faculty are hosting a variety show to celebrate the end of Lockdown and would love you to be involved.

The show will take place at the end of June and will consist of an exciting variety of acts.

If you are a talented actor, musician, singer, dancer, magician, poet or any other type of performer, then this is for you.

To get involved all you need to do is decide on an act and whether you are going to take part as either a group (from your bubble) or soloist. Finally, audition for a slot in the show, it's as easy as that.

If you would like to be part of the show but are not sure what you want to do, then why not audition for the year group performance which will be directed by one of the drama team. All participants will be welcome in the year group performance if you want to do both.

You can audition in person during period 6 or send in a recorded audition. If you choose to submit a recorded audition you will need to send a video of yourselves completing the act that you will perform on the night.

For news on the show, including rehearsal schedules and to register your interest, you will need to sign into the Summer Show on google classroom. Details for the classroom are below:

Summer Show - PCSAs Big Night Out.

Google Classroom Code: iwteeiy

The creative team are looking forward to welcoming you to another successful show.



Mr. J Stanley
Central Leader for the Creative Arts
james.stanley@pcsa.org.uk

KS3 Design & Technology

Despite the challenges presented by the on-going pandemic and recent lockdown, we have been continually amazed by the skill and creativity demonstrated by our students. Recently in Cycle 2, Year 7 have been learning about typefaces, colour, logos and shop design to design and make their own shop front designs. Pictured are a few examples of their work.

KS4 Design & Technology

Our students have been working hard in lessons developing their skills in using a range of tools, equipment and materials. Working with increasing accuracy. They have been working so well that we have been able to deliver some new projects to teach them new skills such as the engineered clock and an LED Anglepoise lamp.



Some examples from Hospitality & Catering Easter School.



Some delicious examples of meringues and various methods of plating up and presentation from our Year 10 Hospitality & Catering students.



Finally, we have been thinking about how to help everyone to become successful Design and Technologists. As a result, we have developed our 6 S's to success which we are using with students to make sure they are successful in their designing and making.

Despite the disruption caused by lockdown, our Year 11 students have been working hard in-school and during remote learning on their coursework projects. This was in evidence by the number of students attending Easter School recently.

Mr. D Clay
Central Leader for Design and Technology

Learning in Design & Technology **Better By DESIGN**

Design & Technologists ... 6 S's to Success

- Search for design problems make sure
- Source information through research & analysis
- Sketch, model and test ideas
- Skilfully use materials & equipment
- Scrutinise and evaluate all design decisions
- Safeguard the future through responsible design

Mr Dodd's Introduction

Well, this has been an interesting term, hasn't it? I feel like I have spent more time in my house in front of a computer than any other period in my life -even my days as a gamer in the distant past! As I'm sure you've read in other parts of this newsletter, I have been bowled over by the attitude and dedication of our students during the periods of isolation or lockdown learning they have had recently. There has been a lot in the press about students needing to 'catch up' on 'lost learning', but this really doesn't match what we are seeing in the English classroom. Students are doing well in lessons, and the move from remote learning to classroom teaching during cycle 3 has been more or less seamless. Cycle 3, when all KS3 year groups are studying a novel, is my favourite part of the year in many ways. I love to see a group of students get really stuck into a whole story and react to their loved/hated characters' actions. I have particularly enjoyed reading the American classic *Of Mice and Men* with my Year 9 class. I am acutely aware that there are issues with this book, particularly its portrayal of the casual racism of 1930s America, and have made it a prime focus to develop our teaching of the text (and all of our schemes of work) to incorporate a greater diversity of stories and voices. This is an ongoing project, but an important one to which I am committed as a leader. If any parents would like to be involved in this process, please feel free to get in touch with me.

KS3 -Miss Morse

Our year sevens, eights and nines have risen to the challenge of learning both at home and at school - under some tricky circumstances. We are impressed by their resilience, dedication and continual efforts to succeed. Here are some of our Lockdown Champion Learners and champion learning. We salute all the parents at home that have juggled jobs, teaching and parenting - simultaneously - no easy task!

Year 7 have just finished *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne and are moving onto the topic of autobiographical writing.

Year 8 are finishing the novel *Trash* by Andy Mulligan and are moving onto the next cycle of work which is working on different short stories and then crafting their own.

Year 9 have enjoyed studying Steinbeck's *Of Mice And Men* and in particular they have enjoyed discussing why Curley's wife is left intentionally nameless and why Lennie is an outsider. Please ask your year 9 about this - you might be surprised at their response!

Six KS3 students have been selected for publication in the 'Unsolved' Young Writers competition for their short stories written over lockdown.

Amelia Smart wrote *The Day The Dead Came Back*; Daisy Fielding wrote *The Spiral Staircase*; Ella Young wrote *Death By Moonlight*; Joshua Sowerbutts wrote *The Murder Of Elmo*; Lewis Adams wrote *Nightmare In The Past*; and Lilly-May Dewhurst wrote *Fight Of A Reborn Soul*. All of these can be purchased on Amazon at the bargain price of 99p. Five star rated as well!



We are teaching our students not just the enjoyment of literature but how each writer has crafted the literature. This helps students to create their own and to be able to effectively analyse writing.

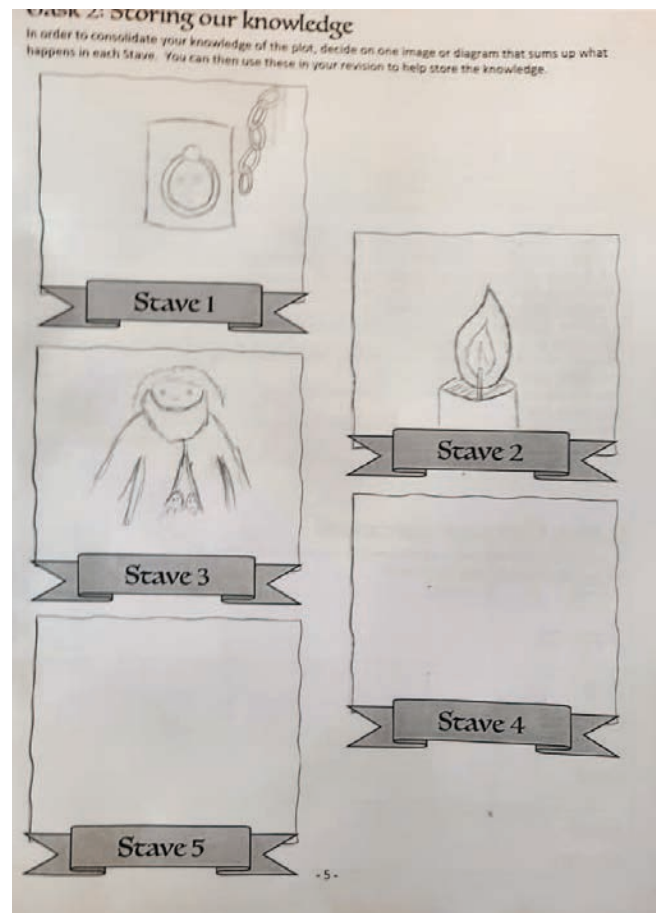


World Book Day was also a roaring success with students going out of their way to read in unusual places . . .

KS4 -Miss Winsborough

By now our students have become experts at learning wherever they are based. Cycle 3 was launched at home and online and then developed when we returned back in February. Upper School students have done this seamlessly and we have been so impressed with their determination and dedication.

Our focus in Year 11 has been on revising the key areas we have covered over the past two years and showing off how our skills have developed. We have been focusing on English Language, especially creative writing and analytical reading. We were so pleased to see so many Year 11s in during the Easter holidays for our Prep4Success revision session on A Christmas Carol, which they will be putting in to action after Easter. In Year 10, we have been studying 'Blood Brothers' the musical by Willy Russell. Whilst we may not have been able to take them to a performance this year, their reading in class and their Liverpool accents have been outstanding. They've devoured this searing study of 1980s Liverpool. We were hugely impressed with the number of Year 10s who came in during the Easter holidays to work on their creative writing skills, bringing a character to life. They have a brilliant attitude and we can't wait to see how they develop over the next year.



Since we have returned to school, we have been so impressed with the way all year groups have worked in their humanities lessons and we would like to thank you all for your hard work. As many of you may know at Christmas Mrs. Phelan retired and she has been well missed by the faculty; however, in her place Mr. Steven Hanney has joined the faculty and he has made an excellent start.

Humanities House Challenges

Since the start of January each week the humanities faculty has been running house challenges via the google classrooms for each teaching group. The students have had the opportunity to get involved in all sorts of activities from quizzes on world religions and flags; submitting interesting geography and history facts; as well as the geography photo challenge; and the World Book Day virtual library. We have been so impressed by how many students of all year groups, but especially of Key Stage Three, have participated. Every entry has earned students house points and in total, since the start of cycle 3, students have earned in excess of 25,000 house points through the humanities challenges, student of the week nominations and excellent piece of work nominations. These challenges will continue throughout the year so remember to check your google classroom each week as well as following @HumanitiesPCSA for more details.

One of the most impressive and exciting challenges we got involved with earlier in the term was linked to Fairtrade Fortnight. The Fairtrade Foundation asked students in the UK to create a piece of work in any form that they wished under the theme of Choose The World You Want. We had some truly remarkable and inspiring entries from many of our students that we put forward to the Fairtrade Foundation; however two of our students' entries really stood out to the organisation and their design ideas ended up being showcased on their online youth exhibition page as they really demonstrated the message the students involved wanted to show in an innovative and interesting manner. Have a look below to see their entries!



Kate H in Year 9



Rocha T in Year 7



Prep for Success

In order to support Year 10 and 11 in their learning, after school Prep for Success sessions as well as Easter School Prep for Success sessions have been taking place and will continue during term 5 and term 6. During term 4 approximately 60 Year 10s attended sessions after school for history, geography and sociology; whilst about 20 Year 11s attended an excellent session for RE held on the penultimate evening of term. Furthermore, during the first week of the Easter break approximately 80 Year 10s and 150 Year 11s attended sessions to support their understanding of all four GCSE humanities subjects. The staff involved in all of these sessions have been so impressed with the attitude to learning displayed by the students who attended. Pictured are some photos of the sessions and some of the resources students produced to enhance their learning. During term 5 on Wednesday 5th May there will be Prep for Success sessions for Year 11 in history, geography and sociology; whilst on Wednesday 12th May there will be an RE session for Year 10. Further Year 9 and 10 sessions will also take place in term 6.

Mrs. Z Hancox
Central Leader for Humanities
zoe.hancox@pcsa.org.uk

This has been a term like no other! Having started the year in yet another lockdown, students and teachers alike settled into a routine and continued working and learning, following our usual routine of two “main” lessons learning how to use and manipulate the language and one “vocabulary” lesson to practise and assess key vocabulary. It has been overwhelming to see so many students embracing the challenge and making the most of existing websites and platforms to continue gaining confidence in their language skills.

Students really worked hard remotely and produced some lovely work which was great to see – we had labelling things in your house in Spanish (including your pets!), Spanish scavenger hunts, revision games as well as Spanish cooking, making French pancakes and Croque Monsieur or creating their own fashion show; we really did see some creativity!! It was fantastic to see students engaging so well and producing some really impressive work – Well done to all!!



The LGU staff were as always very keen to get involved in World Book Day and promoted reading, even multitasking reading and exercising!!



And finally, a massive well done must also go to Year 10 & 11 who have shown real dedication and commitment both throughout lockdown and since coming back to school. To see so many students at Easter School and our Prep for Success sessions has been heart-warming and really shows how much our students care and are keen to make progress. We are all so proud of our students!! Well done to all.

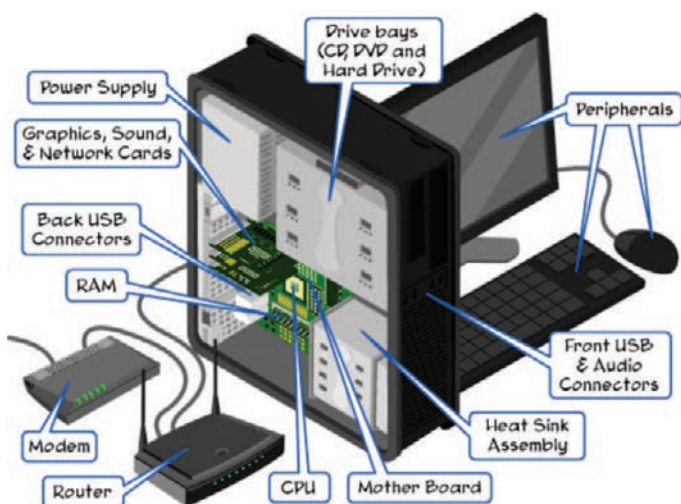
Mrs. C Parsons
Central Leader for LGU
christelle.parsons@pcsa.org.uk



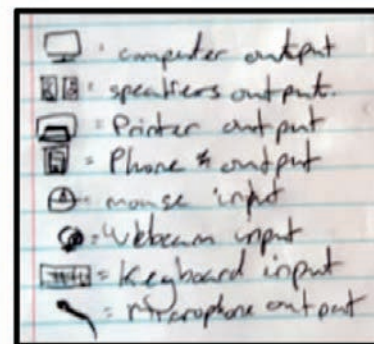
It has been an unusual year so far in school and in the ICT department. As always, I am really pleased with the way our staff and students have risen to the challenges presented to them and have continued to find new ways of teaching and learning. We yet again have had record numbers of students choosing our subjects in the Year 9 options and look forward to delivering new and exciting ICT based courses in the near future.

KS3 Lessons

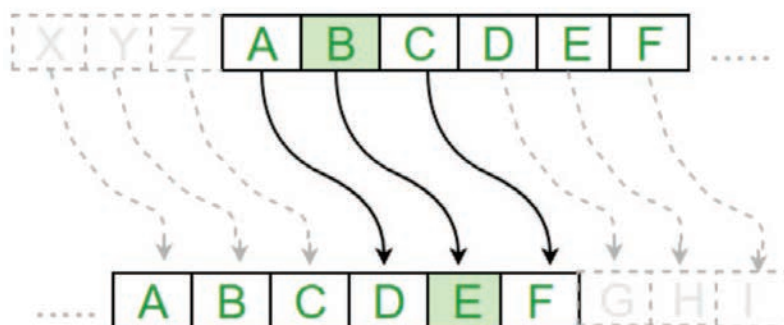
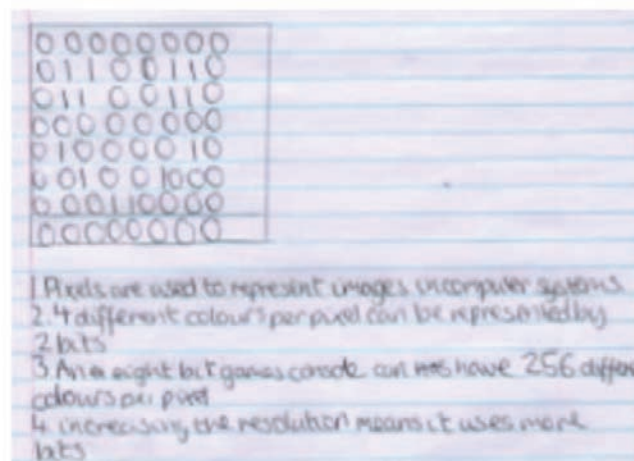
Year 7 have been learning all about computer systems and have also excelled in their work with the binary and hexadecimal numbering systems. Binary and hexadecimal are numbering systems that use base two (1 and 0) and base 16 (0-9 then a, b, c, d, e, f) to represent numbers, systems that are used extensively in computer science. Students have also been investigating what the main components of a computer are and what their functions are, such as CPUs, motherboards, RAM and hard drives. In Cycle 4 they will be moving on to a Marketing unit which is linked in to our Business Studies qualification in KS4.



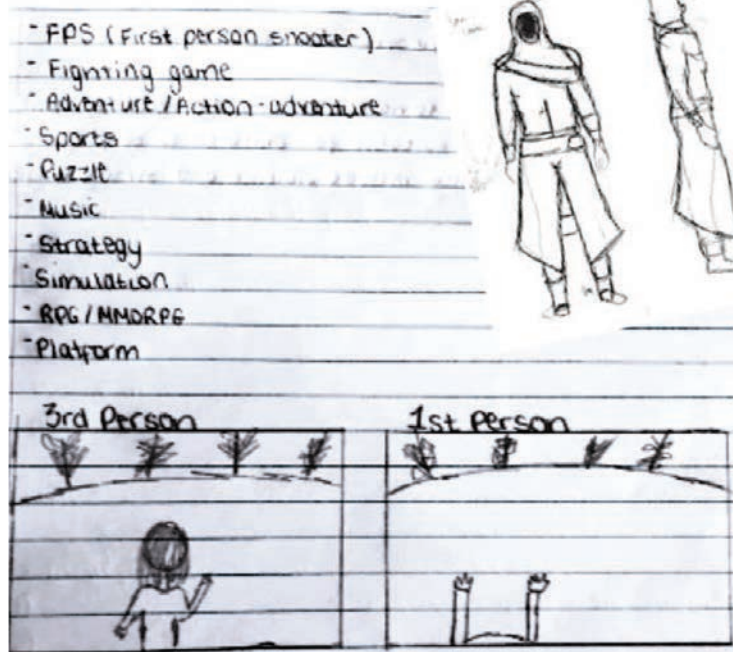
Denary	Binary	Hex
0	0000	0
1	0001	1
2	0010	2
3	0011	3
4	0100	4
5	0101	5
6	0110	6
7	0111	7
8	1000	8
9	1001	9
10	1010	A
11	1011	B
12	1100	C
13	1101	D
14	1110	E
15	1111	F



Our Year 8 students have been learning all about encryption and how to encrypt and decipher secret messages. They have used encryption methods invented by the ancient Romans (the Caesar Cipher) as well as using their reading books to encrypt messages using a book cipher, a technique that has been used in the past by secret agents and spies! Also in Cycle 3, Year 8s have been learning all about how computers represent and store images and the main types of computer images (Bitmap and Vector). In Cycle 4, Year 8s will be working on a unit that covers the history of computing as well as looking at the ethical and legal implications of using ICT.

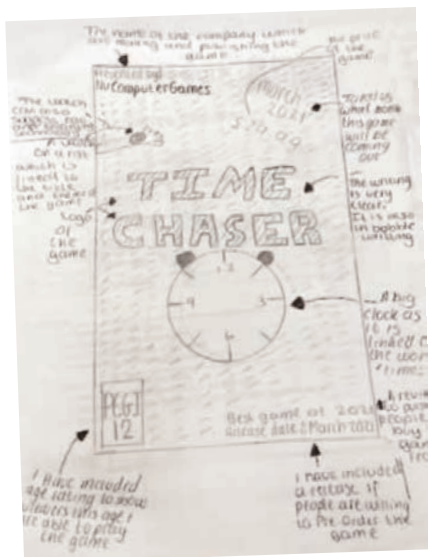


Year 9s have been learning all about Computer Games design, including designing their own characters, games and controllers as well as finding out about the different job roles involved in computer games design such as Graphic artist and World Designer. In Cycle 4, Year 9 students will be moving onto a Business Studies unit which links into our KS4 Business Studies course.



KS4 Lessons

In KS4 we have students studying: Business, Computer Science and Creative iMedia (ICT). Our Year 10 Creative iMedia students have been working very hard to complete their story boards and visualisation diagrams for their practise coursework, and have since moved on the real coursework where they have been demonstrating their knowledge about composition and layout in digital products.



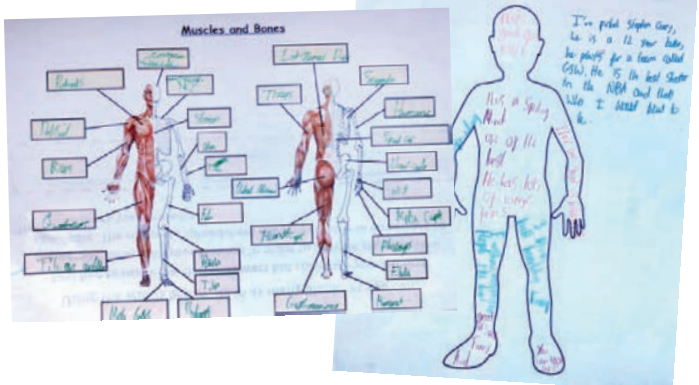
Year 10 Enterprise & Marketing (Business) students have similarly been working through their practise coursework, where they learned to create questionnaires, design products suitable for a target group of customers and also work out profit and loss and when their imaginary company would break even. They have also now moved onto their actual coursework, where they have been demonstrating their knowledge about Customer Profiles and Market Segmentation.

Miss J Whitham
Central Leader for Computing, ICT & Business
jo.whitham@pcsa.org.uk

LOCKDOWN LEARNING – Term 3

With Term 3 being solely taught from home and via Google Classroom, our PE students never fail to amaze us with the high quality of work that they produce. Each week they were given a range of both practical and theory-based learning.

The practical challenges involved creating diet and nutrition plans, baking their own protein snacks (pictured), fitness-based board games and other creative physical challenges.



The Key Stage 4 students working on their OCR Sport Studies and Sport Science coursework have once again shown immense resilience and independence. These students have definitely built the skills required to work at colleges and universities and will no doubt get excellent outcomes at the end of their time with us at PCSA. We also are very excited and looking forward to the set of results that the current Year 10 Sport Scientists are waiting for from their January exam. We know how hard they all worked in preparation for this and we are certain that their efforts will be rightly rewarded.

We cannot wait to welcome back our students to after school sports clubs. It has been a terrible shame that competitive school sport has been put on hold the past year. We look forward to running clubs, organising fixtures and participating in tournaments in a wide variety of sports when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, stay active and stay safe!

PE Students – Charity Fundraising

Throughout lockdown 3.0, as well as our amazing students completing their online learning tasks, we had a number of students use sport as a tool to go above and beyond to raise awareness and funds for a selection of charities.

Jaydon Done (Year 9) – Ran over 100 miles in January for Alzheimer’s Research UK

Jessica Selwyn (Year 11) – Currently preparing for the Race for Life by walking and running – raising money for Cancer Research UK

Samuel Booth (Year 7) – Running for Wallace and Gromit’s Grand Appeal.

Weston RFC Juniors – Participated in a walking and running challenge, raising over £4,000 for the NHS.



January Fitness Challenge

Throughout the month of January, as a PCSA community we set out to run, walk and cycle as many kilometres as possible. The students were competing in their four houses (Tweddle, Daley, Holmes and Hoy) earning points for every KM that they covered.

Tweddle were early front runners and kept it that way throughout the whole month. An amazing 8,509km were covered in total and this challenge engaged over 300 people from our PCSA community – students, teachers, parents and siblings!

Well done to everyone who moved throughout January and sent in entries. During times of isolation, it was so important that we all stayed active and connected with one another! Excellent stuff everyone!

Mr. C Coombs
Central Leader for PE
chris.coombs@pcsa.org.uk

House Update

With the majority of faculties throughout the school running their own competitions and challenges, this year has given opportunity to all students with a variety of strengths, to contribute to the overall points for their team. Lockdown 3.0 was full of activity from baking/cooking home-made goods as a DT challenge to Humanities quizzes and Languages hide and seek in Weston woods.



Well done to Tweddle who have been leading the way since week 1. Hoy and Daley have been neck and neck for 2nd and 3rd all year, while Holmes chase the pack from 4th. Well done to everyone who has contributed to the house point tally for their house. Who will be crowned champions come the end of the academic year?

Mr. T Allcoat
Teacher of PE & School House Project Leader
tom.allcoat@pcs.org.uk



HOUSE COMPETITION 2020/21

CURRENT LEADERBOARD
as of 04/05/21 - LC4.1

1st = **TWEDDLE 180,486**

2nd = **HOY 166,470**

3rd = **DALEY 158,698**

4th = **HOLMES 132,863**



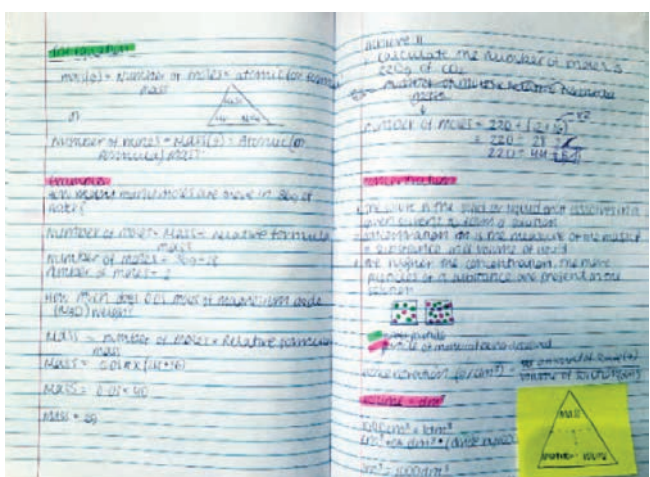
Follow us on
Twitter: @PCSA

I would like to start off the science section of the newsletter by thanking all of our students for their hard work over what has been an interesting few terms. From lockdown to returning the school, our students have been a credit to themselves. We have been greeted by many smiling faces and have been presented with phenomenal pieces of work from students from all year groups. Students have continued to engage with their learning; from hard work day to day in lessons, to attendance at Year 10 and 11 Prep for Success sessions, and engagement with our virtual Science Club, these have been just a few examples of how our students have gone about striving for success.

Thank you to all of our wonderful students. We can't wait to have you all back in science labs (hopefully) very soon!

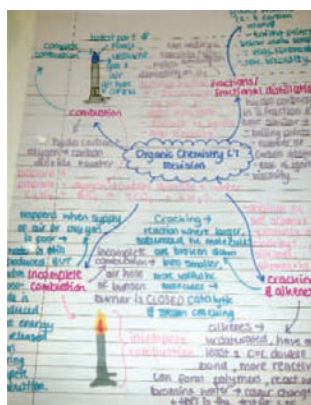
KS4 Science

Our Year 11 students are truly determined to succeed in science and are highly focused towards the end goal. Students continue to produce as much fantastic work in school as they did remotely. The vast majority of students are electing to put extra time towards their work (at home, during tutor time and in our Prep for Success sessions) to ensure that they are completely confident with the content.



Our Year 9 and 10 students produced some fantastic work remotely. As teachers, it really made our day when work such as shown above was submitted!

Our Year 10 students have been learning about infection and disease including how vaccinations work and how new drugs are developed - incredibly relevant topics!



Our Year 9 students have enjoyed learning about the digestive system, the cardiovascular system, effects of exercise and cancer, just to name a few!

KS3 Science

WOW! Our KS3 students never fail to amaze us. They have again had to move to another new normal but their resilience and determination has been outstanding. We cannot express the excitement that was felt across the school when our students returned to face-to-face learning.

Recent terms have seen some challenges for the students, but again we have witnessed a high level of engagement with outstanding work being completed.

The students are really starting to develop their confidence within science and are gaining new skills in abundance. As such, it is important for us to recognise that the students have gained much more than science knowledge; they have become effective communicators, both in the classroom and through the google classrooms. Even more apparent they have shown outstanding organisation skills, by being ready to learn and being equipped for lessons and organising themselves to follow the timetables through remote learning. These skills are life skills that will serve them well in the future.

Year 7 have been completing topics on substances and particles and electric circuits, and they will be moving onto interdependence.

Year 8 have completed work on acids and bases and have been able to see demonstrations in the classrooms.

We have also seen big successes on Tassomai, our home learning platform. Many of the students are achieving high accuracy and completed more than the required number of daily goals. Through lockdown we challenged the students to become "Tassomai" heroes this was a huge success and the amount of daily goals surpassed all our expectations.

If restrictions are lifted, I will once again be running the transition science club for Year 6, where students will get a first-hand glimpse at the outstanding science facilities on offer.

We have so many activities lined up for next year with plans being made for students to get more “hands on” as science should be. There really are exciting times ahead

STEM:

Since Christmas we have been very busy trying new ways to engage with STEM activities and have had some brilliant results. On our return from lockdown we ran a “Careers in Science” seminar that everyone thoroughly enjoyed (myself included, even if I am too tall to be an astronaut). This seminar can be found on the distanced science club google classroom for anyone who missed it.



We have also celebrated British science week. This would normally include scientist hunts and big exciting demos but due to COVID we had to do something a bit more home based but equally ambitious. So we set the challenge of five practicals in five days via Google Classroom, with activities in many areas of science. We had some fantastic results; the most impressive of which was awarded to our Science Week Challenge winner Aisha in Year 7 who grew the above giant crystals over the week.

Tassomai

Students at PCSA have continued to work hard with their home learning using the online platform “Tassomai”. Since returning from lockdown, we have seen a 35% increase in students engaging with the platform which is clearly demonstrating their drive and ambition to succeed. We have recently launched 'Parent Reports' with a weekly personalised email detailing the work completed by your child on the platform for that week, including where their strengths and weakness lie. Parent Reports mean that you can become more involved in your child’s learning and can help encourage their progress from home. You will have access to your own “overseer” account where you can access your child’s progress tree (please see the image to the right) to identify the areas that they may need to focus on.

Some of our top performers from this term can be found below:

Year 11
Amber Scott, Matthew Payne
and Lucy Fowler

Year 10
Jacob Sheppard, Grace Brown
and Rio Jones

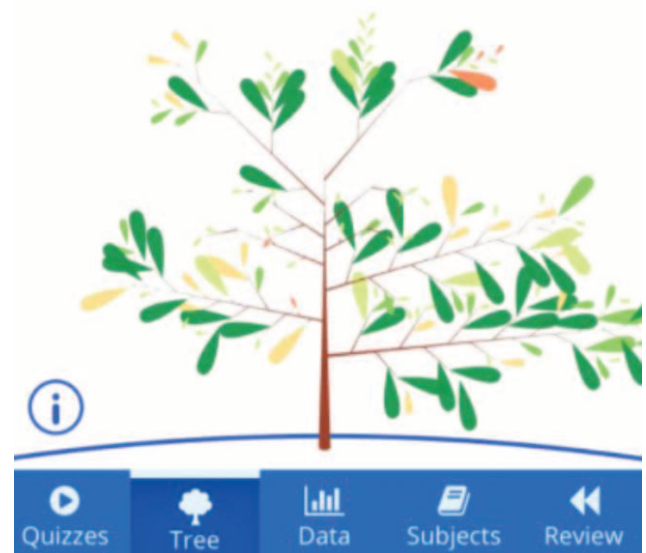
Year 9
Divine Agho, Hannah Fowler
and Grace Warhurst

Year 8
Phoebe Lewis, Tamsen Markham
and Thomas MacAulay

Year 7
Finley O’Brien, Ethan Flavell
and Natalie Barringer

Each of these students (and many more) regularly complete more than their expected number of daily goals, which indicates true dedication and ownership of their own learning and progress. We look forward to seeing the impact of this program over the coming years.

Mrs. R Callander
Central Leader for Science
rosie.callander@pcsa.org.uk



Prep for Success/Easter School

This year we have seen the start of Prep for Success and Easter school for both Year 11 and Year 10. These are opportunities for students to get help with specific maths topics.

For Year 10 we have concentrated on topics that were covered during lockdown periods to help students to gain confidence and improve their maths. So far we have covered ratios, surface area and volume of 3D shapes, trigonometry, straight line graphs and Venn diagrams.



For Year 11 the focus has been on preparing students for their assessments to help support their grades. This has involved Walking Talking Mocks and use of calculator.

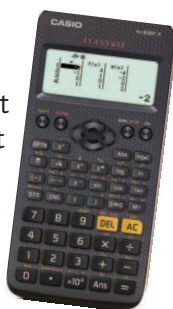


Extra Help

At the moment we are not running the normal after school sessions. However, your child can still get help. Make sure they are you on the relevant Maths Google Classroom for their maths class and they can send message to their teachers asking for specific help. Check out the pcsa.org.uk website for all the information about accessing the google classrooms that have been set up. If you need any more help with this please email me lois.kerrison@pcsa.org.uk

The importance of a calculator

Many students believe that if they are not doing the maths in their head they are not a good mathematician. However, a good mathematician uses the tools they have available to them and the most important one of those is the calculator. Using a calculator is not cheating, you still have to know what to put into the calculator and that is the mathematical part. Yes, it is important for your son/daughter to be able to add/subtract/ multiply /divide and do simple calculations, however, more important is knowing when to use their calculator to help them. Please encourage your son/daughter to use their calculator to help them with their homework. We recommend the Casio FX-83GTX as a good scientific calculator which is helpful not only in maths, but in science, D&T, geography, and any other topics which requires mathematical calculation.



Hegarty Maths - UPDATE

So far this year we have answered over 350,000 questions, nearly 8000 hours of learning and over 11,000 pieces of feedback. Still hoping we can reach our target however we have had a bit of set back due to lockdown.

Your child does not have to only do quizzes and watch videos set by their teacher. They can use it to help on lots of different topics and earn house points for their effort. Every week the three top students in each year group earn house points for their house and at the end of each cycle we give house points for the top 10 uses in each year group. So it all helps to make your house the best.

Remember you can always request more work from your teacher as well, you just ask in Hegarty Maths.

Hegarty Maths Champions of the cycle 2

Year 7	Max Hayward
Year 8	Tom Ashcroft
Year 9	Charlie Owens
Year 10	Veronika Jagelaitė
Year 11	Eva Gilbert



Maths Challenge

As they appear so many times I thought I would try ones that we see on social media:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{🍷} + \text{🍷} + \text{🍷} = 45 \\
 \text{🍗} \times \text{🍗} \times \text{🍗} = 125 \\
 \text{🌽} + \text{🌽} + \text{🌽} = 3 \\
 \text{🍷} \times \text{🍗} / \text{🌽} = ?
 \end{array}$$

What is the answer: $2 + 2 + 2 \times 0 + 2 + 2 = ?$

Answer in the next newsletter.

Student of the cycle

Every cycle, each teacher in the maths faculty nominates one student who has been outstanding throughout the cycle. Below is the list for cycle 2. Congratulations to all the students; you will be getting a certificate and chocolate as well contributing to your house with many house points.

Leeroy March, Luke Baggaley, Isobel Few, Grace Williams, Paige Richardson, Shannon Kingston, Keira Adamson

Mrs. L Kerrison
Central Leader for Maths
lois.kerrison@pcsa.org.uk

Due to the national lockdown, all careers events and activities were held virtually during term 3, with students being provided with some really interesting resources and opportunities to participate in.

The offer to support Year 11 students and their families to help plan their progression was also extended via Zoom and we had a great response. This offer continues beyond school reopening, please do get in contact with us if you need any support or have any questions.

Our Year 9 students were invited to learn all about life at university with activities and clips from University Centre Weston (UCW) and the Wessex Inspiration Network (WIN). We also offered phone, email and Zoom support to students and their families to help with their GCSE options choices. It was really rewarding to speak to you all. Storm Eccles won the prize draw of a £15 Amazon voucher, kindly donated by UCW and the WIN, for taking part in the activities and submitting fantastic work – well done Storm!



Plan your Future 2: Priory Learning Trust

Welcome Year 9 to Plan your Future 2!
You may remember in year 8 visiting University Centre Weston for a day trip all about higher education. Plan your Future 2 is about helping you to think about your upcoming GCSE options, future education and career aspirations and how higher education might help you to get there.



The King Alfred (TKASA) Sixth Form within The Priory Learning Trust shared their twice weekly 'TKASA TedTalks' with students at PCSA and they were a great success. There were lots of live interviews hosted via Zoom and run by TKASA Sixth Form student Jack Millier. It was great to see so many inspirational people from a wide range of careers donating their time just for us. We are looking forward to running 'Season 2' next year. Please email us at any time if you have any requests or suggestions for events.



National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week were a lot of fun. Students were encouraged to learn more about work-based learning by listening in to some online information sessions created just for us and some live apprenticeship broadcasts with our friends at The Western Training Provider Network, Wessex Water and Thatchers. Students were also set some light careers exploration tasks as homework and encouraged to attend online careers fairs.



Looking ahead, the annual Year 7 interview challenge will go ahead this term to give students the opportunity to write up a CV, research different career paths and be interviewed for their dream job. This has been lots of fun in previous years and students get a lot out of the activity.

We are also planning lots of employability activities for our Year 10 students to help them get a taste of the world of work. We are also speaking with local colleges and sixth forms to put some after school visits and taster sessions in place to help plan next steps beyond school.

As always, Miss Silmon and I are here to support students in all year groups – please just get in touch.

Mr. Wilmot – Director of Careers / james.wilmot@pcsa.org.uk
Miss Silmon – Careers Advisor / jodie.silmon@pcsa.org.uk



PSHE

At Priory Community School we aim to provide an extensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) to all students of all ages. Despite lockdown 3.0 interrupting the usual tutor led delivery method, our students have still had the opportunity to discuss, write and reflect on their own experiences in order to lead a more fulfilling and healthier lifestyle, both now and beyond PCSA.

Topics such as physical and mental health have been a focal point as we understand that numerous periods of isolation has caused huge impacts on some of our students' wellbeing. Other topics such as alcohol and substance abuse, gambling awareness and building stable relationships at home and in school have also been key areas of the PSHE curriculum this year.

We look forward to welcoming external visitors into our classroom in week 9 of each learning cycle as we hope to work more closely with topic specialists who can run workshops, Q and A sessions, assemblies and boost our already extensive provision.

Google Classroom codes

Y7,8,9 – oxohe7o
Y10,11 – n6knfc

Mr. T Allcoat
Teacher of PE and PSHE Co-ordinator
tom.allcoat@pcsa.org.uk

Citizenship



The intent of Citizenship education at PCSA is to equip students with a core knowledge of the subject, emphasising how modern Britain works and demonstrating how students can play a functioning role in society. During tutor time, students have had the opportunity to examine items in the news and discuss and express their own views on these current affair issues. The opportunity for the students to think about and discuss the pandemic and how they feel it has affected the world both now and moving forward, has also been an important feature. Assemblies have focused on important life skills, such as perseverance and issues which affect our world, such as combatting extremism.

Students have been provided with an opportunity to play an active part in their society, through awards such as the Somerset Anne Frank Youth Awards (the deadline for nominations is 2nd June and further details can be obtained via tutors), which promotes actively opposing discrimination, bullying and prejudice and celebrates those who support and care for others.

As we move forward, opportunities will become available for students to engage with various initiatives that promote active citizenship (such as through the character education programme), as well as supplementing our already extensive provision, with workshops and sessions provided via external visitors, who are experts in the field of citizenship.

Mr. C Hames
Teacher of Humanities and Citizenship Co-ordinator
chris.hames@pcsa.org.uk

Teacher Training

If you are looking to train as a teacher, The Priory Learning Trust offers an alternative to traditional university-based teacher training at both primary and secondary level.

With our School Direct teacher training programme you train in two schools in the Weston and Burnham area, learning on the job, while working towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

If you'd like to find out more please contact Denise Hurr, Head of Training School via email: tsa@theplt.org.uk



A BBC SPRING SPECIAL

Zooming with BBC’s Fiona Bruce: it doesn’t get much better than that! Term 4 saw the Jill Dando News team reach new heights as they interviewed three highly esteemed BBC journalists, including: former BBC Bristol Radio Presenter of 13 years, Emma Britton; BBC Correspondent for the US, Sophie Long; and primetime BBC Journalist and TV Presenter, Fiona Bruce. Each interview was unique as our student journalists explored the expertise and experience of each journalist. Showing generosity in time and stories, Fiona Bruce shared how Jill Dando had a special place in influencing her life and career and recognised some of our budding journalists for their natural ability.

"It was an absolute delight to meet the students who had clearly put a lot of thought into their questions. A few of them really put me on the spot!"



"Olivia masterfully chaired it all with the ease of a professional. It was all very impressive and encouraging for the future of journalism." Fiona Bruce

World Book Day on 4th March was celebrated from our homes but that didn’t stop us making it special. Plenty of students and teachers dressed up and tuned in for our unique live interview with bestselling author Saviour Pirotta and modelmaker, illustrator and writer Jo Litchfield. They shared where their love for literature came from and offered readings from their books to inspire students from across our Primary and Secondary schools.

Alongside this, the team has been championing charities this term. We held a special interview with Becky Beeson & Sally Briody from the TPLT’s charity of the year, The MPS Society from which we gained a deeper insight into the fantastic supportive work and fundraising ventures conducted by them across the country. We have an exciting project underway in partnership with In Charley’s Memory – a local charity close to the TPLT’s heart and our previous charity of the year. Together with filmmakers Digital Ladder, we are aiming to produce a hard-hitting documentary highlighting the impacts which Covid19 has had on young people’s mental health. We will be excited to reveal more about this in due course as filming and editing takes place.



Hopefully you caught our special Spring edition of The Post which featured many of these top stories and many more school and local triumphs. Every word is written and edited by students which makes us proudly student-led and proud of Priory. For more info on what we do, please visit our website or follow the latest positive scoops on the Good News Post or Twitter.

Miss S O’Gorman
Teacher of English
sarah.o’gorman@pcsa.org.uk

WORLD BOOK DAY
4 MARCH 2021

Share your favourite quote from the session or recommend a book!

Tweet us:
@JillDandoNews
@GoodNewsPost
@jo_Litchfield
@spirotta
Tag your school.

THE PRIORY LEARNING TRUST

Join us for A conversation with **JO LITCHFIELD** and **SAVIOUR PIROTTA**

Modelmaker, Illustrator & Writer of Children's books Author & Playwright

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW - RECOMMENDATIONS - READINGS

11:30 - 12:00
LOG IN FROM SCHOOL OR HOME!
LINK: <https://go.onetel.com/sf/7891204311?auth=8391em169731ed50811724e1420491029>



Hello! We have now reached an important and busy time of year for the SEN team. We are doing all we can to support our Year 11s as they approach their final GCSE assessments. We are also working with our local primary schools so that we can meet Year 6 students who are joining us in September in order to help them with their transition.

Students have been really busy learning new skills in our interventions classes. In our Year 7 classes students have been working on mastering their phonics, which they clearly really enjoy! Year 8 have been enjoying "The Sheep Pig", whilst Year 10 have been reviewing their knowledge of "The Sheep Pig". Year 11s are focussing on their own personal targets, in order to be completely confident in maths and English.

We are really excited about when we can welcome students back in to S2L at break time and after school, as many students see it as a safe space to meet with friends, meet their keyworkers, discuss any difficulties they have or to simply play games.

We hope we can soon invite students to come in after school. Period 6 is also a time of where lots of students access the SRB. Others are here to get additional support

with homework. We will let you all know when this is up and running again!

Miss L Smith
Assistant Principal and SENDCO
lisa.smith@pcsa.org.uk



What an amazing start to the new academic year. It is so lovely to be back in school and seeing our students return to their classrooms and their learning. The tutor time program at PCSA is superb and the students start their morning by listening to their tutor read to them.



Each Year group in Years 7-10 will read 4 books over the course of the school year and the choice of books is excellent. Each Year group has a range of genres that cover Classic and modern contemporary fiction and we hope that these books encourage and instil a real love of reading.

The Year 7 reading list is:

Matilda – Roald Dahl
 Mud, Sweat and Tears – Bear Grylls
 The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis
 Mortal Engines – Philip Reeve

The Year 8 reading list is:

Alice's Adventures In Wonderland – Lewis Carroll
 Brightstorm – Vashti Hardy
 A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens
 My Family and Other Animals – Gerald Durrell

The Year 9 reading list is:

Echo Boy – Matt Haig
 The Day Of The Triffids – John Wyndham
 Noughts and Crosses – Malorie Blackman
 The Diary Of A Young Girl – Anne Frank

The Year 10 reading list is:

The House Of Silk – Anthony Horowitz
 Life Of Pi – Yann Martel
 The Book Thief – Markus Zusak
 A Thousand Splendid Suns – Khaled Hosseini

On the 18th March the shortlist for the CILIP Carnegie medal 2021 was released. There are 8 amazing books on the list this year and they are:

- Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo
- Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk
- Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds
- On Midnight Beach by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick
- Run, Rebel by Manjeet Mann
- The Fountains Of Silence by Ruta Sepetys
- The Girl Who Became A Tree by Joseph Coelho
- The Girl Who Speaks Bear by Sophie Anderson

This year the themes are 'freedom', 'the great outdoors' and 'journeys through the natural world'.

As always there is something for everyone to enjoy and the results and winner will be announced on Wednesday 16th June.



 Follow us on Twitter: @PCSAALRC where you can follow all the latest news.

Mrs. R Watts
 Learning Resources Leader
 rachel.watts@pcsa.org.uk

READING FOR ALL



Our students are currently reading these fantastic titles during tutor time Reading For All. Which one would you pick up to read?

Term Days
 Holidays
 INSET Days

JANUARY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2021						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Term Dates 2020 - 2021

TERM 2	Ends Friday 18 December 2020
TERM 3	Starts Monday 4 January 2021 Ends Friday 12 February 2021
TERM 4	Starts Monday 22 February 2021 Ends Thursday 1 April 2021
TERM 5	Starts Monday 19 April 2021 Ends Friday 28 May 2021
TERM 6	Starts Monday 7 June 2021 Ends Friday 16 July 2021 Monday 19th July, Tuesday 20th July and Wednesday 21st July 2021 are INSET days.

Term dates have been set for 2021-2022 and once again, we will be having a two week break in October, to give parents an opportunity to take holiday time away from the more expensive traditional half-term week. We are also building in some training time for our staff in July, and so the summer term for students will end earlier than many other schools. We would encourage parents to consider using these times for family holidays, rather than children missing out on education during term time.

Term Dates 2021 - 2022

TERM 1	Starts Wednesday 1 September 2021 Wednesday 1 September is an INSET day. Please check with individual schools on arrangements for this day Ends Friday 15 October 2021 Friday 15 October 2021 is an INSET day.
TERM 2	Starts Monday 1 November 2021 Ends Friday 17 December 2021
TERM 3	Starts Tuesday 4 January 2022 Ends Friday 18 February 2022
TERM 4	Starts Monday 28 February 2022 Ends Friday 8 April 2022
TERM 5	Starts Monday 25 April 2022 Ends Friday 27 May 2022
TERM 6	Starts Monday 6 June 2022 Ends Friday 22 July 2022 Thursday 21 July 2022 and Friday 22 July 2022 are INSET days.