



An All-through Co-operative School
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17th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you have all had a good week so far. It has been a busy week at Preston Manor School as we have been working with our students after our full return to school.

On Monday morning, we finally welcomed our newest recruits to the Preston Manor family - our reception class. It was lovely to see our new students in their uniform carrying their pristine book bags and walking into school for the first time. It was also a great opportunity for me to welcome our new parents into our school. The students were excited and mostly couldn't wait to get in and get started. Of course, there are a few of our new young people that found it difficult but I am pleased to say that their first week has gone fantastically well. As our parents were leaving I made sure that they were ok after leaving their little ones for the first time, and my favourite comment from one family when I asked if *they* were ok was that their son ran straight into class and didn't even say goodbye!

At the other end of the school, we had our 'Welcome to Year 12' virtual evening. It was an opportunity to hear about the year ahead and what to expect in a little more detail, as well as some important information for parents. Ms Surani, our Assistant Head, Head of 6th Form, led the evening and it was great to see so many people join the event. It also allowed me to see the full journey that our students make at Preston Manor: joining us in reception and working all the way through to our high achieving 6th Form. Preston Manor School has served our community for 85 years, providing excellent opportunities for our young people and making school memorable.

Next week sees our annual Open Evening for our prospective Year 7 students. We will be starting this event at 6pm and offering tours to our Year 6 students and parents to see the school and talk to our specialist staff. I mentioned in last week's letter that we will all be here to welcome you and talk about the transition to our Upper School. In the coming weeks, Mr Atkinson, Head of our Lower School, will be holding an information evening for Year 6 parents about our support in making the step from primary education to secondary education, and the range of support that is on offer. I must also remind parents that due to the significant amount of work and preparation for the Open Evening, we will be **closing earlier** than normal at the **Upper School on Thursday 23rd September at 1.20pm** and **starting a little later on Friday 24th September at 9.40am**. Please ensure that your son/daughter arrives at school no later than 9.35am for a prompt start to period 2 at 9.40am.

Looking ahead, I would like to remind our parents that we have a published **INSET day on Friday 15th October** and both schools will be closed on this day. One of our main training and development activities on this day will be working on our *all-through-curriculum* and staff from both schools will be working on this together. It certainly looks to be a really exciting day looking at the fourteen year education journey in our schools for our students.

On a final note this week, I would like to thank everyone for their support in improving punctuality. The number of pupils arriving late to school has been reduced by 75% in the past week or so, which is great as we do not want our pupils arriving late, and missing valuable learning time. We continue to ask that students arrive by 8.35am on a normal school day and





please be mindful of early morning traffic and areas of congestion, allowing plenty of time to get to school.

Wishing you all a very peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully

Mr R Denial
Executive Headteacher

