



# NEWS FROM LINCOLN ACADEMY GRACE & GLORY

SUMMER 2023



CURIOSITY **GENEROSITY** WISDOM **BE KIND**  
 PASSION COURAGE CURIOSITY  
**BE PROUD** WISDOM **GRAFT** CURIOSITY  
 PASSION GENEROSITY  
**GENEROSITY** **WORK HARD** COURAGE **PASSION**  
 GROW COURAGE GRIT **WISDOM**  
 WORK HARD **BE KIND** KEEP GOING **BE PROUD** KEEP GOING  
 DREAM BIG WORK HARD BE KIND  
**COURAGE** **BE KIND** **KEEP GOING**  
**DREAM BIG** **GRAFT** **BE KIND** **GLORY** **DREAM BIG** **BE PROUD**  
**WORK HARD** **GRACE**



## Year 6 – 7 Transition Day

**Each year we take great care to help our new students to familiarise themselves with the school before they start in September.**



This year we welcomed over 160 new students on the planned transition evening and day. The evening allowed them to meet their tutor and ask any questions they had about their arrival in September, and the transition day allowed them to have a taste of the subjects they will study, make new friends as well as seeing old friends, take part in team building activities and sample the food available in the school restaurant.

By running these two events we hope that the students feel more confident on their first day, introduce them to the school values and expectations and ensure they know we are here to support them through this exciting time. As an Academy we try and support our students even before they actually start to the day they leave, making them true global citizens, full of confidence and with great expectations for the future.

**#BeProud #WorkHard #KeepGoing  
#DreamBig #BeKind**





# Work Experience and World of Work Day

**This year has been a phenomenal success for our Year 10 & 12 students who have had experiences of a lifetime.**

Over the past module, work experience visits have been taking place in a variety of sectors. Some students have organised individual placements, whilst others opted for group ones.

Staff also took a vital role in this, volunteering to make visits and witness students in their new work environment.

Visits and placements were matched to students' ambitions: companies included Siemens, Lincolnshire and Nott's Air Ambulance Service, Lincoln City FC, Doddington Hall, Lindum, Daisy Made, PepsiCo, BAE, and a range of primary schools.

Many students have expressed how it has helped to confirm their wishes and given them a real drive to achieve. What we can say is that they demonstrated the attitude of 'work hard' in abundance, and we were certainly proud of their behaviour and conduct throughout.

"I just wanted to let you know that the UK Director of PLEXSYS has personally thanked Archie, Jamie and Stan for the good work they have completed this week.

The boys have been courteous, polite and hardworking, a credit to your school."

Simon Clarke BSc, MRaES  
Site Coordinator, PLEXSYS UK



“Helped me to gain a really clear understanding of the sector.”

Teresa Corrigan

“A great experience to help me understand what work life is like and what direction I would like to go in.”

Megan Wilson



One of the visits was to RAF Coningsby, the Year 10 boys enjoyed a day at RAF Coningsby as part of their careers day. They were treated to a guided tour around the RAF base, meeting apprentices from the RAF and BAES courses.

They looked at how the Typhoon planes were serviced and even got the opportunity to sit in the cockpit of a Typhoon fighter, a rare and privileged treat. Seeing the Lancaster bomber having its engines checked was another exciting sight and experience.

We would like to thank Squadron Leader Chris Lyon and Tracy for giving us the amazing and wonderful insight and experience of working in the RAF.



As part of the Global Citizenship curriculum, students were involved in the Academy's World of Work Day. All students followed a day of different lessons delivered by staff and external visitors. There was a wide range of interactive and engaging sessions led by the Fire Service, RAF, Inspire Plus, Positive Health and LIVES. Year 9, 10 and 12 were fortunate enough to be able to attend the career fair. This was the second year the Academy has held this with an increasing number of employers, training providers, universities, and colleges in attendance. Over 70 visitors attended the Academy on the day and enabled academy students to gain an insight into different careers and knowledge on how to follow a path of their choosing.



# UCAS Event

**On the 29th July, Year 12 students were invited to attend the UCAS discovery event at the University of Lincoln.**

The event is designed to support students in gathering information to support their next destination at the end of Key Stage 5. Students were able to meet over 100 Universities; Colleges and apprenticeship employers face-to-face. They also found out about the different pathways that students may need to undertake to achieve their goals and listen to talks from experts about their next steps.

As always the Sixth Form students represented the Academy very well with high standards of behaviour but also making the most of the opportunities to discuss with representatives from all the different institutions about they need to achieve their goals and aspirations.

**#WorkHard #KeepGoing #DreamBig**



# Music for Youth

**In March our academy choir participated in the regional Music for Youth festival in Boston.**



Students received industry-specific tuition in their chosen discipline from a music expert. They spent the morning watching ensemble performances from across the county, ranging from bands to choirs to taiko drummers.

The choir performed three popular songs, 'All Of Me', 'Thinking Out Loud' and 'Price Tag', to a packed-out audience. At the end of the morning, all ensembles were given feedback on their performances. The adjudicator was very pleased with the set.

The academy choir is now heading to Birmingham where they will take part in the national festival.

The choir is open to any student at the academy. We rehearse after school and at lunch time.

"This was a very committed performance, with a sense of pride and joy shown by all."

#Passion  
#Courage  
#BeProud  
#DreamBig

# Lincoln Computing

**Four year 11 students took part in this year's European Astro Pi Mission Zero Challenge 2022-2023.**

Using guidance provided they had to write a short piece of code that would display a reading from a sensor on board the International Space Station and then use the LED lights of the display to show a small graphic they designed using the light display.

All four student's code was successfully run, and their certificates show the exact coordinates of where the ISS was above at the time! (One south of Australia, one in Kazakhstan and one to the west of South Africa!)



# Priory Lincoln's Creative Writing Superstars

**Throughout the past year, a group of dedicated Year 7 and 8 students have been taking part in our Creative Writing Club.**

The club was created so that likeminded students would have a place to spend time writing stories, poems, articles- whatever type of writing that they enjoy most! This has also been a brilliant opportunity for students to read each other's work, discuss and share ideas to create some fantastic pieces of writing.

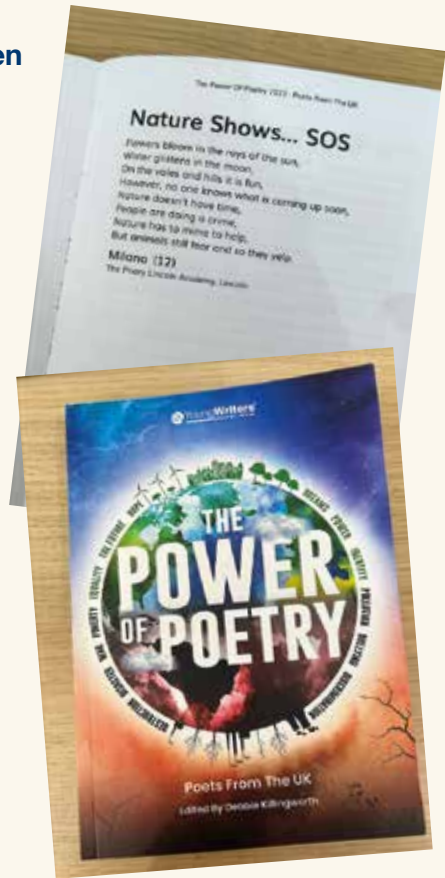
Several of these diligent students have also taken part in some writing competitions, submitting their work for the chance to be a published author!

Here are some of the well-deserved winners:

Year 8 students, Evelyn and Lizzie, were published in the Young Writers collection of short stories entitled: Integer- Imaginary Realms! Both Lizzie and Evelyn worked hard on crafting fantastic short stories over the course of the first term.

Milana worked incredibly hard at Creative Writing Club to produce her poem 'Nature Shows... SOS'. This was also chosen to be published in The Power of Poetry 2023- Poets From The UK anthology created by Young Writers.

#Passion #DreamBig #WorkHard



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# Another successful Holiday Activities and Food event

**This Easter, Priory Lincoln Academy once again held our HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) Programme.**

**From across KS3 and 4, students came together to share all kinds of fun; all of this was centred on healthy food and exercise.**



There was a range of activities: from cooking to cheerleading, parachute games to scavenger hunts, rounders to trampolining and swimming to taste testing – there was something for everyone to enjoy, and lots of left-overs to take home!

The highlight for many was the short animations they created collaboratively around healthy eating. This was a new addition this year by the talented Miss Baker and the results were great.

Good Looking Cooking once again wowed with exceptional food, providing each child with a balanced hot meal every day, and we can now boast a 5 star hygiene rating as a HAF provider.

A huge thanks once again to the staff who gave up their time to help make this memorable experience happen. Roll on the summer!



#Generosity



## Creativity through Art

**The art students have been working hard this year researching and developing different styles and techniques of art. They have produced some outstanding work demonstrating their creativity and curiosity.**

Jas in Year 8 has drawn Picasso's portrait in charcoal inspired by Picasso's self-portrait from 1899-1900.



Following up, they then used oil pastels to draw the cubism portrait from 1907.

Lincoln Year 9's have been studying the origins of art through Aboriginal designs. They have explored cave art, ancient symbols and animals, fabric dying and crafting artefacts.

We encourage our students to find their own artistic expression which allows them to produce some outstanding work. We are very proud of our student's creativity and hard work."

**#BeProud #WorkHard #KeepGoing  
#DreamBig #GraceGlorry**



# MADD show

**We are so proud of our students across all years, as part of our hugely successful MADD show (Music, Art, Dance and Drama) the Art Department exhibited some of our best pieces of work made this year by our wonderfully talented and hardworking students at the academy.**

The displays tell a story of passion and dedication across all year groups and genres, including fine art, graphics and photography.

We are pleased to celebrate their achievements and congratulations to all involved in the show and thank them for allowing us to use their work to show case the school and what we can achieve working together.

**#BeProud #WorkHard  
#Passion #DreamBig**



## LACK OF SENSITIVITY

Chatbot software isn't always sophisticated enough to pick up on subtle emotional cues or recognise signs of distress in children, as most humans would. It might therefore fail to respond appropriately. AI misinterpreting what it's being told or replying insensitively to a young user who's already struggling could potentially impact a child's emotional wellbeing or exacerbate any existing emotional issues.

# Advice for Parents & Carers

## PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and conversations. This is ostensibly to improve their performance as they gradually learn about our behaviour – but many experts are warning that there may be significant risks associated with how this information is stored and used (the possibility of potential breaches or misuse by third parties, for instance).

## CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI apps, a relaxed, natural chat should help you to discover which ones they're aware of and how they're using them (or are planning to). Discuss these options with your child and perhaps do your own research to ensure you think they're suitable. Once you're totally happy, you could sit with your young one and begin exploring AI chatbots together.

## CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, encourage them to do so in a safe environment: ideally in a shared space at home, so you can easily keep an eye and ear on their progress. Set up appropriate content filtering measures in advance – and gently remind them that you'll be close by and ready to help with any questions or concerns that may arise.

## FIND A BALANCE

Work alongside your child to establish the right balance in terms of how they might use AI-powered chatbots – and when it's appropriate. It's important to make sure that children are still getting plenty of opportunities to learn to solve problems for themselves, as well as building their interpersonal skills through face-to-face conversations with friends, family members and teachers.

## TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots we'd strongly recommend that you consider employing parental controls (either on the device being used or within the software itself) to manage which apps your child can download and use. This is particularly important for younger children, who may be more at risk of being upset or frightened by inappropriate content.

## RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It's unlikely that most children will have even considered the potential risks attached to having a virtual companion. So it's probably wise to explain some of the possible hazards and challenges of AI chatbots to your child, in particular, emphasising that you're a real person (however much it might sound like one) and may occasionally feel them something that isn't entirely impartial or accurate.

## Meet Our Expert

A Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Gary Henderson is the Director of IT of a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East, with a special interest in digital citizenship and cyber security. He believes it is essential that we become more aware of the risks around technology, as well as the benefits.



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Online  
Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday



@nationalinesafety



NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinelesafety



@national\_online\_safety

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies releasing new AI-based software or adding an AI element to existing apps. (Such as Snapchat, for example). One form of AI to become especially popular has been the ‘AI friend’ or chatbot, as children eagerly experiment with these new-found computer-generated companions. There are now numerous apps available with this ‘virtual friend’ functionality, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and should be filtered out. So there’s a possibility that children could be exposed to offensive language or explicit material while conversing with their virtual friend. The companies producing such AI solutions are also unlikely to take responsibility for any content that their algorithms generate.

#### REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for social interaction could potentially cause a child to begin reducing the amount of face-to-face communication they have, leading to social isolation. If young people become dependent on chatbots to provide companionship, it could very likely hinder the development of their real-life social skills.



#### UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI companions are only as reliable as the information they’ve been programmed with. The algorithms they use, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour (as many originate from the USA or the UK, for instance, they can display a distinctly western-centric worldview). This could lead to children developing skewed attitudes and behaviours.



#### COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many are now undeniably advanced, AI-powered chatbots still have limitations in terms of understanding complex concepts, context and nuance. Depending heavily on chatbots to help with learning or solving problems may stunt the development of a child’s own powers of critical thinking, creativity and ability to engage in open-ended discussions with other people.



### NEW MESSAGE



# Good enough to eat

**We are very proud with the achievements of our students in Food Technology this year. The students study the Eat Well Guide and Hospitality Catering as well as various methods of cooking.**

Year 9 & 10 have produced some fantastic meals worthy of being on high class restaurant menus. The students develop their cooking skills whilst improving their reading of recipes, and using maths to measure and calculate ingredients. Students work hard on organisational skills and learn how to time things to ensure that the end result meets our high standards.

We work towards the Eat well guide in making healthy and nutritional meals that will help any students in future life, and also provide the progression into a career into hospitality. Covering the structure of hospitality, importance to healthy eating and how to prevent food poisoning.

Enhanced skills such as butchering a whole chicken and filleting a fish are always a fun and eye-opening lesson for the Year 9 students, where they can learn the importance of using all aspects of an animal.

All students can show off their own catering abilities with a free cook once a module, where they can push their skills and highlight some of the skills to staff and their family.

**#BeProud #WorkHard #DreamBig**



# Zoolab

**Students from Years 8 and 10 took part in a fully interactive learning experience from the ethical animal handling company Zoolab.**

The sessions from Zoolab taught students about the rainforest and the conditions in the different layers. The Y10s learn about the rainforest in the GCSE course, so this opportunity enabled students to see the adaptations first hand. Students had the opportunity to hold a range of animals, including a snake. The students were apprehensive at first, but they kept going and many overcame challenges.

Zoolab brought a tarantula as well, however the students learnt if the tarantula was to fall, it would break like glass. This meant the students unfortunately were unable to hold the tarantula.



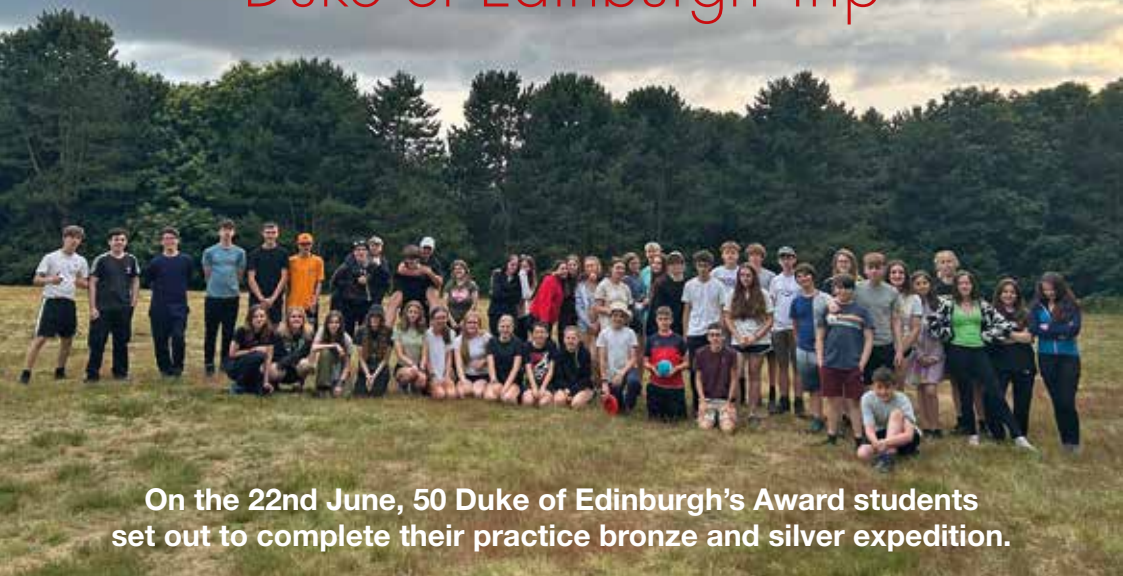
The caption of the day comes from a year 10 student who described the workshop as being 'Lit'. The pictures say it all, the students were engaged and loved the workshop.

We at Priory Lincoln look forward to welcoming the Zoolab team back in the future.

[#Courage](#) [#Curiosity](#) [#BeKind](#)



# Duke of Edinburgh Trip



**On the 22nd June, 50 Duke of Edinburgh's Award students set out to complete their practice bronze and silver expedition.**

The students showed resilience through working hard and kept going, despite the heat. The glorious weather was both lovely and an added challenge for the expedition.

After following their routes of between 10 and 16km, students enjoyed an evening cooking on trangias, setting up camp and working together as a team.

On the second day, the bronze students completed their second route and headed back to the Academy, whilst the silver students returned to the camp for a second night.

Following their third day of walking, the silver groups successfully finished their practice expedition. Staff are very proud of all the bronze and silver students and cannot wait to see what they achieve on their assessed expedition in July.

Well done to all for showing a fantastic attitude to the award, working hard to keep going, all whilst being kind to each other. Well done all!

**#KeepGoing**  
**#WorkHard**  
**#BeKind**



# Holderness Trip

**This year, our A Level geography students embarked on a weeklong fieldwork expedition that visited sites in both England and Scotland.**

Beginning on the North East Coast, students conducted research into coastal processes and management, taking rock samples and measuring coastal erosion. Then they moved on to Newcastle where they collected data on urban environments.

Next up, was a stay at Berwick-upon-Tweed on the Scottish border, where questionnaires on attitudes to Scottish independence were taken. Then the group travelled to Edinburgh and Glasgow where further studies of built-up environments were carried out.

A stop at the High Force waterfall and then a journey along the River Tees completed a week of hard work.

The photographs say it all - the students had an incredible time, and a week that they will never forget!



# PGL Trip

**Year 7s have once again shown their ability to embody the Lincoln Attitudes. 50 students spent 3 days proving that they could 'Dream Big' and achieve more than they thought they could.**

During their time at Ford Castle the students took part in a number of activities designed to test their ability to 'Keep Going' and 'Work Hard' to overcome challenges. Be it a fear of heights on the 20ft trapeze, or trusting your team on Jacob's ladder and raft building. If that's not enough, the students also participated in archery, fencing and axe throwing. Students and staff both felt they could 'Be Proud' even with staff getting stuck in at the silent disco... (An extra thank you to the students for agreeing to 'Be Kind' about the staff dancing).

Grace and Glory truly exemplified as staff at PGL fed back about the politeness and well-mannered nature of our students as well as their overwhelming sense of comradeship when supporting and celebrating each other through their many successes. Well done to all students involved, you showed PGL Ford Castle what it means to be from Priory Lincoln.



# Lincoln Reads

**Our students thoroughly enjoyed participating in the first of the author events to go live. This was as part of the Yoto Carnegies Event Week.**

Our book group members got to see an interview with bestselling Author - Jessie Burton. We were all very excited as many of us have read or are reading 'Medusa' by Jessie Burton. One of the books nominated for this prestigious book award.

Jessie answered two of the questions put to her by our students. This whole event was inspiring to our students giving an insight to the writing process, being a writer, mythology and the inspiration behind the book. We were all buzzing with enthusiasm...

Our students said;

"Wow, loved her take on this myth."

"That was just amazing Miss."



Reading for pleasure is so very important to us at the academy and opportunities like this are fantastic!

More book reviews & news coming soon.

#Passion #DreamBig #WorkHard



#DreamBig #WorkHard #KeepGoing  
#BeProud #BeKind #GraceGlory

# Let's Celebrate!





# Sporting Updates



## KS3 boys rounders

What a beautiful afternoon for a spot of rounders.

Well done to Priory Witham Academy, who were victorious in a terrific match. Both teams played in true Priory spirit and epitomised the attitudes of the Academy KS3 boys rounders.



## Athletics

Well done to the Academy Athletics squad who had a outstanding performance at this years LGSSZ Athletics championships.

Final results are in and we are pleased to announce that we finished 4th out of the 11 schools in the district.





## Sebastian

Well done to Sebastian, who last month was crowned 2023 BJC British Champion!!

What a superb achievement.



## Phoebe Smith

Good Luck to Phoebe Smith who represents **@CURUFC** against Oxford at this year's Varsity event at **@twickenhamstadium**



Both Varsity Matches will be broadcast for free on ViaPlay Xtra (available on Sky TV channel 422 and Virgin TV channel 533) or on YouTube.



## Y9 rounders

Well done to the Year 9 rounders team on their tournament win!

They faced strong and determined opponents in Castle Academy, Branston and Will Farr.

Well done to all involved. What a cracking way to round off the week!





## Badminton Championships

Yonex All England 2023 Badminton World Championships

What a wonderful day had by all. 44 students went to Birmingham to watch the World Badminton championships.



## KS4 Badminton

Fantastic turn out in the KS4 Badminton today. 21 students after a hard week studying letting off steam.



## Y7 Boxercise



Students from Y7 finishing off the first half the year with a session of Boxercise as part of their HRE study.





## Swimming

Well done to the 17 swimmers from across the Academy who took part in the Lincoln & Gainsborough District swimming meet earlier today. There were some good individual performances and PBs broken.



## Y7 Boys Football

Well done to the Y7 boys that were triumphant against five other schools in winning the Lincoln & Gainsborough District schools 5-a-side competition.



## Y7 & 8 Girls Football

Year 7 & 8 girls represented the school for the first time during an all-girls football tournament hosted at the Academy. They finished third in their first ever football event in which they mainly played against Year 8s from other schools around Lincoln.

Well done to all the girls who took part!



# A sporting star in the making

**Finn Clements (Year 10) has been selected to play for England mixed 15s touch. Finn regularly plays for Lincoln Touch and also Lincoln Rugby Club.**

Last year, he represented the Midlands at the Touch Nationals. Finn attended five weekends of rigorous training at the High Performance Training Camps competing against the best players in the country.

Finn showed excellent ability, attitude and determination to be successful in being selected to represent England at the inaugural Atlantic Touch Cup in Nottingham this July.

He will play teams from around the world including France, China, Cayman Islands, Belgium, Ireland, Wales and USA. Touch rugby is a growing inclusive

sport for all genders of any age. Over the past few years, England has become a fierce competitor at the World championships, with many age groups being successful as being crowned the best team in the world.

Finn has a bright future ahead of him and we wish him every success in the upcoming tournament.

He has taken part in some difficult training sessions and has worked really hard to be selected. Finn was also selected for the male u17 midlands squad competing at the junior nationals later this year.

