

## EXCEPTIONAL FOOTBALL

Congratulations to the Year 8 football team, who after extra time where the score finished 3-3, won on penalties 4-2 against Haygrove School to progress to the next round of the County Cup. Tom was exceptional between the sticks. Goal scorers were Phil and Callum x 2.

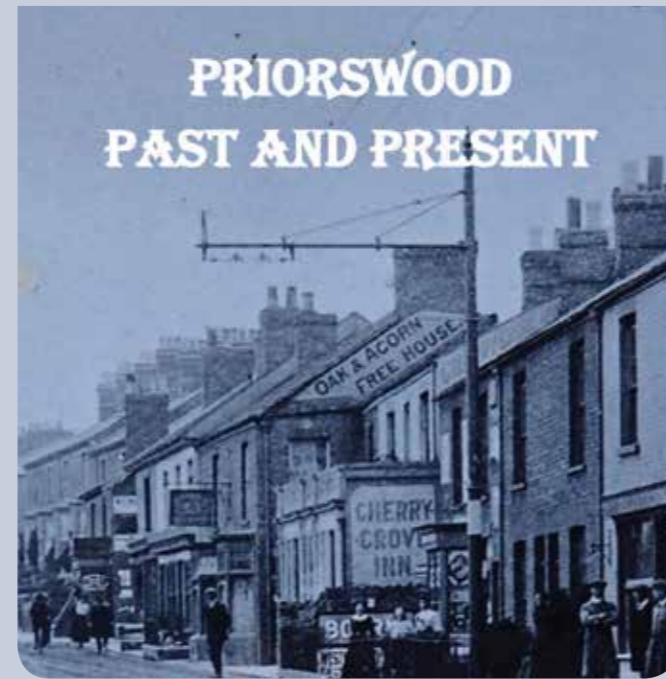
**Mr Mason**



## HISTORY GROUP

We set up a group earlier in the year to research the history of North Taunton and with a lot of hard work and dedication from the group we have produced a 44 page book on the past and present of North Taunton. It includes many photographs, memories and stories from local people that over time would be forgotten so please reserve your copy now, so as not to be disappointed. The book will make a fantastic Christmas present at only £5.

**Mrs Lesley Thomas**  
Manager  
Priorswood Community Centre



Our summer programmes start on the 01/07/2019. All waves require 3-4 weeks of commitment. NCS is such a fantastic way to make new friends, have fun, gain confidence and spend your summer holidays. For more details see [www.ncsyes.co.uk](http://www.ncsyes.co.uk) to sign up or email [ncs@weactivate.co.uk](mailto:ncs@weactivate.co.uk)

**Sarah Bell**  
Student Engagement & Liaison  
Officer NCS



## HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

As I write, I am very much looking forward to our Curriculum Enrichment Day, which this year is focusing on "futures". This key event in our calendar embodies all that we are aiming to achieve at the Taunton Academy - providing support, opening up opportunities and broadening the horizons of all our students. Year 11 will be visiting Richard Huish College, Year 10 will be planning for Work Experience and exams next summer, Year 9 is involved in a variety of confidence building activities, Year 8 is learning about health and wellness and Year 7 is looking at future cooperation with team building and self esteem exercises at Hestercombe Gardens weather allowing. All amazing and potentially life changing engagements, which I know the children will embrace with their usual enthusiasm.

Please see our the next newsletter for photos and a full report of the day.

## NOTICES

The booking system is now live for you to make appointments for the Year 7 Progress Evening on Thursday 13th December, from 3.40 – 6.40pm. Please follow this link:

<https://thetaunton.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

Payments for the Year 11 Brewhouse Christmas Carol are now overdue. Students should have received letters about this or can see Mr Eddy for another copy. This trip is to support the English curriculum.

On Wednesday 19th December a traditional Christmas meal will be available at lunch time. Students should see their tutor or kitchen staff to order their food. There will be no other hot food available on this day. The Christmas Music Evening has been postponed in order to best support older students in their exam preparation, and is due to take place now in February closer to their practical exam. More information will follow nearer the time.

Friday 21st December is the last day of term and students can wear a Christmas jumper if they would like to. Also, a reminder that we will be finishing early on this day and students will be able to leave school at 1pm. Buses have been organised for this earlier time.

There are numerous trips coming up before Christmas. Please ensure all paperwork is returned as per the letters which come out. We hope you enjoy the next few weeks leading up to Christmas.

Thanks to the support of students and parents/carers we raised an amazing total of £516.18 for children in need from the recent non-school uniform day! Well done to all.



## STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:



**Year 7:** George for being a fabulous student who always works hard and makes excellent contributions in lessons. Chloe for always being polite, completing challenging tasks in lessons and for being an all-round superstar.



**Year 8:** Molly for great effort and hard work. Lewis for hard work in the community.



**Year 9:** Sam and Carina for their consistent outstanding contributions to all lessons and for being wonderful young people.



**Year 7:** Lily for having such a positive attitude to learning and being kind and caring to others. Emily for working hard in all lessons and an excellent test result in French.



**Year 8:** Mason for his outstanding efforts and achievements across school.



**Year 9:** Gemma for her excellent resilience and continued efforts in all lessons. Callan for his excellent contribution to all lessons and being a lovely student.

## BISHOP'S VISIT

We were privileged to welcome the Right Reverend Ruth Worsley, Bishop of Taunton, to our school last Friday. She met staff in the library to share some cake and then talked to various students who have been impacted by the caring ethos of the school, chaplaincy or in religious studies. Bishop Ruth was able to see what church schools can do to change the situation in children's lives.



**Mrs Sullivan**

## JOINT CHALLENGE

Last Friday we had a visit from Simon Gray who is from "Taste of Game" and part of The Food Teachers' Centre. He ran a two hour practical workshop for Year 10 GCSE students and Year 9 HPA students. Every student had the opportunity to joint a pheasant, turn the meat into mince and to make spicy meatballs and sauce.

All of the students were a credit to the school and produced amazing outcomes. The Year 9 students who had never jointed/dissected before rose to the challenge brilliantly. It was a fabulous morning all round.

**Mrs Webb**



## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWS

We were very impressed with Alyssa in Year 7's creative response to Charles Dickens stories about poverty in Victorian times.

Prefects Naz and Alex showed impressive enthusiasm making a display for one of the corridors!



## BOOKS PLEASE

As we near the festive season, the library would gratefully accept any book donations (or even magazines) to swell our shelves. Spread the goodwill at Christmas!

**Ms Lam**

## BASKETBALL TEAMWORK

The Year 7 girls played some fantastic basketball in the CVL tournament against Courtfields, Kingsmead and Castle schools last week. Top basket scorer was Evie and top rebounder was Nina. Well done girls - great performances all round, showing fantastic teamwork!

**Ms Bird**



**Back row - Nina, Ruby, Bethany, Safia and Holly.  
Front row - Zofia, Cheyenne, Evie and Evie.**

## ELF ON OVEN SHELF



Some photos of finished Christmas cakes which were completed last week, ready to take home for the festivities! Brilliant work by Harry, Henry, Denis, Ellis, Kyran, Rebecca, Ella, Zofia and Tiana - whose final cake even had a light-up Christmas tree and elf!

**Ms Faragher**

## BRUNNER PRIZE WINNERS

To mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, Richard Huish College selected 'armistice' as the theme for its annual Creative Writing Awards. The Brunner Competition, run by Huish for partner schools, challenged pupils to write an imaginative, original short story, dramatic monologue, play script or poem.

Photos of finalists and winners from The Taunton Academy. Credit: Alain Lockyer, Somerset Photo News.



## QUIZ NIGHT THANKS

The quiz went really well and I am pleased to say we raised £380 towards the Year 11 prom. I would like to thank everyone for supported us, including our Chair of Governors, Chris Ormrod, for being the quiz master. Thank you to the following companies who very kindly donated prizes for our raffle.

**Ms Dixon**

**The Roman Baths**

[www.romanbaths.co.uk](http://www.romanbaths.co.uk)

**Victoria Art Gallery**

[www.victoriagal.org.uk](http://www.victoriagal.org.uk)

**Fashion Museum Bath**

[www.fashionmuseum.co.uk](http://www.fashionmuseum.co.uk)

**East Somerset Railway**

[www.eastsomersetrailway.com](http://www.eastsomersetrailway.com)

**Avon Valley Railway**

[www.avonvalleyrailway.org](http://www.avonvalleyrailway.org)

**Monkton Elm Garden Centre**

[www.monktonelmgardencentre.co.uk](http://www.monktonelmgardencentre.co.uk)

**Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm Museum**

[www.fleetairarm.com](http://www.fleetairarm.com)

**Somerset County Cricket Club**

[www.somersetcountycc.co.uk](http://www.somersetcountycc.co.uk)

