



PressTales



Issue 44, 1 February 2019

Headlines

Dear Parents/Carers

We were informed this week of the sad news that Mrs Helmore, Headmistress of Presdales from 1963 to 1988 passed away. I had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Helmore on two occasions and enjoyed our conversations about the school and her time as the Headmistress. Those who knew Mrs Helmore have commented that people respected her, and she respected other people. Mrs Corbett, the only permanent member of staff in the school who was here when Mrs Helmore was the Headmistress, remembers that Mrs Helmore knew the name of every girl in the school and could tell you the name of every form captain and was also fully aware of who was experiencing difficulties in their life outside of school. Long after Mrs Helmore left Presdales, she continued to take an interest in the school and the staff with whom she had worked. Our thoughts are with her family.

Over the past two weeks, the Senior Leadership team have been interviewing all Year 9 students as part of the options process. We have all been impressed by their punctuality, attitude and understanding of the process. It has been a pleasure to listen to the girls talk about their aspirations and the various exciting jobs that they want to do in the future. We look forward to seeing the Year 9 students and parents on Tuesday 5th February for our Options forum.

Kind regards

Matt Warren

Headteacher

Rewards

Congratulations to the following forms who have achieved the highest number of reward points since the last edition of PressTales:

7AL 8SH 9LC 10RM 11LE 6DS



Upcoming Events

FEBRUARY

- Wednesday 6th : Parent Information Evening for World Challenge to Norway 2020, 6.30pm - **NEW DATE**
- Thursday 5th : Year 9 Options Evening
- Wednesday 6th : Year 13 Visit to Sanger Institute, Cambridge
- Thursday 7th : Intermediate Maths Challenge
- Friday 8th : Years 12 and 13 Film Studies groups to WJEC Moving Image Awards in London, 1.30-4.30pm
- Wednesday 13th : Year 9 Robotics Challenge
- Friday 15th : Non-uniform Day
- Friday 15th : Years 8 to 13 VEX Robotics Competition
- Friday 15th to Friday 22nd : Ski Trip
- Monday 18th to Friday 22nd : Half Term
- Wednesday 27th : Year 10 Science in Action Trip
- Thursday 28th : Year 10 Parents' Consultation Meeting
- W/c Monday 25th : HOUSE: Benchball
- Monday 25th : Year 7 Netball to watch Superleague game.
- Tuesday 26th : 3.30pm Launch Meeting for Students for World Challenge to Norway 2020
- Wednesday 27th : Year 10 Science in Action Trip
- Thursday 28th : Year 10 Parents' Consultation Meeting

The full school calendar can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

Please [click here](#) for the PE fixtures.



Non-Uniform Day: Friday 15th February

Our third non-uniform day of this academic year is being held on Friday 15th February. Please be aware that again 50% of the money raised will go to supporting Fanconi Hope and the other 50% will be spent directly on our students as determined by our Student Council. We would like everyone to take part and to make a voluntary £2.00 donation (or more if you would like to contribute as a family).

We would be grateful if donations could be returned to Mrs Eyre in the School Office in an envelope marked with your daughter's / son's name and form group. We would welcome the donation before the 15th if possible, please.

Thank you in advance.



Trips and Reminders

- **A level Surgeries / Clinics 2019** - Please [click here](#) for timetable.
- **2018 Exam Certificates** - GCSE and GCE Certificates that were not collected at speech day are available from reception. They should be collected by the student or their parents.
- **World Challenge Norway 2020 for Years 7, 8 and 9** - Parents Information Meeting Wednesday 6th February, 6pm in the Lecture Theatre.
- **GCSE History Revision Guides: We have secured a few more copies. They are available to purchase for £10 for 4 guides and will be sold on a first come, first served basis until they have gone.**
- **Ski Trip (February)** - Please ensure you have sent in any outstanding paperwork.
- **Vitality Netball Super League Match for Year 7 Netballers (25th February)** - Tickets are £12.50.
- **Year 10 Science in Action Trip (27th February)** - Please make a voluntary contribution of £35.
- **GCSE PE Revision Workshop (Saturday 30th March)** - £20 to attend.
- **Year 12 and 13 Art and Photography Trip to Barcelona (April 2019)** - Please make the extra £18 payment for the flight increase.
- **Year 13 A Level Economics and Business Conference (5th April)** - Please make a voluntary contribution of £25.
- **A Level Geography Tip to Cranedale (April 2019)** - If you are following the payment schedule, the remaining balance of £85 is due in February.
- **Year 10 GCSE History study visit to Berlin (June 2019)** - The next instalment of £125 is due.
- **Bronze DofE Award Program 2018-19** - The balance was due by 25th January 2019.
- **Year 9 Spanish Trip to Cantabria (July 2019)** - A few places still available. A non-refundable deposit of £100 is required to secure the place.
- **Year 8 Opal Coast French Trip (July 2019)** - The final balance is due by 22nd March 2019.
- **Years 9, 10 and 12 Italian Trip to Urbania (July 2019)** - The next instalment is due by 4th February. The final balance is due by 3rd June 2019.
- **Presdales School Choir Tour (July 2019)** - The final balance is due by 29th March 2019.
- **Russia (October 2019)** - The next instalment of £150 is due by 1st February 2019.
- **Barbados Netball Sport Tour (April 2020)** - Places still available. An initial deposit of £150 is required.





The Hertfordshire Apprenticeship Show

During National Apprenticeship Week 2019, the University of Hertfordshire will be hosting **The Hertfordshire Apprenticeship Show**. This is a fantastic opportunity to come and meet local employers from across Hertfordshire to:

- Find out what current apprenticeship vacancies are available
- Get hints and tips on securing an apprenticeship
- Hear what current apprentices think about their experience

To register your attendance please [click here](#).

Wednesday 6 March 2018, 15:30 to 19:00 - Weston Auditorium, de Havilland campus, University of Hertfordshire

House News

House Hockey Results

Position	Year 7	Points
1st	AL	12
2nd	KM	10
3rd	NW	8
4th	FJ	6
5th	LG	4
6th	ME	2

Position	Year 8	Points
1st	SH	12
2nd	LD	10
3rd	EW	8
4th	AH	6
5th	BR	4
6th	GP	2

Position	Year 9	Points
1st	LB	10
2nd	LC	8
3rd	EC	6
4th	LH	4
5th	SC	2



Upcoming House Events

- W/c 11th February : Music
- W/c 25th February : Benchball
- W/c 4th March : Spelling Bee
- W/c 11th March : Maths
- W/c 18th March : Recycled Fashion Show



News from The English Department

Year 7 Trip to Shakespeare's Globe

When Shakespeare wrote "All the world's a stage", I wonder if he had the Globe Theatre in his thoughts at the time...

On the 25th January, Year 7 embarked on a trip to the Globe Theatre in London. The day was freezing cold and we were certainly noisy (sorry teachers and members of the public: What can I say? - We were excited to be there!) and then it occurred to me that if it felt like this for us now, then imagine how it would have felt to the audience members all those years ago watching Shakespeare's plays performed. In my opinion (and I'm sure some of my friends will agree with me) the stage seemed to stand out the most upon entering the theatre. It caught my attention because it looked so grand and impressive and I could imagine how it would have looked when it was originally built.

Poppy Higgs



I really enjoyed the globe theatre trip because it was interesting and fascinating. My favourite part was looking at the props and 'behind the scenes'; I got to see how all of the actors use special effects, for example: how they hang an actor from the neck – they use a harness so they are hung from their back! I mostly enjoyed just looking around. I did find that the Globe itself was quite impressive since it was so old (a new one was rebuilt in 1997 but it was close enough). I would like to spend more time in the actual theatre. I thought it was great so I would definitely go and watch a performance!

Emily Shaw

Scholastic Reading Programme

Congratulations to the following Year 7 girls who have achieved Bronze and Silver level in our Scholastic Reading Programme. The levels reflect the independent reading and quiz points the students have completed in the Autumn term.

Bronze

Freya Fairhall-Russell
Yasmin Lum
Flora Rowley
Emily Shaw
Abbie Norris
Inga Niedzielska
Evie Dhillon
Venus Sahan
Daisy Reid
Anna-Lilja Tholozan
Eva Cullen
Millie Forbes
Sofia Henderson
Isabella Stewart
Chloe Simpson
Angela Rae Espina

Mrs E Teal

Silver

Isabelle Fair
Olivia Hick
Amelia Brown
Cara Conway-Baker

An occasional dip into the archives February 2019

Presdales School, previously Ware Grammar School for Girls, has a rich history. We are fortunate enough to still have a number of items in our archives which make for an interesting read. The school celebrated its centenary in 2006. Former students were asked to send us their memories and these became part of a centenary book. As part of an occasional dip into the archives, this is a reproduction of a submission from Jenny Turner (nee Jackson) 1940 – 1951. She was a pupil who started in the junior department at the age of seven and eventually left to attend a Berridge House Domestic Science College.

"I was seven, and I remember our first classroom Millbrook. It looked out on the playground. Our teacher, Miss Sproule, was gentle and quietly spoken and we loved her.

The "blackboard" was primrose yellow in colour, and blue chalk had to be used on it. Miss Sproule – I now realise – had a blue rinse on her snow white hair, but at the time we were convinced it was from the blue chalkdust.

I also remember our emergency shoe bags that hung ready in the cloakroom for air-raids, when we went down to the shelters in the garden. The bags must have contained other small things to occupy us, but I know there had to be a pair of old plimsolls, some good old reliable navy knickers and clean socks, and the whole lot topped with an enamel washing bowl or scoop with an iron handle. These became our helmets as we marched in an orderly fashion to the shelter".

If you have anything you think we might be interested in having for the archive please contact Mrs Newbold.



News from Art and Photography

Artists of the Month - 'January'

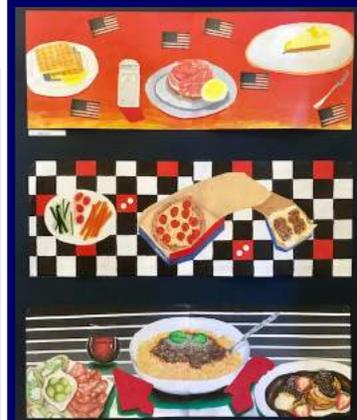
Congratulations to:

- Year 7 : Rosa Ward
- Year 8 : Alice Middleton
- Year 9 : Ella Coker
- Year 10 : Kitty Povey
- Year 10 : Verona Richardson
- Year 11 : Abigail Rymer
- Year 11 : Rosie Hough
- Year 11 : Emilia MacKenzie
- Year 11 : Molly Reid
- Year 11 : Demi Roselt-Mitchell
- Year 11 : Elizabeth Attfield
- Year 12 : Hannah Delaney
- Year 13 : Renate Lush

Photographer of the Month:

- Year 12 : Anna Fenton
- Year 13 : Darcy Wood-Walsh

Well Done From The Art Department!



A Level work

Beautiful examples of current A Level Art & Photography work.





PE News

Equestrian Team

The Presdales' equestrian team were in action again last weekend at the Show Jumping County Championship qualifier competition at Bury Farm, Leighton Buzzard. D'arcy Wright (Year 7), came 3rd as an individual out of 45 riders in the 70cm height class. Freya Naylor Stewart came 2nd in the very hotly contested 90cm, missing out on 1st place by 0.26 of a second. She is Herts County Champion now for this height, and qualifies for the County Championships for the whole country held at Bury Farm over the Easter Weekend. Our team of Connie Harrington, Ruby Barrs, Freya Naylor Stewart and, for the first time representing Presdales, Hannah Maloney (Year 11), came a superb 2nd in 1m class. Connie Harrington, despite some nerves, managed a wonderful individual 6th in the same class. The team were declared Herts County Champions in this class and again qualified for the County Championships at Easter! Well done girls, this is fantastic. You are really doing Presdales proud, especially when you are competing against private schools who have their own stabling for pupil's horses on site! Congratulations girls!

Hockey

Well done to the Year 7 Hockey team who last week lost 4-2 to John Warner Year 9s in a very closely contested game! Excellent play from all - especially with no subs! Star player was Issy Stewart.

Sportshall Athletics

Well done to the Years 7 and 8 Sportshall Athletics teams who have competed in 2 district league fixtures. Last week we were in 1st position for Year 7 and 3rd for Year 8. We now await results and confirmation of a top 4 place for the District Finals on Wednesday 27th February.



Netball

Well done to both the Year 8A and B netball teams who won their league games against Chauncy School last week. A's won 38-8 and B's won 17-0. Brilliant girls!

Well done to our Year 8 netball team for their excellent performance in their County Cup semi final vs Berkhamsted this week. Unfortunately we lost 24-18 but the girls did themselves proud!

News from Design and Technology

Year 9 Perspective and Technical Drawing

In Year 9 Graphics lessons we have been looking at technical drawings. Last week we looked at perspective, which is not an easy topic for all students to be able to grasp. The groups produced some amazing work and really enjoyed designing their own 'dream rooms'. I was astonished to see this remarkable piece of work from Elizabeth Brand, in 9SC. Her use of technical ability, perspective lines back to the vanishing point, and her use of colour to show rendering is at least GCSE standard. Well done Elizabeth!



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