

22nd August 2024

Dear Parents

Today has been another special day, full of joy, as we celebrated this year's GCSE results with Year 11 students and their families. I am delighted to share with you that 21% of all grades were 9 and 43% were 8/9 - both represent an increase on the previous year.

We have had many individual successes, and I would like to congratulate Lucia McQuillan-Puccetti who achieved Grade 9 in all of her eleven GCSEs – a simply phenomenal achievement. Congratulations also to those students who achieved all 8s and 9s, namely, Natania Arora who achieved 8 GCSEs at Grade 9 and 3 GCSEs at Grade 8, Gayatri Nathan who achieved 8 GCSEs at Grade 9 and 2 at Grade 8, Niamh McDermott, 5 GCSEs at Grade 9 and 5 at Grade 8, Isabella Gallagher Rattan, 4 GCSEs at Grade 9 and 6 GCSEs at Grade 8 and Rhian Lask who achieved 6 GCSEs at Grade 9 and 3 at Grade 8. Some of these students have been with us since Nursery!

These results follow on the heels of last week's outstanding A level results. Our students are full of potential and demonstrate a love of learning in line with our mission. Lucia and Natania are our Mary Tredway Scholars for Priory Sixth, and they, along with our rising Year 12s, can look forward to all the opportunities that life in the Sixth Form will bring.

I am immensely proud of all our students and, although we cannot share every well-earned result, including those where grades 5 or 6 represent excellent accomplishments, we truly recognise the effort and hard work gone into achieving them.

I am very grateful to our teaching and pastoral support staff who have both encouraged and challenged our students, and to all the supportive families that have facilitated this success. The students have worked so hard, and it is wonderful to see their dedication paying off. There are so many personal triumphs that sit behind these grades, and our students' attributes of humour, resilience, and strength of character have enabled them to thrive – and will continue to do so.

Congratulations also go to Year 9 students who gained their Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) today, with 38% achieving A*/A. Enhancing intellectual curiosity across the school is a priority at St Augustine's Priory and Year 9's achievements in their HPQs (the equivalent to half a GCSE) are representative of the programme of additional qualifications offered by the school from Year 7. This year's HPQ titles included 'What influenced Caravaggio in his religious paintings and what can we interpret from them?', 'Should politics become a core GCSE subject in the UK?' and – a very hot topic - 'Should sports officials be replaced by technology?'

Thoughts now turn to the beginning of the new school year, and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back after the holidays. As always with the start of term, there will be several communications. Please do take the time to read this important information and as always, feel free to contact me at head@sapriory.com if you have any matter you wish to discuss.

I look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Mrs C Macallister BA ACA
Headteacher

