

8 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you have had a good week and the challenges of the weather haven't been too much for you. It has been a busy week this week but one of the highlights was being invited to the Lower School for Christmas lunch yesterday. I was lucky enough to share a table with some fabulous Year 5 students and we talked about our favourite foods and many of us had Turkey with the trimmings. So many of our students looked fabulous in their Christmas jumpers and one jumper even had lights!

We had a very special evening on Tuesday as we hosted our annual Awards Evening in the Upper School Hall. It was an opportunity to celebrate many of our students' successes and reward amazing ambition and excellence. Our guest speaker at the event, MasterChef semi-finalist an ex-Manorian Nisha Parmar, spoke to our audience about her journey since leaving the school in 1998 and how she became the success she is today. Not only did she spend some time with our Sixth Form students giving a Q&A entrepreneur masterclass, she spent the afternoon with many of our Food Studies students preparing food, talking about food presentation and helping them prepare delightful nibbles for our pre-event reception. It was great to welcome her back to her school and we can't thank her enough for the time she spent with us. She has a new book being released in the New Year and after the Awards Evening, I will certainly be getting myself a copy.

As the end of term is now fast approaching, I want to confirm the end of term arrangements for the last day - Friday 22nd December. Our Lower School will begin dismissal at 11.55am for Key Stage 1 students and Key Stage 2 students will follow at 12.05pm. We know that many of our Upper School children will collect their siblings from the Lower School and in order to facilitate this and support our families, Upper School students will begin a phased dismissal slightly before this in order to get to the Lower School in a timely manner. All Upper School students will have been dismissed by 12pm.

I don't want to begin talking about the new term before this one has even ended, but all students return to school in the New Year on Monday 8th January. This is a normal school day for everyone.

Over the next two weeks, there will be various communications sent to our parents and there will not be a newsletter next Friday. However, watch out for the End of Term Newsletter, a bumper edition which will show you some of the truly amazing opportunities and events that have taken place over the autumn term. Also remember to follow us on 'X' and on Instagram (@PrestonManorSch). This way you will get regular photos and updates of our school life.

I would like to take this early opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas break and my very best wishes for the New Year. It will be a time of celebration, sharing gifts with each other and remembering those who may not be with us anymore. The best gift you can give anyone over the holiday is your time. Enjoy the festive season!

Yours faithfully



Mr. Russell Denial
Executive Headteacher