

16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Dear Parent/Carer/Student

As we reach the end of another half term and the half way point in the academic year, I wanted to say thank you and well done to our fantastic students and staff. There have been many highlights this half term including the amazing Matilda performances this week. It was a pleasure to see students on stage singing, dancing and acting, but most importantly, having a great time with their friends. Thank you to all of the students and staff involved in rehearsing and producing the show, in particular Miss Mack, Miss Sargent and Ms Hardiman.

Since September, the students have been awarded 102,724 reward points, compared to 91,215 points in the same period last year. There are 863 students who have more than 50 reward points, which is an excellent achievement. Our behaviour policy aims to focus on the positive actions that our students take, however, we know that for some, our consequence system is a reminder of the standards that we expect from all students. There are 300 students who have not had any consequences since September, and a further 660 students who have received less than 10 (over 50% of their consequences are for homework and equipment). There are only 19 students who have received more than 50 consequence points. The reward system celebrates every student in the school, the consequence system is needed for a small number of students. We do expect all students and their parents to support our behaviour policy, and I thank you for that support.

#### PressTales

Please click here for the latest edition of PressTales.

# **Young Enterprise**

Following on from the success a few weeks ago, our second Young Enterprise group attended the Watford Trade Fair this weekend to sell their amazing product, Buzz Wraps. Buzz Wraps are sustainable food wraps with all aspects of the company focusing on sustainability. The students were given great feedback and ended up winning best overall company. Both groups have now been invited to the Regional Final in April. Thank you to Mrs Lawrence for supporting the students.

#### Vaping letter from The Hertfordshire Association of Secondary Headteachers

Please click <u>here</u> for a letter from all secondary schools in Hertfordshire regarding vaping.

# **Cambridge Biology Challenge**

A group of Year 12 Biology students are representing Presdales School at the ongoing Cambridge Biology Challenge. Each round features a title for which teams submit responses to an open title. Huge congratulations to the Biological Brain Catalysts team from Presdales - Zuriel Adetifa, Kamilah Abubakari, Abbie Norris, Makayla Phinn, and Olivia Whyley - for scoring a Highly Commended award in the first round. You can listen to the MP4 of their podcast discussing their take on 'Why don't animals have wheels?' <u>here</u>. They were one of a small number of teams to have placed, out of a total of 400 teams nationwide. Well done!

## Support sessions offered by HCC

Please find below several flyers for workshops for parents and carers run by HCC and supporting partners.

- <u>School Avoidance</u>
- <u>Coping with Change</u>
- Anxiety and Stress 1
- Anxiety and Stress 2
- <u>Responding to Anger 1</u>
- <u>Responding to Anger 2</u>
- Supporting Links ASD & ADHD EXTRA Workshops March 2024

# Ski Trip

We wish all the students and staff departing today all the best for their ski trip to Claviere, Italy. I am sure they will all have an amazing time. Thank you to the staff for taking and looking after the 80 students going on the trip.

A reminder that Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February is an Inset day and the school is closed to all students (except those students in school completing their DT coursework).

Wishing you all an enjoyable and restful half term break.

Regards Mr M Warren Headteacher