

18<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been another full, and busy week at school this week with lots of events taking place.

On Thursday, our Lower School welcomed eight times British 100 metre champion and 60 metre European record holder Dwain Chambers to our school. He spoke to Years 4, 5 and 6 about his career drive and determination. He also joined our Year 5 for their reading exhibition and it was a wonderful way to share our love of reading and showcase our inclusive reading curriculum. Dwain stayed with us and took part in a Q&A session with our students as well as taking up some photo opportunities. He talked at length to our students about Practice - Play - Learn and that with the right commitment, you can achieve anything! There are some more photos and further information on our Twitter feed.

Also on Thursday, we opened our doors to students and families who were enquiring about joining our Sixth Form. It was great to see so many people join us from our current year 11 as well as many external students who attend neighbouring schools. Mrs Surani, Assistant Headteacher Head of Sixth Form, led the evening before students could visit classrooms, talk to both staff and students about the courses on offer as well as visit our fabulous Sixth Form centre. If you require any further information, please do get in touch and we will be happy to help.

Next week sees the start of our Year 13 exams. These exams will last for two weeks and then we will go into our Year 11 exams and then it is hard to believe that after that - we will break up for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 16th December**. As I have said to our students on many occasions over recent weeks, the work that is done now, will help immensely in the coming months as we get ready for the formal summer exam season. In fact, those exams are under 100 school days away...

I want to take a moment to remind everyone about our expectations of uniform. We have worked incredibly hard over the last year to raise and maintain the high standards of uniform that we expect and our students do look very smart. At the Upper School, the school jumper is optional and should not be worn instead of the school blazer - we have had a few students 'forget' their blazer this week. The blazer is compulsory. As the weather continues to turn and the colder, wetter weather joins us, please do ensure that your child has a suitable coat to wear. Hopefully, we will not get as much rain as we have done in the past two weeks but the temperatures will begin to drop significantly over the next few weeks.

On a final note this week, we have been raising awareness of Anti-Bullying Week in many of our assemblies. Educating our young people in tackling bullying behaviour and how harmful it can be to an individual is very important to us all at Preston Manor School. We believe that every person should be treated with respect and no individual should ever be on the receiving end of discriminatory and bullying behaviour. We will always take action against bullying.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Denial', with a stylized flourish at the end.

R Denial  
**Executive Headteacher**