



ABI LEADS NEW STUDENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



In an exciting departure from the way the process has been conducted in previous years, the formation of a new Student Senior Leadership team will provide those students with definite roles and respected responsibilities in school. (Continued on page 2).

BUGSY COMES TO PRENTON

See when on page 4

Open events

Autumn open events
Announced on page 8

PRENTON CRICKETERS

Our Cricketers are Champions.
Read more on page 22



PRENTON
High School for Girls
Making a Difference

Prenton High School for Girls | Hesketh Avenue | Birkenhead | Wirral | CH42 6RR
Tel 0151 644 8113 | **Fax** 0151 643 9588 | **Email** schooloffice@prentonhighschool.co.uk
Web www.prentonhighschool.co.uk | **Twitter** @prentonhigh

Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Ayling BA (Hons) NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Geraldine Fraser BEd (Hons) MSc
Head Girl: Abi Cotter | **Deputy Head Girls:** Holly Bernard and Molly Dewsbury
Assistant Head Girls: Lucy Diggory, Amirah Akpan and Amy Birss

Zero Tolerance Of Bullying

It follows a review over recent weeks undertaken by Mrs Jones, 2015-2016 Year 11 Progress Leader, and the Senior Leadership Team in which they have looked at the process of appointing the Head Girl and other leading roles and responsibilities for the coming academic year.

This year, students were invited to apply by letter, secure two staff references and prepare a five minute presentation outlining their aspirations of why they wanted to be Head Girl. The presentations were delivered to Mrs Jones, Miss Eastwood, Assistant Headteacher, and current Head Girl, Lily Clark. From the sixteen applicants, six were then interviewed by Mrs Ayling, Headteacher, and Mrs Fraser, Deputy Headteacher.

We are delighted to announce that the new Student Senior Leadership Team will be Head Girl: Abi Cotter, Deputy Head Girls: Holly Bernard and Molly Dewsbury, Assistant Head Girls: Lucy Diggory, Amirah Akpan and Amy Birss.

The group of students chosen are an amazing inspiration to our vision for developing our already successful school and they will meet regularly to promote student voice, also working with Mrs Jones and making decisions on behalf of the students. They will also meet with the Senior Leadership Team on a half-termly basis. They will be easily identified in school by their white shirts.

All sixteen students gave a very strong, positive feel about our school and the remaining ten girls who applied will be given other positions of responsibility in the school. In the next year, Mrs Jones will be placing more significance on the roles of students and how they can become a more vibrant part of the Leadership and direction of our school.



Helping us to appreciate the differences when 'banter becomes bullying', the Last Minute Theatre Company came into school after the half-term break.

Their production of 'Because' for our Year 7 and Year 8 students included sketches and interactive quizzes that focused on the different sorts of bullying that takes place in the UK. Their message was clear: take great care in what we say online and should we find ourselves the subject of bullying, never keep it to ourselves – always make sure we tell someone. This was a powerful piece of drama and highlighted, once again, our zero tolerance of bullying at Prenton High School.

ALL SET TO TRAVEL ON TRIPS DAY

Whilst some students will be heading to La Fosca in Spain in the last week of term, others will be travelling to London, Cheshire Oaks, Chester Zoo and historical Chester.

Headlines



I am delighted with the appointment of our new Student Senior Leadership Team and congratulate each of the six students who have gained the opportunity to represent, and work on behalf of, students across the school. I am sure that everyone will join me in wishing our new Head Girl Abi and her team a very successful year.

As covered in the front-page story of this summer edition of High Life, the formation of this group followed a rigorous process in which these students in particular demonstrated their passion and aspirations for Prenton High School - and their determination to 'make a difference' for their fellow students. It is a new and exciting development for our school and we are very much looking forward to working with them.

The encouragement of all girls to take on some form of additional responsibility, giving them opportunities to represent others during their time in school, is something that I value highly and see as a key focus for the future. There are already student leadership opportunities throughout school, whether as a form captain, sports captain, form charity representatives and School Council representatives and I am in no doubt that our new team will soon be contributing greatly to school life.

This edition of High Life reports on the many students who have thrived by taking on responsibility, in school and outside, their many extra-curricular activities, sporting endeavours, and the recognition of outstanding work in the community and raising money for those less fortunate are all mentioned. In our brilliant summer production of 'Bugsy Malone', we saw a range of students across all year groups giving their all on the stage, playing in the orchestra, and supporting the cast by helping backstage.

We are proud of all of our students who are 'making a difference'. I look forward to greeting our record intake of students in September. I hope that everyone, staff, students, parents and neighbours have a very peaceful and happy summer break.

In the meantime, don't forget to keep following us on twitter, and stay up to date with events on our website.

Mrs Lisa Ayling
Headteacher



BUGSY MALONE 'SPLURGES' PRENTON

Bugsy Malone and the gangs headed to Prenton this term where they starred in our brilliant summer production of 'Bugsy'.

Performances were held over three nights when they transported audiences to the Speakeasy Chicago of the 1920s and 1930s. We not only saw Bugsy, Fat Sam, Dandy Dan, Blousey Brown, Tallulah and a supporting cast of rival, double-crossing and villainous mobsters, but also a cornucopia of singing, dancing – with some serious 'splurging' into the bargain.

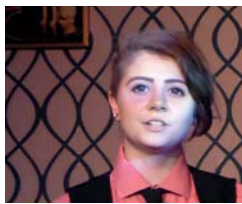
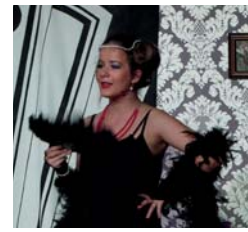
Billed as 'Fat Sam's Band', students Lily (flute), Rachel (trumpet), Chloe (flute), and Rachel (alto saxophone) were joined by teachers Mrs Burns (Musical Director and clarinet), Mr Major (guitar), Mr Richardson (bass guitar) and Mrs Rowlinson (piano). Thanks also to Miss Brooks (Director of

Drama), Miss Barr (Director of Dance) and Mrs Jones (Conductor).

There were many tributes to the production including one parent who emailed to say: "Your girls can rightly be proud of themselves for putting on a lovely production and entertaining us so beautifully tonight. Superb voices and excellent acting – and credit to all backstage as well, for all the costumes, sets, and choreography. Please pass on my congratulations and good wishes, to performers, backstage and everyone who helped give me a super evening!" Cllr Steve Williams tweeted: "Fantastic school show of Bugsy Malone tonight @prentonhigh. Loads of hard work done on and off the stage."

One parent was overheard saying "Just brilliant!" after the final performance – he sums it up well in just two words!





2015 PROM - A WONDERFUL NIGHT

The Class of 2015 were joined by their guests and staff to celebrate the end of their exams and their five years at Prenton High School. Organised by Year 11 Progress Leader Miss Roberts, the event was held at Hulme Hall, within the beautiful setting of Port Sunlight Village. The dresses were superb and the dancing enthusiastic – you were wonderful, ladies.



THE MAYOR SEES SCHOOL SHOW

Headteacher, Mrs Ayling was delighted to welcome the Mayor of Wirral, Councillor Les Rowlands and the Mayoress of Wirral, Mrs Paula Rowlands to school. They were in the audience for the second night of our school show, 'Bugsy'.

Thank you, Mr Mayor, for coming along and supporting our wonderful cast!



COURTNEY TREADS THE BOARDS - FOLLOWING MUM'S FOOTSTEPS

There is a great personal story connected to our school show, 'Bugsy'. Courtney, whose wonderful performance as Tallulah in our show, was literally following in her mum's footsteps.

Her mum, Jaïne Evans, appeared in Prenton's adaptation of 'Bugsy' twenty years ago – at the time Jaïne was playing alongside another well-known former student and star of stage and screen - Suzanne Collins - who went on to other roles, including Brookside!



A Close Up on Art

Our art students have a consistent record of producing stunning work – readers will recall our report on the work displayed in the Lady Lever's Fresh Perspectives exhibition in the spring edition of High Life.

Coinciding with the first night of our school production of 'Bugsy', teacher of Art Miss Churton launched a special exhibition over three evenings of GCSE and Key Stage 3 artwork in our art rooms. Collectively titled 'Close Up', the exhibition attracted students, parents and visitors into school – and we had the opportunity to welcome back a number of former students through our Alumni project. Former student Carys Kilduff is seen here enjoying the work.



Well done everybody, our Art rooms were at their absolute best with your wonderful work.

A BUSY SUMMER AHEAD

During our summer break, the workmen will be moving in.

Reporting to Mrs Sanderson, Premises Manager, they will begin by giving the Learning Resource Base a 'make-over' - fitting a new carpet and refurbishing with new tables, chairs, storage cabinets and upgraded IT.

There will also be new carpets laid in the music room and five other first floor classrooms, and re-flooring around school including the PE toilets and shower areas, the first floor corridor, the music corridor, and the English staircase. Decorating will take place in U35 and the PE toilets, and double glazing will be installed in the Main Hall and along the first floor.

We cannot wait to see it all in September!

ALEX IS A CHAMPION RIDER

Year 7 student Alex has been horse-riding and show-jumping for seven years and has recently added a first prize for equitation, a form of dressage, to her many trophies and rosettes. With her 12 year old grey horse Gemma (short for Gemstone) she competes in many events over the season, gaining collective points towards a grand total.

Last year she and Gemma won the 'Chase me Charlie' award, where the jump gets progressively higher, and in which they both finished clearing a massive 1.25 metres! Coming up next for Alex is a series of challenging cross-country competitions.

Alex is pictured here with a selection of her many awards. Well done, Alex – and Gemma, of course!



ADVANCING OUR CYCLING SKILLS

Thanks to the team from Bikeability, our students got into the saddle to take part in their Level 3 course, the highest standard award.

Bikeability is described as 'cycling proficiency for the 21st century', and is designed to provide the skills and confidence to ride their bikes on today's roads.

Level 3 trainees learn to handle hazards, making on-the-move risk assessments and planning routes for safer cycling. Once their green badge has been achieved, the Bikeability team say students should have the skills to cycle almost anywhere.

Our students are pictured with Carole, one of the Bikeability trainers who helped us on the day.



FOLLOW US ON THE WEB AND ON TWITTER

You don't need to wait for your next edition of High Life to find out what is going on around school – follow us on our regularly updated website:

www.prentonhighschool.co.uk

We are on twitter too: [@prentonhigh](https://twitter.com/prentonhigh)
Don't forget to tell friends and family to follow us too!

DATES FOR AUTUMN OPEN EVENTS ANNOUNCED

For those who were unable to join us in May – or who would like to take another look around our school, there will be other opportunities in the autumn:

Open Evening

Thursday 24th September
6pm to 8.30pm. Headteacher's talk at 6.30pm and 7.30pm

Open Days (parents and carers only)

9.30am to 11.30am and 2pm to 4.00pm:
Wednesday 30th September
Thursday 1st October

We very much look forward to welcoming you.

MAY OPEN EVENING GENERATES GREAT FEEDBACK



Along with their parents, we welcomed pupils from over twenty local primary schools from across Wirral to our May Open evening. They took part in a series of activities, giving them a flavour of the different subjects we teach. They also learned about the wide range of extra-curricular clubs our students enjoy.

Thank you to all those visitors whose feedback was so positive – these are just some of the comments made:

"There was more to do at your Open evening"
"It was a lovely atmosphere"
"We loved the engaging staff"
"My daughter loved making things, particularly in DT and DT food technology – brilliant!"
"Staff were enthusiastic and very knowledgeable"
"Great hands-on things to do all evening – especially in science, MFL, maths and music"

As our Open Evening was held on the eve of the General Election, staff, students and visitors were invited to take part in a vote on whether 16 year-olds should have the vote. The result was a resounding 'Yes', which polled 80% of the total vote – our local politicians have been advised!

Pictured here ready to help guests find their way around school are Samantha, Maddie and Beth, just three of the many student guides on the night.

IRIS winners

The IRIS shop is now up and running with Year 9 Rewards Committee students Sharmita and Sumayyah working every lunchtime to make sure things go smoothly. Following their achievement in gaining a record number of IRIS points so far this year, 7R2 students Megan and Jadyne are pictured here with Headteacher, Mrs Ayling.



Prenton High School: a most popular choice

For the third year in succession we will have a full intake of Year 7 students. This September we will be welcoming 167 new students to our high-achieving school, more than ever before!

Perhaps some of the comments from parents following a recent Year 8 parents' evening explains why Prenton is proving to be so popular:

"I cannot recommend Prenton highly enough."

"I feel the school provides an excellent holistic approach to my child's education. Any problems are always dealt with in a measured, sensitive way, with all the children's needs in mind."

"Each year we encounter more and more teachers who continue to inspire, challenge and guide the girls to fulfil their potential."

"Many thanks to you all, as your excellence allows me to worry less and spend more time helping my daughter traverse the minefield that is adolescence and enjoy watching her grow into the wonderful young lady I know she is."

**We really are,
'Making a Difference'.**

Bushcraft 2015 is nearly here

The visit to the Bushcraft Company at Cholmondeley Castle for our new Year 7 is fast approaching!

The dates of the visit are: Monday 27th-Wednesday 29th July.

The visit at the end of July is a fantastic experience and last year was a huge success – it was a wonderful way to get to know our new students, and for them to get to know each other before school starts in September. Here are just a few things last year's students and their parents said:

"The activities were brilliant!"

"My daughter really enjoyed the experience!"

"Bushcraft helped me to get to know other students – and teachers!"

"It certainly helped a lot with the fact that my daughter got to know some other girls before school started"

"My daughter thoroughly enjoyed it and was pleased to meet new people"

"My daughter was full of confidence and had some great stories after Bushcraft"

"My daughter made lots of lovely new friends"

"An excellent start to high school!"

Active Kids helped by active parents and friends!

Thanks to everybody who helped us collect over 2,600 Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers for us in their 2015 promotion. This year, they have been spent on pastry brushes and baking trays for our DT Food department.

Attendance team off to a flying start

Our newly announced attendance team of Amy, Jayne, Rhiannon and Cleo have had a busy start organising competitions and contacting form tutors with the details. Helping Mrs Thompson, Attendance Manager, they have certainly got off to a flying start!



ONE HOUR – ONE APP

Thanks to Deputy Headteacher Mrs Fraser who organised a series of training sessions in which staff had the opportunity to try out various apps before unleashing them on our students! Sessions were run by trainers from the Learning Lighthouse and Ms Murtagh, teacher of science. We welcomed staff from local primary schools for many of the after-school tutorials.

MORE PEAS, PLEASE!

There was a special item on the lunchtime menu this term: 'Home-grown peas'. They had been grown by our Prenton Daisies' gardening club and tasted superb.

OUR SMART NEW MINIBUS

Look out for our smart new 15-seater minibus around town – complete in our corporate colours and proudly bearing our school badge!



OUR 'ALTERNATIVE' GENERAL ELECTION

Although anyone under 18 was ineligible to vote in the May 7 General Election, it did not stop our students making their voices heard! Ballot boxes were placed in the LRB and in the Dining Hall and although the result did not reflect the national verdict, our students showed that they were very much in tune with local outcomes, with Labour emerging the strong leader. Next came the Conservatives, then the Green Party and with the Liberal Democrats in last place. Leila and Mia are seen here placing their votes.



Team building in Snowdonia

A group of Year 11 students accompanied Behaviour and Rewards Manager Mrs Larsen to the Oaklands Outdoor Education Centre in North Wales this term. The centre asks that they: "take clothes that you don't mind getting a bit dirty or wet", and to have a sense of fun and adventure. Our students certainly needed all those when they went on a team-building exercise - gorge walking!

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTS NEW TEAM

Congratulations to Year 8 student Charlotte who has been elected Chair of the School Council. Joining her are Year 9 student Eleanor, Deputy Chair, and Year 8 student Anya, who is elected Secretary. Charlotte and Anya are pictured here.

Subject Leader of Humanities, Mr Major, passed on his thanks to all those representatives who have attended and contributed so well to school council this year. He said: 'The council is an important voice for the students at Prenton and will continue to strengthen and develop next year.'

Congratulations to you all!



Our 'Garden in a Suitcase'



Our Eco School team and the Prenton Daisies Gardening Club had a joint entry in a competition run by University of Liverpool's Ness Botanic Gardens this term.

The challenge was to create 'The Mightiest Micro-Garden' in an old suitcase – an inspired example of recycling in itself. Our 'inspiring garden theme' had one area as a traditional cottage-style garden with the other side with its own miniature fracking rig and heavy industrial equipment and vehicles, demonstrating students' fear of the future.

Judging was held on World Environment Day, Sunday June 7, when Ness Gardens celebrated the burial of their time capsule in 1994. To help their celebration, our own micro-garden had its own miniature time capsule buried under the surface.

Supporting our entry was an individual one from Year 10 student Shonni, who was inspired to create her own garden complete with pond – made of blueberry jelly!

After the event, all the gardens were displayed at Birkenhead Park's Visitor Centre.

RAISING MONEY FOR GOOD CAUSES:

Claire Bear drops in to see us

A special guest dropped in to the Hesketh House end of term celebratory assembly. Following a series of fund-raising activities Claire Bear from the Claire House Children's Hospice was presented with a cheque for just over £650. Claire Bear is pictured here after the assembly with a number of our fundraising organisers. Well done to them and a big Claire Bear-hug to all who have generously supported this special House charity.



BAKE-OFF SUPPORTS PROM

The May bake-off before half-term organised by Mrs Winter, teacher of maths, raised over £40 for the Year 11 Prom. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

TOMBOLA HELPS THE RSPCA

Well done Mrs Simpson and 9R1 - their new venture, an Easter Egg tombola, raised over £80 for the Riviera House charity the RSPCA in just two days.

Half marathon means money for MacMillan

Headteacher Mrs Ayling would like to thank everyone who supported her in raising almost £300 for Macmillan Cancer Support. She ran the Chester half-marathon in May in less than two hours. What a great role model for our girls!

WAAW says 'Thank-you'

Our support during World Autism Awareness Week raised almost £80 and organiser Mrs O'Hagan has received an appreciative thank-you letter from Douriya Nurbhai, Fundraising Campaigns Officer at The National Autistic Society's Head Office in London. Mrs O'Hagan, Ms Murtagh, Mrs Thompson and Miss Dunbar held a series of fund-raising races in the gym at lunchtime.

Well done everybody!

WE RACED FOR LIFE

Congratulations to Higher Level Teaching Assistants Miss O'Neill and Miss Sinclair who completed the Race for Life in aid of Cancer Research. Miss O'Neill completed 10k and Miss Sinclair 5K. They did not stop there though - both entered the July 'Splash Dash' in Birkenhead Park, raising over £300 for Claire House. Well done!

Prenton People

Congratulations

Miss K Kenyon (nee McNee) Year 9 Progress Leader/ Teacher of English on her marriage and her appointment to the post of Second in English

Receptionist Mrs Phillips-Jones on her marriage

HR Manager Miss K McHugh who has gained her CIPD qualification

Mr Richardson, Mrs Wright and Mrs Robson who have been appointed as our House Champions

Progress Leaders from September

Year 7: Miss Hockenhill
Year 8: Ms Craven
Year 9: Miss Doyle
Year 10: Miss Roberts
Year 11: Mrs Jones

Au Revoir and Good luck

We wish Mrs P Lofthouse a long and happy retirement and to:

Mr K Smith teacher of Humanities

Miss J McKenna teacher of Humanities

Mrs A Woods teacher of Science (maternity cover)

Miss M Gray Curriculum Cover Supervisor

Miss A Brooks English and Literacy Intervention Support

Mr J White DT Technician

Welcome

Mr P Hignett who will join us in September as Subject Leader for Science

Mr B Taylor who will join us in September as teacher of History/Humanities

Mr N Robinson who will join us in September as teacher of History/ Humanities

Dr W S Lett who will join us in September as teacher of Science

Megan's top Diana Award honour

Well done to Year 11 student Megan who gained the Diana Award, Champion Volunteer, for her tireless work in the community both at home and internationally. Megan learned about the award earlier in the year and is pictured here with her certificate which arrived this term. Megan has also received an exclusive invitation to visit Althorp, Diana's childhood home, over the summer holiday.



YEAR 11s: 'THANK-YOU, PTA'

Our Year 11 leavers have much for which to thank our hard-working PTA team. Their help with funding the printing costs, meant that each Year 11 received a special Leavers' Book at their Leavers' Assembly. The book was put together by Year 11 Progress Leader, Miss Roberts, and LRB Manager Mr Taylor – with photographic contributions from students and staff covering the last five years.

The PTA, who regularly raise money at our school gatherings have also raised money to cover the cost of the DJ at the 2015 leavers' Prom at Hulme Hall in July.

Audiences attending the school's summer show, 'Bugsy', over three nights also appreciated the hard work of the PTA, who provided welcome refreshments and sold raffle tickets for a range of attractive prizes.

THANK YOU, HANNAH

Each day we have three national newspapers on display in the Learning Resource Base, helping to keep us informed on world events and opinion. Before they become available on our shelves Mr Taylor, LRB Manager, relies on someone to collect them from the newsagent and bring them into school.

Step forward Year 11 student Hannah who, without fail and in all weathers, has arrived in school every morning with our newspapers. Hannah, who left us after taking her GCSEs in June has now delivered her last days' newspapers. Mr Taylor would like say a big 'thank-you' Hannah, for your support. We do hope you enjoy your 'retirement'!



BEFORE WE SAY GOODBYE..

It is always good to receive feedback and before our Year 11 students left us for their well-earned summer break, we asked them to reflect on their time spent here at Prenton High School. These are just some of the really positive things they said:

"Simply spectacular"

"It has been THE best 5 years of my life! I have so many great memories and so many new friends"

"Prenton has seriously has made a difference!"

"It has been a wonderful experience"

"My time at Prenton has been the best years of my life and I will remember them forever"

"Thank you for making everything amazing"

"I have loved my time at Prenton; I have made the nicest group of friends and created a bond with the teachers. I will miss the school!"

"I have loved every minute here and I am very sad to leave. Prenton has given me so many opportunities that I will never forget"

"Prenton High School has been one long wonderful journey. I've met great people, made great friends. The teachers are amazing!"

"Prenton has made me feel confident and the staff are really friendly. A great experience!"

"Coming to Prenton has made such a difference to me and my life"

"I have loved being at Prenton and I feel like we are one big family. I am really sad to be leaving"

FAREWELL YEAR 11s

Before heading off for a well-earned summer break after their GCSE examinations, our Year 11 students attended their final assembly in June.

Following refreshments in the Dining Hall where the catering staff had provided a superb spread, students headed to the Main Hall. There they were treated to a presentation looking back over the last five years in pictures, and to songs by fellow students Molly and Sophie.

And if they thought a performance of 'Reach for the Stars' by their form tutors was impressive, the big finale of 'Summer Nights' from Grease, performed by the Senior Leadership Team was truly amazing! Prenton has such talent!

Lucy and Chloe are pictured here with their copies of an especially produced Leavers' Book, thanks to funding from the PTA. The books have pages of pictorial memories of their time at Prenton High School and messages from senior staff and Form Tutors.

Good luck everyone, please keep in touch. We hope to see you at future Alumni events too!



Prenton Alumni

RHIAN IS FIRST CLASS!

Many congratulations to former student Rhian Beckett who left us in 2009 and who has gained a First Class Honours this year from University of Salford.

In a letter to our current students, Rhian thanks our school for giving such a sound educational foundation, promoting a good team and work ethic. Rhian went on to study Spanish, Law, English and Musical Theatre at Birkenhead Sixth Form College and then Translation and Interpreting Spanish and Chinese at the University of Salford. This was a four year course with one year abroad – split between China and Spain to study at their universities. Rhian says that it was quite an adventure and she highly recommends studying a language.



FIRST NIGHT WELCOME FOR FORMER STUDENTS

We were delighted to welcome some of our 2014 leavers who returned to school to see the first night of 'Bugsy'. They were treated to a cream tea in the school garden and are pictured here enjoying the summer sunshine - before heading to the main hall to watch the wonderful opening night.





Well done to our 'Most Eco Teacher

Thanks to our Eco-council students our DT and Graphics Subject Leader, Ms Kelly, has been recognised for her continued support in helping Prenton High School become greener.

The Eco-schools organisation endorsed the council's recommendation that her work in and out of the classroom be recognised. Ms Kelly was presented with her 'Most Eco Teacher' sash at a recent assembly and she can be seen wearing it with pride in this photograph. Well done, Ms Kelly, and her 'green' team.



POPCORN SELLS - LIKE HOT CAKES!

As part of the Year 7 House Enterprise competition, Riviera House led the way by launching their popcorn stall at break.

Beforehand, students had been busy not just making popcorn, with a choice of three flavours, but also constructing their stall using re-cycled materials. Pictured here on their 'pop-up shop', decorated in the House colours, are Tiagen, Mia, Megan, Angel, Kaitlyn and Tyler. By the end of break every pack had been sold.

There followed two further opportunities to satisfy our desire for popcorn when Bedford and then Hesketh Houses held their 'pop-up shops' too.



However there was a serious side to their enterprise. The competition aim was to see which House generates the most profit, once overheads such as hire of the stall and the cost of raw materials was considered. All profits gained are put back into the Student Enterprise Fund, enabling us to undertake yet more Enterprise activities.

IN CHOCOLATE HEAVEN

Thanks to subject leader DT (Food) Mrs English, fourteen students from Years 8 and 10 took up the Slattery's chocolate challenge in May. Who better to receive instruction on chocolate than Mike Slattery, a leading member of this family business?

The Manchester based patissier and chocolatier advised students on how to make their own chocolate-enrobed truffles and piped chocolate novelties. Some students are just so lucky!



DT students demonstrate yet more creativity

In the last edition we mentioned the wonderfully creative mobile phone holders our Year 9s had made. Not be outdone, our Year 7 and Year 8 students have been busy too – both year groups designing and making their own door plaques and, separately Year 7s some earphone holders and Year 8s a wonderful range of clocks.





HOW TO SURVIVE SCHOOL BY 7R1

Author Michael Rosen wrote a series of amusing poems about his time at school and 7R1 enjoyed one of them in particular, entitled 'Strict'. It is about a very strict teacher who would not let anyone in her class even breathe!

Encouraged by their form tutor and teacher of English, Miss Addison, the whole class collaborated to write their own poem about what it is like to be at school at Prenton. They copied Michael Rosen's own madcap, exaggerated, style and performed it in front of all forms and form tutors at a Year 7 assembly. Well done 7R1!

Following this story appearing on twitter, we heard that Michael Rosen's twitter account re-tweeted it, helping it to go 'viral'! Both poems can be seen on the LRB noticeboard.



ALAN GIBBONS – WIRRAL PAPERBACK OF THE YEAR WINNER!



Fifteen of our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students have accompanied Mr Taylor and Mrs Williams from the LRB and Miss Aspinall, Initial Teacher Trainee of English, to the Wirral Paperback of the year award.

Following an inspirational lecture by author Alan Gibbons, students from a number of Wirral Secondary schools paid tribute to the shortlisted authors before the final vote took place. Well done to Year 9 students Abbey, who read out her personal review, and Jemma, who read out a passage from Edward Carey's 'Heap House', to a full hall.

Year 8 student Jasmine (pictured here with Alan) had painted her own tribute to 'Hate', Alan Gibbons' shortlisted book which was proudly displayed on the stage. Alan tweeted a photo of the picture during the afternoon and it created much interest in the 'twittersphere'!

Many congratulations to Alan Gibbons, whose book 'Hate' won the accolade: Wirral Paperback of the Year'.

EGG-CCELERATED READERS SPECIAL CELEBRATION

An exclusive invitation to afternoon tea was delivered to all the students who had achieved a 100% quiz score in the Accelerated Reader on the last day of spring term. The celebration had an Easter theme with lots of delicious and tempting cakes decorated with mini-eggs – and included lots of chocolate, of course. Well done everyone!





POLAND

During the Easter holiday, 38 of our Humanities students travelled to Poland. As well as experiencing life in Poland, they had a poignant visit to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Their educational trip also included tours of Kazimierz, the Jewish quarter, Schindler's factory and the Wieliczka Salt Mines. Some of our students are pictured here at Auschwitz, with its imposing entrance.



WORKSHOP PROVIDES WINDOW ON MUSLIM LIFE

Thank you to Mrs Kalam and Mrs Ramsey from the Minority Ethnic Achievement Service (MEAS) who have visited school and delivered an Islam and Multicultural workshop to our Year 7 students.

Students heard about the life and the key beliefs of Muslims and learned about Mrs Kalam's



own personal experiences of her recent Hajj pilgrimage. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and look at a range of artefacts from Muslim life. Erin and Kelsey are pictured here in traditional headscarves.

FIELD DAYS AID STUDIES

Geography students left their classrooms this term but do not worry readers, they were still working hard on their studies!

In one trip, first stop was Royden Park, Thurston, where sixty Year 9 students studied the managed deciduous woodland there. They proceeded to Parkgate to undertake a 'honeypot' survey – in which tourist locations' ability to cope with the large and sudden influxes of visitors they attract are studied.

The second trip saw sixty-five students on a data collection visit to New Brighton as part of their GCSE geography course work to research a coastal town.



BROOK PROVIDE USEFUL ADVICE

Thanks to organiser Mrs Close, Subject Leader of PSRE, our Year 9 students' responsibility theme day included advice on sexual health, relationships and wellbeing from Brook representatives, who are based locally in Whetstone Lane. Their series of lectures throughout the day were aimed at helping young people to make positive and healthy lifestyle choices and to improve their personal health and emotional wellbeing. Many thanks to Darren and the Brook team.

HIGHLIGHTING THE DANGERS OF 'LEGAL HIGHS'

In a presentation to Year 9 and Year 10 students, Ali Hodgson from Evolve North West, gave a very personal and sometimes harrowing account outlining just how dangerous so-called 'legal highs' can be.

In her hard-hitting presentation, Ali gave a most informative insight into the world of legal and illegal drug taking, providing unequivocal advice against substance abuse and encouraging a healthy lifestyle.

Evolve North West provides a specialist service tackling issues in relation to the abuse of Legal Highs, especially Volatile Substances, and aims to prevent or reduce such abuse by young people and adults by encouraging a healthy lifestyle, and increasing their life skills with the provision of effective preventative education.



More detail can be found on the Evolve North West website: [www. evolve northwest.com](http://www.evolve northwest.com)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

We were grateful to Alisha Bardolia from Wirral Youth for Christ who came in to school today. Alisha was helping our Year 11 Humanities students with some last-minute revision for their GCSE RE exams.

ICT & Computing



WE LOVE COMPUTING

Year 9 ICT students have been developing their programming skills by taking part in a special end-of-unit project set by Mr Simon Subject Leader ICT and Computing.

They each examined and assessed the coded data on who loves who the most in a 'game' called a 'Loveometer'. They had to identify 12 deliberate errors and then debug and fix the code. Congratulations to Jaymi-Lea, pictured here, who impressed Mr Simon with the speed and accuracy of her work, completing the task in just nine minutes!



UPGRADE PROPOSAL GETS STUDENTS' 'GREEN LIGHT'

Students Miya and Alea are seen here trialling some new ICT kit. As they were very impressed, it looks like we will be going ahead with the order, ready for September.



Wirral Schools' Film Festival

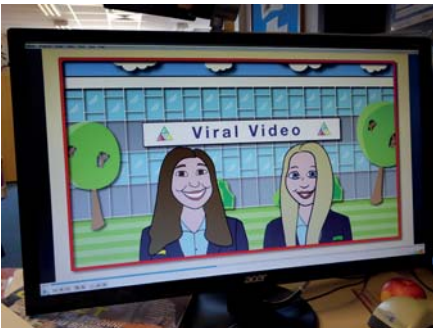
Prenton TV entered their spring round-up into the 11th Wirral Schools' Festival competition, gaining a certificate of merit. Well done everyone.

KEELE WORKSHOP FOR PROGRAMMERS

Thanks to Mr Simon, Subject Leader ICT and Computing, ten ICT students travelled to Keele University to attend a robotics workshop this term. There, they used the Java programming language to complete tasks and manoeuvres such as: Zig Zag, Figure of 8, The Scared Robot (moving away from objects), The Curious Robot (following objects) and Avoiding Robots. They also had time to tour the campus and a chat with University representatives about what Keele has to offer.

PRENTON TV GOES VIRAL

Students and staff were in for a surprise when the latest episode of Prenton TV was launched at the end of term assemblies. In addition to a round-up of news from around school – including a look behind the scenes at our recent Prenton's Got Talent competition – audiences were treated to a 'viral video' unlike any other! Adapted from, and loosely based on, Carly Rae Jepsen's 'I Really Like You', there were contributions from staff, students, catering and caretaking and cleaning staff. Follow that, Prenton TV students!



Maths



COMPETING IN THE 'NUMBER' GAMES



It was straight back to some competitive Maths for thirty of our Year 7 and Year 8 students when they returned from the half-term break.

Very special congratulations on a wonderful individual achievement go to 8R2 student Lauryn, who gained three UKMT certificates: Gold, Best in Year, and Best in School. She is pictured here, second from left, with fellow Year 8 mathematicians Kathryn (Bronze certificate), Melissa (Silver certificate) and Anna (Bronze certificate). Year 8 students Victoria and Erin also achieved Bronze certificates. Well done also to Year 7 Bronze certificate winners, Abbey (also Best in Year certificate), and Esme.

The aim of the UK Mathematics Trust is to advance the education of young people in mathematics and their challenge involved answering 25 multiple choice questions in one hour, sat under normal exam conditions.



OUR FUTURE COULD BE IN THE PAST - AT LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY

Organised by Ms Craven, Progress Leader and teacher of science, three groups of Year 7 students have travelled to University of Liverpool over the term, where they experienced a flavour of University life and received tips on how to survive it – as well as getting taste of the many Science and Classical subjects offered there.

Whilst the first two groups enjoyed a day of science-based activities and working in their world-class laboratories and lecture theatre, the latest trip had a definite classical flavour. First stop on the day was to a drama

workshop, where they were introduced to Greek tragedies and a presentation about Greek and Roman politics. They handled ancient coins and pottery in order to understand what life would have been like in those times. There was the chance to try on Roman-style clothes and even have a toga race.

‘Cleopatra’ (remarkably resembling one of the University’s Classics tutors) also dropped in and accompanied our students to the John Garstang museum to see their artefacts – that included a genuine mummified body! Lauren and Amy are pictured with a classical mask



RESIDENTIALS GIVE A TASTE FOR UNIVERSITY

Ms Craven also arranged for three groups of Year 10 students to fully experience university life towards the end of term. Students are to attend residential summer schools at the University of Liverpool where they can explore Health & Life Sciences, Dangerous Science or Humanities and Social Sciences.

Sport



La Fosca calling Thanks to organiser Miss Robertson, Subject Leader PE, the Spanish sunshine is calling those lucky students heading for the seaside resort of La Fosca at the end of term. They will enjoy a week of sailing, swimming, snorkelling, canoeing, windsurfing and banana boating.

STOP PRESS:

Due to our outstanding performance in the Cheshire County Finals, we were invited to represent the county at the U15 North of

England finals at York Cricket Club, finishing in third place. It was the second consecutive year that an Under 15 Prenton High School team has played in these finals, a wonderful achievement - well done everyone.

CRICKETERS ARE WIRRAL CHAMPIONS – AND NOW REPRESENTING CHESHIRE

We are so proud of all of our cricketers and a special 'well done' to our Under 15 team who have not been beaten in any Wirral competition over the last four years.

Congratulations to Meg (Captain), Rebecca (Vice Captain), Leah, Ellie, Florence, Georgia, Aimee, Jessica and Amelia, who won their games against Ridgeway, Kingsway and Upton to become 2015 Wirral champions.



CRICKETERS RECEIVE TOP COACHING

The Lashings All-Stars cricket team is described as the 'Harlem Globetrotters of cricket' and comprises many former international stars.

When they came to play in June at Oxtou Cricket Club our champion cricketers were invited to take part in an exclusive training and coaching event there. Mixing in such elevated cricketing circles was a real thrill for our students, seen here with former West Indian bowler Tino Best.



UNDER 13s - WIRRAL CRICKET CHAMPIONS!

Ensuring our cricketing heritage is safe in their hands, our Under 13 cricketers played in the Wirral U13 Cricket finals – and won! They beat Ridgeway by 97 runs, going on to win their game against and then Upton Hall - by just 2 runs.

Congratulations, Chloe, Alisha, Georgia, Sam, Madison, Jodie, Jessica, Madaleine and Alex (pictured here with Coach Lily Clark and Manager, Mr Smith).



Rounders

Our Year 7/Year 8 rounders team came second in their section behind Wirral Grammar School for Girls but ahead of Upton Hall, Bebington High, South Wirral and Birkenhead Park schools. Miss Robertson, Subject Leader PE, congratulates the students who played and represented the school so well: Maddie, Tiagen, Leonie, Jess A, Georgia, Alex, Jess J, Lauren and Paige.

Both our U15 and U13 teams will be playing in the Cheshire Summer Cricket finals at Warrington Cricket Club in the last week of term. Good luck!

HONORIA FIGHTS HER WAY INTO NORTH WEST TEAM

Congratulations to Year 9 student Honoria, who has been chosen to represent the North West Judo team. In May she travelled to Kendal, Lancashire, where she fought three rounds, winning two rounds to gain a silver medal and her place in the team.

Honoria is a member of the Wirral Judo Club and she has ambitions to represent England and to then become a member of the British Judo team.

Well done, Honoria!

TAKING A LEADING PART IN NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORT WEEK

The Youth Sport Trust is an independent charity that says PE and sport is much more than keeping active, it is an essential part of a young person's wellbeing and achievement. During National School Sports Week they encourage each year in June, we entered teams into a number of tournaments with other local secondary schools.

VOLLEYBALL



Four of our volleyball teams competed in the beach tournament and our Year 9 A team received silver medals when they won their section, then their semi-final match, but losing to Wirral Grammar School for Girls in the final. Congratulations to Georgia, Amelia, Lucy and Chloe. The Year 9 B team of Bethany, Sophie came second in their section but lost their semi-final match.

Our Year 8 A team of Maddie, Sam, Maya and Alisha gained silver medals after they won their section and their semi-final, but losing to Wirral GS in the final. The Year 8B team of Georgia, Anna, Leigha and Mollie were runners-up in their section but were knocked out in the semi-finals.

BOXERCISE PULLS A PUNCH

Following their recent introduction to the manic world of insanity, staff have been keeping fit with Boxercise classes led by Joanne Smith each Thursday after school in the gym during this last half-term.

2015 DIARY

Summer term 2015

School closes
Summer holidays

Friday 17 July
Monday 20 July – Monday 31 August



Autumn term 2015

Staff Inset day
School opens Year 7 students only
and Staff Inset day
School open - all students

Open Evening

Open Days (parents and carers only)

Tuesday 1 September

Wednesday 2 September
Thursday 3 September – Friday 23 October

Thursday 24 September 6pm to 8.30pm.
Headteacher's talk at 6.30pm and 7.30pm

Wednesday 30th September and
Thursday 1 October
9.30am to 11.30am and 2pm to 4.00pm

Half term

School open
Christmas holidays

Monday 26 – Friday 30 October
Monday 2 November – Friday 18 December
Monday 21 December – Friday 1 January 2016

Spring term 2016

School open
Half term
Staff Inset day
School open
Easter bank holidays
Spring break

Monday 4 January – Friday 12 February
Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February
Monday 22 February
Tuesday 23 February – Friday 1 April
Friday 25 March and Monday 28 March
Monday 4 April – Friday 15 April

Summer term 2016

School open
May Day Bank Holiday
Half term
School open
Staff Inset day
Staff Inset day

Monday 18 April – Friday 27 May
Monday 2 May
Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June
Monday 6 June – Friday 15 July
Monday 18 July
Tuesday 19 July

Please keep in touch via our website and twitter as some dates may change
www.prentonhighschool.co.uk | @prentonhigh



Making a difference