



Issue 46, 8 March 2019

### **Headlines**

Dear Parents/Carers

Last Friday we welcomed the pop band 'LZ7' into school. This was part of an initiative with 'Younglife' and 'Future Hope'. The band was well received by the students and we were very impressed with the attitude and engagement of our students during the sessions. This is not something we have done for a long time at Presdales, but following the success on Friday will seek to do again at some point.

Over the past week there has been a careers focus at Presdales. On Monday, nearly 40 parents and ex-students came into school to present to sixth form and Year 9 students about their journey into the world of work. The presentations were excellent and well received by the students, with one Year 9 girl asking to change her GCSE option choice the next day following an inspirational talk. Today, Year 10 students have been interviewed by employers provided through YC Herts. It was an opportunity for the students to develop their interview skills. Thank you to Mrs Stephenson, Mrs Preshous and all others involved in the organisation of these events.

Last Tuesday, we held a small gathering for family and friends of Sabrina Foufa, where her friends sang and shared poems that they had written. A memorial bench with a small plaque has now been placed on the grassed area at the front of the school. Sabrina passed away on the 30th April last year, her family and friends are still in our thoughts.

Kind regards

Matt Warren Headteacher



Presdales Dance Evening 2019

This year's Dance Evening is on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th March at 7pm.

Tickets on sale now!

Tickets can be purchased in cash from Mrs Dann or Miss Fentiman in the PE office in the Sports Hall.

### **Upcoming Events**

### MARCH

- Monday 11th: Years 11 13 Theatre Trip
- Tuesday 12th : Year 12 Parents' Consultation Meeting
- Wednesday 13th: Year 11 Drama Mock Exam with 6pm evening performance for parents
- Wednesday 13th: 6.30pm Parent Information Evening for World Challenge Long Haul 2021
- Thursday 14th: Year 9 Vaccinations
- Thursday 14th: Year 12 UCAS Convention
- Friday 15th: Cambridge visit for Year 9 with French Exchange Partners
- W/c Monday 18th : Recycled Fashion Show
- Tuesday 19th : Dance Evening Technical Rehearsal
- Tuesday 19th: Year 11 GCSE Drama
- Saturday 23rd to Sunday 24th : Bronze DofE Practice Expedition
- Monday 25th: Year 13 Drama Mock Exam with 6pm evening performance for parents
- Tuesday 26th : Dance Evening Dress Rehearsal (am)
- Tuesday 26th : Dance Production, 7pm
- Tuesday 26th to Wednesday 27th : Year 10 Art Exam
- Wednesday 27th : Dance Production, 7pm
- Thursday 28th : Year 7 Parents' Consultation Meeting
- Thursday 28th : Year 13 GCE Drama Exam
- Thursday 28th to Wednesday 3rd April: German Exchange Party here
- Friday 29th : Year 13 RE trip to Bloomsbury Baptist Church
- Saturday 30th : Year 11 GCSE PE Revision Workshop

The full school calendar can be viewed by clicking here.

Please <u>click here</u> for the PE fixtures.

### Rewards

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

7ME 8LD 9EC 10SF 11EF 6NG



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### **Trips and Reminders**

- Year 11 Leaver's Hoodie Orders and payments need to be received by Friday 15th March 2019.
- A level Surgeries / Clinics 2019 Please click here for timetable.
- 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.
- GCSE Sociology Revision and Practice Book available to purchase for £4.
- Year 12 UCAS Higher Education Exhibition (14th March) Please make a voluntary contribution of £12
- Charity Quiz Night (15th March) Please click here for more information.
- Year 10 GCSE Drama & A Level Drama Workshops (1st April) Please make a voluntary contribution of £16
- 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 Trip to Cranedale (April 2019) Full payment now overdue.
- Year 9 Trip to Battlefields (May 2019) Full payment now overdue.
- Year 10 GCSE History study visit to Berlin (June 2019) The balance was due by 4th March 2019.
- Bronze DofE Award Program 2018-19 The balance is now very overdue.
- Year 8 Opal Coast French Trip (July 2019) The final balance is due by 22nd March 2019.
- Russia (October 2019) The next instalment of £150 is due by 1st April 2019.





### An occasional dip into the archives

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. As part of an occasional dip into the archives, I have looked at some things that were going on a hundred years ago.

Earlier this school year Predales introduced a house system. This has been very successful with many students and staff taking part in house events and competitions.

From its earliest days Ware Grammar School had four houses, Broxbourne, Hertford, Ware and Et Cetera. Et Cetera was eventually renamed County.

The archives show the house system was very competitive, with regular inter house tennis, netball, badminton and gymnastics competitions. The inter house rivalry didn't stop there. At the end of each term, pupils were given a text to read over the holidays. This was examined the first day back with points being allocated for accuracy. There are also references to needlework, drawing, singing and wild flower collecting competitions. Perhaps the strangest one was a weeding competition held in autumn 1919. One way to tidy the garden before winter!

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



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### **News from Languages**

# are alive and very well a



6th Form Language Prefects

Last week the BBC reported the results of their survey into Language Learning and uptake at GCSE, A Level and beyond. Sadly, these headlines painted a very negative picture of language teaching and provision across the UK. However, at Presdales, we can proudly say that this not the case. All of our students learn French and another language from a choice of German, Italian, Russian and Spanish from Year 7 to 9. No other secondary school in the area has so many languages on offer. The vast majority of our



¡Hola!

**Bonjour** 

Привет

girls study at least one language at GCSE with commendable success. We have 82 girls in the sixth form studying a language and 15 of these are dual linguists. These are incredible numbers, especially in the light of current national trends.

### Why is Presdales bucking the trend?

and in-house competitions during the European Week of Languages and the Lingofest.

Put simply, we have a whole school commitment to language learning for all abilities. In our language department we have 16 specialist teachers and 5 assistants with over 300 years of experience between them! Together, we seek to inspire an enthusiasm for language learning on a daily basis. Our language classrooms are lively and purposeful with a 'can do' atmosphere. We present, practise and embed new language in many different ways to appeal and maximise the potential of all our learners, whatever their ability. It is a myth that only the 'gifted' can learn a language. We did after all manage to learn our own! The context of each language's culture is immensely important and we celebrate their cultural diversity. Our students benefit enormously from the impressive number and variety of trips across all languages to France, Germany, Italy, Russia and Spain. Our students are encouraged to go to clubs to try out new languages, compete in national competitions

### What is our future?

Our future looks exciting! We are delighted to have been selected as one of nine schools nationally to lead a Modern Languages Hub by the DfE. Over the next two years, Presdales will be playing a key role in the government's solution to the current decline in languages. We will be working under the guidance of the National Centre for Excellence for Language Pedagogy (NCELP) based at the University of York and we are now linked to 4 local schools to form the Hub, all working to deliver excellent language teaching.



Specialists will be trained by NCELP and will then share their research-based training with the link schools so that, in total, 45 schools across the country will be poised to cascade excellent language practices nationwide.

Consequently, our students at Presdales will have access to the best available language teaching pedagogy and excellent resources leading to even more success and enjoyment.

At Presdales, we recognise that speaking English is not enough and that language learning is also about embracing other cultures, gaining a broad range of transferable skills that are so valued by employers and universities, whilst also enjoying and reflecting on our own national and cultural identity. Studies suggest that speaking another language distinguishes you in the workplace from others with similar qualifications and experience, will lead to higher pay, better job prospects abroad and even improve brain function.

We need to spread the word! Perhaps we, as a society, need to rethink our attitude to language learning. People in the UK are as good as anyone else at learning languages if we want to and Presdales students are a testament to this. Language learning is useful, lots of fun and healthy for everyone at every age.

**Head of Faculty for Modern Foreign Languages** Head of German **NCELP Specialist Teacher** vatesm@presdales.herts.sch.uk



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### **UK Intermediate Mathematics Challenge 2019**

A record total of 181 Year 9, 10 and 11 students took part in this individual Maths challenge at the beginning of February, and 49% of the students achieved certificates of merits for their efforts. This is a higher percentage than last year receiving certificates, despite the greater numbers entering.

Additionally, four students have been invited to take part in the followon round called the Intermediate Kangaroo competition that is inspired by the Australian Mathematics Trust. The qualifiers for this competition are Rebecca Fletcher, Leanna Rhodes and Sara Qureshi in Year 11, plus Iona Dixon in Year 10. It is the third year in a row that Rebecca Fletcher has been invited to take part in this extra challenge and the second time for Sara Qureshi.

Congratulations to all who took part and had the resilience to think outside the box for this 1 hour individual challenge.

### Mrs Rachel Rugg-Gunn Head of Maths

Certificates for the Intermediate Maths Challenge are awarded to:

	Year 9	
Niharika	Jha	SILVER
Isobel	Souter	SILVER
Zoe	Kiers	SILVER
Wiktoria	Luksza	SILVER
Opeyemi	Adenekan	SILVER
Annelise	Apling	SILVER
Bethan	Ainsbury	BRONZE
Maggie	Bristow	BRONZE
Maeva	Leroux	BRONZE
Lauren	Byrne	BRONZE
Katie	Swindell	BRONZE
Jodie	Austin	BRONZE
Emilia	Johnson	BRONZE
Lotty	Hobson	BRONZE
Ava	Oakes	BRONZE
lvy	Chen	BRONZE
Ishara	Hettiarachchi	BRONZE
Madeline	Fowler Noon	BRONZE
Megan	Мо	BRONZE
Isobel	Foxon	BRONZE
Madeline	Robb	BRONZE
Kirsten	Gee	BRONZE
Emily	McAllister	BRONZE
Zoe	Van Maanenberg	BRONZE

	Year 10			
Iona Dixon GOLD				
Evie	Reilly	SILVER		
Hester	Peart	SILVER		
Emily	Mayes	SILVER		
Madison	Hunter	SILVER		
Elisenda	Henderson	SILVER		
Grace	Dunstan	SILVER		
Catherine	Ryan	SILVER		
Polly	Watson	SILVER		
Maria	Baldrick	SILVER		
Kaitlyn	Evans	SILVER		
Vanessa	Liu	BRONZE		
Harriet	Fowler Noon	BRONZE		
Georgina	Waller	BRONZE		
Yuxi	Chen	BRONZE		
Rosie	Colley	BRONZE		
Amelia	Fosher	BRONZE		
Ruby	Peters	BRONZE		
Alex	Crewe	BRONZE		
Ruby	Cain	BRONZE		
Amelia	Botting	BRONZE		
Seren	Roberts	BRONZE		
Ella	Walsh	BRONZE		
Robyn	Schwartz- Topping	BRONZE		
Charlotte	Plummer	BRONZE		
Erin	Morris	BRONZE		

	1001 11	
Rebecca	Fletcher	GOLD
Leanna	Rhodes	GOLD
Sara	Qureshi	GOLD
Lorna	Mackie	GOLD
Mesh	Narciso	SILVER
Lydia	Alflatt	SILVER
Katy	Loftus	SILVER
Sophie	Pratt	SILVER
Francesca	Holmes	SILVER
Natassja	Smith	SILVER
Saffron	Adams	SILVER
Megann	Stewart	SILVER
Connie	Robinson	SILVER
Leah	Cottam	SILVER
Lauren	Turner	SILVER
Sophie	Legg	SILVER
Millie	Pennington- Seibert	SILVER
Megan	Sleath	SILVER
Olivia	Beanlands	BRONZE
Saphire	Lee	BRONZE
Elizabeth	Attfield	BRONZE
Emily	Morgan	BRONZE
Lily	O'Hare	BRONZE
Amy	Bishop	BRONZE
Harriet	Curzon	BRONZE
Saidhriti	Siddantham	BRONZE
Trinity	Dinter	BRONZE
Nadja	Forrest	BRONZE
Ayesha	Unadkat	BRONZE
Lara	Craig	BRONZE
Phi-Khanh	Buingoc	BRONZE
Freya	Church	BRONZE
Amelie	Cooper	BRONZE
Grace	Salam	BRONZE
Rebecca	Davies	BRONZE
Maggie	Wyper	BRONZE
Phoebe	Edwards	BRONZE
Lily	Merrett	BRONZE

Year 11

# National Mathematics Summer School Invitation

We have just found out that **Rebecca Fletcher** has now been invited to attend the National Mathematics Summer School, following her recent strong performance in the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge.

Congratulations to Rebecca on this achievement!



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### **World Book Day**

On World Book Day Presdales celebrated the occasion with a range of fun activities. In form time everyone was asked to think about their favourite book and inspire others by sharing their ideas in groups. The teachers also found ways of expressing themselves and some came dressed as book characters such as Lady Macbeth and The Cat in the Hat. All the activities and effort showed everyone in school that reading is fun and enjoyable.

**Evie Martin (Year 8)** 







On Thursday 7th March, we celebrated World Book day at school through fun activities in our English lesson. We started with a teacher photo quiz where we had to guess which teachers were covering their faces with books. We did more activities including a quiz about different books which was very fun and tested our knowledge of reading. At the end of the lesson, Mrs Teal asked people to talk about their favourite books and why they liked them, the catch was they had to talk without stopping for one minute. All the class were rewarded with prizes for their efforts. Altogether, it was an extremely fun and enjoyable lesson and I can't wait for next year!

Saoirse Slater (Year 8)







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### Ski Trip 2019

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 90 girls and teachers left school to head to Leysin in Switzerland. We were all shocked by the midnight meet time – but the journey was fine and passed quickly, watching films, chatting and sleeping. We arrived in time for supper and had an early start to get our skis fitted the next day.

The weather was perfect! Sunny and warm conditions every day made for amazing skiing. We all had such fun - the instructors were all so experienced and knowledgeable and everyone made great progress.

We enjoyed all our evening activities too, especially the tobogganing.

We were all proud of the progress we had made - great fun, making new friends and challenging ourselves.

Mrs Dann and Mrs Share

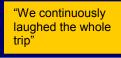
This year the ski trip has been amazing; I could not be more grateful to all the teachers for organising such a wonderful week!! My favourite part of the week was waking up looking at the breathtaking views of the snowy mountains out of the windows. I have some great memories and have laughed huge amounts. It has truly been the best!!! **Izzy Gardiner (Year 10)** 



"I really improved my technique thanks to Timbo's instructions'



instructors





'Although the three of us started in the top group, we became more comfortable in a lower group with Craig"

"When I got the opportunity to go on the ski trip, I was very hesitant at first, as I had never had any experience of skiing before, but I'm very happy that I decided to go as I learnt so much along the way and I improved massively." massively." Tewo Bishi (Year 8)

"Great and teachers who lead the



"I made new friends and lots of great memories"

"Had the best time and laughed the whole time with my group" Craig (Instructor)



the trip more enjoyable"

"The staff at the hotel, especially the

nice man working in the kitchen, made



Ski Trip 2020

We are opening this trip primarily to current Year 7. Please click here for further information.



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### **News from Art and Photography**

## Presdales School Artists of the Month - February

### Congratulations to:-

Year 7 - Amelia Croucher

Year 8 - Maddie Warehm

Year 9 - Gabayike Adekola

Year 10 - Chloe Davis

Year 10 - Holly Wilson

Year 11 - Bella Hussey

Year 11 - Lydia Weston

Year 11 - Katy Loftus

Year 12 - Annalise Dewen

Year 13 - Imogen Dear

Photographer of the Month

Year 12 - Amy Wells

Year 13 - Lisa Allen-Greenaway

Well Done from The Art Department







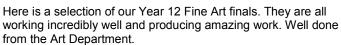




### **Year 12 Fine Art**

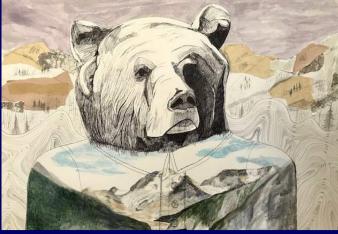
















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### **Year 13 Photography**

Congratulations to our Year 13 Photography students for producing such exciting work recently. We are all so proud of you.











### **STEM News**

### **I Love Robots!**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> February, 11 students from Year 8 to 11 took part in our final VEX competition of the season at John Warner School.

Despite our robots being small compared to our competitors, the girls operated them with great skill and worked well as a team. The day was an excellent opportunity for our new team members to experience competition day and drive the robots under pressure.

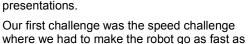


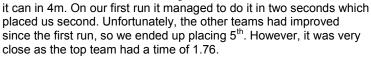


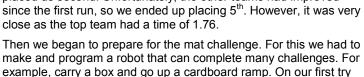
Well done to all the girls who took part in 'I Love Robots!'

### Tomorrow's Engineers EEP **Robotics Challenge**

On the 13th February, we attended the Tomorrow's Engineers Robotic Challenge at RAF Hendon. We had been building robots over the previous months and preparing presentations.







we managed to complete almost all the challenges. We quickly went

back to base and began preparing for our research project.

We had to research and design a robot that would help the world. We chose a robot doctor controlled by a suit which would help in a humanitarian crisis. The presentation went well, and we got the judges laughing which is always a good sign. There was also a teamwork challenge which tested our communication and ability as a team. The judges didn't give anything away on how well we did. We then made a few adjustments on our challenge robot hoping to complete all the challenges. We had a quick re-program and we

were on our way. We managed to complete a few more challenges which was a good improvement.

The final thing we had to do was talk about our robot design and the improvements we made. This was easy as we were very proud of what we designed and built. Despite our efforts, we didn't make it through in the top teams but we weren't disheartened and still love our robots.

Maddie Robb (Year 9)





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### **PE News**

### PE Students of the Month - February

### Year 7 - Alicia Sharpner

For amazing effort in PE lessons and extra curricular clubs/fixtures



### Year 8 - Rosie Hoy

For always changing really quickly and trying hard in Volleyball lessons

### Year 9 - Lotty Hobson

For an excellent performance at the U15 Cricket Tournament and fantastic play in Interhouse Benchball

### Year 10 - Charlie-Lee Hopkins and Yuxi Chen

For fantastic team work and performance in Interhouse Benchball

### Year 11 - Felicity Grant and Sophie Grimshaw

For attending every after school GCSE PE revision session so far!

### Sixth Form - Annabel Taylor and Claudia Holmes

For leading Rugby Club every Tuesday lunchtime and encouraging other girls to participate in Rugby

### **New Club - Clubbercise**

Come and join our new club - 'Clubbercise'. All year groups welcome to come along on a Monday lunchtime from 12.45 to 1.10 in the Sports Hall. We will give you glow sticks to use to dance along to Just Dance songs!



Here are some of the girls with their flashing glow sticks!

### **Sportshall Athletics**

The Year 7 and 8 Sportshall Athletics teams have both qualified for the County Finals!





Recently at the Lea Valley District Finals, the Year 7 team came 1st and the Year 8 team came 2nd by a very close 2 points! Well done girls, what a fantastic achievement. Good luck in the County Finals girls!

### **Netball**

Eliza Pettit and Violet Faber, both in Year 7, represented Herts County in the recent East County Netball Tournament. With a total of 14 teams involved, the Herts B team finished 4th overall. They made it through to the semi finals where they were knocked



out by the Herts County Á team who went on to win the competition. Great experience for them both at such a young age. On Monday, they were also selected to be balls girls for the Saracens Mavericks v London Pulse match at Hertfordshire Sports Village and did a fantastic job on behalf of the Hertfordshire County U13's netball squad.

Well done girls keep up the hard work.

Well done to our Year 8 netball team for their awesome win against Simon Balle 19-1.

Well done to the Year 7A and 7B netball teams who both won their games against Simon Balle. The A's won 19-1 and the Star Player was Ellie Bostock! The B's won 18-1 and the Star Player was Evie Dhillon!







Well done to our year 10 netball team who won their district tournament, beating every team they played! Fantastic girls! Next up the County Cup final on 14th March!





On Tuesday, the Senior Netball team came 4th in their group at the District Netball tournament, so, unfortunately didn't make the semi finals. Unlucky girls, you all played really well!

Well done to our Year 8 and Year 10 girls for their efforts in their netball matches this week against John Warner. Year 10 won 28-13 and Year 8 unfortunately lost 25-16. Last

Year 10 won 28-13 and Year 8 unfortunately lost 25-16. Last league game of the season! Great effort this year all our players!



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### **Equestrian Team**

Three weekends ago, the equestrians were competing again. This time the competition

was clawed arena eventing which is a mix of cross country fences and show jumps, a slightly different type of event! We had a team of Hannah Maloney, Connie Harrington, Ruby Barrs and Freya Naylor Stewart. However, the outbreak of Equine Flu over the whole country meant that the livery yard where Hannah and Connie keep their horses were put on lock down and, therefore, neither them could leave their yard. So Ruby and Freya were the only two able to compete and just as individuals. Ruby did really well and came 5th in the 85cm and 4th in 95cm class. Freya had a couple of fences down and, therefore, unfortunately, didn't get into the placings. Ruby has no



and, therefore, unfortunately, didn't get into the placings. Ruby has now qualified for another championship in Buckinghamshire in the Autumn. Well done girls!

Success again last weekend for Presdales Equestrian Team. Drew Cummins had two very good rounds in two classes but, unfortunately, didn't get into placings. D'arcy Wright came a great 2nd and 4th in her classes. Ruby Barrs won in both classes. The team of Connie Harrington, Ruby Barrs, Freya Naylor Stewart and Hannah Maloney won their first class which was a 90cm height and, in the next class (1 metre height), which is a Hickstead elite qualifier, they came 2nd and have qualified for Hickstead on 1st August. Well done girls, amazing that you have qualified for Hickstead in the Summer ... what an achievement!





### **PE Trip**

On Monday 25th February, 30 Year 7 and 8 pupils went to watch a Superleague netball match, Saracens Mavericks v London Pulse at Hertfordshire Sports Village. It was an intense game with the home team Mavericks ending up on top, winning 65-37. The girls all had a really great evening, had a chance to meet some inspirational players and enjoyed having the opportunity to watch such a high standard of netball.





### **House News**

### Inter house Bench ball

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

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

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

Position	Year 10	Points
1st	SM	10
2nd	SF	8
3rd	JE	6
4th	RM	4
5th	СВ	2
วเท	CB	

Curie	Pankhurst	Parks
Frank	Nightingale	Windsor

### **Upcoming House Events**

W/c 11th March : Maths

W/c 18th March : Recycled Fashion Show

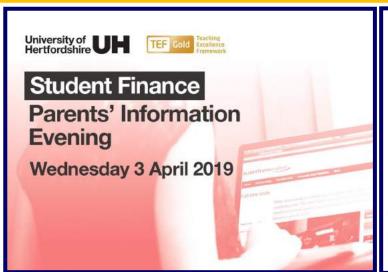


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Wednesday 3 April 2019

19:30-21:00

educationliaison@herts.ac.uk or 01707 286545



The cost of university is a major concern for young people and parents.

Come and join us to put your mind at ease and have your questions answered.

Join us at 19:30 for light refreshments with the Finance talk starting at 20:00. This event is aimed at parents/carers and students that are planning to start University in September 2019.

The evening will address the following areas:

- What is student finance and how does the application process work?
- What funding is available (including bursaries and scholarships)?
- · What support is available whilst at university?
- Budgeting advice and tips.

We look forward to welcoming you to the University.

To book your place, go to go.herts.ac.uk/financeevening

For further information and advice, please visit our Parent and Guardian pages: go.herts.ac.uk/parents

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### **Presdales School**

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