



Dates for the Diary

Mar 2008

Mon 31 Staff Inset day

Apr 2008

Tue 1 Term begins for pupils (Week 2)

2-4 Alton castle Y5-Y8

Mon 7 Head's Surgery 6 p.m.—please ring the school office to make an appointment

Tue 8 Presentation Evening 7.30 p.m. Priory Hall

Tue 29 Founder's Day Mass 11.30a.m. U17/U15 Stafford and District Athletics Championships 2p.m.

May 2008

LAMDA exams
GCSE and A Level exams begin

Mon 4 **MAY DAY HOLIDAY**

Thur 8 Cabaret Evening, 7.30 p.m. Priory Hall

Mon 12 Head's Surgery 6p.m.

Sat 17 Whole School Open Morning 10.00a.m.—12.30 p.m.

19-23 Year 10 Work Experience Week

25-30 (inc.) **HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

PFA Ladies Night

Sunday 13th April, 7 p.m.
The Arch Chinese Restaurant
Newcastle
For tickets and more
information please contact
Clare Elsby-Smith
01782 626302

Do you have any news??

If you would like to share any news that you have with the school community via the School News then please e-mail: marketing@st-dominicspriory.staffs.sch.uk

Alternatively drop a note into the school office marked for the attention of 'Marketing'.

'Fond Farewell'

After nearly 5 years at St Dominic's Priory School it is now time for me to move on. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have supported me in my time here. I will look back on my time in school with fond memories and am particularly proud of being part of a team that has strengthened the school and helped to lay the foundations for future prosperity.

Wishing you and the school all the very best, Andrew Egan

Grazie Signora Phillips!

This was the sentiment expressed by Hannah Stubbs (Y10) following the recent Italian Exchange trip to Vigevano. Girls from the Senior School experienced life for a week in Vigevano, a small town near Milan.

Highlights included a visit to a shoe museum, participating in Italian and English Karaoke at school, a day trip to Milan and indulging in the local cuisine. Particularly enjoyable was the last night when they were presented with a heart-shaped pizza for Valentine's Day.

Hannah added, 'It was one of the best school experiences I've ever had. It was fantastic, and definitely improved my Italian.'

The Italian students will be visiting Stone in April for the second leg of the exchange.



Students at Vigevano's famous Piazza Ducale, with the Cathedral façade in the background

Lights, camera.... ACTION

One of last year's Upper Sixth leavers, Olivia Hutchinson, has secured a place at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London. She will start her three year course at this prestigious drama school later this year, once she has completed her Foundation Year at East 15 Drama School.



Olivia Hutchinson

Not just for boys.

ABB, a local engineering company enlisted the help of our Sixth Form girls recently to make a film promoting Industry Day. The school has built up a strong relationship with ABB, who are keen to encourage girls in particular to participate in engineering-based activities. In recent years they have offered work experience opportunities and University sponsorship to our students.

Cross Country Results

At the recent ISA Midlands Championships at Bedstone College, Shropshire, Kate Anderson ran an extremely impressive race, thrashing the opposition and taking the Senior girls' title. Kate Furnival (Yr 7) just missed out on a medal in the Yr 7/8 race, finishing fourth. Mrs Mierau and Mrs Charlton were on hand to offer their support for what proved to be a very enjoyable day.



Katie Lovewell and Ellena Thomas



Lauren Charlton

Date for the Diary

The choir will be performing at the High Sheriff of Stafford's inauguration, on Wednesday morning, April 2nd at St. Mary's Church Stafford. The event is open to the public and all support would be greatly appreciated.

Stone Revellers

See Elyse Mauger (Y8) performing in 'Jesus Christ Superstar', which is to be directed by former student Katherine Shanahan. The show runs from Wednesday 12th to Saturday 15th March at St. Michael's Church. For more information please contact 01785 817307

Music Results

Lauren Bathew (Y8):
Trumpet Grade 2;

Emma Roberts (Y11): French
Horn Grade 5 with merit;

Emilia Harker (Y6): Piano
Grade 1 with merit.



Now in its 17th Year, Tesco have launched it's 2008 Computers for Schools Voucher scheme. Please could you send any vouchers that you collect into the school office.

News in brief

The Ten Ten Theatre Company performed 'Babies' to Y10, Y11 and the Sixth Form as part of their PHSE and Religious Studies course. The production was very thought-provoking and was followed by a workshop and a speaker from Life.

Performing at Slater's Restaurant

Rosina Bloor, Ellen Costello, Eleanor Davies, Caroline Furey, Charlotte Hill, Ellen Matthews, Elyse Mauger, Charlotte Reid, Alix Robb, Emma Roberts, Leah Stubbs, Emily Tabernor and Emma Webster recently entertained guests at the Probus Club Ladies Evening, held at Slater's Restaurant in Whitchurch. The students performed a wide variety of music including a number of solos and duets. £100 was raised for the VI Form Lenten charity for Breast Cancer .

A Blast from the Past

At the end of February students from Y7 spent a day at Apedale Heritage Centre and Country Park. On this joint English, Classics and Geography trip they were treated to a wide variety of experiences including a talk from a Roman Soldier who explained Roman history in the area as well demonstrating how to use Roman armour and weaponry. Students were also able to descend into a drift mine, visit the mining museum and explore the Country Park.



Trip to Savio House

Students from Y10, accompanied by Mrs Cook and Mrs Burge, spent three days at the beginning of March at Savio House in Bollington, Cheshire. Highlights of the trip included climbing 'White Nancy', affirmation booklets, The Games Spectacular and the Celebration of the Eucharist when music was provided by Alice-Rose Perry, Rosina Bloor and Hannah Stubbs. Our students presented 'Jesus Calms the Storm' as a piece of drama and the bidding prayers were presented in art form by our artists.

The Voice of Youth

Two teams took part in the Rotary Club's 'Youth Speaks' Final for Staffordshire and Shropshire. This national competition aims to develop confidence in public speaking for students aged 11 to 17. Neil Hammersley, President of the Rotary Club of Stone & District, said that the students Katy Francis, Charlotte Reid, Caroline Furey, Alice Costello, Victoria Burton and Alice-Rose Perry, 'had greatly impressed him and that the overall standard of the competition was very high.' He was 'proud that our teams had represented their school, their town and the Rotary Club so very capably.'

'Green Art'

Jennifer Collier, a textile maker who uses recycled materials to make non-functional clothing led an Artist Workshop earlier in March for Year 9 students. Following in the footsteps of previous artists-in-residence Mark Dally and Phil Hardacre, Jennifer showed the students how to work with a range of new materials while developing new techniques. The final pieces of work are on display in the Cloisters and show the wide diversity of the materials used.

Enjoying British Art

The David Hockney Museum at Saltaire was the recent destination for our Year 10 GCSE Art students. They were able to explore the work of this famous British artist and note his diverse ways of working. Although David Hockney has often been regarded as the playboy of the art world, his work has gained much esteem and attention from all over the world. The students' work following this trip will form part of their coursework and will be displayed in Priory Hall in the future.



Laura Hoy,
Charlotte
Hughes, Beatrice
Hodkinson,
Rosie Jones

And Finally.....

We are currently working on distributing the School Newsletter by e-mail as well as by hard copy. If you would like to receive the School Newsletter by e-mail please could you forward an e-mail titled 'School Newsletter' to:

marketing@st-dominicspriory.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you to all who have already responded!