

Hoe Lane Ware, Herts SG12 9NX Tel: 01920 462210

Email: admin@presdales.herts.sch.uk

21st April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers/Students

I trust that you all had an enjoyable Easter break and that the students are refreshed and ready for the term ahead. For our Year 11s and 13s, this is the most important period of their schooling life so far. We are confident that both year groups are well prepared for the exams that are to come.

Football Success

Well done to our U13 football team, who yesterday became the District Champions following their 2-1 win against Leventhorpe. It was a thoroughly deserved win for Presdales. The students played some excellent football and demonstrated fantastic determination, teamwork and commitment. After narrowly missing out on reaching the County Cup Final, this was a fitting end to a great season for our U13s. Thank you to Mr Macrae for his leadership of the team this year.

Biology Olympiad

Congratulations to Evelyn Youngman, who has been awarded a Gold certificate in the National Biology Olympiad. This is a first for Presdales, and places Evelyn in the top 5% of all participants. Evelyn will now be recommended to take part in the International competition.

MFL Spelling Bee

On Thursday afternoon, Jessica Cole and Anna Fourie, both Year 7, participated in this year's Regional Final of the Spelling Bee for the Eastern region in Peterborough. They had to spell as many words as possible in German using the German alphabet against the clock for one minute. Although they were not awarded a place at the National Final in June, they gave an excellent performance, showing amazing confidence and presence of mind. Well done to both Jessica and Anna.

Parent Survey

As part of our annual review process, we are launching our parent survey today, and would ask that all parents complete the survey by **9.00am on Tuesday 2nd May**. Students completed a survey last term and staff will also complete a survey over the coming weeks. All surveys are shared with our Trust Board, and provide us with useful information about the school and our improvement priorities for next year. Please click here to complete the survey.

Strike Action - Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May

You will be aware from the national press that there are two further strike days planned on the above dates. As we approach the public exam period, we have taken the decision to continue to prioritise attendance in school for students in Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. This means that we will be open for students in Year 10-13. Over these two days, amongst other events, we have external PE moderation, an Art exam, Language orals, an English play for Years 10 and 11 and Food practical exams, all of which will need to be prioritised.

Year 7-9 students will be taught from home, as per the previous strike days. If there are further strikes once the Year 11 and 13 students have gone on study leave, then Key Stage 3 will be prioritised.

The Year 8 'Take Your Daughter To Work' day on Thursday 27th April will continue as planned.





Year 8 Parents' Evening

Due to the strike on Thursday 27th April, we have made the decision to move the Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening to Tuesday 23rd May. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Bank Holidays

A reminder that we have two bank holidays this half term where the school will be closed for all students: Monday 1st May and Monday 8th May.

Hertfordshire Opportunities Portal - Into Apprenticeships and T Levels

On Wednesday 14th June from 17:30 to 19:00, there is a free online event designed specifically for parents and carers who would like to explore the apprenticeship and T Level options available to their child. Please click <u>here</u> for further details.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend.

Mr M Warren Headteacher