

# Newsletter



## August 2024

### Summer Holiday Club

Bookings for Summer Holiday Club got off to a slow start so we took the decision to cancel the August sessions. This was probably somewhat premature as once news spread about how good the first July session was, we were quickly fully booked for the next one! A lesson learnt for next time!

All who came had an amazing time with activities such as pond dipping, tractor trailer ride, making their own popcorn, scavenger hunt and lots of fun in the sunshine.

### Mad About Theatre Company

The creative team at MAD hosted a fantastic theatre summer school at the Priory over two days. Over two days the young people worked tirelessly on a range of skills from ballet to singing and improvisation. The workshops ended in a fantastic production by the young people in the Sunken Lawn on a gorgeous summer evening. This was such an exciting partnership with this local charity and we hope to run the summer school again next year.



### Clacton Carnival

We made our debut entry to the Clacton Carnival Procession and were awarded the 'Commended' rosette. We had a great time



decorating the trailer and hitching it to Andy Booth's Land Rover. So many smiling faces on the day and a great way to let people know about our tours and all the activities running at the Education Centre.

### Write Night

Unusually, we had amazing weather on a Bank Holiday Monday and the Priory estate was explored by a local writing group. After a whistle-stop tour the group took in the wonderful displays in the museum and used it as inspiration for their creative writing.

### Looking Ahead

Starting as a pilot scheme with a grant from Essex Community Foundation in October 2022 we have been able to develop Outdoor Explorers to become an outstanding Forest School provision that will be running every week from 11<sup>th</sup> September. Every Wednesday during term time children can bring their parents along to sessions led by our level 3 Forest School Practitioner. It is so exciting to see how this idea has grown and met a need in the local area and can now become a fixture for the children in the community. Tickets are sold through our website.

During the Autumn term lots of schools will be studying Anglo Saxons and Vikings which means we are very busy with school trips keen to discover the legend on Osyth and consider if the Vikings really are as bad as History makes them out to be. A day of legend, laughter and dressing up! We can't wait!

Last year Colne Community School visited with their year 7 cohort and we are really pleased they are coming back in October. It is quite an undertaking to host the 240 students over 2 days but the experience they get and understanding of local history makes it well worth it.

Helen Brown

Education Manager

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