



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

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Dear Parent/Carer

What a journey we have been on! As I write this update I look to my wall and see our school values and their sub-headings, and a number stand out:

'Have a 'can-do' attitude'

'Use your imagination'

'Take risks'

'Take ownership of your own learning'

'Believe in yourself'

'Demonstrate courage in adversity'

'Never give up'

We talked before about our values not just being words on a piece of paper. Instead, they needed to become part of our DNA, they needed to be demonstrated in our everyday actions. It is abundantly clear that staff and students have demonstrated these values repeatedly since lock down began. I hope that the students take time over the summer to reflect on what we have all been able to achieve in difficult circumstances. The students have shown that they can be adaptable, be resilient and work independently. I know it has not always been plain sailing for them all, but they should be proud of themselves and how they have coped.

Without the support of our parents, what we have achieved would not have been possible. Thank you for keeping us informed of how your children have been doing, for encouraging them to work and for the regular flow of thank you emails to our staff – it has all been appreciated.

I would like to thank all our staff for the fantastic job they have done since lock down, whether that be in a teaching role or a support role. Every member of staff is equally important for our school to run efficiently and effectively, and I thank them all for the support they have given our students.

Staff farewells

At this time of year, we always say farewell to members of staff who may be retiring, moving to another school or taking a different direction in life. I would like to thank all staff who are leaving us this year for everything they have done for our school community and wish them the very best for the future.

Thank to you: Mrs Rugg-Gunn, Mrs Newbold, Mrs Dillon, Mrs Abbiss, Mrs Williams, Mrs Tyner, Mrs Sharman, Mrs Francis, Mrs Culley, Ms Barling, Ms Clarke, Mrs Murphy, Mrs Dixon

We are fully staffed for the autumn term and I will introduce new staff in September.

Picture gift

I would like to thank a Year 11 student who commissioned this picture to be made and framed. It is a lovely gesture; we will make sure we find a suitable place for it in September.



STEM Competitions

Well done to the following students who were winners in our *Solar Tower Challenge*:

- 1st Grace McMenamin (7)
- 2nd Gemma Archer (7)
- 3rd Martha Ker (7)
- 4th Olivia Baldwin (9)

Well done to the following students who were winners or gained a special mention in *The Great British Space Dinner Challenge*:

The year 7 winner is Abbie Oldham, Year 8 winner is Isobelle Smith and Y9 winner is Olivia Baldwin.

Special mention to:

Emily Reason for her creative use of flavours.

Neive Reid for making her Bangers and Mash.

Martha Ker and Lily Norman for their use of classic British ingredients and recipes.

Nefeli Tsamili's excellent presentation skills

Thank you to Mrs Warburton for organising these competitions and well done to all students who took part.

House competitions

Congratulations to all students who have been taking part in house events, results are as follows:

Virtual quiz:

- 1st Pankhurst
- 2nd Windsor
- 3rd Frank
- 4th Nightingale
- 5th Curie
- 6th Parks

Virtual Sports day (Distance travelled when exercising - Km)

- 1st Windsor (457)
- 2nd Curie (450)
- 3rd Parks (440)
- 4th Pankhurst (375)
- 5th Frank (342)
- 6th Nightingale (229)

A breakdown of results and photos can be found on the school website. Thank you to those who organised and participated in these events.

House Winners

Congratulations to all Year group winners and well done to all of the students who participated in the many House events (including the 2 virtual events) that took place this year.

The Year group winners are:

- Year 7 Parks
- Year 8 Curie
- Year 9 Pankhurst
- Year 10 Frank
- Year 11 Nightingale
- Year 12/13 Curie

Overall house winners for 2019-20 - Curie

Well done to Mrs Warburton (staff house leader), Holly Jackson and Harriet Curzon (student house and deputy house leaders) and everyone in Curie house.

Year 11 and 13 (Sep 2020) Internal assessments

A calendar of when the assessments will take place has gone out. A reminder that these will take place in normal lessons. Students will be in school, there is no study leave for these assessments.

Autumn term 2020 return to school dates

Wednesday 2 nd September	YEAR 7 only (additional day)
Thursday 3 rd September	Staff inset – no students
Friday 4 th September	Year 7 and Year 12 only
Monday 7 th September	All students

There is a change to the calendar for 2020/21. There was a published inset day on Monday 4th January. As the mocks have now been moved to after Christmas, Monday 4th January will be a normal school day. The inset day (used to moderate mocks) will be on FRIDAY 29th JANUARY 2021

Term dates for 2021/2022 will go on the school website early next week. As before, we have tried to match these with Richard Hale School.

All letters

All weekly updates and the plans for September will remain in the coronavirus section of the website over the summer in case you need to refer back to any of them.

Message from Hertford Hockey Club

'Hertford Hockey Club have a large and successful junior section based in Balls Park in Hertford. We cater for all ages from 5/6 upwards and run training sessions on Saturday mornings for the younger ones and midweek for the older ones.

We are planning to run 3 FREE Taster Sessions during August that anyone can come along and just give Hockey a go. The Sessions are on the following dates

- Saturday 15th August
- Saturday 22nd August
- Saturday 29th August

The season starts the first week in September, so do not worry if you cannot make the session above, you can still come along in September and give it a go. (3 FREE Taster sessions before you need to commit).

If you would like to sign up you can do so here <https://campself.active.com/hertfordhockeyclub>

You can find out more about the club here www.hertford-hockey.co.uk

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact us on hertfordhcyouth@gmail.com

General

A final thank you to students, staff, parents and our board of trustees for everything that we, collectively as a team, have all done to ensure Presdales provided the best education possible under the circumstances.

I wish you all a safe and restful summer break and look forward to welcoming the students back in September.

Kind regards
Matt Warren
Headteacher