

16.09.2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your family are keeping well and that your children have had a good start to the academic year. Although we have a little of our comprehensive summer work being concluded, we have been really pleased with the start to the year. Our students are showing a real ambition towards their work and we look forward to this continuing as we progress through the year.

Next week sees the Upper School open its doors to Year 6 students and parents for our annual Open Evening as parents begin looking at secondary school places. The fabulous aspect about being in Year 6 at Preston Manor School is that every student has a guaranteed place in Year 7 which is reassuring to parents especially in an oversubscribed school like ours. We will have some performances from our talented students as well as speeches from our Head Boy and Head Girl, Dr Palmer our Chair of Governors, and a detailed overview of the school from myself. The highlight will be some of our new Year 7 students who have only been with us for a couple of weeks who were sitting in the same place as our visitors this time last year!

To facilitate preparations for our Open Evening, the Upper School will be closing slightly early on Thursday 22nd September at 1.25pm (the end of period 4) and opening slightly later on Friday 23rd September at 9.45am where students must go straight to tutor time. These amendments to the Upper School do not have any impact on our Lower School where the school day will remain as normal on both Thursday and Friday.

To add further to this and give our parents and future students a clear picture of our school, we will be having Open Mornings on Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th September. This will be an opportunity to see our school in action and see lessons and learning taking place. Visits will be available between 9.00am and 11am and people have been booking their time slots on our website already!

On Wednesday, I was invited to the D.I.V.A. tea party at the Lower School where Mrs Lannaman-William's hosted the welcome event to our new Year 6 D.I.V.A.s. They were officially welcomed to the programme and received their badges and their pledges. The girls were absolutely fantastic and I look forward to seeing them work through their programme throughout the year and then join the Upper School D.I.V.A.s in the years to come.

Like all schools and many businesses, we will be closed on Monday 19th September for Her Majesty the Queen's funeral. I know it will be a solemn day but I also hope it is a day where people remember to celebrate her wonderful contributions over her 70 years as our monarch. You will have seen in the news the vast crowds paying their respects already and our thoughts will be with her family on a difficult, yet very public day.

Wishing you all a restful and peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr R Denial
Executive Headteacher