



PressTales



Issue 43, 18 January 2019

Headlines

Dear Parents/Carers

Whilst it now seems a blur, I trust that you and your families had a restful and enjoyable Christmas and New year.

On Monday of this week, we held our Year 11 and Year 13 mock results day where the students received, in sealed envelopes, their mock results and predictions for the summer exams. The reaction from the students was very positive, as has been their attitude since. The next term and a half is very busy, with the final push towards the exams in May. For some, the mock results day was a celebration of the hard work they have been putting in, and for others it was a wake up call. The key message from the school, which I would like you to reiterate to your children, is that it is not too late to make a difference. If our students are systematic, dedicated, and really want to do well then the environment is here for them to do so. In the assemblies before the students received their results, we stressed the importance of effort, seeking advice and taking time out. There is no hiding from the fact that the next term and a half will bring increased stress, it happens every year and in every school. Whilst we do want the students to get the best results that they can, this has to be measured against their well-being.

Thank you to all of the parents who came to the Year 11 parents' evening last night. The attendance was just under 100%, which is very pleasing. It was a pleasure to hear so many positive conversations taking place, and also to meet and talk to many parents.

I am pleased to say that, following intensive interviews before Christmas, six of our students have successfully gained an offer from either Oxford (2) or Cambridge (4). This is the highest number of students anyone can remember from Presdales in one year.

This week, we had a first glimpse of our new school website that is currently being built. Whilst still in the early stages of design, we were very impressed and look forward to it's launch sometime later this academic year.

Kind regards

Matt Warren

Headteacher

Rewards

Congratulations to the following forms who have achieved the highest number of reward points this term:

7LG 8GP 9EC 10SM 11EF 6DS

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

- Tuesday 22nd : Years 12 and 13 Russian Trip: Queen of Spades Evening
- Thursday 24th : Year 13 Parents' Consultation Meeting
- Thursday 24th : Year 13 Geography : Tim Marshall Talk at Queenswood School
- Friday 25th : Year 7 Globe Theatre Trip
- Wednesday 30th : Year 10 Design Museum Trip
- Thursday 31st : Year 9 Parents' Consultation Meeting

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 15th : Non-uniform Day
- 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

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

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

Upcoming House Events

- W/c 21st January : Hockey
- W/c 28th January : LingoFest
- W/c 11th February : Music
- W/c 25th February : Benchball



Trips and Reminders

- GCSE German Revision Guide and Workbook available to purchase for £5.
- GCSE Spanish Revision Guide and Workbook available to purchase for £5.
- GCSE Geography Revision Guide available to purchase for £5.50.
- 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) - The full balance is now due. Please make any outstanding payments as a matter of urgency.
- Year 10 Science in Action Trip (February) - Please make a voluntary contribution of £35.
- Year 12 and 13 Art and Photography Trip to Barcelona (April 2019) - The final payment is due by 24th January.
- 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 is 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 next instalment of £100 was due by 14th January. 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) - An instalment was due by 7th January 2019. The final balance is due by 29th March 2019.
- Years 9 & 10 German Exchange 2019 (September 2019) - Please return the slip and pay the deposit by Friday 16th January.
- Barbados Netball Sport Tour (April 2020) - Places still available. An initial deposit of £150 is required.

News from Languages

La Fête des Rois

On Monday 7th January, the day after Epiphany, a number of Year 7 groups found out about the tradition of “la Galette des Rois” during their French lessons. As many of our students now know, “La Galette des Rois” is enjoyed by French people on the day of Epiphany and a “fève” (a sort of charm/coin) is hidden in it. Whoever gets the slice with the “fève” is crowned King or Queen for the day. The recipe was shared and many Year 7 students have been busy this week creating crowns and making the galette at home.



La galette des rois.

Ingrédients

- Pour 4 personnes:
- 250g de pâte feuilletée
 - 1 oeuf
 - 60 g de beurre
 - 60g de sucre
 - 60 g de poudre d'amandes
 - 1 oeuf
 - 30 g de crème fraîche.
 - 1 fève

Recette:

- Dans un bol, mélangez le beurre pour le rendre crémeux. Ajoutez et mélangez dans l'ordre: le sucre, la poudre d'amande, 1 oeuf et la crème fraîche.
- Divisez et étalez la pâte feuilletée en 2 cercles égaux.
- Etalez le mélange crémeux sur un cercle et ajoutez la fève. Posez le 2ème cercle et fermez bien la galette. Dorez à l'oeuf.
- Faites cuire au four 30 minutes à 170 degrés celsius.



Here is the recipe, as well as a few photos of the beautifully creative crowns. I was particularly impressed with the efforts of Erin Shiel and Izzy Stewart in 7Q who created a six minute video of their galette-making efforts. I definitely declare the two of them the “Queens” of this year’s “fête des rois”!

Year 7 have certainly kept me very busy with giving out Stars, R1s and R2s this week!

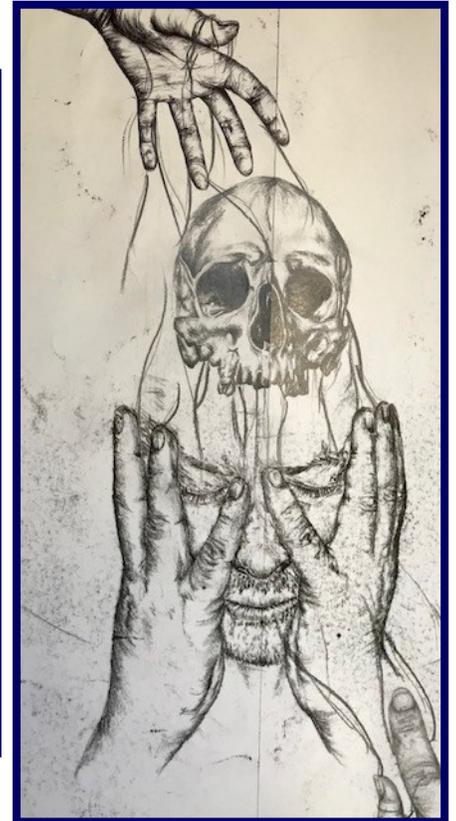
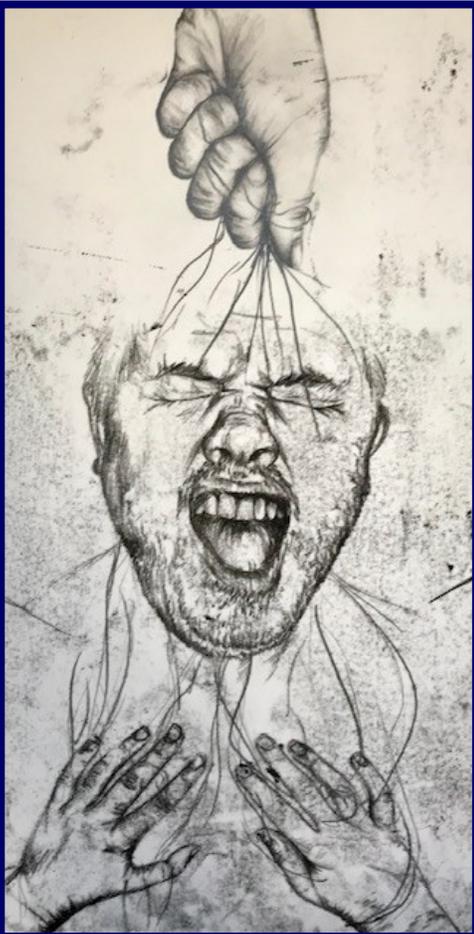
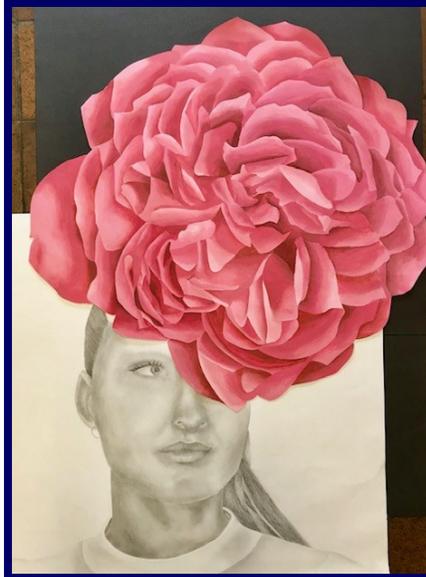
Christel Ainge



News from Art and Photography

Congratulations to our Year 13 Fine Art students for creating excellent mock exam pieces. There was a wide variety of subject matter and media used with great skill and inspiration.

Well done from all the Art staff.





PressTales



Here are some of the more recent pieces the photography students have been creating. The standard of work continues to increase; keep up the hard work - its paying off.





PE News

Football

Following feedback from the Sports Council, we are trying to get girls football up and running! The club is on a Monday after school 3.30-4.30pm for Years 7 and 8 (beginners and footballers welcome!). We are starting to arrange some fixtures so please attend if you would like to be part of the team.

Fitness Suite

A reminder that the fitness suite is open everyday before school 7:40-8:25am for all year groups. Just sign up at the PE office. There is a treadmill, cross trainer, 2 rowers and 4 bikes to be used!

Karate



Last weekend at the karate national championships, Ada (Year 7) won bronze in the individual category and gold in the team event! She will also be getting her black belt in the May half term!

Congratulations Ada!

Netball

Well done to both of the year 7 netball teams who have been in action twice this term already. They played Goffs last week when the A team unfortunately lost their game 20-14. The star player was Violet Faber. The B team won their game 20-2 and the player of the match was Ella Gardner.

This week they played against Chauncy. The A team won 14-3 and the star player was Eliza Pettit. The B team won 15-0 and the star player was Jemima Cox.

Ballroom

During the Christmas Holidays, Madeline (Year 12) and Jody (Year 13) travelled to Blackpool to attend Champions of Tomorrow 2019 at the Winter Gardens.

Madeline and her partner, Ethan, came third in U35 Novice Ballroom and, for Latin, they were in a harder and much larger category of U35 Intermediate, which was the largest in the adult section, with 29 couples. They were, therefore, delighted to come 4th!



Jody and her partner achieved 6th in Novice Latin and 4th in Beginners Ballroom!

A massive well done to both of you. These are brilliant achievements!

Tennis

On 24th December, Charlotte (Year 8) and her partner won the U14 Grade 3 regional tennis tournament in Purley, Surrey, beating some tough opposition. Also, Charlotte played two very tough matches at the U12 Grade 2 Nationals in Bolton but, unfortunately, did not make it into the main draw. She is now working towards the next one in February, which will be her last one before she moves up in April to U14. Well done Charlotte!



A Level PE

Last week, the University of Essex Outreach team led a Exercise Physiology and Metabolism workshop to our A Level PE students which is part of their A Level PE specification. They took part in the multi-stage fitness test where they wore heart rate monitors. Phoebe also wore a £15,000 K4 mask to measure her VO2 max! Afterwards they discussed topics such as energy expenditure, physiological testing and the practical applications of data collected from the multi-stage fitness test.

Hockey

Well done to the U14 Hockey team who won 7-0 against Beaumont this week. Wonderful final game of the league. As we won all our games, we are now through to the semi-finals!





News from Food Technology

Tunnock's Teacake Challenge

Our Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students took part in the Tunnock's Teacake Challenge on Tuesday 18th December 2018. The food styling challenge was to produce a plate with a focus on the presentation of a Tunnock's Teacake.

We were looking for the most stunning plate created. Marks were awarded for creativity, presentation, technical skills and adding balance to the plate. Our students demonstrated various high level skills including making their own honeycomb, fruit coulis, spun sugar and piping.

Our top four students were Florence Hart, Alexandra Crewe, Ella Walsh and Millie Walford. Florence (entry shown on the right) will be entered into the national competition to represent Presdales and we wish her all the best.





PARENTS / CARERS

Online Safety News

Spring 2019 | PARENTS/CARERS

Digital wellbeing

Young people are growing up in a technological age that brings exciting online opportunities and experiences but it can also bring challenges. It is important that children understand how to use technology in a safe way and appreciate that it can have both a positive and negative impact on their wellbeing. Childnet has produced guidance on how you as a parent/carer can support your child with their digital wellbeing.



Take a look at the Childnet guidance here:
bit.ly/ChildnetDigitalWellbeing

Online challenges and peer pressure

There are frequently online challenges that circulate on social media sites and many raise money or promote good causes such as the 'Ice Bucket Challenge'. However, some of the challenges are more sinister and can entice users into daring, frightening and sometimes harmful activities. Children can be drawn into a challenge through peer pressure, thinking all their friends are completing the challenge so they themselves also need to do so. It can be hard to tell at times if such challenges are real or rumoured but it is important to have a conversation with your child about the importance of saying 'no' to pressure, even from friends, to complete inappropriate and risky challenges and the consequences of taking part in challenges, whether offline or online. Children need to report online content that is dangerous and encourages harm. Visit the 'Parent Info' website for examples of viral trends and suggested conversation starters that may help you.

bit.ly/VirtualInternetTrends



PARENTS / CARERS



TikTok

TikTok, which used to be called Musical.ly, is a social networking app that young people can use to generate and share their own short videos and lip sync to popular audio clips. The app allows users to create and upload videos, remix existing videos using in-built editing tools, and also to view and comment on videos created by other users. On TikTok there is the ability to livestream, users can directly interact with online audiences through chat and live video. Profiles on TikTok are automatically set to public, so that any content posted can be seen by anyone within the app. To sign up for TikTok, young people must be at least 13 years of age.

The UK Safer Internet Centre has published guidance which outlines aspects of the app to be aware of and gives advice on making a report, using the privacy settings and parental controls that can be used: SaferInternetTikTok

Kik Messenger

The National Crime Agency and CEOP has been made aware of reports suggesting that unsolicited suggestive or sexualised images have been shared via the Kik Messenger app and as a result has produced a guide for parents, explaining what the app is and how best to keep your children safe if they use it. This can be accessed here: bit.ly/ParentInfoKikMessenger

The minimum age for accessing this app according to Kik is 13 but with parental permission. However, iTunes and Google Play rate this app as adult 17+.

Kik is an instant messaging app. It lets users create their own username and message others without having a mobile number to register. For younger children without a mobile phone they can access the app on their mobile device such as a tablet through Wi-Fi. It allows 1-1 chats but also has facility to access large public chat groups.

Kik Messenger has an inbuilt browser so that users can search for new apps and chat rooms.

REMINDER : Avoid negative postings about school life on social media

As a parent, if at any stage you are concerned or distressed about an aspect of your child's school you are strongly advised to make immediate contact with a member of staff to discuss your concerns. As highlighted in most schools' Acceptable Use Agreement, posting comments on social media about the school, staff and children should be avoided at all times. Negative postings about the school can impact on the reputation of the whole school community.

Parents/carers are encouraged to report any breaches they become aware of to the school so that they can take action and protect the reputation of the school, staff, pupils and parents/carers.

Posting threatening, obscene or offensive comments about the school online can potentially be considered as a criminal offence and can therefore have serious legal consequences.

PARENTS / CARERS

Picture Books with an online safety message by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross

Story books can be a great way of helping younger children to understand the positives of online technology but can also help them think about what can sometimes go wrong and skills we need to navigate the online world safely.

Below are three titles we highly recommend.

'**Troll Stinks**', is a book for younger children exploring the themes of cyberbullying, being kind online and taking/sharing pictures. The book is a modern take on the traditional 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' story. Three goats send unkind mobile phone messages to the troll and we see the devastating effect this has on the troll.



'**Chicken Clicking**', explores online safety messages in a very funny and age appropriate way for younger children. Chicken has hours of fun online until everything goes wrong when she arranges to meet a friend she's made online and she finds they were not who they said they were!



Watch out for the latest very funny cautionary tale, '**#Goldlocks**', to be released in February 2019. Everyone loves Goldilocks' amusing online videos, but in her quest to get more likes, more laughs and more hits, she tries something a little more daring: stealing porridge (#pipinghot), breaking chairs (#fun), and using someone else's bed (#fsleep). What will Daddy Bear do when he sees that online?



Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2019 will be celebrated on Tuesday 5th February 2019 with the slogan 'Together for a better internet'. The day provides a fantastic opportunity to engage with children and find out about their digital lives. To help you talk to your children about having a positive and safe time online, the UK Safer Internet Centre has created a pack for parents and carers, including conversation starters, a factsheet, family pledge card and lots more.

bit.ly/SaferInternetDayEducationPackParents



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HD&OS 



Aladdin

HERTFORD'S TRADITIONAL PANTO
 Written by DANIEL GOODE • Directed by DARREN JONES
 Musical Director JOANNA PIERCE • Choreographer ELLA MARTIN

WEDNESDAY 16 – SUNDAY 20 JANUARY 2019
HERTFORD THEATRE
 The Wash, Hertford, SG14 1PS
 Tickets: 01992 531500 or www.hertfordtheatre.com
 All tickets £11 on Wednesday evening

HD&OS presents... 



Aladdin

Directed by Darren Jones
 Choreographer: Ella Martin • Musical Director: Joanna Pierce

Join HD&OS on a journey of music comedy and dance. The traditional panto presents the classic rags to riches tale of Aladdin and his magic lamp. Will the simple laundry boy find his true love with the princess Jasmine and overcome the evil powers of the wicked abanazar.

Join a cast of colourful characters in this family friendly fantastically funny festive feast.

DATE	TIME	ADULT	CONCESSION (Under 16, OAP)	GROUP (10+ tickets)
Wednesday 16 January	7.00pm	£11.00	£11.00	n/a
Thursday 17 January	7.00pm	£13.00	£11.00	£13 (adult); £11 (child)
Friday 18 January	7.00pm	£16.00	£13.00	£13 (adult); £11 (child)
Saturday 19 January	2.00 & 7.00pm	£16.00	£13.00	£13 (adult); £11 (child)
Sunday 20 January	2.00pm	£16.00	£13.00	£13 (adult); £11 (child)

Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) Thursday to Sunday shows: £50.00
Restricted view tickets available for each performance at £2 reduction per ticket on the regular ticket price
 All tickets include a £1 booking fee

This amateur production is by arrangement with NODA Limited

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:
 telephone Hertford Theatre Box Office 01992 531 500
 online www.hertfordtheatre.com
 in person Hertford Theatre Box Office, The Wash, Hertford SG14 1PS
www.hdos.org.uk



Hey Girls ! Join us for Annie

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Broxbourne Theatre Company

We are looking for a dozen young girls aged 6-14 to join the adult cast to play Annie and the other orphans in our May 2019 production.

Rehearsing from end of January 2019
 Auditions Workshop Sunday 27th January.
 Performances 8th – 11th May 2019

The company rehearse on Monday and Friday evenings and the last four Sundays before each production. All rehearsals are at **Bollescroft** which is adjacent to **The Spotlight Theatre**. (formerly Broxbourne Civic Hall)

Audition Information Packs now available

Register your interest now!
 For more information and audition packs send your name, age and address to:
 Ian Stretch, Hon. Chairman
 Broxbourne Theatre Company
ian@stretch.org.uk

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WHETHER YOU'RE A COUPLE OR A SINGLE PARENT, WE WANT YOU TO GET IN TOUCH AND TELL US WHAT MAKES YOUR PARENTING STYLE SO GREAT!

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