

02.02.2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I want to start this week's newsletter by saying a huge thank you to the parents of our Year 13 students. We had over 90% attendance last night at our Year 13 parents' evening which gave everyone the chance to talk about learning and progress. I would also like to thank those parents that gave us such amazing feedback. On a point of exams and as the 'business' part of the year is nearing, we are only 11 school weeks away from our Summer exam season - not forgetting that our Year 6 will sit their KS2 SATS the week before.

Following our recent parental survey, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide you all with some feedback from your responses. Firstly, I am delighted to say that we had the most surveys completed - ever - and 819 responses were received. A few of the headlines were shared at the recent Parent Partnership meeting in January and I want to share these with you today. When we do our next survey, please complete it as we will be aiming for over 1000 returns! The results are as follows:

- 88% of parents said that their child was happy at Preston Manor School
- 87% of parents said their child felt safe at our school. This feedback was something that was appreciated by our Safer Schools Office, PC Tony Joyce
- 86% of parents said that our schools made sure our pupils were well behaved
- 83% said concerns were dealt with effectively
- 86% said that we had high expectations of your child
- 89% of parents said that their child does well at Preston Manor School
- 91% of parents said that there was a good range of subjects. I would add to this that we continue to be committed to a full, broad and wide ranging curriculum that covers all subjects for every pupil
- 92% felt that celebrated our multicultural community

The next few results were extremely pleasing when we look at our diverse community and the global issues that we are all facing:

- 91% of parents said that racism was taken seriously
- 92% said we would deal with sexism effectively
- 93% said we deal with homophobia effectively

And finally:

- 83% of parents would recommend our school to another parent

I am sure you would agree that these are a fantastic set of responses, but as always, we know that there is a small minority that have concerns and we will work to address these, through our Parent Partnership, in the coming weeks. A few parents in the online meeting expressed their concerns

over the revised Upper School behaviour policy in regard to mobile phone use and the detention policy. Mr Phillips and I will organise an open forum for parents via a coffee morning after half term where parents can discuss these issues in person if they wish. I will reiterate the point I made in the meeting that the Upper School approach to mobile phone use and sanctions will not change. Since October half term when the new policy was introduced, there were zero incidents in regard to cyber bullying at Preston Manor School. That, in itself, when ensuring the safety, welfare and well-being of all of the students, is a fantastic achievement. I will conclude this matter with a direct quote from one of our parents in the 'chat' function from the online meeting; '*No phone seen - no detention - no issue*'.

I would like to conclude this week's letter with a special mention to Ms Lannaman-Williams and our Year 6 DIVAS. The Year 6 DIVAS literally poured their heart and soul into making 380 cupcakes for a fundraiser for the LRC. They made £190, where every penny will go directly to the LRC and every cupcake was sold, and flew off the shelves in what was a record time! A big thank you to the staff and families that supported this initiative and as Ms Lannaman-Williams said herself, the girls showed their *Determination, Independence, Value* and *Aspiration* throughout. Well done girls - a fantastic achievement.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R A Denial', written in a cursive style.

Mr. R A Denial
Executive Headteacher