



PressTales



Issue 32, 25 May 2018

Headlines

Dear Parents/Carers

Today we said goodbye to our year 13 students, who have now started their study leave ready for their examinations. Good luck to all of the students in their exams. I would like to thank all of the staff who have taught the year 13s over the past five or seven years; they are an excellent year group.

I wrote to you last year to inform you that the school was investigating the possibility of installing an all-weather pitch on our school field. Over the past six months, Nikki Albone and Alison Hobson (Parent governor) have been meeting with various sports groups and other potential financial supporters to gauge the likelihood of us being successful in raising the required funds. The governing body have now taken the decision to move ahead with formally starting the process of bidding for funds to build the pitch. We are expecting to work closely with Hertford Hockey club in this venture, as well as other, as yet to be decided, local clubs. We are hoping that the surface will support netball, tennis and also young children's football training. This is a very exciting opportunity for the school and one that will enhance the facilities for our students. The next stage is to launch a feasibility study with a company to work out exactly where the pitch would go, and, of course, the expected final cost. We will keep you posted on our progress.

As you know, we are setting up a new house system for September. Over the past few weeks students and staff have been voting on names for each house. Each house will have a student leadership team comprising of a House leader and two deputy House leaders. They will be supported by a member of staff, with Mrs Miller overseeing the House system across the school.

The following house names were chosen:

Curie Frank Nightingale Pankhurst Parks Windsor

We look forward to the house events next year.

I wish you all a pleasant half term break

Kind regards

Matt Warren, Headteacher

Presdales Music Department Presents

SONGWRITING COMPETITION 2018

with Special Guest Judge Hattie Whitehead

Entries must be original music and lyrics. You can enter as an individual or a group. Submit your entry as a recording to music@presdales.herts.sch.uk by Friday 22nd June. Shortlisted entries will perform in the final at Presdales Rocks on Monday 16th of July.

For questions please see Mrs Hetherington or Miss Ringer.

Presdales Music Department Presents

PRESDALES ROCKS 2018

featuring the Annual Song Writing Competition with Special Guest Judge Hattie Whitehead

Monday 16th July
7pm
Presdales School

Watch this space for ticket info!

Upcoming Events

Please [click here](#) for the PE fixtures.

JUNE

- Monday 4th to Friday 15th : Years 7 to 9 School Exams
- Monday 4th to Wednesday 13th : Year 10 School Exams
- Monday 4th to Thursday 14th : Year 12 School Exams
- Thursday 14th : Year 12 Geography Fieldwork
- Monday 18th to Thursday 21st : Year 9 Spanish Trip
- Tuesday 19th : Music Trip (TBC)
- Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd : Year 10 & 12 Trip to Berlin
- Thursday 21st : String Recital
- Monday 25th to Thursday 28th : Year 8 French Trip
- Saturday 30th to Monday 2nd July : Year 12 Silver Practice DofE Expedition

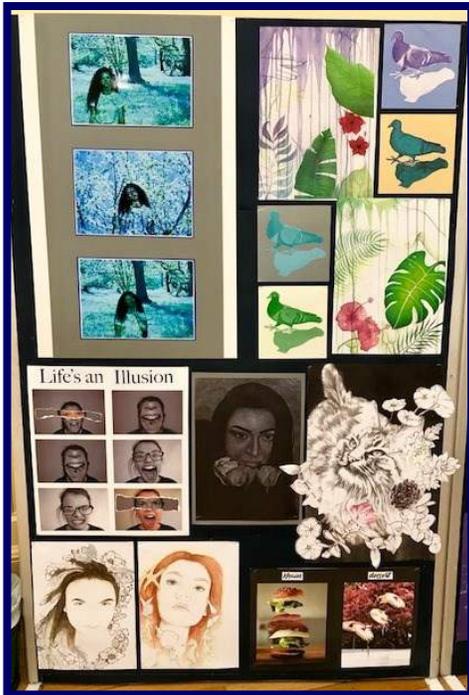
The full school calendar can be viewed by [clicking here](#).



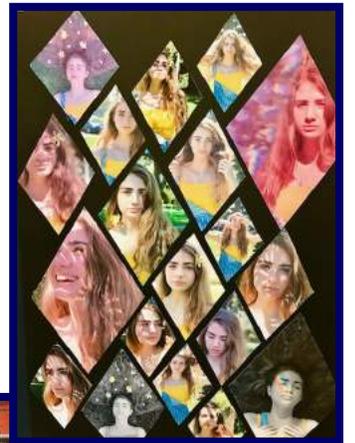
Rewards

Congratulations to the following forms who have achieved the highest number of reward points this half term:

- 7SH
- 8LC
- 9SR
- 10AW
- 11RM
- 12NG
- 13SR



Art and Photography - Year 12 Final Pieces



Design and Technology News – Year 7 Modern and Industrial Processes



Year 7 are currently exploring polymers in their Design and Technology lessons in preparation for making their photoholders. We were privileged to have some fantastic presentations from students about different industrial processes. Rebecca Alexander, 7SH, spoke about glass blowing and decorating, which was really interesting to hear. The highlights came from Ella Cannell, 7SH, and Sophie Doyle, 7EW. Ella spoke about her father's family business, Replas (<http://www.replasmachinery.co.uk/>) whose injection moulds make a myriad of different products for the NHS and many other major brands and companies. Sophie showed us a fish that had been produced using a 3D printer her family have at home. She spoke about how it is designed on the computer and then 'printed' using a fine plastic filament.



There were lots of fantastic questions and excellent discussion (with bags of enthusiasm!). The Year 7 students are now very excited to be making their photoholders after half term.

Mrs Schillaci-Rowland





News from PE

Rounders - Presdales v Simon Balle

Well played to the Year 9 Rounders team who lost 9-10.5 last week! Star player was Evie Reilly for some awesome batting! Well done girls.



Well played to the year 10 rounders team who lost narrowly by 15 1/2 to 14 1/2 rounders. We did only have 8 players so you did very well considering! Star player Lauren Robinson.



Rounders - Presdales v Chauncy

Well done to the Year 7 Rounders Team (right) who won 6 1/2 to 5 1/2 rounders. Star player Lottie Green!

Well played to the Year 8 Rounders team who unfortunately lost 10 1/2 to 4 1/2. Unlucky girls!

Our Year 9 team lost 13 1/2 to 9 and the year 10 team won 12 1/2 to 9. Great practice for the upcoming tournaments!



PE Superstars of the Month – May

Year 7 Jodi McDonald for being extremely helpful during PE lessons

Year 8 Roisin Hurley for beating her pb in the 800m and going to County Athletics Trials

Year 9 Anthe Beston for giving up her free time to help at Sports Leaders events

Year 10 Nicole Madell for being so hardworking and conscientious in GCSE PE

Year 11 Charlotte Upton for being proactive towards her GCSE PE exams and coming to all revision sessions



Horse Riding

Sophie Grimshaw, Year 10, took part in the Royal Windsor horse show as part of the England Pony Club Mounted Games team. After a week of intense and close competition, the England team won in the final!

All of the Home Nations were taking part in the competition and the entire final was watched by Her Majesty, the Queen. Before the final started, the teams lined up in front of the Royal box on their ponies and saluted by bowing their heads (children not ponies!) and lowering each Country's flag.



For winning the competition, the England team were presented with the DAKS Trophy and this was presented by Sophie, Countess of Wessex.

Gymnastics

Holly Martin (right) in Year 7 recently competed in the Level 4 County Qualifiers and got 4 medals! Gold for bars, gold for beam, gold for floor and silver for vault. Holly is now through to the Regional Finals in July. Amazing performance, Holly, and good luck at the Regional Finals.



Hannah Cavanagh (left) in Year 9 competed in the Level 3 Herts GG Qualifiers at Redbourn yesterday and got Bronze for Bars and is now through to the Regional Finals next month in Ipswich, where she will compete in Floor and Vault! Well done, Hannah, good luck in the finals!

Lexi Wonfor (right) in Year 8 also competed at the Regional Qualifiers at the weekend and won gold on beam, silver on floor and bronze on bars!! She has qualified for the Regional Finals in all three disciplines at Level 5! Congratulations, Lexi, what a fantastic gymnast!



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Russian Theatre Trip

On Tuesday 8th May, 10 students of Russian from years 11-13 and 3 teachers went to London to watch the premier of 'Life and Fate' by Vassily Grossman. The performance was in the West End by a theatre company from St. Petersburg and was performed in Russian accompanied by English surtitles. It was a very interesting and eye-opening play about life under Stalin, fascism and WWII on the Eastern Front. We found the parallels drawn between Hitler's concentration camp and Stalin's gulags shocking. However, there were also some funny moments which we enjoyed. It was also very relevant to our class work as we are currently studying 'Burnt by The Sun' which is set in 1930s Russia. The performance gave us a further insight into the themes of the film, such as the purges, censorship and Stalin's cult of personality. We all enjoyed the performance and are looking forward to the next Russian trip!



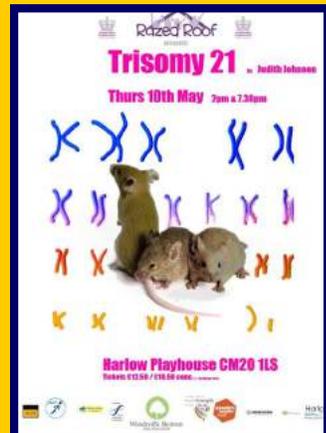
Elena Simou and Claudia Holmes, Year 12

Drama Theatre Trip

On Thursday 10th May, Year 12 and Year 13 students attended a matinee production of 'Trisomy 21'. This performance was created by a local inclusive theatre group based in Harlow Playhouse. The production was close to members' hearts as it centres around the new testing for Downs Syndrome that is available for pregnant mothers. It was a touching production that considers the impact that this testing has for everyone but particularly those who are currently living with the condition. It was very positive focusing on the positive aspects of living with Downs.

The students were incredibly impressed by the work of the company and really found it thought-provoking; they left the theatre debating the consequences of medical advancement!

"That was emotionally powerful! I cried the whole way through." Niamh Jacobs (Year 12)



Year 12 Geography Field Trip

The year 12 A-level Geography trip to Yorkshire was an exciting and thrilling 3 days. We began with a long coach ride before embarking onto North Landing, a stunning beach with dramatic cliffs on the north side of Flamborough Head. We started collecting data, including a transect along the beach to measure the pebble size, as well as doing field sketches. It was an exciting opportunity to apply our classroom knowledge of erosional landforms, such as caves and wave notches, and see them in the real world. We journeyed to the Cranedale Centre where we studied and stayed for the next few days. We began early the next morning visiting multiple beaches with various coastal management in place. For us, it was thrilling to experience the fastest eroding coastline in Europe and it was fascinating to see people's resilience to living so close to the edge. For our final day we explored the seaside town of Scarborough. We collected data through a range of interesting methods, including mapping, non-participant observations (people watching), and artwork depiction. It was such an eye-opener to the human geography data collection methods available. We returned home from a successful trip slightly sunburnt but full of new enthusiasm for Geography.

Tilly Pitt





Year 9 Battlefields Trip

After an early start we head off to Belgium

Our first stop once we reach Ypres is a cemetery set up next to a hospital. We take a look around the museum and go out to look at the graves. One of the only two women in Belgium who died helping the war effort is buried there. We head out and eat our lunch on the sun-drenched field outside. After that it is back on the coach to see the memorial where a lot of soldiers from Ware and Hertford are buried. Some people find their relatives and we lay a wreath to remember the dead and say a short poem.

We then head off to the German cemetery and it is very different. Lorna even finds a relative. Most of the men buried there were young when they died and so it is known as the Kinder cemetery. Another wreath is laid to remember them.

We quickly stop by the brooding soldier statue to remember those Canadian soldiers who died in the first poison gas explosion by the Germans. As a final stop we visit the cemetery where the youngest person who died in the First World War is buried. He was only 15.

We head back to the hotel to unpack, before heading out to dinner. After dinner, we go to the Menin Gate to watch the Menin Gate ceremony. We then head back to try and get a good night's sleep.

In the morning we pack up and split into two groups. The first group visits the chocolate shop and spends all their money on chocolate, whilst the other half has free time in the shops and market. Presdales is offered a special deal on the chocolate and, as we leave, the shop is looking a lot emptier - especially after we learn that the chocolate they sell is by appointment to the Royal Family of Belgium, so it must be some seriously good chocolate. It is then back on the coach yet again to make a few last stops before boarding the Eurostar and heading home.

We make our way through France to a battlefield from the Battle of Somme where a lot of Canadians fought. We eat our lunch next to the coaches before heading in. It is extremely moving for us all as we saw the place where so many men lost their lives.

We then go to the Thiepval memorial and are overwhelmed by the sheer number of names that are carved on to the stone. I myself find my own relative. It is shocking to know that all of these men died on the same day and that they all have families and friends who will miss them. Going there makes the dead of the war a lot more than just a number; it is actual people to whom we are always grateful.

As a final stop we go to the crater where the biggest shell of the war went off. There is a raised platform around the edge and on the end of each one is the name of someone who was killed in the blast.

Myfanwy Harlow



On the first day of the trip, Friday 18th May, the second place we visited was the Tyne Cot Cemetery in Flanders, Belgium. It was a very emotional experience to see the thousands of graves, plaques and names of men who fought from 1914 to 1918. Some were just 16. I myself in particular, found it emotional as I managed to find one of my relatives, Arthur Leonard Court, who was a private in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He died on 4th October 1917 at just 22 years young. I also got to lay the wreath on the monument at Tyne Cot and to leave a remembrance cross at his grave. I am so glad that I went on the Battlefields trip, it was such a great experience and I recommend it to everyone. I hope to return in the near future to learn more about this important part of our history.

Jessica Court

Jessica Court





uPlay Sports

CAMP ADVENTURE MULTI-SPORTS CAMP
at Wodson Park Leisure Centre

A fun, action packed day of sports activities for children 4.5 - 14. Throughout the camp children will do a variety of activities such as:
Obstacle courses, Den building, Ultimate frisby, Badminton, Table Tennis, Kwik Cricket, Football, Basketball, Bench ball, Arts and Crafts, Games, Athletics, Uni-Hockey, Dodgeball, Parachute games, and more...

ALL DAY OR HALF DAY
Full day 9am - 4pm
Half day 9am - 1pm OR 1pm - 4pm
Early drop (8am-9am & late stay 4pm-5pm)

Prices from **£12**

May Half Term 2018
Tues 29th May - Fri 1st
June 2018

All coaches are DBS checked and First Aid trained

10% SINGLING DISCOUNT
20% LARGE GROUP DISCOUNT

TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFO GO TO
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Email - office@uplaysports.co.uk
Tel - 07527 640599

uPlay Sports

May HT Netball Camps!

Hitchin Girls School
Thursday 31st May 2018

Northampton High School
Tuesday 29th May 2018

Wodson Park
Friday 1st June 2018

Cockernhoe Primary School
Tuesday 29th May 2018

Oaklands College
Wednesday 30th May 2018

Qualified UKCC netball coaches and DBS checked. First Aiders on site

Ages 8-14 (School Years 3 to 9)

BOOK NOW!

Go to www.uplaysports.co.uk to secure your place on this course and for more info.

If you require more information please contact Mel Mansfield on 07976 282375 or email mel@uplaysports.co.uk

HERTFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC
10 - 16 June 2018

World-class musicians coming to Hertford and Hertfordshire for HFoM 2018: *Fantasy, Fable & Folklore*

Internationally-acclaimed pianist **Stephen Hough**, violinist **Tasmin Little** and **The Galliard Ensemble** head the line-up. Join us!

www.hertsmusicfest.org.uk **BOOK ONLINE**

BOX OFFICE
Hertford Town and Tourist Information Centre, 10 The Wash, Hertford SG14 1PX
www.hertford.gov.uk/events, 01992 584322.

HFOM 2018 AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| SUNDAY 10 JUNE | |
| 1 Stephen Hough: In Recital | All Saints' Church, Hertford |
| 2 Stephen Hough: In Conversation* | Hertford Theatre |
| MONDAY 11 JUNE | |
| 3 Stephen Hough: Masterclass | Haileybury |
| 4 The Prince Consort | All Saints' Church, Hertford |
| TUESDAY 12 JUNE | |
| 5 Emma Halnan with Manon Fischer-Dieskau | Watford School of Music |
| WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE | |
| 6 Beth Margaret Taylor with Andrew O'Brien | Haileybury |
| 7 Gamma Rosefield with Nicola Eimer | Friends Meeting House, Hertford |
| THURSDAY 14 JUNE | |
| 8 Sing Your Imagination! Children from Primary Schools in West Watford with Adam Saunders | Watford School of Music |
| FRIDAY 15 JUNE | |
| 9 Galliard Ensemble with Matthew Sharp | Friends Meeting House, Hertford |
| 10 The Great American Songbook: Chris Eldred, Jess Radcliffe with Loz Garratt | Friends Meeting House, Hertford |
| SATURDAY 16 JUNE | |
| 11 Tasmin Little: In Conversation | Friends Meeting House, Hertford |
| 12 Herts Young Musicians: In Performance | All Saints' Church, Hertford |
| 13 Festival Finale: Tasmin Little with John Lenehan | All Saints' Church, Hertford |

* Tickets for this event only are available from Hertford Theatre Box Office, The Wash, Hertford SG14 1PS. 01992 531508, www.hertfordtheatre.com.

Logos for Hertfordshire, Hertford, Watford, Haileybury, Friends Meeting House, Watford School of Music, and Arts Council England.