



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

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Dear Parent/Carer/Student

PressTales

Please click [here](#) for the latest edition of PressTales.

Year 6 to 7 Transition

It was a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 students into school yesterday for their moving up transition day. The students were excellent throughout the day. They had the opportunity to meet new people, sample different lessons and enjoy extra-curricular activities at lunchtime. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend the evening meeting to meet senior members of staff and their daughter's form tutor. We hope you found the session informative. We look forward to seeing our new year group, all smart in their new uniforms, in September.

Culture Day

Monday saw our first ever Culture Day at Presdales, organised by our Diversity and Inclusion Reps. Students and staff came to school dressed in outfits that reflected their heritage or cultural background. It was lovely to be able to celebrate the cultural diversity that we have in school. We also had a picnic during lunchtime. It was great to be able to try such a wide variety of foods. We had everything from Welsh Cakes, to Jollof rice to paneer. We would like to thank everyone who helped sort out an outfit, or who made the effort to cook/bring in something for the event, it was very much appreciated. Thank you to Ms Coulson for organising the event.

Year 7 Murder Mystery Day – A Thrilling Success!

On Wednesday, our Year 7 students took part in an exciting and immersive **Murder Mystery Day**, designed to challenge their critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills – all while having a lot of fun! Throughout the day, students became detectives, piecing together clues, analysing evidence, and interviewing a range of suspicious characters (played brilliantly by staff!). Working in teams, they used logic, deduction, and creativity to crack the case and identify the culprit behind our fictional school mystery. The event not only helped develop vital literacy and communication skills, but also encouraged collaboration, perseverance, and attention to detail. We were hugely impressed by the enthusiasm, energy, and focus shown by all our Year 7s – hopefully we've inspired the next Agatha Christie! Well done, detectives. Thank you to the English Department for running this event.

Chamber Choir

On Sunday, the Presdales Chamber Choir sang a one-hour choral evensong at St Mary's Church Ware. The choir opened the service singing John Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth" and were then joined by the female voices of St Mary's to sing a contemporary setting of Psalm 65 composed by Mrs Cooper. An amazing experience for our students who were thrilled to be surrounded by such incredible sounds of organ and voices in such a large and historic building. The Director of Music at St Mary's praised the students for being engaged and responsive as well as noting their musicality and exemplary conduct throughout. Auditions for new members of the Chamber Choir will take place in September in preparation for our Cambridge Choir Day where we have rehearsal booked in Gonville and Caius College Chapel and a tea time concert in Cambridge.

SKY UP Academy Studios Trip

Year 10 and Year 12 students attended a careers trip to Sky Studios where they worked in 3 teams to produce a film trailer in their state of the art XR studio. The experience allowed students to operate cameras, digital editing in post-production roles and perform live for screen complete with props and costumes. The students created some impressive short films that were then screened. They had a studio tour where Jurassic World and Wicked have recently been filmed. Students got to play a careers game which revealed the vast amount of jobs available in the film and TV industry. It was very inspiring and the students took a huge amount of knowledge and inspiration away from the tour. Massive thank you to Mrs Gray for arranging this experience for our students.



A Level Drama and Theatre Trip

Girl From the North Country, Old Vic Theatre

A Level Drama and Theatre students attended a matinee performance of Conor McPherson's play 'A Girl from the North Country' at The Old Vic Theatre. It is a musical set in 1934 Duluth, Minnesota, during the Great Depression, revolving around the Laine family and their guesthouse. The story explores the lives of various individuals grappling with poverty, illness, and the search for meaning in a time of hardship, all while interwoven with the music of Bob Dylan.

Students were impressed with the performance and made a vast amount of notes for their Section A Live Theatre question where they will review the impact of theatre on a young audience. This is a great production to review due to the historical distance of the setting and even their potential unawareness of Bob Dylan. Their essays will discuss how theatrical production can connect with young people and why theatre is an important part of our culture in the modern day. The students were exemplary and spoke highly of the performance which definitely engaged them. Thank you to Miss Mack for organising the trip.

Delivering Specialist Provision Locally

Please click [here](#) for the DSPL3 website. This website has information and resources for parents and students about SEND. Hertfordshire is split into 9 different DSPL areas, and we are in DSPL3. The website is updated regularly.

Families First Partnership Programme - message from HCC

Families across Hertfordshire are being invited to help shape the future of children's social care by completing a short questionnaire, you can share your experiences, ideas and hopes for a system that truly supports every child and family. This is your chance to co-design services that reflect your community's needs, because no one understands what works better than you. Whether you're a parent, carer or young person your insights are invaluable. Let's build a brighter, more supportive future together. Please use this [link](#) to complete a short questionnaire.

End of Term Arrangements

A reminder that our summer term finishes on Friday 18th July at 12.45pm. We have been in contact with the bus companies and they have shared the following information about pick up times:

Micks Travel - Early pick up

Reg's - Early pick up

Uno - Normal time pick up

Golden Boy E85 - Early pick up

Golden Boy E86 - Normal pick up

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Mr M Warren
Headteacher