



PressTales



Issue 21, 24 November 2017

Headlines

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the 'Arts Showcase' evening on Thursday 16th November, and the 'Night at the Movies' concert last night. It was a pleasure to sit and watch the students perform on each evening. Thank you to all of the students who participated in both events, and also to those staff in the Music, Drama, Art and PE departments for the time they put into ensuring both concerts were successful. Please be reminded that the Carol Service will be held at St Mary's Church in Ware on Wednesday 13th December at 6pm.

The Christmas Fayre is today, starting at 3.45pm. The PTA have worked incredibly hard to organise this event and your support would be appreciated. Thank you to those who have purchased raffle tickets. We are grateful to the PTA for purchasing 10 outside benches which will provide seating for around 50 students. These arrived yesterday and are now located outside the hall.

Year 11 mocks commence on Thursday 30th November. The girls have been working extremely hard in lessons. We are very pleased with the attitude and effort that the year group has demonstrated since the beginning of the term. We wish them well for the mock examinations.

We will be sending out details about the end of term arrangement soon, but I wanted to remind parents that the last two days of term are both half days. This is due to speech day on Monday 18th December and the normal end of term early finish on Tuesday 19th December.

Kind regards

Matt Warren
Headteacher

Statutory Admissions Consultation 2019/2020

We are holding a consultation on our Admission Arrangements for 2019/2020.

The consultation period takes place between 20th November 2017 and 5th January 2018. If you wish to make any comments regarding this consultation please email admissions20192020consultation@presdales.herts.sch.uk

The Governing Body will consider all comments that are put forward as part of the consultation. Please note that we do not respond to questions in the consultation process.

We are consulting on adding a sibling link with Richard Hale School. Information about the consultation can be found on the [school website](#).

Full details of the admissions policy for 2019 can be found [here](#).

Presdales
Music Department

SING AND BRING
CHRISTMAS CHEER!

**CAROL
SERVICE**

Retiring collection for
Teens Unite Against Cancer

13TH DECEMBER 6 PM - ST MARY'S CHURCH, WARE



PressTales

Non-Uniform Day

Our second non-uniform day of this academic year is being held on Friday 15th December. Please be aware that again 50% of the money raised will go to supporting Teens Unite (The Teenage Cancer Trust Charity) and the other 50% will be spent directly on our students as determined by our Student Council. We would like everyone to take part and to make a voluntary £2.00 donation (or more if you would like to contribute as a family).



We would be grateful if donations could be returned to Mrs Eyre in the School Office in an envelope marked with your daughter's / son's name and form group. We would welcome the donation before the 15th if possible, please.

Thank you in advance.

School Closure Notification System

To receive messages by SMS or email when the school will be closed in severe weather conditions, please sign up to our **School Closure Notification System**. Please register at the following link: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489>. More detailed information can be found on our school [website](#).

We will also let you know about closure on our website and via InTouch.

Rewards

Congratulations to the following forms who have achieved the highest number of reward points in their year group since the last PressTales.

- 7LW
- 8SC
- 9SW
- 10EB
- 11RM
- 12NG
- 13DS



Well done!

Ex-Student News

An ex-pupil of Presdales, Alexandra Romagnoli, who is reading Mathematics at Somerville College, Oxford has been awarded a Shaw Lefevre Scholarship. The award was granted to Alexandra for achieving first-class results in a public examination. We are extremely pleased and proud to hear of Alexandra's success at Oxford.

Christmas Lunch - Thursday 14th December

Choice of Main

Traditional Roast Turkey with Stuffing, Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Sweet corn and Pigs in Blankets

Or

Roasted Vegetable & Bean Crumble

Choice of Dessert

Warmed Mince Pies

or

Chocolate Fudge Cake

(Both Served With Cream)

Tickets are now available to purchase at a cost of £3.50 per ticket. Payment can be made either as an online payment via Wisepay or cash (to be handed in to Mrs Eyre in a envelope marked with your daughter's name, form and lunch choice).

THE DEADLINE TO PURCHASE TICKETS IS THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER.

ONLY CHRISTMAS LUNCH WILL BE SERVED ON THAT DAY.





Pupil News



I have been doing my bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. As part of that I must learn a new skill. My Auntie is a best-selling author of cake decorating books. She offered to teach me how it is done.

We have been learning many different techniques over the past six months but as a final task it was suggested I should enter a competition to see what other people think of my new skills. The competition was held at this year's Cake International Show at the N.E.C. Birmingham (3rd to 5th November). There were 1500 entrants from all over the world across many different categories and age groups. My category was the Junior Class Section Y for 13-16 year olds. To enter we had to design and decorate a birthday cake.

I knew immediately that I wanted to include hedgehogs in the design. I drew different sketches and then made some practice hedgehogs out of sugar paste. For the cake itself I decided to make a tree stump with a slide for the hedgehogs to slide down. The rules said I was allowed to use a cake dummy so the trunk and slide were carved out of polystyrene before the decoration was applied over the top. It took me three weeks to assemble the final cake.



At the show the judging was done on the Saturday. Mine was one of about twenty different cakes. It was given a gold award but so was someone else. On the Sunday we got to hear the final result. I was surprised when they called my name out for first place. It was a great way to end the weekend.

Pippa Gillingham, Year 11

News from Maths

Twenty-seven Year 12 A level Mathematics students and four Further Maths students from Year 13 took part in the Senior Individual UK Maths Challenge on Tuesday 7th November. This is a one and a half hour competition, designed by the UK Mathematics Trust to encourage creative and logical mathematical problem solving. Overall, 68% of Presdales students received Bronze, Silver or Gold certificates which is significantly above the national average.

This year was particularly exciting for Eleanor Mackay, who not only received her Gold Certificate, but also was amongst the very highest performers and so has been selected to take part in the British Mathematical Olympiad Round 1 - a three-and-a-half hour individual challenge. This is our first British Mathematical Olympiad entrant since Alexandra Romagnoli in 2013 who achieved a First in her Maths degree at Somerville College, University of Oxford and is staying on for another year to complete her Masters in Maths.

Special congratulations go to Charlotte Petty who also received a Gold Certificate and has been invited to take part in the follow-on round entitled the "Senior Kangaroo" in December.

The full list of award winning achievements follows:

Year 13

Eleanor	Mackay	GOLD and BMO1 Qualifier
Charlotte	Petty	GOLD and Senior Kangaroo Qualifier
Hannah	Bates	SILVER
Anna	Bridgeman	BRONZE

Year 12

Matilda	Pitt	SILVER
Maisie	Mautterer	SILVER
Molly	Goode	SILVER
Darby	Nicholls	SILVER
Hanna	Souter	BRONZE
Naomi	Harvey	BRONZE
Holly	Gibbons	BRONZE
Chloe	Harding	BRONZE
Charlotte	Lewis	BRONZE
Chloe	Boland	BRONZE
Paige	Barnes	BRONZE
Madeleine	Smith	BRONZE
Laura	Sharman	BRONZE
Erin	Hartnett	BRONZE
Caitlin	Pallett	BRONZE
Charlotte	Powell	BRONZE
Kirsten	Rugg-Gunn	BRONZE



News from PE

Congratulations to the U16 badminton team who won their recent game against Chauncy. Through to the finals on the 5th December!

Well done to the Year 8 dancers who performed their Bhangra dances from PE lessons in the Creative Arts Showcase! You were awesome!

Netball

Fixture against John Warner School



Well played to the Year 7C netball team who unfortunately lost 11-3 to John Warner! Star player was Lola Upton.

Well done to the Year 8 Netball team who beat John Warner 19-1! Amazing performance across the court.



Fixture against Broxbourne School



Year 7 B team (above) won 11-4 and 7 A team (right) won 11-8. Star players were Isabella O'Reilly and Juliette James.

Huge congratulations to the Year 8B team (right) who beat Broxbourne 25-7. Well done to Ella Noble who was voted star player.



Year 9 team (left) won 18-10. Congratulations to the star player, Isabelle Henn.



Well played to the Year 8A team (above) who unfortunately lost 14-28 to Broxbourne. Against tough opposition you kept fighting! Player of the match was Ria Cabbani. A special mention to Jess Gawthorne for coming to support in the cold due to injury!

The Year 10 netball team lost 32-8 to Broxbourne.





Basketball

A massive thank you to these Year 9 Superstars who were selected to help at a primary basketball tournament this afternoon! You were all fantastic and really helpful.



Sporting Fixtures

November

27th Nov : Senior County Cup Hockey v DAO (A), 3.45pm
28th Nov : Year 8 County Cup Netball v Tring (A), 4.30pm

December

4th Dec : Senior County Cup Hockey v Hitchin @ Hitchin Boys School, 3.45pm
4th Dec : Year 7A&B Netball v Yavneh College (H), 3.30pm
4th Dec : Table Tennis Finals @ Beechwood School, St. Albans - U13 9.15am to 1pm, and U16 1pm to 5pm
5th Dec : Badminton Finals @ Herts Sports Village, 1pm to 5pm
5th Dec : Year 10 County Cup Netball v St. Albans High (H), 4.30pm
7th Dec : Years 7, 8B and 9B Netball v Goffs (H), 3.30pm
8th Dec : SHAll Combined events (Years 9 and 10) @ Simon Balle
11th Dec : Swim Gala @ John Warner
12th Dec : Senior County Cup Netball Plate v Kings Langley (H), 3.45pm



Creative Arts Showcase

The first Creative Arts Showcase was a huge success! Thank you to all who purchased tickets and came to support the cast and school. It turned out to be a sell out show and we look forward to using these proceeds in the planning of our first whole school musical!

There was a huge variety of students involved ranging all the way from year 7 to year 13! There was Art, Dance, Drama, English and Music showcased in the evening, all examples of the creative work going on in lessons across key stages.



The students volunteered additional rehearsal time beyond lessons to ensure the performances were ready for a live audience and all the staff involved were immensely proud of their efforts. We hope this is a first of many collaborations. It is fantastic to give our enthusiastic students a chance to experience presenting to a live audience.

Thank you again for the huge support and all the hard work from our dedicated students!

Miss Mack Head of Drama, Mrs Hetherington Head of Music, Miss Weaver Head of PE, Mrs Francis Head of Art.



News from Art

Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to Ellie Sparkes, Year 13, who has been awarded The Headteacher's Art Award this month for outstanding photography. Her photographs have been framed and are currently on display in Mr Warren's office. Well done Ellie from the Art Department.



Year 9

Some fabulous sea creatures appeared on the pergola outside the Art block on Tuesday. It is an Art Installation created by 9E and 9T.



Christmas Card Design Competition



We had some brilliant designs submitted for the Christmas Card competition this year and the overall winner was Lily Woodward in year 9 (left).

Congratulations to our short listed Artists for the PressTales Christmas Card Design Competition
Two Keenest 95H, Holly Wilson 95B, Lily Woodward 95H
Sophie Dingle 97C, Madeline Parker 9C2,
Stephanie Stone 74H, Sam Carroll 97W, Theo Galley 98W





Design & Technology News

Year 8

Our year 8 D&T students are very proud of the drawstring bags that they have made this term.



Design and Technology Career of the Month - Food Scientist

What does a food scientist do?

Food scientists and food technologists develop food and drink products, making sure they are safe to consume.

Your day-to-day duties could include:

As a food scientist, you'll:

- provide accurate nutritional information for food labelling
- investigate ways to keep food fresh, safe and attractive
- find ways to save time and money in food making
- test the safety and quality of food

As a food technologist, you'll:

- blend new ingredients to invent and modify recipes
- conduct experiments and produce sample products
- design production processes and machinery

You'll need to follow industry regulations.

What skills are required?

- analytical skills
- the ability to explain ideas to other scientists and production staff

Annual Salary?

£20,000 to £45,000. This is just a guide.

How many hours would I be expected to work?

Between 35 – 40 hours.

What do I need to do to become a food scientist?

You'll usually need a foundation degree, HND or degree in a subject like food science, food studies or food technology. Employers may also accept other subjects like chemistry or nutrition.

Another way in is to start out as a lab technician and study towards qualifications while you work.





Bethlem Royal Hospital Visit – psychology students delve into the important link between art and mental health



On Friday 10th November, Year 13 Psychology students visited Bethlem Royal Hospital, the oldest psychiatric institution in the world. Students were given an overview of the history of the hospital from the 13th century to present day, focusing on radical changes in understanding of mental illness and ways to treat them. Students spent time in Bethlem Gallery and Museum where they were able to view centuries of significant historic artworks and objects together with inspiring contemporary works by current artists and service users. The temporary showcase, 'The Art of Recovery', was particularly moving and poignant, showing wire models created by ex-service men and women suffering from trauma related mental health issues who were using art to tell their story. Students were also involved in a creative activity where they were asked to analyse a famous painting called 'The Maze' by William Kurelek, a past patient of Bethlem Hospital. They found it fascinating to see how William was able to tell his doctors about his emotions and feelings towards a range of issues and experiences, both past and present, using one painting.



"During the day it was exciting to discuss with my classmates 'The Maze' (work of William Kurelek). Painting was his method of coping with depression. His illustrations represented his different thoughts which proved insightful to chat about and reveal everyone's opinion on the painting. The history of Bethlem was captivating. We discovered a practice starting in the late 17th century where the rich would come and observe the procedures and patients inside Bethlem. Afterwards they would offer a donation towards the hospital - to us this seemed similar to visiting a zoo, but was explained by the fact that the visitors often had offered substantial financial support to the hospital." - Charlotte Mumby



"I enjoyed learning about how patients were treated at the hospital in the last few centuries and how it's name has changed over time into the modern Bethlem hospital. I also found it interesting to find out about different wards that treat patients in the present day." - Emily Lewis





Year 12 Sociology Trip

On the 9th November the Year 12 Sociology class went to the V&A museum of childhood based in Bethnal Green, London.

During the visit we looked around a large variety of exhibits, spanning a child's development from early age to young adulthood. These displays included dolls, soft toys, rocking horses, scalextric and clothing worn during the period.

We attended an influential talk on the social construction of childhood followed by the opportunity to use some objects from the learning collection. Consequently, we were able to consider and evaluate the changes in children within the family and society nowadays.

Personally, I enjoyed the trip and found it beneficial for my understanding of the history of childhood as a result of being able to actually see the various toys that were played with.

Francesca Smith, Year 12

On Thursday 9th November our sociology class visited the V&A Museum of Childhood to fit with our topic 'childhood' that we are currently studying in sociology. We looked at lots of different toys throughout history and how they compare to toys now. For example, toys now are more gender neutral than they were. Overall, it was a really fun trip and I especially enjoyed looking at toys that I used to have, such as Barbies.

Imogen Dear, Year 12



Trips and Reminders

- **Wicked Theatre Trip (17th January 2018)** - Open to GCSE and A level music students. Cost of £44.
- **Under 14 Netball Tournament (Saturday 27th January 2018)** - (Selected Students) - Regional hoodie available to purchase for £24. Available in XS, S, M and L.
- **Design Museum Trip (Wednesday 31st January 2018)** - Open to Year 10 Design & Technology pupils. Contribution of £22 per student please.
- **Year 7 Little Canada Trip (March 2018)** - The final payment of £125 is due by Friday 15th December.
- **Year 9 Trip to Rome (March 2018)** - Places confirmed. Payment Schedule:

Deposit £100 already paid	£200 due by Friday 18th November 2017
£155 due by Friday 15th December 2017	£140 by Friday 19th January 2018
- **New York & Washington DC Trip (October 2018)** - There are still a few places available to Year 11 students. A deposit of £150 (via WisePay) can secure a place.

• **Revision Guides** - If your daughter has ordered revision guides please ensure they are collected from the main school office.





School Calendar

November

- Wednesday 29th - Saturday 2nd : Year 8 & 9 German Trip
- Thursday 30th (periods 3 and 4) : Year 10 RE Mock GCSE exam (component one)
- Thursday 30th - Wednesday 13th December : Year 11 Mocks

December

- Friday 1st (periods 5 and 6) : Year 10 RE Mock GCSE exam (components two and three)
- Monday 11th : Year 7 Parents Consultation, 4.15pm to 7.15pm
- Monday 11th : Year 11 Art Mock Exam
- Wednesday 13th : Year 13 Somerset House Trip
- Wednesday 13th : Carol Service at St. Mary's, Ware, 6.00pm
- Thursday 14th : Sixth Form Revue Rehearsal Day
- Thursday 14th : Christmas Lunch
- Friday 15th : Sixth Form Forum
- Friday 15th : Charity Day (2)
- Monday 18th : Speech Day, pm
- Tuesday 19th : End of Autumn Term, 12.45pm

Calendar

The full school calendar for the current academic year can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

Cover Supervisor Roles

Presdales School is seeking to build a team of confident and efficient Cover Supervisors who could provide cover on an ad hoc basis.

We are looking for applicants who:

- have strong communication and interpersonal skills
- are flexible and reliable
- are able to work well in a team
- can be proactive in meeting students' needs
- are well organised
- would be committed to contributing to the overall ethos and aims of the school
- have experience in a Primary or Secondary school setting

Please contact Mrs Hazel Goodwin, Cover Manager, by email: cover@presdales.herts.sch.uk if you would like to apply for the role or need to know more information about the role, including hours/days/pay.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expect staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be willing to undergo an Enhanced DBS disclosure and approved references will be required for the post.

Presdales School

Hoe Lane
Ware
Hertfordshire
SG12 9NX
Tel: 01920 462 210
Email: admin@presdales.herts.sch.uk





Enchanté Christmas Fayre

Sunday 3rd December 2pm - 5pm
Allenburys Sports & Social Club, Ware

❄️ Free admission ❄️ Free parking

- ❄️ Craft stalls ❄️ Cakes & refreshments ❄️ Tombola
- ❄️ Snow globe bouncy castle ❄️ Mulled wine & mince pies
- ❄️ Personalised christmas items ❄️ Facepainting
- ❄️ Pop-up christmas photoshoot ❄️ Plus much more...

For any enquiries, please email enchante-events@hotmail.com