



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

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Dear Parents/carers

Online safety – please read

We have been alerted by our local police team, and asked to let you know about potential dangers for young people from using **DISCORD**, which is considered the new up and coming Skype.

DISCORD is not monitored or moderated, nor encrypted like WhatsApp. It is a private messaging service often used by people playing online games. The police have had reports of conversations between young people and strangers that seem harmless at first but have then lead to conversations that are not appropriate. This does not mean that every conversation a child has on Discord is inappropriate, but we advise you to be vigilant about what your child is accessing online, and have a conversation with them about whether they use this platform. We will continue to support students by reminding them of what to do if they feel unsafe online or get into a conversation that is not appropriate.

COVID

As the number of cases is rising again nationally, I would like to thank parents for the caution they are showing when deciding to send their children into school or not. We have sent out correspondence from various sources in the past few weeks about COVID symptoms and general illness.

A reminder to all parents that you and your children should self-isolate in the following situations:

- you have any symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- you have tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus
- you live with someone who has symptoms or tested positive
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive
- you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app
- you arrive in the UK from a country with a high coronavirus risk – see GOV.UK: how to self-isolate when you travel to the UK

Information on how long you need to self-isolate can be found [here](#).

Macmillan Cancer Support – Bake-Off

On Friday 25th September, we held our annual staff 'bake-off' competition in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The staff raised over £200. Well done to this year's winners: Mrs Davies and Mrs Dann. The tasting session at break was a highlight for me!

Duke of Edinburgh

Well done to all of the students who took part in the expedition last weekend. I am pleased to report that all went well. Thank you for the positive responses from parents who dropped off their children on the Saturday morning, acknowledging how pleased they were that the school had gone ahead with the expedition.

PE extracurricular clubs

As from Monday, lunchtime PE clubs will start again; students have been informed by email and the timetable is on Edulink. Please be assured that all appropriate safety measures will be in place.

Plastic Cutlery

As you are aware, prior to lockdown, we had eradicated single use plastic from the canteen. Due to new restrictions, we are now having to provide pre-packaged cutlery for students to take back to their zones. However, we have recognised that this is not ideal due to the amount of plastic being thrown away.

We would like to encourage students to bring their own reusable cutlery to assist us in reducing single use plastic again. Various options can be found on Amazon or shops such as Wilkos.

Secondary transfer 2020

As we are not having an open evening this year, we have put information on our school website for prospective parents and students. Please take a look at the [page](#) and direct any friends you have with girls in Year 6 to our website. We will be sharing this information with the 50 or so primary schools where our students join us from.

I wish you all a restful weekend, hopefully the weather will improve – there were a lot of cold students coming into school this morning!

Kind regards

Matt Warren
Headteacher