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Principal

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Principal's Termly Update to Parents and Carers

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and successful half-term at The Prescot School, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and share some of the fantastic progress we are making together.

When I became Principal in September 2024, I was very clear about my ambition for The Prescot School. I wanted us to become a school that our young people, staff, families and wider community could be genuinely proud of. A school that is warm, welcoming and friendly, where pupils feel safe, are happy, behave well and receive a great education. Most importantly, a school where we have high expectations, make no excuses and never give up on our young people.

We are now seeing the impact of that ambition every single day. The school is in a very different place from where it was just over two years ago, and that is something we should all be incredibly proud of.

Attendance – Top 1% Nationally!
One of our greatest achievements has been the remarkable improvement in attendance. I am delighted to share that The Prescot School is now in the top 1% of schools nationally for improvement in attendance over the past year.

This is an exceptional achievement, particularly given the challenges faced by many of our families and our wider community.
However, what makes me most proud is not simply the statistic. It is what that improvement means for our children.

More pupils in school. More lessons attended. More learning taking place. More opportunities and better futures.

Persistent absence has also reduced by nearly 20 percentage points over the past two years. That represents a significant number of young people who are now attending school more regularly and benefiting from the education they deserve.
I have always believed that children need to be in school, every day, learning alongside their friends and developing positive relationships with their teachers. Every day matters, and every lesson missed is a learning opportunity lost.

These improvements have not happened by chance. They are the result of our staff working relentlessly with families, our pupils responding to our expectations and, importantly, **you as parents and carers supporting us**.

Thank you. We know that getting children into school every day is not always easy, but your support is making a real difference.

We will continue to celebrate excellent and improving attendance, while also challenging poor attendance and supporting families where difficulties exist. Our expectations will not change because we know that regular attendance is fundamental to future success.

SEND and Inclusion – Strengthening Our Provision
I also wanted to update you on some important developments within our SEND and Inclusion team.

Mrs Quicler and Mrs McTigue have now left The Prescot School. I would like to thank them for their contribution to the school and wish them every success for the future.
I am delighted that Mrs Traverse is now leading SEND and Inclusion at The Prescot School. We are already seeing significant and positive changes to the way our provision is organised and delivered. Our focus is clear: ensuring that pupils receive the right support, at the right time, so that they can be **in lessons, learning and succeeding**.

We will also be welcoming Mrs Leyland as our new Assistant SENDCo, who brings considerable experience and expertise to further strengthen our team.
I have always been clear that having additional needs should never mean having lower expectations or fewer opportunities.

Our approach is built around the belief that what is good for pupils without SEND is especially important for pupils with SEND – sometimes they simply need more of it, delivered in the right way.

We want every child to feel included, supported and challenged to achieve their very best. There is still work to do, and we will continue to strengthen our provision, listen to families and ensure that the support we provide makes a genuine difference to pupils' experiences and outcomes.

The Prescot School – Becoming the School of Choice for Knowsley
One of the highlights of this half-term has been welcoming so many Year 6 pupils and their families to The Prescot School.

Our Open Evening was incredibly well attended, and the feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive.

What struck me most was how many families commented on the warmth, friendliness and calmness of our school, and the fantastic relationships they witnessed between our staff and pupils.

These are exactly the things we have worked so hard to establish.
However, I have always said that families should never judge a school solely by what they see at an Open Evening.

I want families to see our school on a normal Tuesday morning, a Thursday afternoon or at any other point during the school day.

We don't need to put on a show. We want people to see the school as it really is.
That is why I continue to encourage prospective families to contact us and arrange to visit during the school day.

Many families have already taken up that invitation, and their feedback has been fantastic. One parent, who works across a number of secondary schools, recently commented on how impressed she was by the calm atmosphere and, in particular, the warmth and quality of the relationships between staff and pupils.

As Principal, that means an enormous amount to me. It tells me that the changes we have made are not simply things we talk about. They are becoming the way we do things around here.

We have also seen a remarkable increase in interest in our school, with Year 7 applications increasing by 49% and over 200 additional applications compared with previous years.
This is a powerful indication of the growing confidence families have in The Prescot School.
Our ambition remains unchanged: to become the school of choice for families across Knowsley.

High Expectations, Positive Relationships and Celebrating Success
One of the things I am most proud of is the culture that now exists across our school.
Our corridors are calmer, our classrooms are more purposeful and our pupils are increasingly demonstrating the kindness, integrity and tenacity that sit at the heart of our school values.

Over the past two years, suspensions have reduced by nearly 75%, while recognition of positive behaviour has increased by 76%.

These are significant improvements, but behind those figures are hundreds of positive interactions taking place every day.

Our Legendary Learners, VIP Fridays, positive phone calls home and celebration events are all part of ensuring that pupils who work hard, attend regularly and make the right choices receive the recognition they deserve.

I am very clear with our pupils and staff about one of my core beliefs:
"If I let you off, I let you down."
That does not mean we do not understand the challenges that some young people face. Quite the opposite. It means that we care enough about them to maintain high expectations, provide support when it is needed and never accept that any child cannot succeed.
We will continue to challenge poor behaviour, celebrate success and make sure that our classrooms remain places where teachers can teach and pupils can learn.
As we reach the end of our first half-term, I think it is important to recognise the fantastic start we have made to the school year.

I often remind our staff and pupils that WE have done this. WE are making The Prescot School a great school.

The positive atmosphere, high expectations and pride that we now see across the school are the result of everyone working together – our pupils, staff, families and wider community. Of course, there is still much more to achieve. We will continue to challenge ourselves, raise standards and ensure that every child receives the education and opportunities they deserve.

We have made a fantastic start, but we are not standing still. Our expectations remain high, and our ambition for every young person remains even higher.
Finally, thank you for your continued support and for the important part you play in our school's success.

I hope you and your families have a wonderful, restful and enjoyable half-term break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back, ready for another successful half-term.
Warm, Welcoming and Friendly. High Expectations, No Excuses.

Kind regards,



Mr. M. Reynolds
Principal

Newsletter:

https://sway.cloud.microsoft/gZ4KTJJ0EYeO1uUm?ref=Link

Communication

The Prescot School - Contact Us

We believe that strong communication between home and school is key to supporting every child's learning and wellbeing. We have expanded the Reception Team in support of parents and students.

The Team are currently dealing with high volumes of calls. We offer communication paths in school for parents to use to direct queries to the relevant team.

To ensure we can work together effectively, we kindly ask that all communication with the school follows these guidelines:

- **Preferred Channels** – Please use our main school email tellusreception@prescotschool.org.uk or telephone 0151 459 3580 for any queries, concerns, or updates. This helps us respond promptly and keep records accurate.

- **Year Groups**: The Head of Year and Pastoral Team will contact you when you e-mail, this is the fastest route for communication.
- **Year 7 – tellus7@prescotschool.org.uk**
- **Year 8 – tellus8@prescotschool.org.uk**
- **Year 9 – tellus8@prescotschool.org.uk**
- **Year 10 – tellus8@prescotschool.org.uk**
- **Year 11 – tellus8@prescotschool.org.uk**

- **Urgent Matters** – For urgent issues, such as changes to pick-up arrangements, contact the school office directly on 0151 459 3580.

- **Attendance/Sickness Reporting/Medical appointments** – Please contact the **Attendance Team** direct on **0151 459 3580** to forward appointment or medical information, please use the Illness Support section of Contact Us on the school website.

- **Appointments & Meetings** – The school operates an appointment system. The school is a busy environment and appointments need to be factored into staff available timetables. We kindly ask parents not to attend Reception unless it's for an appointment to avoid a wasted journey and additional workload of the Reception Team. Other communication methods listed should assist you.

- **Positive Updates** – We love hearing about your child's achievements outside of school! Feel free to share these so we can celebrate them together.

Our aim is to make communication clear, respectful, and timely, so that together we can create the best possible environment for your child's growth.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.