

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2024



THE PRESCOT SCHOOL



WELCOME TO THE PRESCOT SCHOOL'S SPRING NEWSLETTER 2024

Welcome to the Spring edition of our Newsletter. As you will see, The Prescott School continues to go from strength to strength.

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

Thank you to the staff for the time they give to our young people by providing wonderful opportunities, both in and out of class.

Next term sees our Year 9 students thinking about which subjects they would like to study at key stage four. As a year group, they have shown

an incredible level of maturity, reflecting on the impact their choices will have on their future career aspirations.

The whole school is behind our Year 11 cohort as they prepare for their GCSE examinations. They are embracing their final year by being focused and working extremely hard.

I hope that all staff and students enjoy the Easter break and we look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday, 16th April 2024.

Mr Kevan
Acting Principal

ENGLISH

In English this term, Year 10 have been studying *An Inspector Calls*. The play is an exploration of social responsibility with some in-depth discussions about how we are 'all members of one body'.

Students have explored key concepts, such as: the idea of community, the impact of the well-made play and the tropes of the whodunnit genre. Impressive debates about who should take the lion's share of the responsibility were both interesting and thought-provoking. Well done, Year 10!

Furthermore, students have explored the relevance of the text to our modern society. As one of the goals in our English curriculum for all year groups



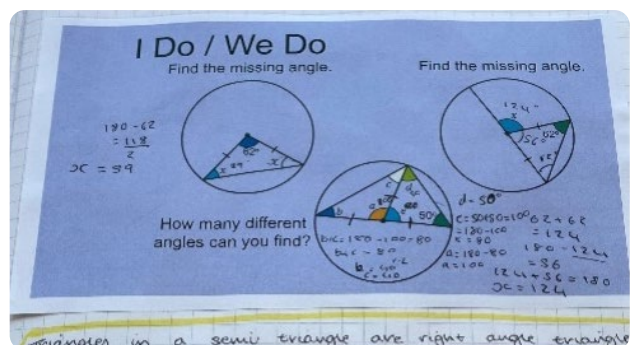
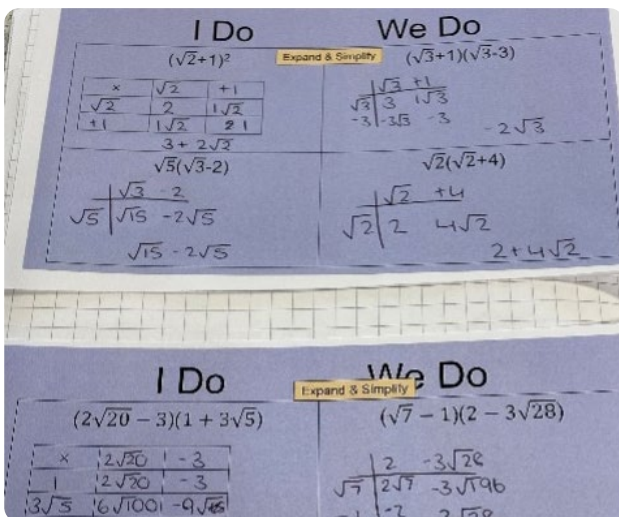
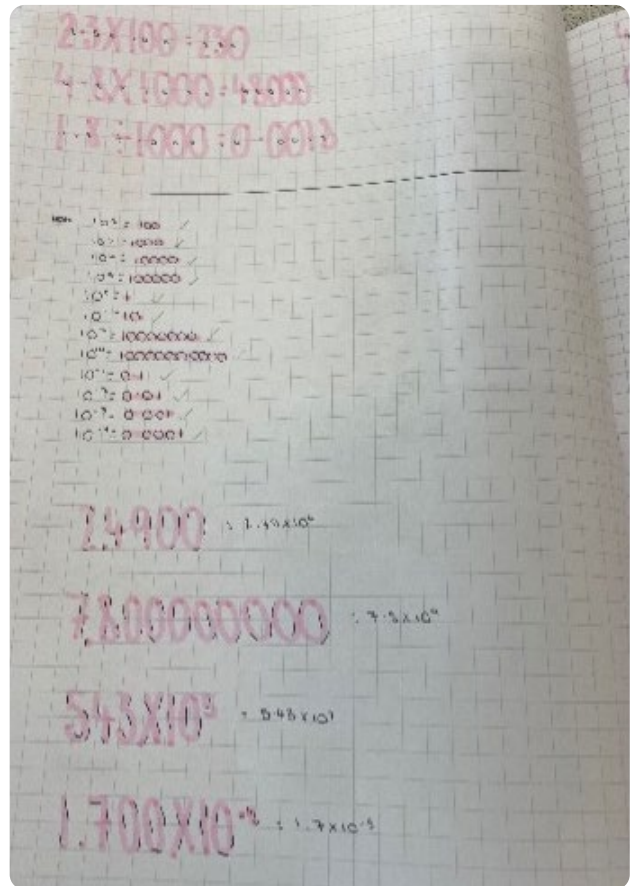
is that we create well-rounded individuals who go on to successfully contribute to society, we feel it is important to develop students and ideas through discussion and challenge. Through our text choices, we aim to develop students holistically and develop empathy, leadership, and an appreciation of literature.

MATHS

In Year 11, students are really focused during their maths lessons. As they approach crucial examinations, the importance of mastering mathematical concepts is becoming evident.

After Easter, Year 11 will begin revision. This will help students identify and address areas of weakness, allowing them to focus on improving specific skills or clarifying misconceptions.

We are currently calculating with standard form, working with surds and looking at the different circle theorems. Teachers model questions using the I do/we do/you do approach, which really helps students understand how to answer the questions given.

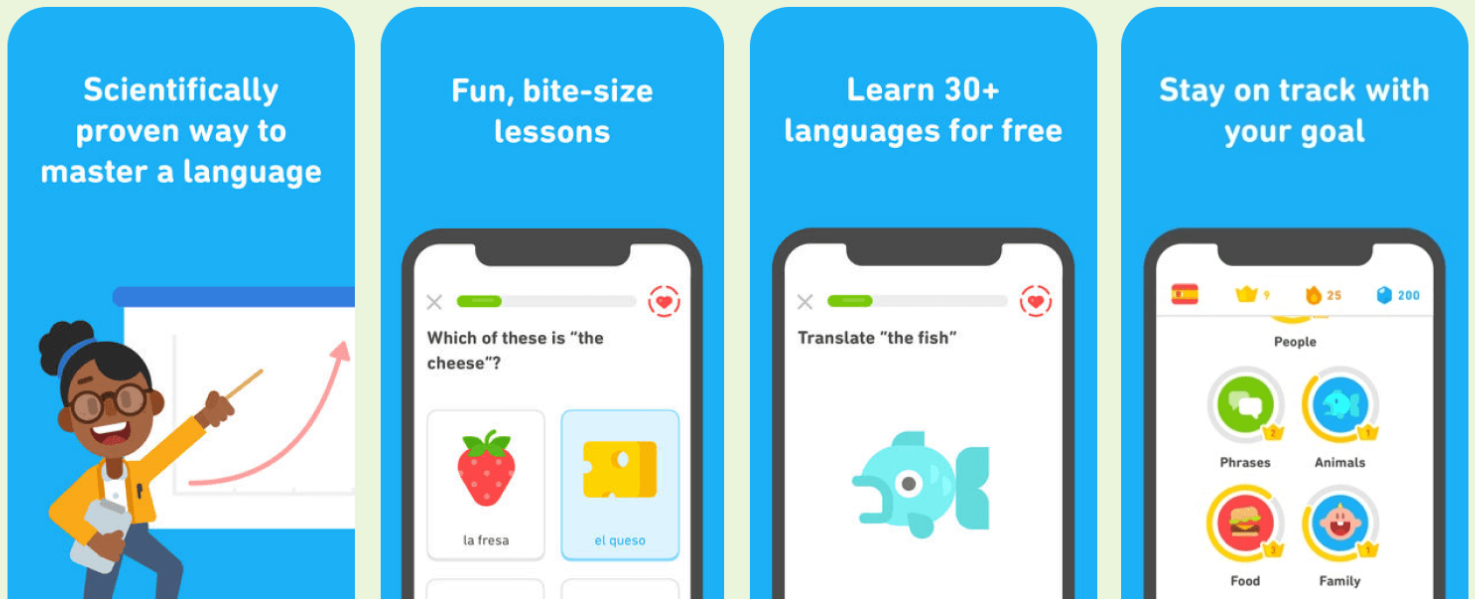


MFL

Year 7 students are really engaging with our MFL DuoLingo challenge this year! Our top five students so far this year are:

- Jonny (7SB) who has done 60 hours and earned 32270 XP
- Ella (7CFA) who has done 31 hours of DuoLingo and has 19405 XP
- Moyinoluwa (7SB) who has done 34 hours and earned 16696 XP
- Yavor (7CFA) who has done 30 hours and has 9928 XP
- Joanna (7KGr) with 9128 XP earned in 11 hours

A massive congratulations to all five students! All our students are enrolled in DuoLingo free of charge and can download the app and complete a daily lesson. Please encourage your child to engage with DuoLingo, as five minutes a day will make a huge difference to their progress.



HUMANITIES

Students in Year 9 have been working well as they begin to think about which Humanities subjects, they will choose as option subjects to study for GCSE.

In Geography, students have been studying a Geopolitical unit focusing on China and Russia and their impact on the world. The next topic for Year 9 is Tectonics.

In History, students have been sensitively studying the Holocaust and they have undertaken their learning in a mature manner appropriate for such an important topic.

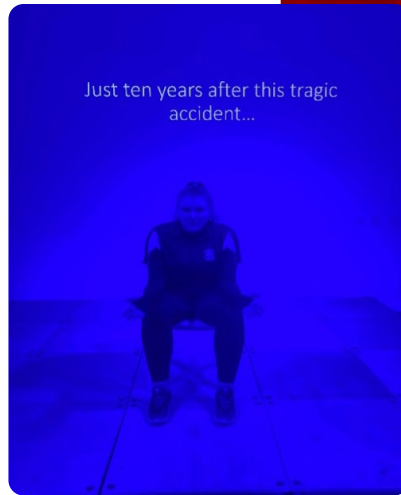
In Religious Studies, students have been learning about war and conflict and discussing whether it is ever right to fight. Students have grappled with challenging concepts and discussed their views and ideas in lessons.



DRAMA

This term in Drama, Year 11 students have been rehearsing for their final exam pieces which they performed mid-February. They had the option to choose either a monologue, duologue or group piece. This allowed students the freedom 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 risen to the challenge, rehearsing in class, staying after school and learning lines at home. They have all shown true resilience and impressed the examiner with their final pieces.

The Drama Department is incredibly proud of every student. Break a leg, Year 11!



SCIENCE

Year 9 Heart Dissections

This term in Science, we have been learning about the human body and the role of its vital organs.

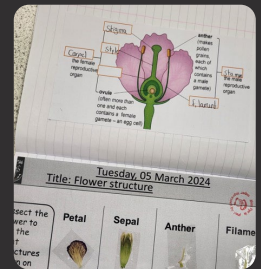
Students have had the opportunity to learn how the heart works, investigate how exercise affects heart rate and use dissection skills to look at the key parts of the heart.



Year 8

Respiration has been our focus this term in Year 8.

We have investigated both aerobic and anaerobic respiration and how factors affect these reactions. In one practical, we used yeast cells and provided them with glucose. Students changed the temperature the yeast was exposed to and measured the rate of carbon dioxide production, demonstrating excellent practical skills. Well done, Year 8!

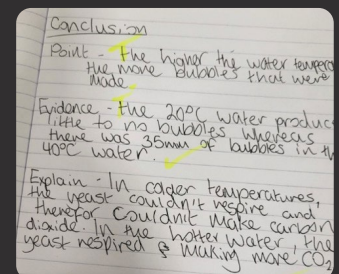


Year 7

Our Year 7 students have been learning about reproduction and seed dispersal in plants.

We have modelled seed dispersal using small paper helicopters and have improved our practical skills to draw graphs on our data and write conclusions.

To enable our students to learn the key parts of a flower and the role of these in pollination and fertilisation, we have dissected flowers to locate the key parts, which our students thoroughly enjoyed.



TECHNOLOGY

Year 9 students have been developing technical and practical knowledge to manufacture decorative boxes. Students used key manufacturing skills combined with CAD/CAM skills to introduce laser cutting to enhance the overall aesthetic designs of their boxes.



ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

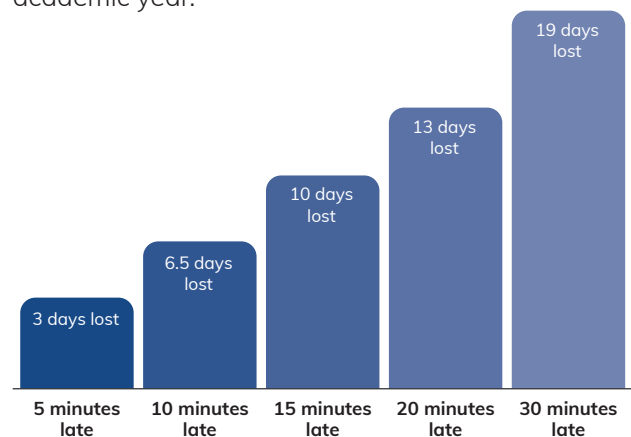
Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life. The aim should be to attend 100% of the time.

Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Good attendance also shows potential employers that a young person is reliable.

Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime. Below is a table showing how children's percentage attendance equates to the amount of school time missed.

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent days	Equivalent sessions	Equivalent weeks	Equivalent lessons missed
95%	9 days	18 sessions	2 weeks	54 lessons
90%	19 days	38 sessions	4 weeks	114 lessons
85%	29 days	58 sessions	6 weeks	174 lessons
80%	38 days	72 sessions	8 weeks	228 lessons
75%	48 days	96 sessions	10 weeks	288 lessons
70%	57 days	114 sessions	11.5 weeks	342 lessons
65%	67 days	134 sessions	13.5 weeks	402 lessons

It is also important to arrive at school on time. If a child arrives late to school every day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time over one academic year.



17 days absent from school a year could mean a drop in a GCSE grade in all subjects!

CAREERS

Phew!

We started the term strongly with an amazing overnight trip to Cambridge University for a group of our Year 11 students. They had a wonderful time and gained valuable insight into university life and inspiration to aim high.

On the 8th February we held our 'Working Lives Day' as part of our PSHE and Careers Curriculum. On this day, students took part in a wide range of activities around the theme of Careers. Students in Year 7 and Year 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 while students in Year 10 and Year 11 debated university possibilities, looked at apprenticeships and started researching college places and other options.



The crescendo of this day was our Prescott School Careers Convention. The Sports Hall was filled with stall holders from colleges, training providers, universities, apprenticeship providers and many other potential employers to give all students the chance to quiz, interview and scrutinise employers. Students from each year were able to visit the stalls and collect facts using a treasure hunt-style sheet that gave even the shyest students the chance to gain some valuable titbits of information.

On the 7th March, a group of Year 9 students visited Knowsley Community College to take part in their Healthcare and STEM event to obtain further insight into careers in these areas. They absolutely loved the day and came back with goodie bags and wonderful stories.



On the 8th March, we marked International Women's Day by inviting a number of employers, students and parents into school for an afternoon tea and presentation.

We had a pleasant civilised afternoon with a quiz, craft competition and prizes on offer, as well as the chance for the students to chat with employers. It was a wonderfully empowering experience for our girls.

This term is an extremely important one for our Year 11s as their exams creep ever closer. The Careers Department have worked tirelessly to ensure that every single student has received career interviews and feel fully supported to make their next steps after GCSEs.

Applications have been completed, and interviews have either taken place or are happening within the next few weeks. We would urge any student in Year 11 to chat with Mrs Robinson about any questions or concerns.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Fire Cadets

Our Year 11 student, Connor, and his Fire Cadets have been raising money outside of school for the Fireman's Charity and raised £750 at their car wash. Connor has also been appointed crew manager for his section. Well done, Connor!

Year 9 Bronze Arts Award

This term, a group of Year 9 students had the exciting opportunity to work with Imaginarium Theatre and gain a Bronze Arts Award. This project involved researching, creating and designing sets and props for the recent production of 'Pride and Prejudice' that was staged at the Shakespeare North Playhouse.



Students took part in practical workshops with the professional set designer for the production. They were then able to see the production on opening night and see their designs realised on a professional stage.

Their set design work was displayed in the gallery of the theatre as part of an exhibition for the public. The students involved enjoyed the experience and were given valuable insight into professional careers in the performing arts.

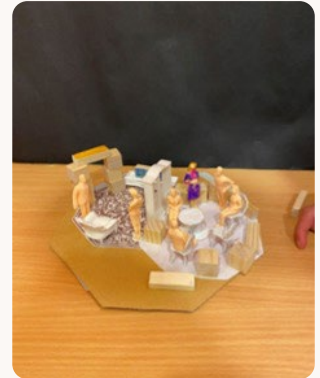
We look forward to offering this qualification and opportunity to more students in the near future.



Our students in front of their displayed work, enjoying the opening night of the play.



Students beginning the designing process.



Working scale model of set design.



Set design ideas and research for 'Pride and Prejudice'.



The students' final designs were displayed as an exhibition for the public at the Shakespeare North Playhouse.

MAKE IT MATTER

Make it Matter discussions are always important. These lessons take place in form time every Friday and the clue is in the title, they really do matter.

Sessions provide time to reflect on things like bullying and leadership qualities and students enjoy listening to other people's views and opinions.

It's important that students respect views that are different from their own. It doesn't matter what they think, they listen and consider other points of view, not always agree with them.

"I enjoy these sessions and I like knowing what days we have what in form time. Fridays are always my favourite."

Moyin 7DHA

PUPIL PREMIUM

School receives extra funding called '**Pupil Premium**' for every child who is registered as 'free school meals'.

We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

This extra money could make a real difference to the quality

of education we offer. You may wish to review how we use this additional funding by reading our pupil premium statement on our website.

This means that even if you do not want to use your child's free school meal entitlement, you should still apply.

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

By Othniel, Chelsy and Ryan

School Council is a group of students who strive to make our school the best we can. As members of the School Council, we are here to listen to our fellow peers and classmates to help make The Prescott School better for the teachers and students. If you have a problem or a suggestion, please do not be afraid to tell us.

There are two representatives from each year group, and the Year 11s chair our meetings.

The School Council has helped put in place changes to the food menu requested by students, including adding meatball subs, burgers, more sausage bums and additional flavours of drinks. We helped to improve the queuing system to

reduce congestion. We also secured a better screen for assemblies and presentations and made slight changes to the uniform.

We have been and are continuing to carry out fund-raising activities, including bake sales, guessing games such as name the teddy, number of sweets / mini eggs in a jar, raffling hampers, sports fixtures and competitions. These activities help raise funds for charities that we have voted to support, such as The Shaw Trust, Alderhey Childrens Hospital and Save the Children.

Please watch out for upcoming dodgeball and table tennis competitions, as well as Year 11 girls vs boys netball!



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