

11th November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all have had a good week so far - it has certainly been a busy one here at school.

Last academic year, our two Additional Resource Provisions - 'Compass' and 'Lighthouse' - worked towards achieving the ELKLAN 'Communication Friendly Setting' status. They worked in collaboration with staff from the Upper School, sharing training, knowledge and resources. The Communication Friendly Setting Program gives teachers and support staff the skills and knowledge needed to support Children's speech, language and communication development. Speech, Language and Communication Need is the most commonly identified need for students in schools in the UK. Currently, statistics show that over 1 million children in the UK have a Speech, Language and Communication need; that is 2 or 3 students in every classroom. Additionally, 22% of all children with SEN have a speech, language and communication need and it is the most commonly identified need among children. We are absolutely delighted to announce that both Compass and Lighthouse achieved the Communication Friendly Setting Status! This is an award that is extremely difficult to achieve and one that only a few schools receive.

I would like to thank members of our school community that joined us on Wednesday for our Diwali Fair which we held at our Lower School. It was a truly spectacular event that started with live music followed by some incredible dancing. Everyone also had the opportunity to visit our Henna stall and enjoy the lovely food that was available whilst being entertained. The event concluded with an amazing firework display. You can see some video clips of the fireworks and a few other activities on our Twitter feed. We are also on Instagram and you can find and follow us on **@PrestonManorSch**. Please do follow us to keep up to date with all news and events that are taking place!

As we enter into the last five weeks of the Autumn term (that is only 25 school days until we break up for Christmas...), our Year 11 and Year 13 students will be getting ready to sit their mock exams. These exams are really important as it allows us to plan interventions, offer that extra support where it is needed as well as get our students ready for the rigour of the actual exams next year. The outcome of these exams will also be used to support our students in their applications for the next part of their journey, whether that be to join our 6th Form, move into employment or training or getting ready to apply for University. Remember to work hard Year 11 and 13!

Now that our Reception class for September 2023 Open Evening and Open Mornings have finished, we will be turning our attention to our 6th Form Open Evening next week on Thursday 17th November. It will be a great opportunity for our students to talk to our specialist teachers as well as students on our 6th form courses so that important decisions can be made. As always at Preston Manor School, we will be welcoming a large number of external students into our school and we look forward to meeting everyone on the evening.

I hope you all have a peaceful weekend and enjoy a little of the Autumn sunshine - a welcome break from all of the rain we have had!

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R Denial', written in black ink.

R Denial
Executive Headteacher