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15th July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

Year 6 to 7 Transition Day

It was a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 students into school yesterday. The students had a taste of life at Presdales. It was pleasing to see so many smiling faces at the end of the day. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the welcome meeting last night. I hope that you found it to be informative and a useful opportunity to meet your child's form tutor and parents of other children in your child's form group.

Staff Farewells

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those staff who are leaving Presdales at the end of this academic year. Several are retiring, others taking promotion in other schools, and some relocating. Thank you for all you have done over many years for the students at Presdales. We wish you all the best for the future.

We say farewell to: Mrs Bird - Art

Mr Britton - Science/Head of Year

Mrs Carr - History

Mr Daniels - IT support

Mrs Davies - French

Mrs Dyson - Media Studies

Mr Ibrahim - Media Studies/English

Mrs McKinley - Finance Administrator

Mr Rock - Business Studies and Economics

Mrs Shakespeare - Music

Mrs Somers - English

I am pleased to say that we are fully staffed for September. Our new staff have been in school today and we look forward to them starting in September.

Student Success - Ellie Bostock

Congratulations to Ellie Bostock, Year 10, who competed in the U17 Girls Shot at the English Schools Track and Field Championships last weekend in Manchester. Ellie threw an impressive 13.41m and came 4th (1st in her Year 10 age group as U17 girls is Year 10 and 11). Well done Ellie, we are so proud of you.

Hertford Town Council

Many thanks to HTC for their grant of £5,395 towards the cost of updating the floor in the gym so it can be converted to accommodate dance.

Everbridge

The HCC system that many parents signed up to several years ago which sent a text to parents if a school was closed will not be available from the end of July, so you may wish to delete the app if you downloaded it on your phone. We will inform parents via Edulink/SIMS InTouch/School Website if we have an emergency closure.

PressTales

Please click here for the latest edition of PressTales.





Police Careers Visits

Thank you to the members of the Police force who came into school this week to meet with students to talk about careers in the Police. We had two sessions with different officers, including detectives and firearms police.

Year 10s made the following comments:

- "I now feel more passionate about joining the Police in the future."
- "The most interesting thing I learnt is that when you are 16 you can spend the day with a member of the Police and go on a blue light call!"
- "It's made me want to join more!"
- "I like the idea of every day being different."
- "It has made me more interested in joining as I was not sure before."

Free Holiday Activities - HCC

Please click <u>here</u> for a link to free holiday clubs (15 places). These are primarily for students in receipt of free school meals.

Message from HCC - Summer Support

Please find below details of the support offered by HCC that will be available to students throughout the summer to help them look after their mental health and wellbeing:

Summer emotional wellbeing support and self help tools

- Services for Young People offer a range of emotional wellbeing support as well as programmes and activities over the summer break. More details can be found here.
- Herts Mind Network offer messaging and telephone support for young people.
- Chat Health text messaging support can be accessed on weekdays via the school nursing service. Secondary school aged young people can text any physical or mental health question or concern to 07480 635050.
- Kooth online support for 10 25 year olds .
- Togetherall 16+ (online support for parents, professionals, and Year 13 students).
- Just Talk Five ways to wellbeing e-learning and other information on self-help tools.
- SPA (single point of access) for more specialist mental health services: HPFT's freephone 24/7 helpline: 0800 6444 101

Presdales Rocks

A reminder that Presdales Rocks takes place on Monday 18th July at 7pm. This is always a fantastic event, so please support the students if you can. Tickets will be available on the door for £8.00 (cash only).

Extreme Weather

Due to the continuing hot weather, students in Years 7 to 10 can continue to wear their PE kit should they wish to. If students choose to wear school uniform, please can we ask that they do not wear jumpers or tights. Sixth Form students can wear a more relaxed uniform that is still appropriate for school but allows them to be cool.

Students must have bottles to fill with water and apply sunscreen before coming to school. Form rooms will be available should students wish to stay inside at break and lunchtime. If students choose to go outside, they must remain in the shade.

Wishing you all a pleasant and restful weekend.

Regards

Mr M Warren