



An All-through Co-operative School
Carlton Avenue East, Wembley HA9 8NA
Head: Ms Beth Kobel

T: 020 8385 4040 F: 020 8908 2607 E: info@preston-manor.com
www.preston-manor.com

March 2016

Dear Families

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students for their diligence and achievements so far this year. We have so many success stories to share and good news items to celebrate together. I would also like to thank the staff for their dedication and hard work, as well as parents and carers for your continued support of Preston Manor School and our students.

We have already celebrated many student achievements ranging from the Year 11 girls football team claiming their second successive Brent League Cup win, to hosting the Junior Team Challenge on behalf of the UKMT (UK Mathematics Trust) and Debate Mate - where four Preston Manor teams will now attend a nationwide tournament. Jack Petchey Award winners this term include Rajvi Patel in Year 11, Vaishali Raghvani in Year 12, Sooriya Uthayakumaran in Year 13, and Ms Wilding who was awarded the Outstanding Leader Award. Well done to each of them on receiving this prestigious award recognising the excellent work and contributions that they make to our school.

You will have heard the fantastic news about Mr Hegarty making it all the way to the top 10 teachers nominated across the world for their outstanding contribution to teaching by the Varkey Foundation. Mr Hegarty was nominated for the global teaching prize because of all the extra work he has put into making Maths accessible to students with his website *hegartymaths*. We are very proud of his achievements, the recognition he has received from this prestigious event and tremendous honour in making it into the final ten.

We are also very happy to announce that Ms Airey, Assistant Head, who has been a valued and successful member of the senior leadership team for a number of years has been appointed as Acting Deputy Head at the Upper School.

An outstanding Year 11 Careers fair took place at Preston Manor this term. Over thirty employers and representatives of further and higher education set up stalls in the hall with all our year 11 students attending. However, there is another opportunity for you and your son/daughter to attend a careers fair hosted by Brent over the break. You can read more about these stories and many other good news stories in our End of Term Newsletter. This can be accessed from our website under the News and Events section or at:

<http://www.preston-manor.com/page/?title=End+of+Term+Newsletter&pid=103>

On a less positive note, I must also inform you that we have received complaints about the behaviour of some of our students in the wider community. Please note that the school day ends at 3:20pm and unless students have been told to stay after school, are involved in extra-curricular activities or are attending revision sessions, they should be heading straight home at the end of the school day. I urge you to support the school in ensuring that this is happening.

We continue to value your support and active involvement in our learning community. Let me take this opportunity again to encourage you to contact the school with any concerns you may have. In order to ensure you do not miss out on valuable information, please inform the school as soon as possible with any changes to your personal email address or mobile number.



Staff leaving

Ryan Wilson joined Preston Manor as Head of English in September 2011 and he instantly made an impact through his calm and supportive approach. He was appointed Assistant Head in 2013 and has made a huge contribution not just to teaching and learning but more recently with timetabling and curriculum. Ryan is returning to full time study. He will be sadly missed but we wish him all the very best for the future.

Szilvia Soter joined the school in 2008 as a teacher of SEN and since January 2013 has been Deputy SENCO. As a valued member of staff, she will be missed by the students, staff and parents both in the SEN department and the wider school. Szilvia is emigrating to Australia shortly and we wish her a very happy life in the sunshine.

Start of Summer term arrangements

Monday 11 April 2016 is a staff training day. Students will return to school for normal lessons on **Tuesday 12 April 2016** and should arrive in school **before 8.35am** ready for registration at **8.40 am**. Please ensure your child is in school on time with the correct uniform and equipment so that lessons can commence with the minimum of disruption.

Once again, I would like to tell you what an honour and privilege it is to lead such a fantastic school. I hope you and your family have an enjoyable and restful break. I look forward to seeing your children refreshed and ready to learn in April.

Yours sincerely



Beth Kobel
Headteacher

GOOD NEWS STORIES

Excelling in Learning

We continue to develop our **ACE Teaching Identity** (Autonomy, Challenge, Effective feedback). These are the 3 key aspects of teaching and learning we are prioritising this year - developing students' ability to *take more ownership* of their learning, to *embrace challenge* and to *respond to teacher's feedback*. I believe strongly that all children should enjoy learning, be actively engaged and have high expectations of what they can achieve - always challenging themselves to realise their personal best. Our learning identity continues to be effective at developing student **autonomy**. At Key Stage 3, we began reporting to parents on the *four learning dispositions* so that progress in these areas can be tracked. We have now introduced the learning identity to our Lower School students too, to support them in developing as independent learners, by becoming more resilient, active, collaborative and reflective in their learning. Please feedback with any queries.

Excelling in Standards of Behaviour

Our School community and families can feel immensely proud in the knowledge that the majority of our students are an absolute credit to the school. This year, with our new behaviour system, it has been even easier for staff to both recognise and reward students who have demonstrated excellent behaviour both in and outside of the classroom. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight the names of the top 5 students across each of the year groups, who have the most achievement points. Students, whose outstanding behaviour must be seen as an example to all of our students.

- In Year 7- *Khushi Parekh, Benie Makwala, Dixita Chetty, Marwa Ehsas, Aditi Singh*
- In Year 8- *Elsa Malik, Ambreen Hussain, Jaylyn Patel, Antony Antoniou, Channce Roberts*
- In Year 9- *Vithusa Vigneswaran, Anjani Pindoria, Shahil Gurung, Nicholas Cover, Bilal Akhtar*
- In Year 10- *Darren Sitou, Aaron Khatri, Waasay Khalid, Jemima Sarwar, Nikhil Sethi*
- In year 11- *Baasil Hussain, Maryam Amier, Shaquille Djalo, Abdibasid Ahmed, Krishna Patel.*

Consistent Excellent Standards

Congratulations to the following students on their exceptional achievement in having (since September 2015) 100% attendance AND punctuality as well as 0 'Behaviour Points' which reflects brilliantly on both their attitude to school and their conduct. Very well done to you all!

- **Year 7-** Engli Gashi, Maria Gui Andreea, Mahek Parekh, Thinujaan Thayaparan, Prabashi Peiris, Anthony White
- **Year 8-** Nandini Chavda, Jaymit Patel, Yianni Antoniou, Antony Antoniou, Mahima Ramesh, Kubenika Paramanathan
- **Year 9-** Amar Rose, Aashish Chapagai, Sophie Hachem, Rushil Patel, Binisha Gurung
- **Year 10-** Mehak Shah
- **Year 11-** Daniel Kempson, Ardedi Prebiba

Student Honours

Jaiden Aaron - after achieving a bronze medal in the under 15 National Championship for 200m, Jaiden has been called up to attend warm weather training in Tenerife.

Congratulations to Year 13 on their University offers!

Our students have been made some very exciting offers and a special well done must be made to Anubhav Lamichhane and Danial Farooq for gaining places at Cambridge (Economics) and Oxford (Engineering) respectively; decisions for the Dentistry and Medicine

courses are not all in yet but so far, well done to Alisa Ahmed (Dentistry), Meenakshi Mandi-Jayaram (Dentistry), Sameara Ali and Priyal Dagli (both Medicine), and to Krishma Qudus who has been made an offer from UCL to study for the Arts and Sciences degree course.

Staff Honours

Lead Practitioner, Mr Colin Hegarty made it to the 'Final Ten' of the Varkey Foundation Global Teachers Prize and achieved second place. Well done on achieving such an outstanding honour.

Student events

Preston Manor launched its annual B.B.C. / Stars Programme with an evening event which took place on 19 January 2016 in the Main Hall. Students showcased their many talents on the evening. We were pleased to welcome back former student and QPR footballer, Gianni Crichlow. It was also a great honour to welcome former England and Premier League star, Garth Crooks on the evening.

The Careers Department organised an excellent Careers Fair for our Year 11 students this term. Over thirty employers and representatives of further and higher education set up stalls in the hall with all students taken off timetable to attend.

We hosted the Junior Team Challenge on behalf of the UKMT (UK Mathematics Trust). Twenty five schools from across London took part.

Debate mate: We hosted two events with between four and six schools attending. Four of our teams will attend the nationwide tournament at the London School of Economics in May.

Talks given by representatives from Oxford and Cambridge University to students in Year 9 and 10 to educate our students on how to make the right choices about their future and to encourage them to aim high.

Fifteen Year 10 students have started a course in politics which will run for two hours after school over a six week period ending with a final project and certification. Opportunities like this are helping to enrich our curriculum offer and challenge our students further.

World Book Day: There were celebrations across the week in the run up to World Book Day. Preston Manor welcomed Jane Brittan, author of award winning novel, *The Edge of Me* as part of the school's World Book Day Celebrations. See further details of her visit at:

<http://www.preston-manor.com/page/?title=Visit+by+Jane+Brittan+2+March+2016&pid=304>

Students also saw teachers in a whole new light on World Book Day, with the majority of their teachers dressed as characters from classic novels. It was wonderful to hear students discuss the different characters and engage with these significant stories that are a part of our British culture.

Sporting honours:

A number of students from Preston Manor attended the Women in Sport Celebration that took place on 24 February 2016. This event was reported in the local press. See link: <http://jasonrobertsfoundation.com/news/jrf-engage-and-inspire-more-than-130-young-females-at-womens-celebration-day/>

The Year 11 Girls Football team continued their unbeaten run to claim a second successive Brent League Cup win. The girls defeated several strong teams along the way to include JFS, Claremont and Kingsbury on their way to an emphatic cup win.

The Year 8 boys' basketball team reached the Brent Cup final and were worthy runners up. The 6th form boys football team reached the Middlesex Cup final (add result - game being

played 21st March). The Year 11 boys' football team have reached the semi-final of the Brent Cup.

Upcoming Events:

Careers fair: Revo Seccus Ltd - Success Youth Development PSYD programme and Brent Council are hosting a careers fair on **Tuesday 5th April, 5.30 pm**. The event is at *Metro Bank Head Office 1 Southampton Row, London WC1B 5HA*. The SYD project run by Revo Seccus encourages young people aged 13-19 to be inspired to develop, as well as introducing the world of enterprise, innovation & entrepreneurialism. This unique programme has exit route supported from Revo Seccus and partnerships to ensure young people are guided into a career, employment or business ownership (See our website/ VLE for more details)

Year 11 GCSEs

Timetables for the summer 2016 examinations have been sent to all students via their school email address as well as all their parents/carers. Please can you make a note of your child's exam dates and times. Students will be issued with a hard copy on their return to school after the Easter holidays. Please ensure they use the holiday to revise. See below for details of on line support to help your son/daughter revise. **The first GCSE is Monday 16th May!**

Years 10 and 11 - GCSEPod and other technologies

Please encourage your child to use GCSEPod and other technologies (e.g. Firefly, Google Classroom etc) to revise and deepen their learning of what they are studying at GCSE. GCSEPod is an award winning product focused on creating high quality audio visual mobile learning, mapped to the main GCSE (UK and international) exam boards, and is proven to raise GCSE attainment. Podcasts are available across 20 popular GCSE subjects.

Travel Safety

The School has been working closely with the Brent School Travel Planning team on enhancing student safety on Forty Avenue. After several years of lobbying, we are happy to celebrate the construction of a zebra crossing and island on Forty Avenue. We would like to recognise and formally thank Mr Graham for his dedication in achieving this.

REMINDERS:

Emergency Contact Numbers

It is a legal requirement for parents to inform the school of any changes to their home address, telephone number or of any change in circumstances which the school should know about. Please complete the attached form and return it to the General Office as soon as possible with any changes to your contact details. The school email address is info@preston-manor.com.

Attendance, Punctuality and Registration

All students should arrive in school **before 8.35am** ready for registration. Please ensure your child is in school on time with the correct uniform and equipment.

The school has a dedicated absence line and if your child is absent for any reason or has to leave school to attend an appointment please call on **0208 385 4042** and leave a message. Please do not call the main switchboard. If your child has a dental appointment during the school day, please ensure that they bring an appointment card so that they can be allowed to leave school. However, we ask that you make these appointments outside of the school day.

Parents are reminded that the school should be informed promptly of any absence known in advance. **Holidays must not be arranged during term time**. Requests for emergency absences during term time should only be made in exceptional circumstances and should be made using a *Request for Exceptional Leave of Absence during Term Time* form available in reception **at least four weeks in advance**.

E-Safety

We would like to draw your attention to the E-Safety section in the Parents' Area of the school website. In particular, we recommend that you look at the landing pages titled 'Parent Info' and 'Know It All – For Parents – A Video Guide to E-Safety'. Please make sure you are helping your child stay safe online. If you have concerns about your child being cyber-bullied, then please let your child's tutor or DSD know.

Equipment and Student Planners

As part of our commitment to develop them as independent learners, all students are expected to come to school each day with the necessary equipment to take an active part in their lessons. As well as essential equipment such as a pen, pencil and ruler, students should have their planner and a reading book with them at all times. Student planners are a vital means of communication between home and school and should be checked and signed by parents once a week. They should also be used for any routine communication between home and school.

Home Learning

Home Learning activities are set on a regular basis at Preston Manor and should be recorded by all students in their planner. As well as reinforcing and deepening learning which has taken place at school, Home Learning gives individuals the opportunity to develop their skills as independent learners. In addition, Home Learning is provided for students to practise applying the skills they have learned in lessons. Without this practice, students do not progress and reach their potential. Please check your child's planner every day or refer to Show My Homework to help support your child meet home learning deadlines. All parents/carers and students have been provided with usernames and passwords. If you wish to find out more about this product, there is a 'Show My Homework – A Parent's Introduction' video that can be viewed from the Parent's Area of the website - www.preston-manor.com

If there are any queries or issues regarding Home Learning, please communicate this with form tutors through the Student Planner in the first instance. We appreciate your support in ensuring the best progress for your son or daughter.

School Uniform

The Preston Manor uniform is an important part of the culture and ethos of our school. High standards of dress are expected at all times and students must come to school every day in neat, clean uniform as an indication that they take pride in belonging to the Preston Manor School community. We fully expect families to support the school in these high expectations.

Please can I ask for your support in ensuring your child is dressed properly by not sending them to school with a note to cover items of missing clothing/ footwear for any period of time beyond one day. *Any period of time beyond one day will not be authorised.*

A summary of uniform expectations is provided below. (*Please check this before making any purchases over the holidays.*)

For all students

- school shoes must be plain black leather or leather look (*no canvas or shiny patent materials*). Kicker shoes are permitted as long as they are black and do not have contrasting stitching, laces or soles. No boots (*including Kicker boots*) of any description, no canvas or patent leather shoes.
- top buttons must be fastened and shirts must be tucked in
- ties should be knotted conventionally and worn to the waist
- navy blue blazers with the school badge must be worn at all times
- outdoor coats must be navy blue or black and have no logos, patterns or markings (*hoods should be kept down whilst on the school site and must not conceal any part of the face*)
- a plain black or blue simple woollen hat may be worn in outside spaces in cold weather at the discretion of senior staff
- hair must be worn in an appropriate style that would not undermine the ethos or discipline of the school (*eg no markings cut into the hair or eyebrows, brightly dyed hair or any other extreme of fashion*)
- jewellery is restricted to one pair of small, plain stud earrings and a watch (*no nose or other facial piercings of any kind*)
- make-up or nail varnish may not be worn

For girls

- navy blue or black knee length or longer school skirt, or navy blue or black tailored school trousers (*no jeans, 'skinny-fit' trousers or leggings*)
- plain navy blue or black religious headscarf (no other headwear of any kind is permitted and head scarves must not conceal any part of the face)

For boys

- dark grey or black school trousers

Mobile phones

Mobile phones, personal stereos, ear-pieces and MP3 or MP4 players are not appropriate in a school setting and are ***banned*** from the Preston Manor site. The school cannot accept responsibility for any such items that are lost on site. Use of mobile phones to make calls or send texts during the school day will continue to be treated as serious breaches of the behaviour policy. Staff will continue to confiscate these items and will arrange for them to be collected by parents rather than returned to students themselves. Parents should contact the school in advance to arrange a time to collect items from their child's Director of Student Development as items will **not be returned without an appointment**. The school appreciates the support of parents/carers in upholding the mobile phone policy.

Behaviour in School and the Wider Community

Transport for London

TFL and its customers have complained about a small number of our students, particularly students who have used the 297 and 79 Bus Routes. Some drivers are experiencing disruption and behavioural issues with students from our school when using the routes in the mornings and afternoons. TFL have cited several concerns including 'an unwillingness to cooperate with an instruction to move down the bus or upstairs, away from the front doors to allow public to board, rudeness and threatening behaviour towards drivers and members of the public'. We will be working closely with TFL in the new term to identify any students who are involved in such behaviour.

I felt the need to highlight these concerns with you so that both members of public and drivers feel safe when travelling on public transport and are not subjected to the unfortunate issues that are occurring with a minority of our students.

The vast majority of our students exhibit excellent and courteous behaviour at all times and are a credit to their families. The school has high expectations of the way that students behave in the local community and we expect them to be good citizens at all times.

In particular students:

- *must go straight home at the end of the day unless they are taking part in an organised school activity supervised by a member of staff*
- *must not congregate by the school gates after 3.20pm and if they need to meet younger siblings they should wait in the playground by the Art and Design Block*
- *must not arrange to meet friends who do not attend Preston Manor under any circumstances*
- *must not behave in an anti-social or inconsiderate way near local bus stops and shops, particularly in Preston Road*
- *must not hang around McDonalds at Wembley Park which has banned students from visiting their restaurant after school, unless they are accompanied by their parents/guardians.*

Due to the potential risk to the health, safety and welfare of all members of the school community, as well as possible damage to the school's reputation, any incidents when students fail to heed these instructions will be dealt with as a very serious matter. Students who behave in this way will place themselves at risk of fixed term or possibly permanent exclusion from Preston Manor.

Offensive Weapons

Please support the school by emphasising to your children that research demonstrates that carrying a weapon makes young people more vulnerable to attack rather than providing security. Section 1 of the Prevention of Crime Act 1953 provides that “an offensive weapon is **any article made or adapted** for use for causing injury to the person, or intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by some other person”. This can include carrying any sharp objects such as a broken compass or sharpener blade (outside of a secure pencil case) as these can also be viewed as a weapon when not used for their intended purpose. I would like to remind Families that our school behaviour policy is very clear on the most serious sanction for an offensive weapon.

SCHOOL TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2015/2016 SUMMER TERM 2016	
INSET day	Monday 11 April 2016
Term starts	Tuesday 12 April 2016
May Day	Monday 2 May 2016 – SCHOOL CLOSED
Half Term	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2016
Term finishes	Wednesday 20 July 2016

Please pass this form to the General Office

STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS	
Student FIRST name:	
Form:	
Home Telephone no.:	
Mother Work no.:	
Mother Mobile no.:	
Mother Email address:	
Father Work no.:	
Father Mobile no.:	
Father Email address:	
OTHER EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS	
Please give details of any <u>other person</u> to contact in case of emergency	
Name:	
Telephone no.	
Relationship to child:	
Name:	
Telephone no.:	
Relationship to child:	