



# PRESDALES SCHOOL

*Achievement for all*

Headteacher: Mr M Warren

Hoe Lane  
Ware, Herts  
SG12 9NX

Tel: 01920 462210

Email: admin@presdales.herts.sch.uk

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

Thank you to those parents who cc'd us into positive emails that they sent to Ofsted. We were dismayed to hear Mr Williamson encourage parents to complain to Ofsted, who would 'enforce' remote learning expectations. We are more than happy to receive feedback on how to improve our remote offer; I don't think we need an enforcer.

## **Year 8 Parents' evening**

Thank you to all students, parents and staff who participated in the remote parents evening last night. I am so sorry that the system went down at the beginning; this was an issue with the SchoolCloud server nationally. We will endeavour to rearrange appointments that did not take place. Details will be sent to those parents affected in due course.

## **Year 11/13 Summer exams**

We are expecting the DfE/Ofqual consultation on the summer exams to be available very soon. We will be participating in the consultation. I expect it will also be open to parents and students, so we will forward details to you when they are published.

## **Year 9 options**

Video presentations from option subjects will be available on the school website towards the end of next week. Mrs Stephenson will send out details to Year 9 students and parents.

## **Remote lessons**

We have been seeking feedback from our students on their remote learning experiences. We welcome the feedback as it helps us to improve our practice. The overall view is very positive, and students are grateful for the time that staff are giving in live lessons and how comprehensive the lessons are. Suggestions included students having more time to complete tasks during lessons, a wider range of activities for students to complete, PPTs to be uploaded before the lesson (KS5) and more use of break out groups when appropriate. Some students are finding six online lessons a day tiring and we are monitoring this. Thank you for the feedback, we will try to accommodate the students' views in our future lesson planning.

## **Mental Health Ambassadors**

Our Sixth Form Mental Health Ambassadors, led by Mrs Miller, will be running lunchtime wellbeing drop in sessions via Google Meet on a Monday and Friday lunchtimes. The sessions are open to all students. There will be fun quizzes, Kahoots as well as providing an opportunity for the students to chat socially if they so wish. The timetable and codes are below. Please contact Mrs Miller if you have any questions.

Year	Day	Sixth Form MHA	Google meet Code
Year 7	Monday	Miffy, Amelie and Charlie	mha7
Year 8	Monday	Ari and Taigen	mha8
Year 9	Monday	Wunzi and Luke	mha9
Year 10	Friday	Ari and Taigen	mha10
Year 11	Friday	Miffy, Amelie and Charlie	mha11
Sixth form	Friday	Wunzi and Luke	mha6

### Ex-student in the news

<https://www.bishopstortfordindependent.co.uk/news/the-dad-and-daughter-who-brought-woman-back-from-the-brink-of-death-9148009/>

Well done to Isabelle (ex-student) and her father for stepping in and helping.

### Elevate Parent Webinar

Elevate is a company we were using to provide motivational sessions to Year 12 and 13 students. Due to the lockdown, they are now providing sessions for all parents. The first session is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm. They will be focusing on student motivation, giving parents ways to help keep their children motivated during school closures.

The webinar series is free. Future sessions are outlined below:

- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January: Increasing and Sustaining Motivation
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February: Stress & Wellbeing
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Preparing for Assessments
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Managing Technology and Distractions

Parents will be sent a replay link if they have registered for the session, but miss it.

Registration link: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

### Christmas cards

You will remember that before Christmas, Year 7 and 8 students designed and wrote Christmas cards that were delivered by a local charity to people who were likely to be on their own, or without their extended family over Christmas. This week, I received a letter from one of the recipients. I have attached the letter for you to read. The letter refers to Evie in Year 8. We have five Evie's in Year 8, and as students were only able to write their first name, we are not sure which Evie it was. However, I wanted to show all of the students who took the time to write a card that it was worth it, and that it made a difference to those who received them.

Thank you for your continued support, I wish you all a pleasant and safe weekend.

Regards

Matt Warren

Headteacher

Dear Head,  
I would like to thank you, and through  
you Evie in Year 8.

Evie sent us a lovely Christmas Card  
that my wife and I displayed in  
pride of place on our mantelpiece.

Christmas was very unusual for us this  
year. There were no excited grandchildren  
opening presents on Christmas day and  
only 2 for Christmas dinner.

It was very kind for Evie to think of  
us, we hope she is well managing to do  
some learning at home.

Best wishes, and may 2021 be a better year