

13th May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I want to start this week by saying a huge congratulations to our Year 6 students who have been sitting their Key Stage 2 exams. The Year 6 children have responded very well and have tried their best every day this week. We are all very proud of the effort and commitment that they have shown this week.

Of course we now send our best wishes to our Year 2 students in their assessments over the next couple of weeks, as well as our Year 11 students who start their GCSE exams on Monday and our Year 13 shortly after! Busy times for many of our amazing students. The last time schools' had any formal examinations was in 2019, so please let's do all we can to support our students.

Year 5 Willow have been doing a 2 week intensive swimming programme last week and this week, and they have applied themselves very well considering that a large proportion of the children have not been swimming before. They have made excellent progress in the short time that they have been swimming and have behaved impeccably both on the bus and at the swimming pool. The swimming pool have repeatedly praised our children on their behaviour, manners and the speed and efficiency with which they get ready for their swimming session and get dressed to go home. 5 Maple will be starting the swimming fun after the May half term.

On Tuesday, Ms Sharma led a Year 9 Trip to Bletchley Park where the famous World War 2 code crackers were based and broke the Enigma code - our students were able to break the Enigma Code by using the Bombe machine! They got a chance to experience the living conditions of the greatest minds such as Alan Turing who was part of the best kept secret during WW2. There was also a great game of coach bingo on the way home when our trip ran into some serious non-moving traffic on the M1!

Two other year groups that had some fantastic curriculum opportunities this week were Year 3 and Year 5. Year 3 had an online Roman Workshop which went down really well and gave the children further experience and knowledge around their history topic on the Romans due to all the artefacts that they were exposed to. Year 5 had an online Science workshop looking at the topic of current environmental issues that we are all currently facing. Again, this topic was very well received and broadened the children's knowledge and understanding in this critical area.

We have some important notices for our Upper School students that we feel parents should be aware of:

- School uniform is an important part of school and school blazers are compulsory. School jumpers are optional and the school jumper should not replace the school blazer. We are aware that the weather is starting to

improve and get a little warmer but blazers are still an expected part of our Upper School uniform.

- From Monday 16th May, students at the Upper School who have PE during period 5, will be allowed to wear their PE kit on the way home and will no longer be required to change back into their uniform.
- There is also an expectation that **all** students are required to attend school every day with their **REP** - Reading book, Equipment and Planner.

This week saw a number of students attend the Brent Athletics competition held at Willesden Sports Centre on both Tuesday and Thursday. The Year 7 and 9s attended on Tuesday and had a very successful day! We saw Tasshini Sasikaran, Enoch Agbaje, Omotayo Oke (Year 7) Nasir White and Jaheim Mc-Neil Lloyd (Year 9) all reach the finals of their races after successful heats.

The big winners of the day were Rio McKenzie-Rennie who finished 2nd in the 200m final, Max Sellars and Cairo Sealy finishing 1st in the 300m, Teoni Mitchell finishing 1st in the 100m and Rennae Reid who took 1st place in the shot putt. A big well done to all students who competed!

The Year 8 and 10 students' attended on Thursday and were just as successful and all were fantastic ambassadors for our school. There were some really good personal achievements, including: Keren in Year 10 who won the javelin, Theo in Year 8 won the 800m, Mikail in Year 10 came 2nd in the 800m, Isaiah in Year 10 came 2nd in the 200m, Alex in Year 8 came 3rd in the 300m, Ydidyan in Year 8 came 2nd in high jump, Mohammad Konbus came 3rd in high jump and Romal in Year 8 came 3rd in 100m. To finish it all off, the Year 10 boys relay came 2nd! Some absolutely amazing achievements and results that Preston Manor are proud of.

On a final note this week, we have been signposting the support available in school to raise awareness of mental health in Mental Health Awareness week. Whatever your plans are this weekend, please enjoy it with your family and friends and remember - it's good to talk.

Yours faithfully



RUSSELL DENIAL
Executive Headteacher