



The Prescot School Year 7 Newsletter

Autumn 2023

This is the first Year 7 Newsletter of 2023 and we are so pleased with how well our new Year 7 cohort have settled into The Prescot School. We have lots of new faces to remember and spent some time in Delamere Forest focusing on getting to know the students and working on team building. Students have been learning about our three school values, Ambition, Integrity and Appreciation, through assemblies, PHSE and time spent with the Year 7 team. Many of our students are already showing they have taken these values to heart by their behaviour and manners around school, by working to the best of their ability in lessons and acting as ambassadors at school events.



Some of our students arrived from schools out of the area and knew no one when they arrived and were helped and welcomed by students who came with a large group of friends. Our new intake have been a pleasure to work with over the past few weeks and this resilience and attitude will ensure they leave The Prescot School as successful young adults in five years time!

We asked some of our Year 7 students to tell us how they felt about the transition to The Prescot School, we have posted a selection below:

"I was really worried that I'd get lost and be in trouble but I didn't. Even if I wasn't sure, there were older pupils around who were helpful."

"Getting two buses to school was new and scary but it's not been bad and I've made friends with other pupils on the bus."

"I was the only person from my school in form and didn't know anyone but now I have lots of friends."

"Knowing that there's a pastoral place and somebody there just for us made me feel less anxious."

"When I first got my timetable, it scared me because I didn't think I'd ever get used to the different room numbers and teachers names but now its fine."

"I was really worried about the lessons and homework my teachers are nice and make it fun too."

"The building looked massive to me at first but now I've got used to it and find my way around easily."

"On my first day I was lost but some Year 9 girls saw me and helped me. They took me to my lesson and told me to go to Mrs Kevan or Mrs Thompson if I was upset because they're really nice."

Open Evening

We held our annual Open Evening a week earlier this year on Thursday 21st September. We were a little concerned that the new Year 7 students had not been in school long enough to know their way around, however we should not have been worried; they were fantastic acting as ambassadors for the school. Students were introduced to a family when they came into school and then showed them around the school, taking them to each department and answering any questions that they were asked. They were confident and mature, and many visiting families spoke to us about how impressed they were with them. We received lots of lovely emails commenting on the attitude and presentation of our ambassadors. Well done Year 7!

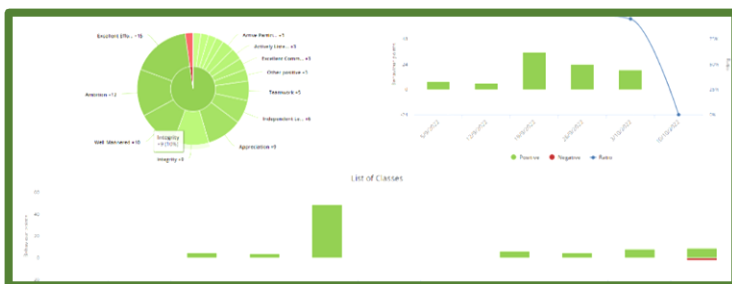


ClassCharts

ClassCharts is an online app, which is free to download, that teachers use to award positive and negative points to students, set homework and send messages and letters to families. There is a separate login for students and parents/carers and more than one parent/carer can access the app. All students and parents/carers should be using this now as we believe in working closely with parents/carers. One of the key benefits of ClassCharts is that we are able to securely share your child's behaviour report and any consequences that are set are communicated easily. Classcharts is the school's main method of communication,



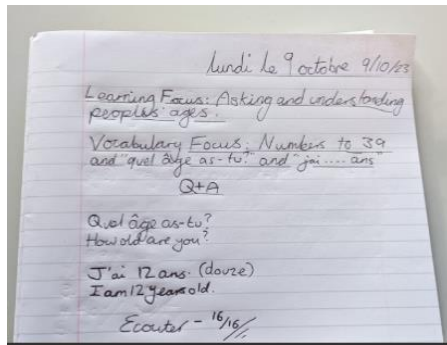
meaning there is a reduction in the number of paper letters needing to be sent out.



If any parents/carers need access to ClassCharts, please contact Mrs Thompson via

sthompson@prescotschool.org.uk and we will ensure you are sent an invitation to enable you to access your child's ClassCharts account.

Modern Foreign Languages

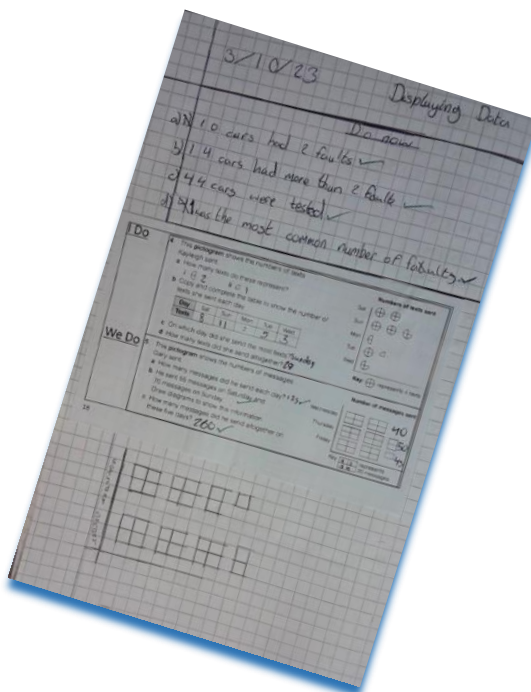


Bonjour, hola and hello from Mr Jones, the Head of modern foreign languages. This half term, students in Year 7 have been covering the topics of “La Francophonie” in French and “El Mundo Hispanico” in Spanish. We have been discussing the benefits of speaking a foreign language and how this may help them in the future. They have been learning how to meet and greet others in French and Spanish and have been

looking at which areas in the world speak those languages. To help them when reading in a foreign language we have been studying phonics. Next half term students will be building on what they have learnt this half term, and those students studying Spanish will be looking at birthdays, talking about families and pets, and those studying French will be looking at where they live and who they live with.



Mathematics



Year 7 this half term have been working on two units beginning with number, which included basic number skills, negative numbers, factors, multiples and primes. Following from number, Year 7 have been working on interpreting and displaying data. Recently students worked on accurately reading and drawing pictograms, followed by looking at dual and compound bar charts which may be completely new to many of our students. They are all working really hard to understand the new information as this will be really helpful in the future when trying to interpret charts and graphs in the media as well as academic studies.

PE

Year 7 have made a fantastic start to the autumn term in Physical Education.

Students have taken part in a variety of baseline tests including bench ball, dodgeball and capture the flag. Students have also been given a gym induction.

Students are following the National Curriculum and taking part in netball, football, basketball and fitness and enjoying being outside in the fresh air.



Year 7 students have started attending extracurricular clubs in football, netball, basketball, boxing, gym and dance. Students have been developing and enhancing their skills in these clubs. They have also been a great place to make new friends and meet other students with similar interests. Keep this up Year 7!



The PE team are very proud of you all.

Form Ambassadors

Each year, every form in the school votes for two representatives to serve as Student Ambassadors. Two students are then selected to represent Year 7 on the whole school council. The following students have been selected to represent their form group this year as student Ambassadors.

7KGR Joanna & Scarlett, 7HW Eleanor & Elisa, 7MS Dylan & Lilly, 7GJ Shahir & Riley, 7CBY Ted & Judah, 7DHA Liam & Nathan, 7CFA Patrycja & Adam, 7NC Bobby & Melissa and 7CRH Halle & Isabelle.

The students will meet each half term to discuss how we can help local charities to fund raise, as well as any other school issues they wish to discuss and debate. Students will have their voices heard and be part of a team to offer support for other students. Well done to all our Year 7 Ambassadors.

The two students who were selected to represent the whole of Year 7 are Shahir and Patrycja.



Delamere Forest – Year 7 Expedition



This was the second year we ventured to Delamere Forest and Go Ape with Year 7 students and we all enjoyed it as much as we had the year before. All Year 7 students were taken to Delamere either on Wednesday 27th September or Thursday 28th September. Wednesday was when Storm Agnes was supposed to hit the North

West but luckily for us, the wind and rain held off until we were returning and on Thursday we were blessed with dry weather.

All students were taken on a walk in the forest and were excited to follow the Gruffalo trail. They enjoyed having their photographs taken with the characters on the way. Students were split in to small groups with a member of staff for Go Ape and were given training before taking to the high ropes in the trees. Once again we were amazed at the lack of fear and the speed with which our students completed the activities. Mrs Thompson had a crick in her neck when she returned to school from looking up at all the students who were excitedly shouting down! We had a small number of students who were apprehensive to go to the tree tops at first, however this fear soon disappeared.



The highlight for many was the zip wite at the end of each course and we had lots of muddy children returning with us in the evening, where they landed bottom first at the end of the zipwire.

The trip encouraged children to talk to people they had never spoken to, work together as a team and helped us to learn more about them. We all had a fabulous time and behaviour was excellent, with the students showing integrity, ambition and appreciation at all times during the day.



A huge thank you to Mrs Fagan (Assistant Head of Year) who spent hours organising the trip and ensuring everything went to plan.



A Letter To Year 6 Students

Dear Year 6 students,

My name is Eliza and I am currently in Year 7. I went to Hope Primary before I came to The Prescot School.

Just after the end of the Year 6 I attended the summer school at The Prescot School - it was a week full of fun activities such as art, English and lots of P.E.! I am glad that I participated because I could familiarise myself with the school building and staff. I also met a lot of pupils who are now in my class. It made me feel calmer because I felt more prepared for starting in September.



When I first entered the school, it seemed enormous, but after a couple of days it felt like the size of my old primary school and it didn't seem so overwhelming. The sports hall is huge though, and I think my entire primary school would fit in it, which is great because we have plenty of space for P.E. and dance lessons!

I was really worried that the high school teachers would be very strict, but they are kind, approachable and make lessons interesting. I feel motivated and excited when they award points for good behaviour on class charts- it helps me to find out about my strengths!

At first, I felt shy to talk to someone when I needed help or when I had a problem, but all the staff, especially the Year 7 team and the SEND team are here to help us, so remember: whenever you need help, just ask! The person to go to is the Head of Year 7 - Mrs Thompson, who puts me at ease and helps me to feel calmer and more relaxed - she is a chatty and amusing person!

Apart from the staff, The Prescot School has a really well-equipped sensory room (for example it has a peanut ball or colourful string lights), so if you want a quiet moment when feeling upset or angry, I recommend visiting it.

We are given a Subject Knowledge Organiser each term. The Subject Knowledge Organisers or SKO for short are very useful. They contain all of the subjects' knowledge in one folder, which helps me to stay organised and prepared for the lessons. We also have online tools to help with learning and revising and most of the homework is online which I really like. I know there is still a lot to learn, and there may be challenging times ahead, but I feel ambitious, understood and ready to learn! Do not hesitate - become a part of our Prescot School family!

Yours faithfully
Eliza

Head of School Award



Every half term a student from each year group is selected to win the Head of School Award. They are chosen for a variety of reasons. staff nominate students they feel have been particularly amazing that half term and state what the reasons are. This half term Ali was our first winner of the year for making a tremendous start at The Prescott School, being polite, hardworking and completing all homework. Well done Ali!

To find out more information on what goes on at school, please remember to follow us on X @PrescotSchool (formerly known as Twitter) or scan the QR code.



Have a lovely half term holiday and we look forward to welcoming all the students on Monday 6th November. School is open at 8.00am and students must be on site by 8.35am.