

4th April 2022

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Executive Principal

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we come towards the end of term, there are lots of fantastic things to reflect on as well as lots planned for term three!

It has been a busy term as we continue to do our best navigating through times where Covid still impacts on our school community.

As ever, we continue to do our best to maximise students' educational and extra-curricular experiences. Some of this is showcased in our latest 'Spring Newsletter.' Please do take a look at all of the wonderful things going on in and out of school.

Achievement assemblies are taking place this week and it is so wonderful to see so many of our students recognised for their hard work, ambition and integrity. We are all so proud of them.

Please find below important reminders which will help us start the next term smoothly. We try to communicate updates as clearly as possible to students and families. Your role is crucial in reinforcing these expectations which help to maintain our high standards.

Attendance

We know that research shows that students who attend better are more likely to achieve better. It is interesting to note that a child whose attendance is 90% loses approximately one month of learning each year, a staggering 100 lessons.

Nationally, the average regular attendance for secondary school students is 95%. Our school expectation for each child is 96%. This is because we know that students will typically achieve more, and better graded GCSEs, the higher their attendance is.

The Department for Education have been clear with regard to their expectations relating to students' attendance this academic year. The Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP (Secretary of State for Education) wrote to Headteachers in November 2021. One of the actions requested was for schools to:

"Communicate clear and consistent expectations around attendance to families and working with your LA, make full use of enforcement actions where appropriate. During the height of the pandemic, suspending the use of these measures felt most appropriate, but as we push now to maximise school attendance, it is important that they are once again being applied across the country."

As ever, if you have received any communication from our attendance team and require any further explanation / support, please do not hesitate to contact them.

Uniform

We remain proud of our high standards and receive many compliments from visitors regarding students taking pride in their presentation.

Please ensure that on your child's return to school after Easter, they are wearing full school / PE uniform and with the required bag and equipment. (Blazers, bags and stationery are all compulsory. Jewellery of any kind and trainers worn with uniform are not permitted.) Having to send students home to change wastes valuable learning time. However, we will continue to do this to maintain our high standards. As ever, should you need support, we have a supply of uniform in school should this be required. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year as required. For your convenience, all uniform information can be found here:

<http://prescotschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Prescot-Uniform-Guide.pdf>

Updates to Food Services and Accounts

Our food service is provided through Knowsley Local Authority. I'm pleased to share with you that we continue to work together to facilitate an ever-improving efficient service. Till points are being updated with new software so that students can get served quicker. In addition, during half term five, we will be streamlining our pasta and 'grab-bag' service in an effort to further improve students' dining experience.

After Easter, students who are not in receipt of free school meals will not be able to repeatedly go into debt with their personal finance account. Of course, we understand that family life can be hectic. That is why we have a safety net system in place whereby a student who may have forgotten their money for that day can see a specific member of staff for a lunch pass. When this happens, you will receive contact from the school so that you're aware of the impact on your child's account. Students will be receiving this information in school on Thursday, 7th April 2022.

There are no changes for students in receipt of free school meals.

We also appreciate that during these unprecedented times, peoples' personal circumstances change and our offer to help individuals/families apply for free school meals remains there.

For your convenience, further information can be found here:

<https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/residents/education-and-schools/school-meals-and-menus>

Remaining Assessment Weeks

Year Group	Commencing
7	Tuesday, 3 rd May 2022
8	Tuesday, 3 rd May 2022
9	Tuesday, 3 rd May 2022
10	Tuesday, 7 th June 2022
11	GCSEs commence Thursday 12 th May 2022

Remaining Parent / Carer Evenings

We held our first 'virtual' parent / carer evening recently and it was a great success.

We will continue to use School Cloud software for the rest of the academic year. You will receive full details in advance of your child's upcoming parent / carer evening. However, if you wish to do some preparatory research, feel free to access this link:

<https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

Year Group	Date of Parent / Carer Evening
7	23 rd June 2022
8	9 th June 2022

End of Term Two

School closes at 2:40pm on Thursday 7th April 2022.

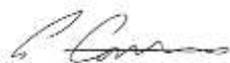
Start of Term Three

School opens at 8:00am on Monday 25th April 2022. Students to be on site by 8.35am.

May I thank you for your continued support. I appreciate all that you do to help further improve life at The Prescot School.

I hope that students enjoy their Easter break. The staff and I all look forward to welcoming them on their return to school on Monday 25th April 2022.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs G Cousineau
Head of School