



PRESDALES SCHOOL

Achievement for all

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Friday 10th July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

Changes to the 2026/2027 School Calendar

Please be advised that there are two changes to the school calendar for the next academic year.

The previously published inset days on **Monday 4th January 2027** and **Friday 19th March 2027** will now be normal school days when all students are expected to be in school. The school website is correct.

Ware 10s

Well done to all Team Presdales runners who completed the Ware 10s last week. We are so grateful to everyone who has donated money to support Isabel Hospice in memory of Ms Samantha Rowe. The current total is now over £15,000, which is beyond any original expectations. I believe the [JustGiving](#) page is still open.

Year 12 L4L Day

On Monday, Year 12 had their final L4L Day for this academic year. The programme followed several areas of the government's RSHE and PSHE programme which included:

- Herts Young Homeless - Budgeting & Finance (Post 18)
- Herts Young Homeless - Coercive Behaviours
- Herts Young Homeless - Consent
- Cocoon - drugs & alcohol (formerly Druglink)
- Mindfulness Session with Ms Peters (Head of Year 12)
- InvestIn - to talk about Apprenticeships and how Work Experience can boost your applications

The students took part in the sessions, asking questions and engaging with the speakers about the various areas that teenagers their age face. We are grateful to the local services for offering these sessions for our young people. Thank you to the sixth form team for organising the day.

Year 10 Learn for Living (L4L) Day

On Wednesday, all Year 10 students took part in their final L4L Day. They participated in six different workshops exploring the areas of relationships, fertility and pregnancy, and appropriate behaviour and consent. Students participated in two additional workshops; one delivered by The Money Charity exploring pay and payslips, and the other on emotional well-being delivered by the Mental Health Support Team. Students worked with enthusiasm and effort, asking questions throughout the day. Thank you to Mrs Fry and her team for planning and delivering sessions.

Year 6 Transition Day

Yesterday, we welcomed our new Year 7 students into school for a fun-packed day of lessons, clubs and other activities. The students were amazing throughout the day and fully immersed themselves in school life. Thank you to our sixth form students who supported the girls during the day by taking them around the school, having a one to one talk, and being in their lessons. Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the transition meeting last night; it was a pleasure to meet so many of you. We look forward to seeing your daughters in September. Thank you to all staff who were involved in the planning and delivery of the transition day.

House of Lords Visit

Year 12 Politics students were very fortunate today to be visited by Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay, a member of the House of Lords. This opportunity came about through the Learn with the Lords initiative, to promote discussion around politics. Lord Parkinson delivered a presentation that explained what the House of Lords is, how it operates and what the stages of a Bill are. Year 12 asked questions around Brexit, foreign policy, voting and the political system.

One of the questions Lord Parkinson asked of the students was; 'Do you think 16 year olds should have the vote?' The majority of students said they did not feel this should happen as this age group do not have the political understanding needed to make an informed vote.

We are grateful to Lord Parkinson for coming in to speak to the students, and we look forward to arranging similar events with students in the future. Thank you to the Politics department and the Sixth Form Team for organising the visit.



'Today, on the 10th of July, the Year 12 Politics class had the honour of being visited by Lord Parkinson. Lord Parkinson's role in the governance of the UK has had multiple links to the A-level course, from his presence in Brexit and voting reformation campaigns to his role as a lobbyist and a special advisor to Theresa May. Students were able to question Lord Parkinson on not only topics that were relevant to the course but were able to effectively follow up and consistently ask questions that individually concerned them as future voters. At the end of the session, Lord Parkinson was able to ask questions to students concerning the rising issue of the voting age being reduced and took an active effort to understand the concerns of the policy.' **Ediz (Year 12)**

Duke of Edinburgh Gold

Congratulations to the 55 Year 11 and Year 12 students currently finishing their Gold DoFE expedition. While some are undertaking their practice run, the majority of Year 12 are tackling their final qualifying expedition. Despite the challenging heat, our students have had a fantastic time. Their routes were cleverly adapted to the conditions, with early morning starts ensuring they reached camp by lunchtime to avoid the peak afternoon sun. Each evening wrapped up with a lively quiz hosted by the instructors. We are incredibly proud of the students who leave with lifelong memories and a brilliant, shared achievement.



Big Fat Book Sale

The Library held its first book sale/swap and have raised over £50, which is wonderful. Thank you for all your support, donations and money. It was lovely to see some of the girls get so excited about the books. If you have any unwanted books for teenagers, please donate them to the library or hand them to Ms Severino. The English Department hopes to repeat this book sale next academic year.

Student Librarians

If your daughter wishes to be a Student Librarian next academic year, please email Ms Severino. Student Librarians will have Student Librarian accounts and will be able to return and issue books. We need as many students to volunteer as possible - they would need to be able to donate one lunch time every two weeks to help support, organise and tidy the library. Students will be given Super Curriculum rewards for their participation and a very fancy Student Librarian badge!

Uniform

As the hot weather continues, a reminder that students can wear their PE kit everyday if they wish. This is in place until the end of term.

End of term

A reminder that school finishes for the summer break at 12.45pm on Friday 17th July. The following buses have indicated that they will provide an early pick up:

Golden Boy - E85 and E86
Reg's Buses - R66 and R879

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Mr M Warren
Headteacher