



An All-through Co-operative School  
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Executive Head: Mr Russell Denial

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you all have had a good week and enjoyed some of the autumn sunshine that has come our way.

Last night we welcomed lots of prospective parents and students to our Upper School for our year 6 Open Evening. Not only was it a pleasure to welcome guests back into our school to look around our classrooms and facilities and talk to our wonderful staff, I was also proud of our students who volunteered to help either working in classrooms, or helping our new parents on tours. Everyone commented how amazing our students were and just how great our school is. The deadline for admissions is 31st October 2021 for those applying to our Upper School, so just keep this date in mind. If anyone needs any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

There has been much in the news over the recent week regarding the vaccination programme for 12-15 year olds. I want to clarify a couple of points as well as offer our reassurances. Firstly, we are waiting to hear from the NHS and our Local Authority when this will be taking place as schools are only the facilitator of the vaccination programme and have no legal responsibility for this. All vaccinations will be administered by trained NHS professionals. Secondly, when we are in a position to provide further details, every parent will receive a consent form to either give consent, or decline the vaccination. I know some families do have concerns about the vaccination programme and we will ensure that parental confirmation is part of the process with the NHS.

The team in the Speech and Language Base at Preston Manor School are planning a series of events to promote Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) awareness among our staff. These events will take place the week of 11th October 2021. DLD is a hidden disability and those with DLD have significant difficulty in learning, using and understanding spoken language. DLD affects approximately 7.6% of the population - both children and adults. Unfortunately, it is not something that many people have heard of despite the impact that it has on everyday communication, social relationships and mental wellbeing. Mrs Courtney has also been working closely with Brent Local Authority to promote DLD Awareness in our Local community and has arranged for Brent to display information about DLD on their digital notice boards and social media with the hashtags **#ThinkLanguage #ThinkDLD**. The Speech and Language team will be writing a piece for the 'Your Brent Magazine' winter edition. Finally, Brent is taking part in a worldwide event and will light up the Civic Centre in purple - the colour of the DLD Awareness charity in order to promote DLD Awareness among our community.

As part of our 'welcome back to school' approach, we have another **welcome evening** planned and this will be for our **Year 10 students** and families on **Wednesday 6th October 2021**. This will be a valuable information evening outlining many key aspects of the next five terms on GCSE courses. The event will be a remote meeting and invites on how to join the meeting will be sent out shortly.

It has been a very busy week at our schools this week and I know that everyone is looking forward to the weekend. Whatever your plans are, I hope you have a good one.

Yours faithfully

**Mr R Denial**  
Executive Headteacher

