



PressTales



Issue 51, 14 June 2019

Headlines

Dear Parents/Carers

As I write these words, many of our Year 11 students have just walked out of their last GCSE exam (Physics). There is one more GCSE exam on Monday morning for a small number of students. With the A level exams finishing a week on Monday, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in the organisation of the exams, in particular our exams officer Mrs Fiona Newbold and her team of invigilators. So much time has gone into preparing venues, papers and staffing to ensure the exams run smoothly and I thank everyone involved. I also extend my thanks to parents of students in all year groups who have been taking public or school exams for supporting, cajoling and encouraging their children to revise and attend even when they have felt unwell. We wish Year 7 and 8 students well for the next two weeks.

Our roofing work is well underway, although, obviously hampered this week by such poor weather. On Monday, the fencing contractors will be starting to replace parts of the school boundary fence. The majority of this work will take place in the summer holidays and should be completed in time for September.

Please may I remind you that Wednesday 19th June is an Inset Day and the school will be closed to students.

I trust the weekend will bring nicer weather for us all.

Kind regards

Matt Warren, Headteacher

Upcoming Events

JUNE

Monday 17th to Friday 28th : Years 7 and 8 exams

Wednesday 19th : Inset Day

Wednesday 19th : Year 11 Celebration

Evening

Thursday 20th : String Recital, 6pm

Friday 21st : Year 12 Geography King's Cross Day 2

Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th : New Sixth Form Induction

Monday 24th : Year 12 Poems of the Decade Conference in London

Tuesday 25th : Launch meeting for students for World Challenge Long Haul 2021

Wednesday 26th to Saturday 29th : Years 10 & 12 Berlin History Trip

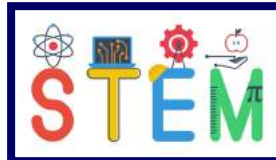
Wednesday 26th : National Public Exams Contingency Date

Thursday 27th : Year 9 Learn4Living Day

Friday 28th : District Sports

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

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



Only 21% of the STEM workforce is female. Here at Presdales we are keen to inspire the next generation of women in STEM fields.

Events taking place this half term:

Thursday 4th July: 'The Big Bang Fair' held at Hertfordshire University, Year 8 Students (not on the French trip) will have the opportunity to attend shows and workshops where they can get hands-on with engineering and technology.

Friday 5th July: MBDA Glider Challenge (Year 10 team)

Wednesday 17th July: Year 8 Science Activity Day

Remember: Tuesday and Thursday Lunchtimes, 1.10pm in S8. All students are welcome to come along to Robotic Club. We are just starting to build VEX Robots for new season, Robotics Tower Takeover, so now would be an excellent time to join.

Engineer visitors: Female engineers from WSP will be visiting Presdales; this will be an excellent chance for students to find out more about STEM careers.

Opportunities out of school: IET's Engineering Open House Day- Friday 26th July

<https://www.engineer-a-better-world.org/whats-on/>



Barbados Netball Tour Quiz Night!

To help raise money towards the Barbados Netball Tour, we are hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 28th June 2019 in the School Hall at Presdales.

The tickets cost £8.50 each and include a hot supper. Options are: Cod, Sausage, Chicken, Chicken Pie or Vegetable spring roll. They all come with chips.

The quiz will start at 7.30pm. We are suggesting teams of up to 8 people. We will be running a raffle and would be grateful to receive any raffle prizes you were able to donate. Please get in contact if you are able to donate anything (danni@presdales.herts.sch.uk).

A licenced, cash-only bar will be available selling soft drinks and alcoholic drinks (for over 18s only).

Please [click here](#) for the letter to purchase your tickets. We would love to see lots of you there - everyone is welcome!

PE Department



Trips and Reminders



- **Year 10 Business Revision Workbook and Guide. £5 for both books.**
- **Year 10 GCSE History study visit to Berlin (June 2019)** - The balance was due by 4th March 2019.
- **Year 8 Opal Coast French Trip (July 2019)** - Information evening on Tuesday 18th June at 5.30pm in the Lecture Theatre. The final balance was due by 22nd March 2019.
- **Urbania (July 2019)** - The final balance was due by 3rd June 2019.
- **A2 Biology Trip to Whipsnade Zoo (Friday 12th July)** - The cost of the trip is £21 which is due by Friday 28th June.
- **Year 10 Art & Photography Trip to Burghley Sculpture Garden (Friday 12th July)** - A voluntary contribution of £22 was due by Friday 7th June.
- **Year 10 outdoor adventure trip (Wednesday 17th July 2019)** - A voluntary contribution of £30 is due by Monday 17th June.
- **Iceland (October 2019)** - Payment schedule: £200 deposit paid. £200 was due in April, 2nd instalment of £200 was due in May, £200 due June and £150 due in July.
- **Russia (October 2019)** - The next instalment of £150 was due by 1st June 2019.
- **Ski (February 2020)** - There are still a few places available. If you would like your daughter or son to participate, please send in the permission slip with the deposit of £150. If your son/daughter has secured a place, WisePay is now open to make monthly instalments.
- **Barbados Netball Tour (April 2020)** - Total cost is £1555 per student. Payment schedule: £150 deposit. 1st instalment of £150 was due by 22nd March. We strongly suggest that a minimum monthly instalment of £114.10 is made on the 1st of each month with February 2020 being the last payment.



the Wimpole History Festival, 20th-23rd June

Presdales History has no affiliation with the Wimpole History Festival but having seen the programme, we couldn't pass up the opportunity to highlight this great event taking place not far away, with so much to offer to any of our students and their families interested in history.

Talks on female MPs in Politics, Winston Churchill, Lucy Worsley on Queen Victoria, D-Day, India, China, and many other topics.

Children's events include Lucy Worsley talking about her new book *Lady Mary*, about Mary Tudor, daughter of Henry VIII, and Caroline Lawrence on Living with the Romans. Michael Morpurgo will speak about the Second World War and Marcia Williams on inspiring women in history.

Plus living history displays, archery, falconry and sword school.

<http://www.wimpolehistoryfestival.com/>

In February half term 2020, we are returning to Leysin in Switzerland because of the fantastic slopes, mountain views, lovely hotel and fantastic ski instructors!

We still have places on this exciting trip! Letters have been emailed home or your daughter/son can collect one from Mrs Eyre.

Some key information:

- All abilities are welcome as all groups ski with ski instructors.
- The price is inclusive of ski equipment.
- Evening activities include swimming, movie night and tobogganing

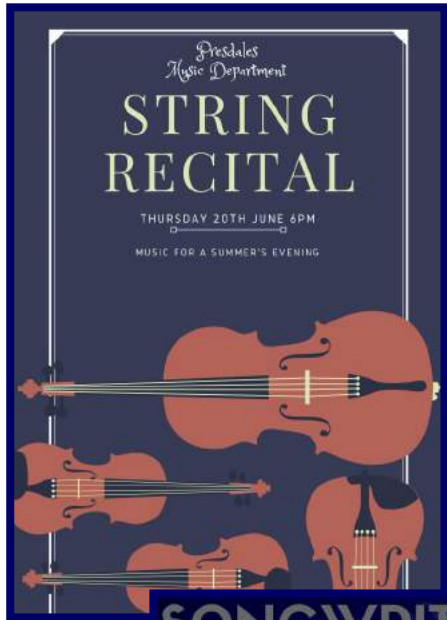


Barbados Netball Tour

The students who are going on the Netball Sports Tour in April 2020 recently raised £492.38 from bag packing at Tesco, Hertford!

Also, special mention to Frankie Jones who baked cookies and raised £22.84!

Well done girls!



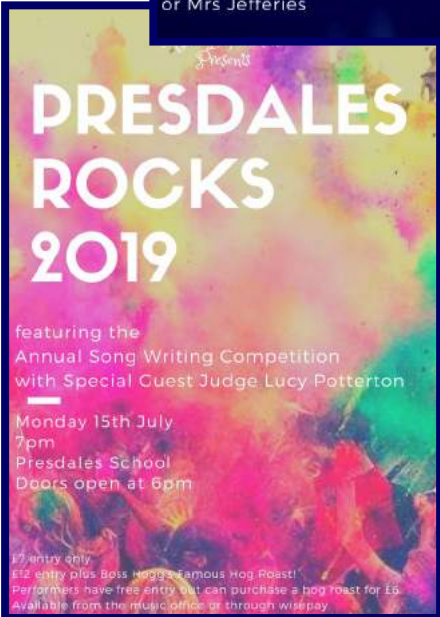
SONGWRITING COMPETITION 2019

with Special Guest Judge Lucy Potterton

Entries must be original music and lyrics. You can enter as an individual or a group. Submit your entry as a recording to music@presdales.herts.sch.uk by Friday 28th June.

Shortlisted entries will perform in the final at Presdales Rocks on Monday 15th of July.

For questions please see Mrs Hetherington or Mrs Jefferies



Rewards

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

7AL 8LD 9LB 10CB



Junior Maths Challenge

A record number of 110 Year 7 and 115 Year 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge this April.

They had to think logically and creatively to solve mathematical puzzles for this 1 hour's individual competition.

Congratulations go to all students who took part and in particular the 73 students who were awarded a certificate.

Ada Fleming in Year 7 has been invited to take part in the follow-on round entitled the Junior Kangaroo on the strength of their achievement in the challenge. This will take place on Tuesday 11th June and we wish her well with this additional competition.

**Rachel Rugg-Gunn
Head of Maths**

Year 7 Students		
Ada	Fleming	Gold
Joanna	Grayson	Silver
Lydia	Botting	Silver
Maja	Pickering	Silver
Ayesha	Conteh	Bronze
Sofia	Henderson	Bronze
Amelia	Murray	Bronze
Emma	Butterfield	Bronze
Violet	Faber	Bronze
Emily	Shaw	Bronze
Isabel	Avery	Bronze
Natalie	Bolton	Bronze
Charlotte	Douglass	Bronze
Isobel	Inwood	Bronze
Amy	Adams	Bronze
Ella	Gardner	Bronze
Charlie	Clapson	Bronze
Milla	Dupuis	Bronze
Rebecca	Gee	Bronze
Abbie	Norris	Bronze
Lana	Crowson	Bronze
Lucy	Butterfield	Bronze
Isabella	Stewart	Bronze
Milly	Webb-Ingall	Bronze
Amber	Wingrove	Bronze
Venus	Sahan	Bronze
Thiyara	Dahanayake	Bronze
Madeleine	Parker	Bronze

Year 8 Students		
Stephanie	Moor	Gold
Kim	Pittaccio	Silver
Matilda	Endersbee	Silver
Evie	Martin	Silver
Jasmine	Marshall	Silver
Ella	Richardson	Silver
Emily	Sheffield	Silver
Grace	Cox	Silver
Melissa	Komodro-	Silver
Isabella	O'Reilly	Silver
Laura	Wilkinson	Silver
Juliette	James	Silver
Zoe	Drewitt	Silver
Ami	Unadkat	Silver
Connie	Hall	Silver
Alexis	Broad	Silver
Ellen	Hair	Silver
Katie	Rhodes	Silver
Lucy	Sacre	Silver
Emilija	Vipule	Silver
Amelie	Holmes	Bronze
Freya	Lund	Bronze
Lily	Sharp	Bronze
Megan	Linkson	Bronze
Isabella	Abraham	Bronze
Madeline	Parry	Bronze
Maisie	Johnson	Bronze
Lydia	Freeman	Bronze
Juliette	McKenna	Bronze
Yu Qiong	Chen	Bronze
Madalyn	Parker	Bronze
Jessica	Scott	Bronze
Caitlin	Flatman	Bronze
Tara	Archer	Bronze
Darcey	Lythall	Bronze
Adelaide	Pearl	Bronze
Anya	Jenkins	Bronze
Alice	Rothwell	Bronze
Evelyn	Youngman	Bronze
Saoirse	Slater	Bronze
Holly	Coleman	Bronze
Emma	Lester	Bronze
Tilly	Bird	Bronze
Holly	Hart	Bronze
Maddison	Hayes	Bronze



Year 9 Battlefields Trip

Arriving at the turning circle in the pitch dark at 3 in the morning on a day where rain showers looked more likely than sunshine, the omens for the trip did not look good. We were off to Belgium and France to visit the battlefields and cemeteries of World War One. 36 hours later, however, as we were getting back on the coaches to take us on our return journey to the Eurotunnel shuttle we were celebrating a successful and enjoyable historical experience – no rain, poignant memories, moving poetry, staggering views and a wreath laying ceremony at the Menin Gate.

What transpired in between was:



On Friday, a visit to the Lijssenthoek military cemetery at Poperinge, which in the war was a casualty clearing station where wounded British soldiers were brought and where Nellie Spindler is buried (one of only two female casualties of the war to be buried in Belgium); followed by Tynecot – the largest Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in the world (12,000 soldiers are buried here and a further 35,000, whose bodies were never found, are remembered on the Memorial to the Missing). Many Presdales students over the



years have found relatives here and this year was no different. Further stops at German cemeteries and Canadian memorials took us eventually on to Ypres, the centre of British operations in the First World War (nicknamed typically 'Wipers'), where we ate, slept and attended the very moving Menin Gate Ceremony where the Last Post has been sounded at 8pm by the local volunteer Fire Brigade every night and in all weathers since 11th November 1929.

"I found that visiting the memorials, especially Tyne Cot and the Thiepval memorial, was really moving because they had so many names. It was quite shocking to see how many people lost their lives in World War One."
Emilia Fiedler

"I was really fascinated and moved by the different cemeteries and memorials we went to. I felt that it really put things in perspective and showed just how brutal the First World War was."
Niharika Jha



On Saturday, a quiet start involving a less historical but very popular stop at our very own "Ladies. ladies..." chocolate shop in the main square in Ypres – 'special deals' and high quality chocolate and I'm guessing lots of family-gift-buying. Suitably refreshed it was then on to the site of the battle of the Somme in France, roughly tracing, on the coach, the line where the trenches ran in the war. There we found Newfoundland Park, where the heroism of Canadian troops is remembered - on the 1st July 1916, of the 801 members of the first battalion of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment that took part in the offensive only 68 survived unwounded. Here we were also able to walk through the still preserved trenches and the surviving 'battlescape' of the war. Finally onto the huge memorial at Thiepval which again bears the names of those who died in the battle of the Somme but have no known grave – in this case 72,000 officers and men.

All credit to Year 9. This was one of the most enjoyable and successful trips to the battlefields that we have run at Presdales. The bar has been set for following year groups!!

Mr Spurgeon



"When we were asked to lay the wreath we felt really honoured. It was really nerve-wracking but made us feel proud because we wouldn't be who we are today if it weren't for those soldiers fighting for their country."
Lottie Hallett and Charlotte Lawrence





House News

Design and Technology House Competition: Design a House Emblem 2019

During May, the Design and Technology Department ran a House Competition to design a House Emblem using their House colours.

As you can see from the photos we had some fantastic entries spread across the four year groups (7-10), and were dazzled by the ideas and design work of the students.

All Houses were represented well, with one entry per category going through to the final. In the final stage we had to put them into an order that decided the winners, which was incredibly tricky given the calibre of entries.

We are delighted to announce the winners as follows:



Position	Years 7 & 8	Points
1 st	Izzy Inwood	12
2 nd	Maddie Wareham	10
3 rd	Inga Niedzielska	8
4 th	Evelyn Youngman	6
5 th	Emily Nicholson	4
6 th	Beth & Suzi	2



Position	Years 9 & 10	Points
1 st	Anthe Beston	12
2 nd	Amelie Anstead	10
3 rd	Becky Kennard	8
4 th	Abbie Norris	6
5 th	Emilia Johnson	4
6 th	Lauren Hill	2



A huge thank you to ALL of the students who entered, lots of your emblems were inspiring! And you all gained House Points for your designs.

Well done!

Mrs Dray and Mrs Schillaci-Rowland

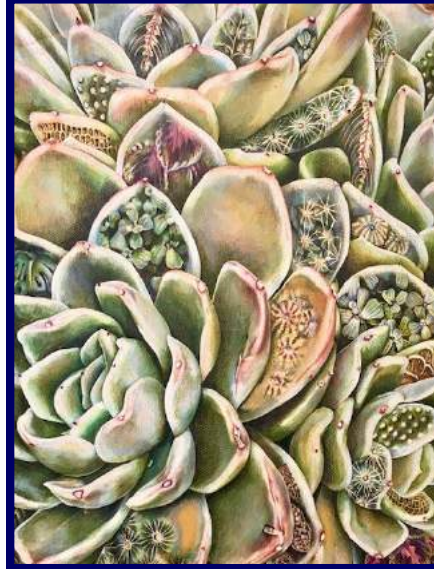
Curie	Pankhurst	Parks
Frank	Nightingale	Windsor



News from Art and Photography

A Level Summer Art & Photography Exhibition

On Friday 7th June, we held our A level Summer Art & Photography Exhibition. Congratulations to all of our wonderful Year 13 students and good luck for the future. We felt that this exhibition in particular showed an outstanding body of work and the Art staff felt very proud. Thank you to all who attended and showed their support to our Art Department and Year 13 students.





Careers News

Medical Mavericks

On 23rd May, Year 9 students took part in lots of fun hands-on activities during a workshop run by Medical Mavericks that introduced a whole range of amazing medical careers from nursing, doctors & paramedics. The activities included:



- Ultrasound machine to see inside your body (top right photo)
- See inside your eye with an iPhone retina scan
- Record and print an ECG from your heart
- Hear your pulse with a Doppler Probe!
- Trying key hole surgery on a training device used by surgeons (bottom right photo)
- Using real needle to take fake blood from a fake arm
- Experiencing different eye diseases with the pathology goggles (left photo)
- Test hearing and reflexes
- Take basic medical observation such as blood pressure, oxygen sats and temp



Drama News

Year 10 Devising Drama Exam

On Monday 3rd June, GCSE Drama students performed in their Component One examination. OCR Drama produced a stimulus booklet which the students use to form the basis of a theatre performance. This year students selected a photograph by Martin Stranka entitled, 'I found the silence'. Students have worked in groups for weeks researching and responding to the stimulus, they have created a 15 minute performance incorporating the Physical Theatre style of Frantic Assembly. The Drama department would like to congratulate the students on their hard work and their very successful performances. The standard of performance was very high and we hope they now have the same enthusiasm to write about the process as this is where they are awarded the majority of their marks.

Mrs Fehmi and Miss Mack
Drama Department





PE News

Quad Kids Athletics

A huge well done to the Year 8/9 Quad Kids Athletics team who competed on Tuesday night in the pouring rain! They all performed amazingly and came in 1st place as a team! The top 3 individuals are now into the final on Tuesday 18th June - congratulations to Jess Downing, Evie Martin and Seren Miller.

The 6 Young Officials in Year 10 have also been mentioned by the event organiser as being outstanding. Well done to Millie, Manita, Helena, Rosie, Molly and Lily.

Karate

Over May half-term, Ada Fleming in Year 7 achieved her black belt in karate and she was graded a distinction! Congratulations Ada, this is an amazing achievement for which you have worked so hard. Well done!



Tennis

Well done to our Year 9 & 10 tennis team who won their match against Sandringham 5-1. Star player Emily McAllister, winning all her games! Great finish to the tennis league!

Rounders



Well done to the Year 9 rounders team who made it through to the final in their tournament last week- narrowly losing to Chauncy 4.5 rounders to 6.

Design and Technology News

Presdales Afternoon Tea

On Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd May 2019, parents, friends and staff were delighted to attend an enjoyable Afternoon Tea prepared and hosted by our Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students. Working under strict exam conditions the students baked all morning producing delicious breads, cakes and scones.

We are delighted to report that our students coped really well working under the intense 'Bake Off' pressure. Their freshly baked products were finished and presented to a professional standard along with homemade preserves. The whole group were justly proud of their fantastic results and received extremely positive feedback from our guests on the day for their fabulous food.

Once again a special thank you goes to the Art Department for the loan of the student artwork and to Mrs A Wall for setting the lovely scene in our Afternoon Tea room.

Mrs N. Garcia



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