

# SPRING NEWSLETTER 2023



THE PRESCOT SCHOOL

## WELCOME TO THE PRESCOT SCHOOL'S SPRING EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER.

It's wonderful to be able to write this opener as we start to see the signs of spring emerging, longer days, some sunshine and the occasional rain shower that comes out of nowhere!

I hope that you and your families have had a positive start to 2023. You will see that life at The Prescott School has been as busy as ever; whether it be Year 11 students readying themselves for exam season, Year 9 students preparing to choose their GCSE options or our Transition Team preparing to welcome our new cohort of Year 7 students in September.

We have recently seen a 41.6% increase in the number of Year 6 families who opted for The Prescott School as their first or second choice for their child's secondary school. I am ever grateful to staff, students and our existing parents/carers who do all they can to make our school the great place that it is. We were already full in Year 7 in September 2022. This September we will be even more full!

Our School Council continue to go from strength to strength. It's a privilege to receive minutes from their meetings in which they act as ambassadors for students in their year groups.

Particularly pleasing is the fact that School Council members always bring ideas to the table when they outline issues they would like to address.

These are great life skills which will hopefully enable them to be proactive change makers in their own lives too. This term, our ambassadors have chosen for the school community to raise money for Alder Hey Children's Charity. Consequently, there have been lots of fundraising activities taking place in school. At one point, I thought we had a new animal addition to the student body, but I soon realised it was part of a 'Guess the Teddy's Name' competition! Well done to all students involved.

Newsletters provide us with the opportunity to shed light on what the 'day-to-day' looks and feels like at The Prescott School; do enjoy reading and sharing this edition with family and friends.

Thank you as ever for your continued support and positivity.

**I wish you all an enjoyable Easter break.**



# THIS TERM'S HEAD OF SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS



## TIM

Tim was nominated by staff for his hard work in every lesson and for being a pleasure to teach. He always goes out of his way to be friendly and kind to others.



## SUMMER

Summer was chosen for this award for showing incredible resilience and working hard every day to achieve. She comes into school ready to learn with an incredibly positive attitude.



## CONNER

Staff nominated Conner for being an amazing member of the Lunch Club Team. Everyone enjoys his company as he is kind and considerate and is always happy to help.



## GODSWILL

Godswill was nominated for always being polite, working hard and being an amazing leader in sports. He is supportive of others and always pushes people to be the best they can be.



## JACK

Jack achieved this award as he always tries hard in school, completing all his homework and is a pleasant and polite student. He is happy to ask for help when he needs it but always gives it a try first. Staff say Jack is an absolute pleasure to teach.

# ATTENDANCE

**Being on time for school is not always easy, but it is important.**

First and foremost, it allows you to fully access your education and not miss lessons. It also gets you into a good habit for the future. You will be expected to turn up to work every day on time.

## Planning for being on time

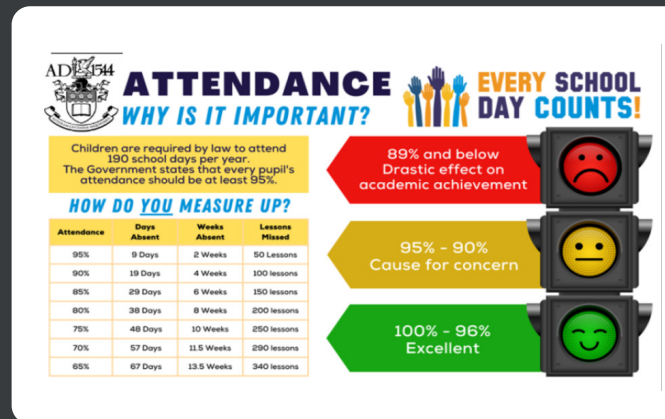
### 1. Prepare in Advance

Prepare for school the night before. Check your timetable so you can get your clothes ready. Make your lunch and have your bag ready to go.

### 2. Sleep is Critical

If you have trouble falling asleep, incorporate new sleeping habits such as dimming the lights, developing a routine, reading or drinking milk. Aim for eight hours of sleep every night to keep you healthy and energetic in the morning and throughout the day.

**If you are finding it hard getting into school, please talk to your pastoral team who will be able to help you.**



# CAREERS

This term saw the return of our wonderful Careers Convention. This year's convention took place on Friday 3rd February and coincided with our 'Working Lives Day'.

On this day, all students took part in a wide variety of Careers themed lessons based on their current Careers Educational focus. For example, Year 7s and Year 8s all took part in lessons that were designed to highlight links between school subjects and different careers to give further context and purpose to their learning. Year 9 students had workshops designed to help them make GCSE option choices and Year 10s and Year 11s had sessions all geared towards their next educational steps in further education.

During the day, each year group had the chance to visit the Careers Convention and get the chance to quiz the stall holders. We had a wide range of exhibitors from local colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers, local services and many other employers and entrepreneurs from local businesses. We even received a visit from the Mayor of Knowsley!





# CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

We believe the goal of character education is human beings who flourish, who not only achieve their own potential but also live meaningfully and harmoniously in thriving communities with others.

Drawing on the ancient wisdom of Aristotle, a key component of flourishing is the acquisition and development of virtues such as kindness, generosity, courage and honesty. These virtues that make up good character can be learnt and taught, and the more people exhibit good character and virtues, the healthier our society.

Research shows that schools that develop character will help drive equity and social mobility for our children. It also motivates students to attend and work hard, to be resilient in the face of difficulties and prepare them for challenges that they will inevitably face.

**At The Prescott School we want to actively ensure our students develop:**

- An ability to be motivated by long term goals, to see a link between hard work and long-term gains.
- To understand when things are difficult that perseverance, overcoming difficulties and learning from setbacks is beneficial and leads to long-term success.
- Good moral attributes, including courage, honesty, gratitude, integrity, humility and a sense of justice.
- Social confidence, to be able to make points of argument clearly and constructively and to speak persuasively to an audience, to listen to others' views and behave with courtesy and good manners.
- A commitment to people and an understanding of the active role they should take to contribute to a modern and ever developing world.
- The ability to self-regulate in all aspects of their lives.

We have introduced a new Character Development Program to be delivered during form time.

As well as reinforcing key messages delivered through assemblies, it equips students with the language, knowledge, understanding, skills and attributes that enable character development and allow them to explore, understand and practice difficult concepts that strengthen character.

Student and parent voice has helped shape this program and we will seek further feedback during the year.

We really look forward to watching this develop in the coming months and encourage you to speak to your child each week about the content of their sessions.



## SENSORY ROOM

The Prescott School is very pleased to share that we now have a Sensory Room based in our SEND area.

This is an amazing space which is being used to support the students in our school. It is already proving to be a popular space by all who have used it so far.

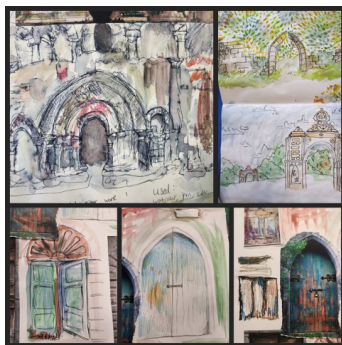
The students enjoy calm time in the room, use it for sensory break activities and to help them feel ready to learn and feel more focused in lessons and around school.

# SNOWY DRONE DAY

"Whilst the school was in the frosty grip of winter, I had the wonderful pleasure of taking this amazing photo with my new drone."

"I hope to bring you more brilliant birds eye view shots using our new school drone that I am currently in the process of helping to set up."

By Lucas M Year 11



## ART

This term, Year 9 Art and Design students have been studying the topic of Architecture.

They have explored the historical influence of British Artist, John Piper, creating an atmosphere through washes and layering. Their expressive mark making has included the use of chalk, pen, ink and oil pastels.

More recently they have been looking at more contrasting and contemporary Artists, Ruth Allen and Ian Murphy. The students are currently looking at continuous line and form using the Liver Buildings as their subject to produce minimalistic studies.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

During last half term Year 7 students were learning about the importance of E-safety and the impact it has on their mental health.

In line with Safer Internet Week students researched and presented work surrounding the reasons behind cyber bullying and how to combat it. They also looked at the laws surrounding the use and misuse of computers and how to reduce our digital footprints.

In the coming half term, Year 7 students will be looking at significant people in the world of computer science and what they contributed to this field. They will be researching people from a variety of backgrounds and periods in history dating back as far as 800AD. From those who formulated the algorithm and algebra, to the person who designed the first computer and the internet. They will also be looking at people who helped calculate the trajectories to get people into space and the person who helped crack the enigma code during World War II.

### Why do people bully?

- People bully maybe because they are angry or upset over something.
- They have emotional trauma at home.
- People bully because they are jealous of the person that they are bullying.
- People bully as they are a victim of bullying themselves.
- People bully as they are struggling socially.



### What is a digital footprint?

- A digital footprint is a thing were leaving a permanent trail that gives stuff away that you have been doing on your device. And when you have finished looking for stuff you want it will start to show you details and more like it. To help you shop or check it out more just to know what you are buying.



### Who is he?

Al Khwarizmi was a mathematician and astronomer of the 9th century. He is known as the father of algebra and algebra. Muhammad bin Musa al Khwarizmi was born in about 800AD. His famous book that other like in his invention came from Khwarizmi, a region in central Asia which is now known as Uzbekistan.





# DRAMA

## Year 11 Drama

This term in Drama, Year 11 students have been rehearsing for their final exam pieces, in preparation for their performance.

They have had the option to choose either a monologue or duologue. This is allowing the students freedom to explore their chosen script and character and hone their skills as performers.

This will be their final practical performance for their GCSE course, and they are rising to the challenge, rehearsing in class, staying after school and learning lines at home. They have all shown true resilience and we know they will impress the examiner with their final pieces. The Drama Department is incredibly proud of every one of them. Break a leg Year 11!

Just ten years after this tragic accident...



# ENGLISH

Year 10 are off to a great start with their GCSE English course.

Their year started with some creative writing followed by a deep analysis of the Charles Dickens classic A Christmas Carol. Through their reading of the novella, they investigated Dickens as a social critic analysing how the content of the novella was carefully shaped as a criticism of Victorian capitalism. In our student voice at the end of term students said:

“ I like the way Scrooge changed his personality and redeemed himself. ”

Harvey

“ It was interesting and fun to read. ”

Ava

“ I enjoyed learning about the many qualities Scrooge had and being able to have deeper understanding of most of the novella; it puts out a great message. At first it was boring but when you take your time reading it and split it up into deeper meaning it becomes enjoyable finding out whether he changed or not and how it had an impact on the Victorian readers and even readers today. Some of it I couldn't understand at first but I'm improving. ”

Tegan

“ I like how such an old book still has relevance today. ”

Patrick

We were particularly proud of some of our students who were recorded to be used as sound bites in the performance at the local theatre. It made our visit to watch the play a little bit more special.

This term students started their study of Priestley's An Inspector Calls. Students have been using their knowledge of Scrooge to analyse the actions of the Birling family. They have been maturely discussing difficult concepts such as: misogyny, privilege and how Eva was monopolised by members of the Birling family. We look forward to hearing their views on this topic in this term's student voice.

# SPELLING INTERVENTION

Here are some of our students receiving one-to-one spelling intervention.

We began delivering spelling support to identified students in December last year as part of our wider intervention strategy.

Each spelling intervention session consists of a starter activity, usually involving a recap on spellings covered in previous sessions,

followed by collaborative work on the whiteboards and on worksheets relating to a new topic.

These sessions are designed to complement the work that students already do in their lessons and other interventions, therefore helping to improve students' overall literacy skills as well as build their confidence with spelling.



# HUMANITIES

Students in Year 7 have been working well since January and having been studying a variety of topics within Humanities.

In Geography, students have been learning about Africa. Students have been learning all about the continent of Africa, the development and the culture with an in-depth study of the Masi Mara tribe.

In History, students are looking at changing power in Medieval England. They have learnt about the power of the monarch, the power of the church and the brutal murder of Thomas Becket. They have learnt about the beginnings of democracy through the Magna Carta and the Peasant's Revolt.

In RS, students have sensitively studied two world faiths- Judaism and Buddhism. They have learnt the Passover story and have been practising Buddhist meditation in class.

# MATHS

It has been lovely to see how focused Year 11 have been since they sat their first set of mocks.

Some of our higher tier students are currently looking at circle theorems and have produced some excellent pieces of work.

Our foundation students have been looking at perimeter, area and volume, it has been a good test

to see whether they remember all those formulas that they have been taught over the years.

Revision sessions have commenced so we can consolidate our learning and really focus on exam techniques for Summer exams.

As a Maths team, we are really pleased with how Year 11 are working. Keep up the amazing work Year 11!



$$180 - 110 = 70$$

$$a = 70$$

$$x = 360 - a$$

$$x = 290$$

- ① Angles in a triangle add up to  $180^\circ$   
 Isosceles triangles two angles equal  
 $30 + 30 = 60$   
 $180 - 60 = 120$   
 Angle  $x = 120^\circ$

- ② Angles in a triangle add up to  $180^\circ$

Isosceles triangle - the two angles are equal  
 $180 - 110 = 70$   
 $70 \div 2 = 35$   
 Angle  $x = 35^\circ$

- ③ Angles in a triangle add up to  $180^\circ$   
 the base angles are equal (isosceles)  
 $180 - 70 = 110$

- ④ Angles in a triangle add up to  $180^\circ$   
 Isosceles triangles are equal (base angles)  
 Angles around a point is 360  
 $360 - 210 = 150$   
 $180 - 150 = 30$   
 $30 \div 2 = 15$   
 Angle  $x = 15$

- ⑤ Angles in a triangle add up to  $180^\circ$   
 Isosceles triangles are equal - base angles  
 Angles on a straight line add up to 180

$$65 + 65 = 130$$

$$180 - 130 = 50$$

$$180 - 50 = 130$$

$$\text{Angle } x = 130^\circ$$



# MFL

Year 11 students spent part of the term preparing for their mock oral exam. Students sat this exam just after February half term.

It was evident that students had spent time studying outside of school hours and a number of students performed excellently under exam conditions.

This should stand them in good stead for the formal exams in Summer. Well done!

Finally, just a reminder that study support and exam preparation sessions take place every Friday in Homebase 3.



# MUSIC

Students are perfecting their final performances of Yellow, Victor's Song, Graze the Roof and Uptown Funk.

They are also using all their creating and performing skills to take an existing song and make their own cover version in a different genre – no mean feat!



# PE

Year 10 options PE groups have made an excellent to start their GCSEs.

The GCSE PE group have completed the physical training component of the course and have explored badminton, trampolining and are currently learning the rules of handball.

Sport Science and Dance are beginning to write up their first pieces of coursework and are enjoying the practical elements of the course.

## Sporting Achievements

### Sam M (Year 8)

Sam is a mainstay in Liverpool basketball club and is a key player in school fixtures.

### Chelsea R and Amelia R (Year 10)

Both students are competing for unity netball club in a regional champions league. The most recent game being against a side from Macclesfield.





# SCIENCE

This term in Science the Year 8 students have been studying respiration and photosynthesis, how plants make food and then use the products for energy.

They have also been learning about heating and cooling and the transfer of energy. They are now experts in how to keep a house warm to save money on bills.

# TECHNOLOGY

The Year 11 Catering groups have begun their practical examinations.

They are expected to produce a menu for a new bistro and prepare, cook and serve two of the dishes on the menu. In addition to this they will

be expected to make accompaniments such as homemade bread, pasta and ice cream. Students will have to present the food as if they were serving it in the Bistro. The students must also complete written tasks which are marked alongside their marked practical work.



Year 7, 8 and 9 are developing a range of practical skills and theory knowledge in Food lessons to equip them to be confident and independent adults with a good knowledge of Healthy Eating, Food Hygiene and Safety and an understanding of environmental issues linked to food use, production, and transport.





## THE PRESCOT SCHOOL

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