

25th March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have enjoyed the lovely weather this week. Seeing some of the Spring bloom appear has really made a difference!

I must start this week's newsletter with a polite reminder to all parents and visitors to our schools about expected conduct. Aggressive and intimidating behaviour will not be tolerated and I will take the decision to ban parents who are not polite and respectful from school site. Our staff in reception are here to help and direct our visitors to the appropriate person and whilst we understand that from time to time, there may be some frustration, it is never acceptable to be rude, aggressive or use offensive language. Parents and Carers must have an appointment when visiting the school, so please do call in advance and let our team know who you want to see so that an appropriate arrangement can be made for you. Staff are incredibly busy and may well not be available immediately, so please do follow this guidance in order that your concerns can be resolved swiftly and professionally.

This week we welcomed 'One Goal' to the school to deliver a mental health workshop to Year 12 students from the Sixth Form Mental Health Committee. The students were excellent in contributing to thought-provoking discussions, reflecting on their own mental health, learning strategies to improve mental health, and understanding the symptoms of some of the most common mental health conditions that affect young people. The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and received certificates at the end recognising them as Mental Health Champions. The cohort of students will now be working on using the skills gained to support their own and peers' mental health within the school; as well as fundraising through an Easter themed bake sale at lunchtime on Tuesday 29th March. Year 5 in the Lower School were also fortunate enough to take part in a similar workshop in the afternoon which was specifically tailored to their age group. Needless to say, our students were incredible and ambassadors for Preston Manor.

As you know, traffic can be a little congested at the start and end of the school day. Can parents please be mindful of our students during these busy times and be patient when trying to leave Carlton Avenue East and not attempt to get through traffic by using the pavements at any cost. Our students' safe passage home is the most important thing and we cannot have them put at risk by reckless driving.

On Tuesday afternoon, some of our Year 12s and over 50 Year 10 students went on a Secret Cinema trip as part of their course with Ms Rana. It was a fully immersive, free moving theatre experience and our students fully immersed themselves in high society 1813 London. They moved around, learnt dances, painted and posed for charcoal drawings as well as uncovering secrets and acquiring keys to unlock secret rooms and experiences! All of this happened to the back drop of a string quartet playing pop songs and Lamar and Jawad in Year 12 were the Dukes of Yorkshire! Ms Brown who went with the students had said that the trip was so amazing that the pupils will be talking about this trip for the remainder of the year. The Year 10s took full advantage of the life drawing sessions and even managed to auction some of their work off. Next on the agenda is a fashion workshop with the Victoria and Albert museum. More examples of the work that Preston manor does beyond the classroom.



It is hard to believe that next Friday is the end of term and as usual, there will be amendments to our usual closing time. Students at the Upper School will be on a phased departure and students will be dismissed by 12.15pm. Students at the Lower School will be dismissed at 12pm. Please also be aware that school resumes after the Easter break on Tuesday 19th April with normal start times at both sites.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

RUSSELL DENIAL
Executive Headteacher