



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

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Friday 22nd May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

As we approach the end of our fifth half term of the year, I would like to say well done to all our students for another excellent half term. Over 112,000 achievement points have been awarded since September, with Year 7 leading the way. Almost a third of all achievement points are for excellent effort in lessons.

Well done to the Year 11 and 13 students who are working their way through their public examinations. It has been smooth running so far. We have been impressed by their positive attitude and resilience. I do hope that you are all able to balance the need for revision over half term with suitable amounts of downtime.

PresTales

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

New Communications Policy

Please find a [link](#) for a copy of our new communications policy. This outlines how school and parents/carers can and should communicate effectively with each other. Please click [here](#) for the Parent Guide to School Complaints, produced by several national organisations, including ParentKind and Ofsted. Our Communications Policy will become active from 1st June 2026.

Parent Survey Outcomes

Please click [here](#) for the results of our parent survey. Thank you to those who were able to provide a response. Overall, when compared to national figures (taken from Ofsted ParentView), we are very pleased with the outcomes. The survey is a snapshot in time. If you do have any concerns throughout the year, then please contact the school. Thank you for the regular positive emails that we receive, these always provide a boost to staff.

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Well done to the 123 Year 9 students who went on their DofE Qualifying Expedition last week. The students camped at Westmill Farm and hiked, cooked and worked as a team! They had a great experience, and I hope they are eager to progress to the Silver programme. More information can be found in PresTales.

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

Today, 25 of our students were honoured with their Gold DofE Award. The Duke spent a generous amount of time chatting with our group.

This Gold Award is the culmination of significant time, effort, and resilience, and the recipients deserve high praise for their perseverance. It also remains highly regarded by employers and institutions as a definitive marker of commitment, personal development, and community engagement.



We extend our warmest congratulations to all the students who have finalised their awards, as well as those currently working towards completion. With the number of successful candidates at Presdales increasing annually, we look forward to next year when we expect a record 35 students to receive invitations to the Palace.

Presdales Festival of Football

Yesterday, in bright sunshine, around 100 girls enjoyed the Presdales Festival of Football for Years 3 and 4. This is the Festival's fifth year and it once again proved to be a great success. It was a busy afternoon with each school playing nine matches which were competitive with lots of goals scored and played in a great spirit. The festival was won by St Andrews SA, who beat Simon Balle 4-2 in an evenly contested Final. Well done to all the girls who took part on a thoroughly enjoyable day.

String Recital

Last night's string recital was the Music Department's final soloists' recital of the summer term. These miniature concerts for wind, voice, piano and strings have provided unique opportunities for soloists at all stages of their musical training to perform to an audience. We are very fortunate at Presdales to have a dedicated team of professional musicians and teachers who visit us weekly to inspire and support our students on their musical journeys. The standard of musicianship has been incredible, with some of last night's violin and cello players worthy of a recording deal!

For inquiries regarding learning a musical instrument, please email: musictuition@presdales.herts.sch.uk.

Our next event will be Presdales Rocks on Monday 13th July from 6.30 pm. Potential participants should complete the Google Form that was sent via Edulink by Tuesday 2nd June.

Science Labs

After half term, work starts on the refurbishment of four science labs. We have had to commence this work now to ensure that they are all completed for September. This will cause some disruption with room changes and managing movement around the school site. Students should ensure that they follow any signage and not enter areas which will be designated as out of bounds.

Ware 10 Race for Isabel Hospice

In February 2026, our dear colleague and friend, Sam Rowe, lost her life to cancer. She was a fantastic teacher who worked tirelessly for her students at Presdales for almost 20 years. She was also a passionate and very accomplished runner.

In memory of Ms Rowe, over 20 members of staff from Presdales will be taking part in the Ware 10 race on Sunday 5th July, challenging themselves to run 10k or 10 miles, to raise money for Isabel Hospice. They will be joined by Ms Rowe's husband, sister, and other family members.

For many of the Presdales staff running will be quite challenging, so please consider donating to our JustGiving page to raise money for this wonderful charity which provided Ms Rowe and her family with so much care and support.

Please click [here](#) for the JustGiving page. Please note you will need to select one member to donate to, but it all goes to the same page.

The link for the race is [here](#) so that you can see the course, the start, and the finish should you wish to come and encourage us on the day!

In addition to the above, the school is organising a student fun run for September/October. All students will participate and we hope to raise even more money for Isabel Hospice. If the event is a success, then we hope to make it an annual event raising funds for the school's chosen charity for that year.

E-Scooters - Message from Hertfordshire Constabulary

Owners will no longer have the option to reclaim seized e-scooters – where previously, owners were able to get them back on the premise of agreeing to only use the vehicle on private land, now any e-scooters that are seized will be destroyed to prevent re-offending, and in line with national police direction.

I wish you all an enjoyable half term break.

Regards

Mr M Warren
Headteacher