### **Curious** To Read Our Favourite Books?

#### Our students have some recommended reads for you...

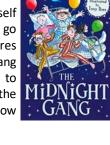
#### The Midnight Gang by David Walliams

Plot summary – the main character finds himself in a hospital full of kids who he later finds out go and create their own magical adventures throughout the hospital. The midnight gang chooses a member of the gang every night to create their dreams in the real world. One of the MiDNiGHT kids wanted to fly. Read the book to find out how the gang manage this challenge.

My Favourite character was Amber because she proved no matter what physical or mental state you're in, you can always be good at loads of things. The most memorable part of the book for me was when the old lady grabbed all the balloons the gang used to try make George fly. What surprised me was that Tom did not want to leave the hospital and his friends. I would recommend this book because it's funny and always exciting. By Balen Davey (Year 8)

#### Famous Five go off to Camp by Enid Blyton

This book is all about the Famous Five who consist of 4 children and Timmy the dog. In this book they go off to a camping site with the boys (Julian and Dicks) teacher. When they arrive the five find a farm and they make a friend called Jock who is the farm boy. The five love to explore and find an old railway yard with a man called Wooden Leg Sam looking after it. He told them all about these trains called spook trains. So they go on an adventure to figure out where the spook trains are and what they do. There are lots of exciting twists and turns, then in the end it turns out that Jocks step-dad is at the bottom of the mystery along with some of his so called workers from the Farm. They were bad and selling things they shouldn't. Jocks step dad and all the workers except one old man get locked up in jail and Jock and his mum live on the farm happily. The Five went home with the teacher excited to solve another mystery. This is a great story and I enjoy listening to this book before bed. I would recommend it to anyone old or young! By Daisy Money (Year 7)



#### Boy Soldier by Andy McNab and Robert Rigby David Walliam

Danny sets out to become a soldier in the army: this is all he wants to do. But when he did not make selection in the army, his dreams were crushed. This was all he has ever wanted to be. He finds out he didn't make it because of something his grandfather, Fergus, did. So he sets out to find him. When he finds his grandad, he discovers that he has been on the run from people because of a set up. Danny and his grandad go on the run together to escape the person who set his grandad up.

I think this book is amazing; it has got a lot of action

which I really enjoy. This book keeps you on the

edge of your seat. It keeps you wanting to read on.

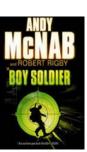
I would definitely recommend this book to any

By Dylan Spraggins (Year 7)

I can't wait to read the next book in the series.

A Woman in Berlin by Anonymous

teenager. 10/10.



IN BERLI



## **Generous & Committed Staff During Lockdown**



Priory Pembroke's social media presence continues to be strong during these difficult times. During this period of school closure, we have ensured that not only work is posted online but also every day we put something onto our Facebook and Twitter to reassure students and their families that we are still here and we care. This has been in the form of other web-links to learning activities, national competitions and also fun tasks which embrace challenge and creativity in diverse ways.

On the first Friday, our staff were keen to maintain one of our weekly reward schemes, 'Hot Chocolate Friday') which has featured in the Priory Star before). This is where students from across the school are nominated by staff for displaying our values during that week and if successful, they receive hot chocolate and cake with Mr Evans on Friday at break time in his office. This is posted on social media every Friday without fail and is a national reward agenda on Twitter #hotchocfri. Staff quickly sent their selfies with a mug and in minutes we had a rather fetching 'pic collage' so that our Pembroke community could see us smiling and saying 'we can get through this together' as 'Achieving Together' is our school motto.



A Woman in Berlin is a harrowing tale of a German woman (her name and appearance are not known) writing a diary about her experience as the Russians close in on Berlin at the end of World War 2. The book goes into detail about the horrific things herself and other woman around the city had had done to them at the hands of the Red Army. Throughout modern history, we have generalised Germany (during the war) as being nothing more than the party in charge. However, this book gives us an insight as to how that's not the case, and that over 100,000 innocent women were violated for no other reason than an abuse of power. While it is very bleak. I love how the women help each other and don't stop fighting for one another. They are strong enough to be able to carry on when many of us would want to hide. That is one lesson I have taken from this book: don't let horrible things around you stop you from living. This book a bittersweet tale, and what makes it that more eyeopening: the diary is real. By Lara Brown (Year 9)

Slime by David Walliams This book is about a boy called Ned, who lives on an island call "Mulch" he lives with his Mum. Dad and his sister Jemima. During this story Ned tries to get his own back on his sister Jemima because he only takes a bath once a year; on his birthday. Before the day of Ned's birthday Jemima gets lots of jars and she puts lots of different things inside them, and leaves them in the bathroom. On Ned's Birthday, Jemima emptied the jars in to the bath and the ingredients started to create layers. When Ned turned the bath tap on something strange started to happen. Something came up from underneath the water, a mysterious thing... it was a slime monster. This is such a good book and the things Ned and the Slime monster get up to are really funny. By Jacob Edwards (Year 7)



### **Generous & Committed Staff Achieving Together**



Our social media platform is managed by Miss Neal, Assistant Headteacher. Her energy clearly flows through the platform as she takes the lead in ensuring that a staff social media post continues every Friday. A weekly challenge is set which reminds our school community that we are still here, safe at home, all in the same boat and that we care! We have been showing off: our baking skills; how we exercise at home; our developing green fingers; our disguises as we played 'Guess Who' with our learners and at Easter, we decided that an egg and spoon relay race would be quite apt which took the form of a video with a comedy circus soundtrack. This post in particular has had over 2000 views and we received some lovely comments from our Pembroke families such as: "That's the best thing I have ever watched" (a year 9 girl) and "OMG it's so funny. I've had a few rough days at hospital and this is just what we needed - a bit of light relief! Thanks" (parent of Year 7 student).

After seeing the thousands of views and responses to that video, it was evident that a video entertained our Pembroke community more than mere photographs. Since then, each week has been as equally amusing and welcomed by staff, students, parents and primary schools. Since the egg and spoon success, not only has Miss Neal quickly learned a lot about editing footage but with such a wonderful staff cast eager to get involved each week, a series of films have been produced.

We have created a wonderful goodbye video for our Year 11 students which was both a collection of messages from staff followed by a karaoke rendition of 'We Go Together' from Grease. We have celebrated the hair salons opening on 4th July with a 'Hair Despair' video. We did lockdown karaoke whereby staff selected a snippet from a song they felt evoked the emotions we have all experienced at some point since March. We have taken on the sporty loo-roll challenge and have also celebrated our passion for reading by creating a book quiz on film; staff read a line from a well-known book for students and their families to guess and winners received a book from an author who should have visited Pembroke on 11th May: LD Lapinski.

Staff have really enjoyed participating in these each week as they keeps everyone's spirits up. We always 'Achieve Together' at Pembroke.





## **Home Learning Passion**

Whilst students have been working from home since 23rd March, they have astounded us with the vast array of extra learning activities they have engaged in with their families. It's been incredible to have our students and their parents email our staff with photos of all the new things they have learned and completed.

Many students engaged in our 'Marathon in 7 Days' challenge which raised £2000 for the NHS. Students ran, walked, scooted and cycled with their families to collectively cover 26.2 miles across a week. We were lucky with the weather that week and had so many email in their progress and photos - a fabulous Trust effort across all Priory schools. Well done to all who took part! Here is just a selection of the types of things our students have been up to: James Outen in Year 7 climbed Ben Nevis on his stairs as a personal fitness challenge. Ben Nevis is the highest peak in the British Isles and James calculated that it would take 22,197 of his steps to get to the top. Therefore, he did 22,197 steps on his stairs spread out over the course of a week and a half to keep himself busy and fit (these steps didn't count as the normal steps he did in a day). He was also doing the daily Joe Wicks workout, too #courage! He now hopes to climb the real thing in the future with his dad. Simply amazing!

Fern in Year 10 put her sewing skills to the test as she had been helping her mum make scrubs for the local hospital. She learned about pattern cutting (which is very complex), threading a machine, using an over-locker and top-stitching. Look at the results in the photograph - our NHS were very grateful indeed!

We had many students engage with power tools during the lovely weather as they took on garden DIY with dads! Elloise Nicoll helped to build a log cabin in the garden and Arabella Clarke took on an up-cycling project and transformed an old garden bench. Again, the confidence developed in such tasks to be able to follow a large time consuming project through to the end takes real #courage and patience.

Ethan Gray and many students loved the VE celebrations and not only completed some in depth history work, but also cooked some traditional 1940s dishes to feed the family and neighbourhood with. We had several baking competitions and as you can see here, Reuben Hollamby in Year 7 was a clear winner with the Harry Potter cake he made for his friends birthday, which was delivered in a socially-distanced manner to make their day extraspecial. Olivia Sale in Year 7 was another who took on an unusual home learning challenge; she hatched and reared chickens with her mum and created a PowerPoint of photographs and progress about what she had learned about such pets. Lara in Year 9 took on knitting hats for Innocent Smoothie drinks which helped raise money for Age UK. Dalveer Kaur in Year 8 happily shared her new found love for oil paints as she watched Bob Ross videos and was keen to embrace his style and fondness for textured paint within his landscapes.

Each week, many students have received certificates and pledge badges in the post for their consistent effort with the work at home. It's hard to maintain motivation and become an independent learner. But it's evident our students have a real passion for learning and they care about their education and value the hard work needed to succeed. Well done everyone!

Mr S. Evans



















### **Primary Projects Both Wise and Creative**

Module 3 saw our primary work continue. Year 9 students and I delivered some very diverse and creative topics to our local Year 5 and 6 students as well as hosting the annual Harry Potter night.

Year 5 students from Reepham were looking at ways in which to improve their carbon footprint through recycling paper. After writing to the council about the tearing down of trees on the by- pass, they were eager to learn just how vital trees are to our lives. Mrs Price contacted Pembroke to share the aim of their topic and the following week they were able to start with a geography lesson on the importance of trees within the Rainforests which is where the majority of our paper comes from. Following this, the students came to the art room each week to learn new skills and knowledge about the importance of paper and just how much amazing art & design can be achieved using recycled paper. They saved a week's worth of their schools discarded paper to use. Students began in January by recycling their Christmas cards to make next year's advent calendars with the focus being on measuring and cutting skills. The challenge then developed into making their own paper pulp using blenders, coloured inks and PVA glue; each student created a recycled pulp bowl to take home. The real project was to create some art work for their school hall. Working in groups, they created a series of canvases using the Victorian craft of quilling and these looked stunning when completed.

I took some Year 9 students to create corrugated card Lancaster Bombers at both Fiskerton and Ellison Boulters Primary Schools as their Year 6s were also studying WW2 this year. This again focussed on careful measuring and use of craft knives and the ability to follow methodical instructions carefully. The excitement of 3D model making and using hot glue guns resulted in yet another fleet of bombers at both schools. A fantastic project which will not doubt be delivered to Year 6 again next year.

It was wonderful to work with Year 6 students at Nettleham Junior School this year. Their topic was Viking Jewellery and on 2nd March, we delivered a whole-day art workshop to 60 students all in one go! After some tricky mathematical drawings of the Celtic 'triquetra knot' using compasses and rulers, the messy and fun string relief work began. Using their drawings in plastic wallets as guides, students began to redraw this knot using PVA soaked string covered in strips of coloured tissue paper, which when dry could then be peeled off and developed into shield, armour or pendants. A rather challenging outcome for me also as this was a topic I knew nothing about. The Year 6 students were very resilient and loved the workshop. As a result, I will be back next year hoping to help support their art curriculum at Nettleham. In fact, I can't wait to be back in the primary schools as soon as September ar-**Miss C. Neal** rives.



### **Unlocking Potential & Courage**

In October 2019, Mr Dominy discovered that an application he had made to the AQA Unlocking Potential Programme in collaboration with the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust had been successful. The programme provided four nominated students with the opportunity to be mentored by an Olympian who would also help them plan and deliver a project to benefit their local community. The four Year 11 students were: Emily Bennett, Sarah Godfrey, Sam Scott and Reiss Edwards. There are only eighty students in the country who are fortunate enough to take part in this programme every year so to have four of these students from Pembroke was a huge achievement of which we are very proud.

The Olympian who worked with our four students was James Kirton. James competed for Great Britain at the Beijing Olympics in 2008. James would attend school six times over the academic year to mentor the students. The students quickly built a positive relationship with James, discussing goals, setting targets and devising strategies to achieve these targets. James was also able to work with the students on their emotional wellbeing during their final challenging year at Pembroke.

Over the course of the programme, the students attended two regional events in Manchester. At these events, students were able to meet a plethora of athletes who were working with other schools as well as students who were also engaging in the programme. On both occasions, our four students were excellent ambassadors for Pembroke and playing an active role in each session's proceedings.

For the second session, Mr Dominy and Mrs Black watched as our four students made a successful pitch to a panel of judges for money to fund their community action project. Despite being understandably nervous before, students spoke confidently and articulately to both the judges and a room full of students from other schools. It was stunning to see how their confidence had blossomed during their time on the programme.









Shortly afterwards, schools closed across the country due to COVID-19. Mr Dominy and James found a way to continue the programme online; the students were really benefitting from the programme so it would have been a shame to abandon it. Students engaged in fortnightly mentoring sessions with James and Mr Dominy where they were able to discuss their experiences during lockdown. Furthermore, they were able to adapt their plans for their community action projects.

Students independently wrote a script about their experiences during lockdown and sought to give advice to those whose mental health may be suffering due to the present situation. With only some brief feedback on the script, students then made a video of themselves performing the script and edited it. This was shared on both the school's social media accounts and that of AQA and the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust. It has undoubtedly benefitted people across the country.

As students have made such a significant contribution to their local community, we have launched a new award in their name - the Community Champion Award. This will be a new addition to the annual Awards Evening at the start of each academic year. As a school, we wanted to celebrate their achievements and progress whilst and ensuring they left behind a truly positive legacy.

At the end of June. Mr Dominy received an email explaining that due to the high level of engagement from the students and the guality of the video they had made, the Priory Pembroke Academy was a 'winning school.' Students would be rewarded with a pair of Beats headphones each. Additionally, the school was asked to be the only school across the country to participate in the live stream celebration event on the 7th July. The students, Mr Dominy, Mrs Black and Mr Evans would be interviewed by the athlete Neil Danns and chat to Dame Kelly Holmes about their experiences on the programme.

I am sure you will all agree that this is a stunning achievement for the students and the school. They have been excellent ambassadors for Pembroke during their time on the programme and we wish them all the very best as they embark on the next exciting chapter in their lives. Mr M. Dominy

# Sporting Courage In All Sorts Of Sports







Sadly, it's been a long time since we have been able to participate in any fixtures and share sporting success but I have done my very best to remember all that happened prior to lockdown in Module 3.

We had Pembroke winning medals at Burghley House in January in Cross Country success.

On a chilly Saturday morning, Oliver Cooney and Matthew Kent represented Pembroke and the Lincoln and Gainsborough secondary schools in the Lincolnshire County Cross Country. Both boys qualified for the event after strong individual performances at the district round in December at Lincoln Rugby club and would race yesterday against runners who qualified from schools across the Lincolnshire County.

Both boys wore the maroon Lincoln area vests with pride and I cannot articulate how proud I was when they came over to me after their race to tell me they finished 2nd and 6th overall in the Year 7 Boys' Race!

The Year 7 Boys' Football Team played in a friendly match against Priory City of Lincoln Academy with the final score being PCLA 4-0 Pembroke.

Some new players joined the squad for this game with Matthew Kent and Lewis Parkin making their debuts for Pembroke. Positives came from the second period of the game where Aiden travelled with the ball powerfully into the opposition's half and curled the ball towards the bottom corner, only for the keeper to tip it onto the post. At 4-0 down, our boys continued to battle and go after a goal to show for their efforts and it looked likely when Liam Clayton skillfully danced past 1, 2, 3, 4 players and shot low towards goal but the we found the post again! The final shot on goal was also a Pembroke one. Captain Houtby picked the ball up deep in his own half and played a through-ball (eye of the needle sort of stuff) to Kaden-Lee Rogers, who shot narrowly wide of the right post.

We had some fantastic progress with the yr 7, 8 and 9 Boys Badminton teams playing against Lincoln Christ's Hospital School in early January.

Not only did the boys play well in their year groups but the sense of Team Pembroke was evident across the age range. Badminton is something which is coming on strong at Pembroke and we now have a very able team.

Pembroke's Year 7s played in a mixed benchball tournament at LSST against some schools who entered from Lincoln. We took 2 teams with 3 boys and 3 girls in each team and they were all brilliant! One of ours came 2nd overall after winning some challenging matches - everyone was buzzing and loved playing for the school!

The Year 8 and 9 Handball team played their first league match in early February at Queen Elizabeth's High School, Gainsborough. The boys went 3 -0 down from 3 powerful shots early on but managed to bring it back to 3-2 by the end of the first quarter. It was an end-toend game with loads of chances created by both teams. Pembroke seemed to hit the bar more than we scored; there were some great saves from both keepers throughout. Their shooting was simply stronger on the night. The Year 7 and 8 Girls' Cricket team played in the U13 Girls' Lady Taverners Indoor Cricket Tournament at Skegness Grammar School on 9th March against schools who chose to enter the competition from across Lincolnshire.

There were no wins for Pembroke but it was the first ever competitive event for girls cricket at our school and it was all good experience for them. They turned up and gave it a go! They scored 49 runs in the first game and were beaten by a Skegness team who bowled strongly and scored well with the bat. Our girls did improve in the second match though after making sure we didn't repeat the little but costly mistakes made earlier on. We managed to score 62 in the second against some good bowling from QEGS with Pembroke batting out the full length of the innings this time and also getting 2 wickets to top off a much better and pleasing performance! A new sport tried and ticked off - it's nice to see them play a new sport together and enjoy being part of a team. They'd like more girls cricket!

The Year 8 and 9 football team played against Lincoln Minster on 12th March. The match was won by the team who dealt with the wind best. Unfortunately, Minster made the most of their chances with the wind behind them in the first half. Two errors at the back not clearing our lines early on in the game proved to be costly and playing against the wind, it proved difficult to get out of our own half. The Pembroke boys were 4- 0 down by the half time whistle.

We did have the wind behind us in the second half and were on the front foot from the off. A nice passage of link-up play saw Morgan Gooch play the ball down the wing to Josh Smith who cut back and slotted Mark Bennett through to hit a thunderous shot against the cross bar! Pembroke did well to hold on to the ball and started to dictate the play more and it wasn't long after that that Bennett again found himself with the ball in the heart of midfield and struck a long rang effort which was once again denied by the bar! A goal did come for our boys shortly after and it did come through Mark Bennett (what a game he had). A nice through-ball cut open the Minster defence and Mark was there to poke it past the keeper – Pembroke had a goal! Minster scored again shortly after to make it 5-1 but we'd not finished yet. Our boys continued to force saves from their keeper with shots leading to corner after corner, and the pressure did provide us with one last chance. Captain Harry Fisher with a peach of a free kick I thought only Jonjo Shelvey was capable of...TOP BINS SON!

The match ended: Minster 5-2 Pembroke. There were positives to take from the match as we won the second half 2-1. The Man of the Match was Lucas Veal due to his ridiculous reflex saves #CAT.

Lastly, we had our Wellbeing Event which was inspired by getting active and National Pi Day (14th March). This was a house event across all year groups during the week beginning 9th March. Using previously learned maths wisdom, students had to calculate the circumference of their hula-hoop to then work out how many metres they had hulahooped in 5 minutes. So with maths meeting PE, a lot of giggles thrown in followed by some rather obscure ways of hula-hooping, the winning house was De Valance with a massive amount of miles hooped. This was a really fun way to exercise both body and brain releasing feel good endorphins and a competitive edge. A definite wellbeing event for next year too!





