

THE PRIORY COMMUNITY SCHOOL POST



An Academy



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Issue 10, Autumn 2021



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More Good News Needed

by Isabelle and Ava, both aged 10

Good news is important because it makes people joyful, but bad news makes people feel sad.

Over the past year the pandemic has meant that much more terrible news - which is bad for people's mental health - has been spread globally. We need good news because it brightens up the world!

Why don't you get involved and spread good news too?

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Students at one of Britain's best Sixth Forms head to Oxbridge

By Joshua, 15

Three of the students at the Highbridge school-based The King Alfred School Academy Sixth Form won prestigious places at Oxbridge universities.

Abbie Bryant (left) will now be studying Biology at the University of Oxford, Natasha White (middle) will study Philosophy and Theology at University of Oxford, while Katie Clarke (right) will study Geography at Cambridge University.

Additionally, Ben Youd will be going to St Andrews University, Grace Thomas will start a Legal Apprenticeship with Burges Salmon while Ben Beard won an Engineering Apprenticeship with QED Engineering Limited.

TKASA is a part of The Priory Learning Trust and attracting students from schools in Weston-super-Mare and Bridgwater.



See the TKASA Sixth Form Prospectus on YouTube or visit the TKASA Sixth Form Website

Meet the teenager cleaning up Weston-super-Mare parks for free

By Virginia, 14

New school Eco President Archie also used lockdowns to do up over 100 town gardens

Remarkable Archie, 14, helps families with buggies, residents and the elderly with stunning Council Park clear up.

New student Eco President Archie has cleaned 100-plus private gardens since Lockdown 2020, in his new business, and is now on UK eco mission to clean up parks and gardens.

Archie, 14, the new Eco President of WCSA, part of TPLT, cleared eight full bin bags full of rubbish, rubble, bushes, thorns and weeds from his local park.

Not only that but he straightened paving slabs and the grass so families with buggies, residents and the elderly could walk in safety.

The big hearted teenager also helped to clean up over 100 private gardens since Lockdown 2020 – paid by local residents through a business he started. Now he wants to be a landscape gardener when he is older.



I was so fed up at looking at an overgrown mess so I took it upon myself to do something about it.



Three top students aim for medical careers among superb wave of GCSE results



Left to right, Eva Gilbert with Ruby Minty and Tom Harding.

PCSA Year 11 students excelled across every subject with some fantastic individual efforts.

Charlotte Thorpe secured ten grade 9s and one grade 8 while Charlie Lock achieved seven grade 9s and two grade 7s.

Meanwhile, Head Boy Tom Harding achieved nine grade 9s and one grade 8 and Head Girl Ruby Minty collected her seven grade 9s, three grade 8s and 1 distinction.

Both of them will embark on medical careers after their A Levels.

Tom has been working at an NHS Medical Practice in Nailsea since April, helping to administrate the Covid-19 programme.

Tom said: "I'm delighted at my results. I really like helping people and I find medicine really fascinating. Part of my job is helping with the Covid vaccination programme and I have seen how it affects everyone."

Principal Angelos Markoutsas said: "To say we are proud of our students is an understatement. Throughout the past 18 months they have shown drive, determination and courage alongside great compassion. Today was a wonderful opportunity to be able to celebrate students' achievements and to wish to them well in their future endeavours."

Our roving Jill Dando reporter, Mark Ncube, aged 13, met up with them shortly after they received their certificates.



I spoke to student Anna Sadler who was delighted to get six Grade 9s. Yes, she was pretty proud of her effort She told me of a relief and elation.

She said: "I was getting six hours of sleep each night with lots of fear surrounding everything. There was the uncertainty of knowing what my grades were. It has been difficult but all in all; the results were good. My teachers have taken on almost a counsellor role too."

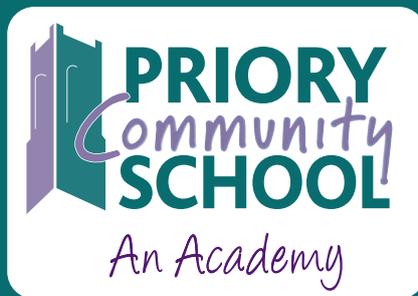
I also spoke to the Vice Principal Kirsty Aaron who told me that students should be proud of what they have done after a difficult past 12 months.

She said "They have faced these issues with diligence, perseverance and humour, considering the last year's unprecedented times".

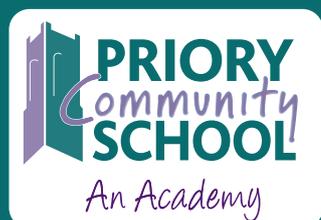
Finally, I spoke to another successful student called Tom . I asked him what he would tell his Year 7 self.

His strong advice was do not stress out but just work hard and motivate yourself.

Excellent advice that I will remember as I approach the GCSE year.



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Summer Fun Spectacular

Students enjoy tremendous fun action-packed activities

By Joshua, 15

WCSA and PCSA hosted weeks of confidence-building fun, games and activities.

The weeks included axe throwing, archery and outdoor sports, as well as inflatables and skill building activities such as orienteering.

New students coming up to the 'big school' benefitted with boosted self-esteem and confidence, as did those in Years 8, 9 and 10.



I have really enjoyed it. There were so many fun and different things to do.
student



For more on this and all of our good news stories see goodnewspost.co.uk



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HIGHLY RECOMMENDED – DON'T MISS THE BLACK WIDOW

By Samara, The King Alfred School Academy



Enthralling... Emotional... Humorous ... Captivating. Those are the four words that I'd use to describe the latest instalment within the MCU cinematic universe – Black Widow.

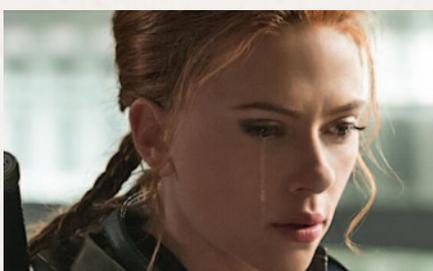
Following the story of the first female hero within the MCU, Black Widow is an action-packed spy thriller that is sure to keep anyone on the edge of their seat.

Natasha Romanoff (played by the incredible Scarlett Johansson) is forced to confront a patriarchal figure of her past – Dreykov (played by Ray Winstone), in her journey to become an avenger.

Dealing with themes of identity, family, sacrifice, and justice, this movie is sure to move you. As per tradition with any Marvel movie, there's a perfect balance of humorous lines which heighten the emotional experience.

Director Cate Shortland has certainly raised the bar with her impeccable work in creating this fantastic movie, which if her backstory or even family, is explored any further will certainly be one to reach.

I would highly recommend this movie to any Marvel Fan.



Diversity inspired dancer Jack wins UK competition

By Students Mark, 12, Tamsen, 13, and Mia, 13.

Jack, 13, of PCSA, and his 30-strong team won a national Hip Hop dance in Bournemouth.

Jack was inspired by Britain's Got Talent winners Diversity. When he met them, Diversity members told him, "keep doing what you're doing" which has always stuck with him.

PCSA Principal Angelos Markoutsas said: "Jack has achieved a brilliant dancing accolade in helping to win this national competition."



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Students win prestigious UK Art of Science University competition

By Tamsen, 13



Dorcas, Year 7, won First prize and Emma, Year 8 won Second prize in the University of Bristol life sciences competition.

The competition was open to 11-16 year olds across the UK Dorcas said "I was thrilled with my first prize".

The awards continues on the success from last year where Head of Key Stage Two Science Vicky Bush, who is also a former PCSA student, said: "This was an outstanding achievement. I am so pleased that I can work closely with University of Bristol to enable our students to access such an amazing competition."



Brilliant students to be published in an exciting new book

By Lilly-May, 12



Lewis, 12, Ella, 12, Lilly-May, 12, and more at PCSA, had their stories published in the book Unsolved which collected the best from across Britain.

Principal Angelos Markoutsas said: "This is a tremendous achievement. To be a published author so young is a tremendous thing."

Students break 12 year old sporting records

By Tamsen, 13



Jacob broke the Year 9 800m student record while Harvey smashed the Year 9 400m record.

Students also enjoyed track races, egg and spoon, tug-of-war and 'welly-wanging' in their PCSA Sports Day. Assistant Principal Tina Delaney said "We've loved every minute of our Sports Day. Not only did we have great fun but the event shows more than ability. It showed their huge resilience, teamwork, leadership, courage, motivation and grit."



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