



# PRESDALES SCHOOL

*Achievement for all*

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Dear Parents/Carers

As I write this message early on Friday morning, I tentatively say that (apart from sending home Year 8!), it has been a quiet week in school. Remote lessons have been taking place for Year 8 students and I thank the staff for providing these and parents for ensuring that their children are attending Google Meet lessons.

## Christmas Lunch

The latest copy of PressTales is released today, which covers a number of our key news items, so I won't duplicate them here, other than to draw your attention to the information that has come out about Christmas lunch and the need to book this in advance. Please click [here](#) to read PressTales.

## Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening Events - IMPORTANT FOR YEAR 11 PARENTS

Information regarding this is now live on our website and can be found [here](#). Even if your child is not in Year 11, you may wish to have a look at what we offer in Sixth Form. The page includes videos from myself, the Sixth Form Team, subject staff and students taking those subjects.

As we are unable to hold our annual Sixth Form Open Evening, we will be running two events on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November**:

1. There will be a **subject fair** during periods 3 & 5. This will give the Year 11 students an opportunity to go round the Sports Hall and Main Hall to speak to subject teachers about different A Level subjects. Students will be split between venues, keeping numbers low for social distancing.
2. In the evening, we would like to invite you to **virtual subject talks**. These will be run by A Level subject teachers, who will deliver a 20-minute session on their subject content. This will give you an opportunity to find out more information about the subjects your child is interested in. We are also inviting external students/parents to attend these virtual sessions as they are unable to visit Presdales due to government guidance regarding social distancing. The schedule for the evening, along with the google meet links, are on the website and can also be found [here](#).

I hope these events will give you and your child an opportunity to gather as much information as possible to support them with making an informed decision about what and where to study after their GCSEs. The deadline for applying to the Sixth Form at Presdales is **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020**.

## Students on site at the end of the day

A reminder that students can remain on site until 4.30pm only, and as long as they are in their assigned bubble room. We need to be able to clean every room at the end of the day.

## The positives of social media

Izzy Gardiner, Year 12, has found herself in the national limelight this week after posting a message on one of Sam Quek's, (former England Hockey player) social media accounts. Izzy was raising the issue that state school students are at a disadvantage compared to those in private schools when it comes to opportunities of playing high level hockey. Izzy, who has already played at a high level, was told by a coach that she would never make it as she was at a state school. The story has been picked up by national newspapers, England Hockey and other media outlets. Well done to Izzy for raising the issue and sparking a debate with a wider audience.

**Christmas cards in the community**

Between now and the end of term, students in Year 7 and 8 will be producing 330 Christmas cards that can be given out to vulnerable members of our community who might be feeling lonely this Christmas and would benefit from a 'Hug in the Post'. This is part of a project being run by the Ware U3A (University of the Third Age), a self-help organisation providing educational, creative and leisure opportunities in a friendly environment for people no longer in full time employment. Ware U3A has over 1,000 members and just under 79 groups who meet regularly.

I wish you all a restful weekend. Thank you for your continued support, it is greatly appreciated by all of our staff.

Keep safe

Matt Warren  
Headteacher