

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2022



THE PRESCOT SCHOOL

WELCOME TO THE PRESCOT SCHOOL'S SPRING NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the second edition of our new-look Newsletter. As you will see, The Prescot School continues to go from strength to strength.

We believe that school is about far more than students gaining qualifications alone. This is why our school's vision cites the importance of academic potential coupled with holistic development so that our young people have the best opportunity to go on and live happy and successful lives.

This term has, again, been full of amazing activities involving hundreds of children all being given the chance to experience new activities and have fun!

Thanks, as ever, to the staff for the time they give to our young people in providing these wonderful opportunities, both in and out of class.

Our Year 9 students are at an important point in their educational journey; they are currently contemplating which subjects they would like to study at key stage four. As a year group, they have shown an incredible level of keenness in this process and are maturely reflecting on the impact their choices will have on their future career aspirations.

The whole school has also been behind our Year 11 cohort this term as they enter the final stages of their secondary education. They have undoubtedly experienced disruption to their schooling over the last couple of years. However, full of ambition and acting with true integrity, they are embracing their final year wholeheartedly by being focused, resilient and working extremely hard.

I hope that all staff and students enjoy the Easter break and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 25th April 2022.

Mrs G Cousineau
Head of School

THIS TERM'S HEAD OF SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS



Nimat – Nimat was nominated for consistently demonstrating great resilience, integrity and commitment to her studies. We know that you will go on to become the doctor you dream of being and are behind you all the way.



Julia – Julia was nominated by staff for 100% attendance and the most positive points in Year 11. Mrs Cousineau was also impressed that Julia independently travelled around Merseyside to five different college interviews.



Melissa – Melissa speaks four languages and has a passion for cooking and looking after young children. She was nominated for being a model student and living out our values every day.



Chelsy – Chelsy was nominated by various staff for her positive attitude, can-do ethos and attendance at extra-curricular activities which include Debate Mate and tennis.



Lois – Lois was nominated for being pleasant, respectful and trying hard regardless of the task set. Staff also spoke of her having a positive influence on other students. Definitely a future leader.



Zara – Not only is Zara studious and someone who lives out our values every day, she is also a football hero outside of school, playing for LFC for many years.



Congratulations also go to Federico who finished in the top 8 for the NW British Fencing Youth Championships and qualified for the nationals, which will be held in April.

YEAR 10 KINDNESS DAY

This term, Year 10 took part in National Kindness Day. Their tutors and Head of Year gave gifts out to deserving members of the year group. This led to some lovely conversations about the caring and supportive members of the year. In form time and assembly, chocolate was given out by tutors to celebrate this kindness.

Thank you to all of the lovely members of the year group.



DIVERSE LIVES DAY

Staff and students had a wonderful day of activities and workshops all centred around the theme of Diversity. Students looked at the ideas of privilege, equality and rights whilst studying their differences versus their similarities. The day covered issues,

troubles and challenges encountered historically and more recently due to prejudice and discrimination and looked at ways that we as British citizens can support and celebrate our diverse cultures.

We were lucky to be able to host some amazing workshop facilitators on the day such as: Diversity Role Models, VEUCan Disability Awareness, Evolving Mindset and Dreams 2020 Islamophobia Awareness.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Two of our Year 7 students have recently shown integrity when they rescued a dog that had escaped from its garden. They knocked on the door to tell the owner, and when there was no reply, let the neighbour know.

They helped to capture the dog and return it to its owner who was very grateful and contacted the school to say they wanted to thank the girls personally and give them a small reward. We are so proud of these students for this kind act carried out within our community.



STAFF FUNDRAISING

Mr O Malley will be undertaking a four day hike with a group of charity fundraisers over Easter. He will be walking the length of Hadrian's wall, which is 84 miles. This incredible challenge is being completed in order to raise money for Cavendish Farm School in Runcorn, so that they can take children on a residential to give them a much-needed break after covid restrictions.

The group has raised money over the years to support the school and it is humbling to see the benefit the children will get from this support.

If you would like to make a donation, please visit: www.gofundme.com/f/jolly-boys-walk-hadrians-wall

Mr Wilson will be donating his hair and raising money for The Little Princess Trust. The charity helps children who have lost their hair during cancer treatment and makes wigs for the children to help boost their confidence and also provides funding for vital cancer research.

If you would like to make a donation, please visit:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dwilsonhairdonation



NEURODIVERSITY PROJECT

A group of students from Years 7 and 9, as well as some of their parents, took part in a neurodiversity project raising awareness of additional learning needs such as ADHD and autism.

They were filmed (outside, on a very chilly but sunny January morning) talking about how we should treat everyone fairly despite any differences or additional needs they may have. We were one of the schools lucky enough to be included in the project led by Alt Bridge School, to share good practice across the borough. The filming was completed by Keyhole Productions, whose director is an ex-student of The Prescott School. We are looking forward to seeing the finished film!



ART, TEXTILES AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Year 8 students have been completing their culture projects on 'Dia De Los Muertos' this term, with a focus on different cultures and festivals, pattern and colour. This has included designing sugar skulls and learning how to print and create a repeat, printed pattern.

Students have also been experimenting with mark making and colour mixing, as well as exploring the style of the impressionists and studying some of the main artists and the impact they had on the art world.

We are delighted to let you know that students have taken part in a ceramics workshop with a visiting ceramics artist, some of these pieces are set to go on display in the new Shakespeare theatre!



BUSINESS

Year 10 are currently exploring local businesses and have been looking at ownership types, competition in the area and the characteristics of the people who run the SMEs. This has included assignments that look in detail at specific case studies which will form part of their BTEC Enterprise qualification.

Students will then go on to do some primary research into the business and evaluate whether the business will be a success or not. This will include looking at SWOT and PESTLE analysis to decide what internal and external factors help inform businesses to make decisions.



CAREERS

This term the Careers Department has been extremely busy!

We started the term with in-school college interviews for our Year 11s. This experience not only helped students to secure their places in college, but provided valuable interview practice for those still unsure about their next steps.

In February, we held our 'Working Lives Day' as part of our PSHE and Careers curriculum, which provided the chance for students to take part in a wide range of activities around the theme of careers.

Students in Year 7 and 8 utilised our staff expertise to learn about how different careers link to their subject specialisms. Students in Year 9 then used this knowledge to talk about their GCSE option choices, whilst students in Year 10 logged in to 'Unifrog' to start looking at college places and apprenticeships.

Year 11 were lucky enough to have a workshop delivered by 'Maximise' where they took part in activities designed to teach them different revision methods and other ways to maximise their potential. All in all, a very productive day!

This term is obviously an extremely important one for

our Year 11s, as the exams creep ever closer. The Careers Department has worked tirelessly to ensure that every single student has had careers interviews and feels fully supported to make their next steps after GCSEs.

Applications have all now been made and interviews have either taken place or are happening within the next few weeks. I would urge anyone in Year 11 to chat with Mrs Haigh or Mrs Robinson about any questions or concerns, our team are here to make this transition to further education as smooth as possible.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

YEAR 7

In the first half of the spring term, students in Year 7 looked at the people who have influenced computing in different ways. This included finding out more about people such as Charles Babbage and Ada Lovelace, Alan Turing and Mary Jackson, as well as Katherine Johnson and Dorothy Vaughan who helped to calculate trajectories for the Apollo space missions in the 1960's.

Over the last few weeks, students have been introduced to using spreadsheets and the concept of cells and formulae. This includes collecting and analysing data and manipulating the data, as well as creating bar charts, pie charts and line graphs using the data. Students will also look at formatting their spreadsheets and creating formulae such as: =sum, =countif, =max, =min, =average. We will look at how "data is becoming the oil of our digital world".

YEAR 10

During the spring term, our Year 10's have continued to build on their knowledge in the Computer Science subject. Our current topic is on Networks, with a focus on grasping the concepts of topology, architecture and elements that can affect performance. To make their learning transferrable to the real world around us, our students can suggest appropriate network solutions in different scenarios and highlight potential problems that may be occurring in a network.

We have also been working on cementing this knowledge by reviewing past exam questions, exploring what the question is asking and how to answer it effectively.

DRAMA

In Drama, Year 11 students have rehearsed and performed their final exam pieces. They have had the option to choose either a monologue or duologue. This has provided the freedom for students to explore their chosen script and character and hone their skills as performers.

This was their final practical performance for their GCSE course, and they have really risen to the challenge, rehearsing in class, staying after school and learning lines at home. They have had a challenging time throughout the course with Covid interrupting many performances. However, they have all shown true resilience and we're sure they impressed the examiner with their final pieces.

The Drama Department is incredibly proud of every student!





PRODUCT DESIGN

Our Year 9 students have been focusing on green issues in our new enterprise recycling project. This has included collecting, sorting and then recycling bottle tops through our melting process and re-purposing the new formed plastic into keyrings and other new items - from coasters to mini plant pots - with a focus on the importance of recycling for the environment.

Students have also been learning to solder and complete an electronic mood lamp circuit, which involves learning about electronic components and

their purpose. On completion of their LED circuit board, the students have designed and made a mood lamp from recycled materials.

While in Year 10, students have been working on developing key core skills focusing on their mini lamp project, this project helps students to learn about time management, development of technical drawing skills and the use CAD / CAM alongside practical manufacturing of joints, machine process and building on technical skills and key knowledge.

FOOD

In Food Technology, Year 9 students have been working on a project entitled 'Diet Through Life'. They have recapped their basic nutrition knowledge and looked at how to apply that to the different life stages from pregnancy to old age.

In addition to this, students have been developing practical skills and producing more complex dishes. We have made some delicious homemade pizza - practising kneading, pastry dishes such as quiche - to develop skills such as weighing and measuring, rubbing in and knife skills. Students have even learnt how to make the family favourite, Spaghetti Bolognese, which is a staple for any student planning on going to university in future years.



ENGLISH

Having spent last term reading and analysing Dickens' A Christmas Carol and Russell's Blood Brothers, Year 10 have moved on to English language skills. This course is the second one GCSE students will complete in English and will provide them with the skills they need to show colleges and future employers that they are competent readers and writers.

Students are finding that the work they have done in literature supports their analysis of unseen language texts. It is a pleasure to see the students so motivated and engaged in lessons. They have been taking on challenges such as: completing past papers, writing for purpose, and writing creatively. We particularly love reading their creative stories, which often evoke a wide range of emotions!

Here are some excerpts from stories they have written...

I sank to my knees and wondered will this ever end? As tears threatened to spill, my body weakened, my eyes overflowed with salty waters. I slumped to the floor, my lips trembling. Time dragged as the second hand crept between each line on the clock. In English, time usually dances by – not today. What once was a classroom shrunk to a tiny cell. Imprisoned in my own thoughts, here in a heap on the floor, I asked myself again: when will it all end?

In a cold, damp, isolated room, the girl sank to her knees. Bright blood shot eyes stared at the floor in despair. No joy...

No hope...

No love -

- only misery.

The room seemed to close in like the booby-trapped trash compactor in Star Wars. Her heart pounded as the room as the secret she kept buried fed on her soul, like a Sarlacc with a huge maw and voracious appetite for pain.

HUMANITIES

This term in Humanities, Year 9 students have really focused on the values of Integrity and Appreciation.

In Geography, students have begun to look at the awesome power of the Earth through the study of volcanoes and earthquakes. They have also appreciated the challenges facing other countries through the study of India and particularly the mega city of Mumbai.

This term also saw the anniversary of the birthdate of Martin Luther King. Students have studied how Martin Luther King conducted himself with integrity during his protests for the rights of Black People. Students have also examined religion and conflict and begun to find out more different non-traditional religions such as Paganism and the Rastafarian religion.

We have also marked the annual Holocaust Memorial Day. In History, students have studied the events leading up to and the consequences of the Holocaust, they have conducted themselves in a mature and respectful way and have gained insights into the tragic events of this dark time in world history.

MATHS

The spring term marked the completion of the scheme of work and intervention material for Year 11 (based on the areas of weakness identified by the Question Level Analysis for the December mock). Revision material was sent home with students before half term in preparation for further mock exams, which are currently being marked.

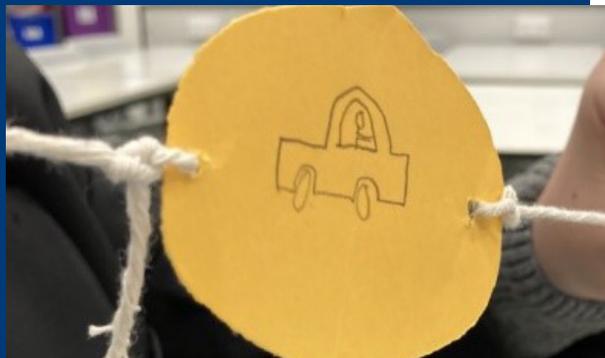
Extra sessions continue to take place on a Tuesday after school and we would encourage all Year 11 students to attend. Students are being given a revision list produced by the exam board, which directs their revision to specific topics. We would encourage every Year 11 student to use Hegarty to help with revision and would suggest they revise little and often. Revision sessions will also be available during the Easter break.

SCIENCE

This term the Year 8s have been learning about Patterns in Chemistry. They have excelled at forming word equations!

Along with their normal studies the Year 8s took their mid-year assessments, some of these in the main exam hall and some in the classroom. The students were impeccably behaved during this time and were a credit to the school. By the time the students sit their GCSEs they will be pros!!

Along with their studies and assessments the students have taken part in a wide range of extra curricular activities. One of those clubs is STEM club, this is where the students come and discover science in a fun, practical way. It is open to all Year 7 and 8 students, in Lab2 on a Wednesday after school. This term they have extracted DNA from a strawberry, built spaghetti and marshmallow towers and as seen in these pictures made animated spinners.



MFL

Year 7 students have enjoyed studying the celebrations of New Year in both France and Spain. Upon returning to school in January, pupils studying Spanish and French studied how Spain and France celebrate the Epiphany on the 6th January.

This proved to be a popular topic as celebrating this feast in France and Spain involves eating a lot of cake. Some lucky pupils even got to eat a portion of "Galette des Rois" or "Roscon de Reyes" !

Our Year 7 students have also completed their first set of exams in MFL, with a number of students performing brilliantly. Well done!

Our MFL film club takes place every Monday lunchtime in F17. All are welcome!



MUSIC



Year 11 have shown determination and ambition in successfully planning and putting on their own concerts for younger students.

It is fair to say they found this quite stressful, having to work with a lot of different adults and students and think on their toes while adapting to the ever-changing list of performers available, but they worked together well, supporting and helping each other and have spent considerable effort in getting their portfolios of evidence ready for presentation.

These final year students are now busy improving their playing techniques and starting to prepare their final performance pieces, covering a whole range of styles from Green Day to Sean Mendes, and classical Spanish guitar to Jazz and R&B.

CORE PE

In Core PE, Year 10 students have been looking smart in their full Prescot School PE kits. It has been a pleasure to teach them for their lessons this term, as they have approached PE with maturity and are therefore able to take part in a very wide and diverse offer of activities including:

Dance, table tennis, netball, football, basketball, fitness suite, badminton, dodge ball.

We look forward to introducing the summer-based sports into their PE lessons during the summer term.

The following students have been identified by their teachers as being stand out performers for the core PE lessons this term:

Mrs Robinson

I have chosen **Kyran F** as my student of the term for Core PE, because he always tries his hardest in the lessons, gets on well with others in the group that he participates with and is generally just a pleasant and approachable young man.

Mr McMahon

I have chosen **Adam D** because he tries very hard at everything, always looks the part and is polite and approachable.

Mr Flynn

Niall B is my student of the term for Year 10 because he turns up with the right attitude to every lesson and is extremely helpful and willing to give his best.

Mrs Fagan

I have chosen **Katie A** as one of my students of the term for being an outstanding, hardworking student who is always willing to help and support in the lesson, always smiling and always trying her best – well done Katie! I have also chosen Edan M as my student of the term, Edan works very hard in Core PE, is a leader and a great support to other students, always working hard and trying his best - well done Edan!

Mrs Williams

I have chosen **Nimat A** for my student of the term for Core PE. This is because she is always highly motivated and loves participating in lessons. She is helpful in organising teams and getting equipment ready for lessons.

OPTIONS

Year 10 students have also been following their option choices in PE since September. We have two classes of GCSE PE students, one class of BTEC Dance students and one class of Cambridge National Sport Science students. Their teachers have explained what they have been up to below:

GCSE PE (Mrs Fagan)

The Year 10 GCSE PE group have been fully engaging in lessons and making fantastic progress. Students have covered all areas of fitness and health and completed their first mock exam - well done to them all!!

They have taken part in fitness, netball and trampolining for practical, working extremely hard - Mrs Fagan is very impressed with their efforts so far.

Students of the term go to:

Zara S for having an amazing attitude towards learning and always giving 100% in practical lessons. Zara is super talented and always works hard to develop in all areas. She is very driven but always very supportive of other students - a true role model!!

Ellis L for his outstanding contribution to theory lessons, always working hard and making great progress. Ellis is a team player who brings a great dynamic to any sport he is given. He is another great leader, always has a smile, is always so well-mannered and a lovely student.

Well done to both of you!!



SPORTS PROFILE: ZARA S

Zara is currently studying the GCSE PE course. Zara is a fantastic role model and leader, her work ethic is outstanding and she is always striving to be the best she can be. It is such a privilege teaching Zara as she is super talented and hardworking but always willing to help and support others in their learning which sets her apart.

Zara is a very dedicated student and truly determined to achieve her full potential.

Zara has been playing Football for Liverpool Football Club since she was 7 years of age and is now occasionally stepping up into the under 21 ladies' team!

Zara has been recognised by England Ladies Football Team and has attended many of their talent football camps. Zara has also been invited to train and play with the England Squad.

What an amazing achievement, keep up the hard work Zara we are all so very proud of you.

Mrs Fagan and all the PE Team

CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL – SPORT SCIENCE

Year 10 have started the Cambridge National in an impeccable fashion. The class spent the Autumn term preparing for their exam and showed impressive levels of maturity. Since sitting the exam in early January, the class have now moved on to the coursework element of the course and have kept the same excellent attitude and maturity levels.

The student I have chosen as student of the term is Adam H. Adam achieved one of the highest grades in the class and submits his coursework to a high quality, this is down to the hard work he puts in during lessons. His attitude towards the course and his studies is a credit to himself. Well done, Adam!



CALLING ALL YEAR 7 AND 8 NETBALLERS – JOIN OUR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Sessions run every Wednesday after school in the sports hall and it would be great for the students who already come along to have some opposition to play against. This would help us to improve game play and may also provide the opportunity for us to play against other schools. For more information see Mrs Williams or Miss Van Putten

DATES FOR THE DIARY

School closes on Thursday 7th April at 2.40pm

School reopens on Monday 25th April at 8.40am

Bank Holiday on Monday 2nd May 2022

School closes on Friday 27th May at 2.40pm

School reopens on Tuesday 7th June at 8.40am

Year 8 Parents Evening on Thursday 9th June

Year 7 Parents Evening on Thursday 23rd June

Year 11 School Prom on Wednesday 29th June



THE PRESCOT SCHOOL

The Prescot School

Knowsley Park Lane

Prescot

Merseyside

L34 3NB

Tel: 0151 477 8680

Email: info@prescotschool.org.uk

www.prescotschool.org.uk