



## PRACTICALLY PERFECT IN EVERY WAY!



Thanks to The Prenton Theatre Company, we were taken on a magical trip to the time when nannies ruled not only the nursery but also had a big influence over their parents!

Our talented cast sang and danced their way over a matinee and three consecutive evenings through a wonderful and specially scripted adaptation of Mary Poppins and, with classic songs such as "A Spoonful of Sugar", "Chim Chim Cher-ee", "Step in Time", "Feed the Birds", "Let's Go Fly a Kite" and, of course, "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" - complete with superbly co-ordinated arm actions. No wonder audiences went home humming at least one song!

Mary Poppins, written by P.L. Travers, was made famous by Walt Disney's production with Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. Our PTC production starred Cleo as Mary Poppins and Jessica as Bert, supported by Cerys and Mab as Michael and Jane, and Kaitlyn and Olivia as George and Winifred Banks. With a strong supporting cast of chimney sweeps, a bird woman, household servants, kite-flyers, a bank chairman, bank clerks and investors, park strollers, and a policeman, our production even had a group of park statues and some honey bees. Altogether, there was a huge amount of talent on display! ...

**This story continued on page 2, more pictures on the back pages.**



...Thanks to PTC Director Mrs Jones, teacher of Music Miss McCabe, musicians Mrs Rowlinson on piano and Matthew Jones and Jack Corlett, choreographers Ms Barr and Miss Wood, set designers Miss Dodd and Miss Grattan, lighting and sound technicians Mr Graves and Mr Hughes – and to members of the cast who made many of their own props.

There are more photographs from the performances on the back pages. Congratulations to everyone for giving us so many memorable performances – you were supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!



## Celebrating Mary!

Following three evening performances and a matinee of the 2018 summer production of Mary Poppins, members of the Prenton Theatre Company have celebrated their success.

They were able to sit down and enjoy a lunch laid on by Mrs Jones, the Production Director, and joined by Headteacher, Mrs Ayling, and

Mrs Burns, Subject Leader – Music and Performing Arts, who joined them from her maternity leave. They had time to reflect on all their months of hard work preparing to delight us, and to watch together the video and view the many photographs of the show.

**Well done everyone – you really deserved this treat!**

## Isabella's Summertime Booking

When it comes to filling the long summer days during the holidays, Year 7 Isabella has a good plan.

Her mother is a librarian at the Ellesmere Port public library and Isabella will be based in the children's

section helping with their Mischief Makers project, a summer reading challenge that encourages young readers.

Good luck, Isabella - you will be in the right place for some great summer reading!



# Headlines



As we come to the end of another successful year, the High Life is a great way to showcase and celebrate the tremendous efforts from our students and the dedication and commitment shown by staff. It certainly has been another busy year with so many exciting things on offer.

As Headteacher, I am always so impressed and often overwhelmed by the sheer amount of activities, events and opportunities running alongside an already demanding curriculum. It makes me feel very proud to be in such a privileged position and to see our students grow day after day.

Our Year 7 students have absolutely settled in and are very much a part of our vibrant school community; it seems like only yesterday that they came to us as shy new students, nervous of the challenges ahead. As I look at them now, I am delighted to see just how much they have grown and the way in which they have taken these challenges and turned them into new adventures and opportunities.

We say farewell to our Year 11 students who have shown an incredible work ethic in preparation for their GCSE examinations. The new GCSE and Vocational courses are more demanding than ever, and our girls have certainly risen to the challenge and committed themselves to their final examinations. We look forward to seeing them on Results' Day and supporting them to make decisions about the next steps of their journey.

Throughout the school and across all year groups we have seen some wonderful performances from The Prenton Theatre Company, another exciting year for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award with our first cohort of students achieving the Silver Award, success in STEM competitions and continued sporting excellence. Student leadership has continued to develop, and we look forward to the launch of a new leadership initiative 'PiXL-The Edge' which will be launched in October. We also look forward to the launch of 'A Mind to be Kind' again through PiXL, where students are encouraged to think about the three main principles whereby everyone in our community can be shown respect, can live free from harm and can demonstrate kindness. We look forward to sharing these new initiatives with you throughout the next academic year.

During this half term, we have undertaken significant work to review our school aims and to think about our mission statement. The recent INSET day with staff and Governors and subsequent meetings with students provided an opportunity to really focus on our aims and our values. This has been an exciting piece of work and I look forward to launching with you in September. In the meantime, we have an agreed mission statement from staff, Governors and students:

***Prenton High School for Girls: Making a positive difference today for a better tomorrow.***

As you look through the pages of this edition of 'High Life' I am sure you will agree that this is a mission statement that is very much in evidence.

To all Governors, staff, students, parents and our local community, I wish you a restful and happy summer. I look forward to welcoming you back in September and look forward to another positive year at Prenton.

Best wishes to all,

*Mrs Lisa Ayling*

Headteacher



# SORRY TO SEE YOU LEAVE!

It was a case of parting being such sweet sorrow for both staff and our departing Year 11 students.

Returning to school for the last time together following their final exams, they attended a special Leavers' Assembly, led by Progress Leader Mr Tang. He was supported by the Year 11 Form Tutors and Headteacher Mrs Ayling and members of the Senior Leadership Team for a celebration of the last five years, in which strong friendships had been formed and exceptional talents developed.

Form tutors' talent was displayed with singing and dancing from Jungle Book, Toy Story and Mr Tang turning in a remarkable performance as Elsa from Frozen! Year 11 students Ellie, Erin and Lois sang 'You're Gonna Miss Me', and Jodie, Lauren and Jessica entertained us with their dance routines to tracks that included 'Show Me How to Burlesque'. A video of 'goodbyes' taken in departments around school - along with some staff attempting the floss dance - and a surprise return to school by Mr Richardson, rounded off an emotional afternoon. Each student left with a 2018 Leavers' Book, containing messages from staff and photographs recording their time at Prenton High School. Thanks also to our wonderful Catering staff who laid on refreshments on arrival for students.

**Good luck, everyone - and please keep in touch!**



# ASSEMBLY FOR SUCCESS

The last Year 11 assembly before the start of the GCSE exams certainly grabbed students' attention! Each received a pack of jelly beans as they gathered in the Main Hall and soon all became clear. Deputy Headteacher Mrs Fraser's assembly was the conclusion in a series of Prepare to Perform sessions over a number of weeks in which she has provided motivational tips and positive advice on how students can achieve their GCSE goals.

Mrs Fraser's final presentation centred around the assumption that if we start life with 28,835 jelly beans, with each bean representing one day of our lives, it emphasised how important it is to make everyday count!

There was good news as well for two students named Ellie – over the past weeks, students attending revision sessions earned raffle tickets for a prize draw, £40 and £20 vouchers to spend in Liverpool One!

Thanks to Mrs Fraser for her series of talks – and to Year 8 students Isobelle and Maddie who introduced the assembly with the Charlie Puth song 'One Call Away'.

**Good luck Year 11!**

# FOOTBALL ON OUR MIND

Football was definitely on the minds of one Year 9 assembly prior to the start of the World Cup. Mrs Simpson's 9H2 form presented a comparison of the achievements and recognition given to male England players to those of the England female players. They also looked at homophobia and racism in football.

# Positive Feedback from Our Class of 2018

As our Year 11 prepared to leave us following the completion of their GCSE examinations, it was a good opportunity for them to stop and reflect on the past five years with us. We were delighted to receive so many positive responses and print a small selection here.

We wish you all every success on Results Day on 23 August and in your future studies!

*"I have had a great time at Prenton High School"*

*"Prenton has been the best experience; I've now developed into a strong young woman"*

*"Prenton was just the right place for me - the teachers are supportive and friendly, the students even more so! I will miss Prenton so much!"*

*"My time at Prenton High School has been brilliant. It has been a great journey throughout"*

*"I enjoyed lots of lessons and went to a lot of clubs"*

*"I made great friends and the teachers helped me"*

*"Prenton has given me self-confidence"*

*"Gained many friends"*

*"It has been an unforgettable experience. Prenton has helped me to believe in myself for the future"*

*"I didn't like the change from primary school at first but grew to love Prenton!"*

*"Made great friends, great teachers"*

*"Being at Prenton has truly let me grow as a person and show my true colours!"*

*"My friends are good – and so is the canteen!"*

*"Prenton really improved my abilities and skills"*

*"I found great friends at Prenton who will be with me for a long time"*

*"I have enjoyed my time at Prenton hugely as the staff and students are lovely"*

*"What went well for me? My assembly performances!"*

*"I loved everything! Prenton's given me many memories and I have had the best experience"*

## SPORT'S TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS

Experts recognise that the many qualities we display when taking part in sport transfer well into the classroom or workplace.

Determination, perseverance, commitment, and resilience – combined with an 'I can do that' growth mind-set not only boosts fitness, self-confidence, mental concentration, and relieving stress, but also help to gain academic success.

Following a short performance from the Mary Poppins cast in their Year 7 assembly,

Miss Roberts, Year 7 Progress Leader, outlined the importance and the benefits of students participating in sport.

It was a timely message with the World Cup about to kick off in Russia – and there is something further our students can aim for....now that we have female commentators joining the pundits on both main TV channels!

# A Perfect Evening for the Prom

Our Class of 2018 held their Prom at Thornton Hall Hotel in July and it was the perfect setting for students and staff to get together for an evening's celebration. This prestigious event was the social highlight of their time at Prenton High School and, as the photographs show, our students certainly turned on the style!

Thanks to Mr Tang, Year 11 Progress Leader, and the Student Senior Leadership Team's Prom Committee for all their hard work organising and fundraising the event, making sure it was a wonderful evening to remember.



## Studio Group Receive their Awards

When the annual Studio Awards for the 2017/2018 Year 11 studio group were held, it was a chance for Mrs Major, Assistant SENCO, to say goodbye and celebrate her students' progress over the last two years.

The event recognised the many qualities students had demonstrated - including resilience, progress, dedication and effort. Each student received a certificate marking their achievement and, after the ceremony, Mrs Major treated her students to a celebration afternoon tea served up in the studio. Congratulations everyone!



## Olivia's Chocolate Delight!

Year 7 student Olivia was in for a chocolate treat when her winning ticket was drawn in the 11R2 Chocolate Delight hamper raffle!



The form raised £32 for their Prom in July and Assistant Head Girl Ellie, supported by Miya and Joanna, is pictured here with Olivia's winning ticket.

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets!

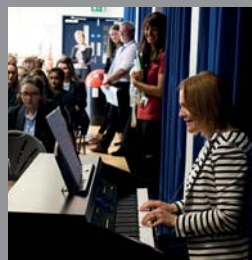
## ACHIEVING THAT HIGH NOTE

Our Year 10 students had a double musical treat in store in one of this term's assemblies.

Following a performance taken from our 2018 production of *Mary Poppins*, Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Fraser, gave a motivational talk based on the school's mission statement – in order for them each to 'make a difference', they should set themselves goals. Indeed, Mrs Fraser spoke about one of her personal goals, learning to play the piano.

Following her talk describing the steps she had taken along the way, Mrs Fraser demonstrated how well she is progressing with the goal she has set herself by playing *Two-Part Invention* from *The Classic Piano Course* book.

Thanks, Mrs Fraser, a great encouragement for us all to get goal-setting!



## Thanks for our Exam Treat

With their Friday morning Physics examination over, it meant that our Year 11s had taken the majority of GCSEs - with just two remaining!



As a special treat to mark the event, many of our GCSE students enjoyed a special end-of-exam-season treat of pizza, cakes and juice by our dedicated Chartwells Dining Hall staff.

Thanks for lifting our spirits at the end of a challenging week!

# HAPPY EID!

Eid al-Fitr, the important religious holiday that follows the holy fasting month of Ramadan, was celebrated on Friday 15 June.

'The feast of breaking the fast' is celebrated by Muslims all over the world and, because our Muslim students were enjoying Eid on that Friday, we were not able to mark the occasion with them until their return the following Monday.

Thanks to Year 8 students Khadiza, Mahdiya, Sumaiya and Liaba pictured here, a small Eid celebration was arranged - sharing stories about how they celebrated with their friends and families, and sharing sweets and treats and playing EID Mubarak music with other students at lunch time in our Main Hall.

Thanks to each of you for sharing your special time!



## We Ran the Race for Life!

Among the 1500 runners in the Race for Life in Birkenhead Park in July were Year 7 student Mia, Year 9 student Grace, and Mrs Sara Owen, Headteacher's PA.

In spite of the soaring temperatures on the day, Mia ran 5k and Grace and Mrs Owen 10k, each raising valuable funds for the Cancer Research UK charity. Our runners are pictured here proudly displaying their medals – well run!



## DINING HALL'S TRIBUTE FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

It was a big day for all citizens of the United States, and here in Prenton, England, our dining hall staff put on their own tribute for 4 July.

Their menu was one that any American would recognise – BBQ chicken burgers, beef (and veggie) burgers, hot-dogs, with chips and beans and a salad bar alternative. With a choice of hot chocolate brownies and custard, Mickey Mouse shortbread or double chocolate cookies to follow, the taste of America was complete. **Happy Independence Day to our American cousins!**



# ALUMNI

Congratulations to **Hannah Hardman**, who left Prenton in 2013 and has recently graduated from Bangor University with a first-class degree in Psychology. Hannah has written to us to thank all the staff at the school for their support, putting down her achievement also to the kindness and encouragement Mrs Green and Miss Roberts provided whilst at Prenton High School.

Hannah tells us her next step is to complete a masters in Abnormal and Clinical Psychology at Swansea University – her ambition is become a Clinical Psychologist.

Congratulations also to **Madeleine Wright** who left us in 2011. Madeleine went on to study Textile Design at the University of Huddersfield where she has now gained a first class honours degree in Textile Practice. During Madeleine's time at university, she had her work accepted into the prestigious Bradford Textile Society Design Competition in 2014, and awarded 'Commendation' in the Holland and Sherry Award. Madeleine also travelled to New York where she met Kaffe Fassett, one of America's top textile designers.

Thanks to **Rebecca Coleman** who called into school this term. Rebecca left us in 2014 and, following her A levels, gained a place at the University of Sheffield where she has just completed her second year studying History. It is an exciting time for her as she is about to spend a year at the National University of Singapore where she will add learning Mandarin to her Law, Crime and Punishment in History module. Good luck, Rebecca!

**Rachael Husselbury** and **Jessica McDonald** were enthusiastic LRB Assistants for much of their time until leaving Prenton in 2013. Jessica tell us that she has just completed her second year studying Sociology at the University of Liverpool and once she has completed her third year, hopes to study further to become a teacher. Rachael gained a place at the University of Leeds studying Food Science but, realising that it was not for her, had the courage to apply to Liverpool John Moores studying Biology and is now very much enjoying her course.

Last year they both fundraised a joint trip to Cambodia where they volunteered to help those less fortunate than themselves. Whilst there, Rachael and Jessica helped to build toilets and classrooms and taught English – as well as fitting in some sight-seeing. It was great to hear from you both, thank you so much for keeping in touch!

## MISS IS A HIT

We recently welcomed into school former student **Amy Cave** who left Prenton in 2006. Amy went on to achieve a degree in Law at the University of Chester. Deciding on a change of direction, Amy then undertook her teaching training degree at Edge Hill University. Now a teacher, Amy was in school with her class from Mendell Primary School, Bromborough, as part of our Elevate programme giving primary schools a taste of secondary school life. Well done Amy, it was lovely to see you again!



# PRENTON PEOPLE

## AU REVOIR AND THANK YOU

Assistant Headteacher Miss Eastwood who will be taking up a new post in Northern Ireland.

Mrs Green, teacher of Mathematics.

Mrs Stevenson, teacher of Humanities.

Mrs Bull, teacher of Mathematics.

Mrs Lea, teacher of Art (Maternity cover).

Mrs Hitchin, Teaching Assistant.

Miss McCabe, teacher of Music (Maternity cover).

Mr Peter Sandman leaves the board of Governors at the end of this term. He joined the board six years ago and held the role of Chair for the last two years. Mr Sandman has been instrumental in strengthening Governance at Prenton and improving the way in which our governing board operates. Mr Sandman thanks all staff on his behalf for their help, encouragement and support and says that it has been a pleasure to work with such committed and dedicated people.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

Mrs Sagar, appointed Assistant Headteacher.

Miss Roberts, appointed Head of Student Services.

Mrs Kenyon, appointed interim Subject Leader of English for the autumn term.

Mrs Hepke, appointed Progress Leader for our new Year 7.

Miss Sulieman, appointed teacher of Mathematics.

Miss Taylor, appointed teacher of Science.

Mrs Walberg, appointed teacher of English.

Mr Gibson, appointed teacher of Geography.

Miss Ramos Manas, appointed teacher of MFL.

Miss McCabe, appointed Learning Support Assistant - Literacy.

Mrs Owens, PA to the Headteacher and Clerk to the Governors, who completed The National Clerks Development Programme within the National College for Teaching & Leadership Programme in March this year.

Mrs Burns, Subject Leader Music and Performing Arts, who gave birth to twin boys - Orrin Brendan and Malachy Terrance in May.

Mrs Allison, teacher of English, who gave birth to Charlotte in April.

Miss Davies, teacher of English, who has led the ITT provision during Mrs Burns' maternity leave.

Director of Finance & Operations, Mrs Hodson, who has gained CIPFA's Level 7 Advanced Professional Certificate in School Financial and Operational Leadership - a new qualification that was launched only 18 months ago, so Mrs Hodson is currently one of only approximately fifty people in the country to hold it!

Miss Churton will be returning from maternity leave 16 July 2018.

Miss Burns will be returning from maternity leave 3 September 2018.



## OAK LEAF ART PROJECT REMEMBERS THE FALLEN

Our Artist in Residence, Miss Julie Dodd, has run a series of workshops both in school and, as part of our Elevate Primary Liaison community work, with a number of local primary schools.

This art project commemorates the centenary of the end of The Great War in 1918 and students' work is placed upon individually cut oak leaves by Miss Dodd as an engraving using our laser cutter or by an image transfer technique. Each leaf represents one of the fallen and students and staff have created their own designs for the leaves with personalised messages, photographs and poetry.

The picture shows one of the Woodchurch Road Primary School designs in progress – there will be an opportunity for everyone to see all the work when it goes on display at the Williamson Art Gallery in November.



## DEGREE SHOW INSPIRES OUR ARTISTS

Our commitment to Shaping Futures, encouraging our students to learn more about further and higher education, continued with a trip to the University of Chester.

A group of thirty-seven Year 9 and Year 10 students travelled with Mr S Taylor, Subject Leader – Art and DT, to the University's Art department for a full day of activities. Starting with a viewing of the department's Degree Show exhibition, they studied work that included photographs, graphics, printing, and sculptures.

Students then worked on drawing exercises, using the Degree Show as inspiration. There was very positive feedback from our students following the trip



with one saying she enjoyed the challenge they set of drawing under pressure, how useful it was to learn more about studying at university, and to find out more about their Art and Photography courses. Another said of the day: 'I enjoyed looking at other students' degree work which then inspired me to go on and create my own designs.'

**Liverpool Through the Lens** Liverpool has a wealth of pictorial potential and is a popular venue for our GCSE Photography students to try and capture the atmosphere and essence of the city.

Thanks to Mr S Taylor, Subject Leader – Creative Industries, this term they studied Liverpool's urban environment, photographing some of the city's many world-famous buildings and their surroundings. The day started at St. George's Square, then walking up to the Metropolitan Cathedral, across Hope Street and then down to Bold Street. A good day to focus on photography and the wonderful city, Liverpool!

## SHAPING THE FUTURE

Shaping Futures, the Merseyside Collaborative Outreach Programme, is an inspiring mentoring programme for students ensuring they have a better understanding of further education and career opportunities. The programme encourages students to have a serious think about their future in education, career prospects, and improve knowledge and aspirations relating to Sixth Form College and on to University.

Thanks to Ms Barr, teacher of Performing Arts and PE, for taking students from Years 9,10 and 11 to Liverpool John Moores University, Liverpool Hope University and Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA) during the half term holiday. Their visits gave them a wonderful insight into studying Dance, Drama and Music at these highly regarded, local, institutions!

## STUDENTS JOIN THE EVERTON TEAM

Fifteen Year 10 students are working with Ed Parker, Enterprise Schools Co-ordinator, from Everton in the Community on an enterprise project in the lead-up to their work experience in July.



The programme, sponsored by Sport Relief and the Premier League, will give students a wonderful

opportunity to learn how business in general works, and specifically what it takes to run a football club. They will gain an understanding of the many transactions – the buying and selling of goods, services and players – that take place behind the scenes, helped by three visits to Goodison Park.

Thanks to Ed Parker and to Year 10 Progress Leader Ms Craven for providing this exciting and interesting course for our students.

## Taster Days at University of Liverpool

Thanks to organiser Ms Craven, Year 10 Progress Leader, many students have had the opportunity to learn more about university life and the courses on offer within different university faculties this term.

Sixteen Year 10 students attended a Humanities Day at the University of

Liverpool with two taster sessions offered - one on Psychology and the other on Law. They also had a tour of the University.

There were also two residential trips – five students attended the two day residential at the University's Health & Life Sciences faculty in June and five others attended a Dangerous Science course in the faculty of Science and Engineering.

Ten Year 9 students attended a workshop at Airbus in July, thanks to organiser Ms Craven.



**JARS TODAY FOR JAM TOMORROW** Ahead of Trips Day when students visited Claremont Farm, Ms Kelly, teacher of DT, and teacher of DT Food and Nutrition, Mrs English, asked staff to bring any spare empty jars.

## FROM FARM TO FORK AT STOCKLEY

Two Year 8 students joined ten Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students for a day on the farm when they travelled to Arley, Cheshire.

The focus for their day was on 'Farm to Fork', in which they looked at a range of the crops grown on the farm, and discussed organic farming methods and the impact these have upon the environment. They met some of the young stock on the farm, toured the milking parlour, had the chance to get up close to the farm's pigs, calves and goats, as well as feeding some of their ponies, rabbits and guinea pigs.

The trip gave students an opportunity to talk to the farm's staff about selective breeding and how Stockley's animals are used in the food chain. Thanks to Stockley and to organiser Mrs English, Teacher of Food Preparation and Nutrition for a really informative day. Year 10 student Alex is pictured here enjoying her day there.



## Duke of Edinburgh

Mia, Eleanor, Mab and Naheeda are pictured here after representatives from The Duke of Edinburgh's Award centre in Knotty Ash had called into school, laden with equipment for our eighty-one Bronze Award students.



The kit, which included tents, cooking equipment and rucksacks, was distributed ahead of the expedition taking place the following weekend, when students hiked 10 kilometres each day around Raby, Parkgate,

Neston and Willaston, walking between six and seven hours each day. The walk was good preparation for their qualifying hike that took place in May taking place around Chirk, North Wales, over the same distance.

There were many kilometres walked that weekend as we also had five Silver Award students – Emily and Jennifer (pictured) Freya, Ellie and Georgia, - undertaking their qualifying hike in the Calder Vale, Lancashire.



# A Great Weekend for Bronze!

Following their practice expedition over the gentle terrain of Wirral, our seventy-six Year 9 and Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze students successfully completed a more serious challenge in the hilly wilderness of Wales. This, their qualifying expedition around Chirk, went well with just one exception - all the early May sunshine had made the ground so dry that many found it tricky knocking in their tent pegs!

Lucie, Holly, Jess, Grace, Jess, Lucy and Kira are pictured here with Leader Alex. Thank you to Miss Gore, Mr Robinson, Mrs Johns, Mrs Pinder and Mrs Brown who helped out over the weekend.

Thanks also to Mrs G Fraser and Mrs Johns who accompanied our five Duke of Edinburgh Silver candidates on their qualifying expedition in Lancashire. Fortunately, they experienced much better weather than the wind, rain, sleet and snow they faced during their practice expedition in the county earlier in the year.

We wish all students the best of luck with the remainder of their tasks!



**FILM CLUB HELPS DUKE OF EDINBURGH** During the term, our Film Club team of Year 9 students Kira, Lucie, Georgia and Lily have organised films that have included: Hop, The Greatest Showman, and The Kissing Booth. They have raised money to support our Duke of Edinburgh students through the sale of refreshments at the showings. Thanks, team!

## English, Drama, LRB



# NEW BOOKS FOR THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

It is an invitation that any keen reader would find hard to refuse – to spend a morning in a major bookstore to choose new books for the school library!

Helping to refresh the LRB shelves with a selection of over 150 of the latest books on the market, ten of our Year 7, 8 and 9 students travelled to the Waterstones store in Liverpool One. They enthusiastically combed the shop for some great new reads that they thought would be enjoyed by their peers, as well as successfully searching for specific requests that other students had made. Their work was only interrupted by a short refreshment break for a drink and a piece of

cake, helping to maintain energy levels. The Learning Resource Base staff of Mr Taylor and Mrs Haynes, and Mrs Connolly from the School Office, were most impressed with their morning's work and the choices made. Our students are pictured here with their trolley of chosen books and Waterstones staff member, Elaine, who looked after us throughout the morning.



# OUR NEW LIBRARY BOOKS ARRIVE!

Following our successful trip to Waterstones in May, the books are now on the shelves!

Year 8 Library helpers Abbey and Marite, overseen by Maliha who joined us on the visit, can be seen here preparing just a selection of the titles purchased for the shelves.

Encouraging the enjoyment of reading is an important part of our school life and Librarians Mr Taylor and Mrs Haynes are delighted with the wide selection of the latest books the students chose for their peers to borrow from the Learning Resource Base.



## MELISSA HITS THE HEADLINES

With her final exam completed Year 11 student Melissa Howard was given a special send-off from Learning Resource Base staff Mr Taylor and Mrs Haynes.

Throughout her five years at Prenton High School, Melissa had a 100% attendance record – which, over the last three years in particular, really helped the LRB. Without fail every morning, Melissa collected the daily newspapers from the local newsagents for staff and students to enjoy. Melissa was an invaluable member of the LRB team because, in her role of LRB Assistant, Melissa helped to issue library books for students to borrow and regularly looked out for and helped any student who was struggling with their work.

Melissa is pictured here with her final newspaper delivery after ceremoniously deleting her last exam from the examination timetable displayed in the LRB. Thank you and good luck in the future, Melissa!



# WIRRAL PAPERBACK OF THE YEAR – THE DECISION IS MADE!

Since last October, students from eleven Wirral secondary school students have been busy reading to choose their Wirral Paperback of the Year 2018.

This is the fourth occasion that authors have competed for this prestigious award and this year over a hundred students were attracted to the event in which they voted for their favourite paperback. School librarians started with a list of fifty books, shortlisting twelve titles covering a mix of genres – including comedy, science fiction, adventure, thrillers and romance.

Hosted by Prenton High School, the voting event opened with trailers and presentations and a display of artworks, poems and cakes dedicated to their favourite book. We were then treated to a talk by Sheena Wilkinson who had travelled from Northern Ireland for the occasion to give students background on how she started writing and about her shortlisted book, *Street Song*.

Following a book-signing session with Sheena, the winner was announced: 'Noah Can't Even' by Simon James Green. In

second place was 'After the Fire' by Will Hill, followed by 'Three Dark Crowns' by Kendare Blake.

Thanks to Sheena Wilkinson for joining us for the event, and congratulations

to the winning author, Simon James Green who said: "I am beyond thrilled! Thank you so much to all the fab librarians, teachers and students involved in this. It means a lot and you've made me very happy!"



Sheena can be seen here with Year 8 student Emily at the book-signing and with Year 7 and Year 8 students



Maliha and Halima with their artwork and cakes dedicated to her book. Their work went on to win an LRB competition, encouraging our Wirral Paperback team of readers to produce promotional ideas for one of the shortlisted books. The two students won a complete set of Wirral Paperback of the Year 2018 titles – well done and thank you to all who entered the competition.

## Humanities



# RESEARCHING OUR DARK PAST

Mr Robinson, teacher of History, was delighted with the care and detail taken by his Year 8 students when he set their Home Learning project on Slavery.





# WESTMINSTER DATE FOR OUR DEBATERS

Year 10 RE Ambassadors Beth, Jayne, Megan, and Olivia, accompanied by teacher of RE and Humanities, Mrs Simpson - who organised the trip - travelled to Westminster, the heart of national debate.

They were joined by eighty other students from schools across the country to take part in The Youth Debate at the Houses of Parliament, where they discussed the importance of religious education. Following our team's contribution to the debate, hosted by William Wragg MP, they also met MPs Sir Vince Cable and Nicky Morgan – and all on the day history was being made with two ministers resigning!

The debate was organised by the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) and the Religious Education Council (REC). Although our local MP, Mr Frank Field, was unable to join them his representative gave our students a wonderful tour of the Palace of Westminster. Thanks also to local politicians Councillor George Davies, Deputy Leader of the Council and Councillor Moira McLaughlin who helped to fund the students' travel expenses.



# WALKING, TALKING AND FILMING PROVIDES HISTORY HELP

Our Year 11 History students had two innovative revision strategies to help prepare them for their final GCSE examinations!

Thanks to teachers of history, Mr B Taylor and Mr Robinson, they were on hand to answer any last minute questions and queries our



students may have had on the morning of the exam with their 'walking, talking mock' session in the Main Hall. This followed earlier sessions over the half-term break in which students were introduced to films specifically produced to aid their history revision by both teachers. Perhaps we will see their work at the next Cannes Film Festival!

# SWAPPING DESSERTS FOR MINI-DESERTS

Our Year 9 Geography students have found an interesting - and educational - way to use unwanted supermarket fruit punnets!

Working in pairs, the 'desert in a punnet' project gave students the opportunity to fill their punnet tubs



with a presentation about the climate, habitat, biodiversity and human uses of the Mojave and Sonoran deserts of the south western USA.

# THANKS, BROOK

As part of their PSHE course, we invited representatives from Brook to work with our Year 10 students.

Brook are based in Whetstone Lane, Birkenhead, and have been helping with young people's health and wellbeing for many years, providing advice on safe and healthy relationships.

Vicki is pictured here opening the session – thanks to her and to the others from the Brook team - Erin, Demi, Lucy, Julie-Anne and Helen - as well as Carl from the Youth Offending Service for coming in to work with our students.



# Undergraduates Promote University Life

Thanks to Mrs Close, Subject Leader - PSHE, our Year 8 students were given a taste of life at University when Geraldine, Natascia and Zeynep visited us.

The three University of Liverpool undergraduates in English, Science and Law provided our students



with an outline of their academic journey to Liverpool and an exciting picture of their own experiences of life at Liverpool. Between them, they were clearly taking advantage of many of the different opportunities that the University has to offer – from a year of study abroad and taking extra - and very useful - language courses, to volunteering at local schools, becoming Course representatives, and competing in sports against other universities.

Somehow, they also have time to socialise and study! Thank you for coming into school to talk to us.

# STAYING SAFE ON THE ROADS

We welcomed Lisa Capper from the Wirral Council Road Safety Team who gave the first of a series of Road Safety talks to our Year 7 students.

The speakers were invited by Mrs Close, Subject Leader – PSHE, as part of students' PSHE curriculum and the programme is part of the Wirral Council team's commitment to road safety. By raising awareness and educating young people on how to reduce their risk of being

involved in a road traffic collision, they aim to reduce the numbers of children and young people killed or seriously injured each year.

Lisa is pictured here delivering the first of the talks.



# FIELD TRIPS PROVIDE PLENTY TO STUDY

Our Year 10 GCSE Geography students had a busy week with two trips in which to study 'in the field'.

The first day saw them heading to Formby Point where they studied the sand dune ecosystem. There, they also came face to face with some famous Formby residents – their red squirrels – but, unfortunately, there was a downside to their visit. The huge amount of refuse left on the beach after Monday's Bank Holiday provided ample evidence of how human behaviour adversely affects our environment.

They then conducted an urban transect through Birkenhead, helped by some more fine weather. Students explored how Birkenhead's land use changes from the rural-urban fringe to the Central Business District (CBD).

During the day, they also walked up to Oxtan village to see an example of gentrification - defined as the process by which wealthier people move into, renovate, and restore housing in inner cities.



# TAKING A LOOK AT STEREOTYPES

Mr Major, Subject Leader – Humanities, delivered a Year 10 assembly for SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development) Week with the theme 'The Global Role of Women'.

Students learned of the different ways societies around the world have stereotyped the roles women play and have been expected to play. The presentation explored how attitudes to colour and gender have been changing, helped by the actions of a number of courageous, ground-breaking women such as Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, Lieutenant Colonel Malalai Kakar, Sarah Attar, Malala Yousafzai, and Ellen DeGeneres.

Each had the ability to challenge contemporary thinking and beliefs as to what their role should be, overcoming difficult circumstances and situations in the process. Their actions have achieved much for us to celebrate, giving girls in this country what others around the world would see as enviable openings and prospects.

Let us make sure we take every opportunity!



# SHRINES SHOW SUBJECT UNDERSTANDING

Our Year 8 RE students studying Hinduism have enhanced their learning of this major religion by producing some wonderfully detailed miniature 'shrines in a shoebox'.

Ellie, Lucy, Grace, Jessica and Millie are pictured here proudly displaying their shrines. Well done everyone!



## A Moving Visit to Auschwitz

The Holocaust Educational Trust is a charity that aims to educate young people of every background about the Holocaust and, as well as working in schools, the Trust plays a leading role in teacher training and has ensured that the Holocaust forms part of the National Curriculum for History.

Thanks to the Trust, Mr B Taylor, teacher of History, and Mrs Simpson, teacher of RE and Humanities, have taken part in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project, a four-part course that explores the universal lessons of the Holocaust and its relevance for today. Following a half-day seminar, they visited the former Nazi concentration and death camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Both teachers later reflected upon the extraordinary and deeply emotional educational experience that Auschwitz made upon them. Mr Taylor is photographed here during their visit.



## TEMPLE DAHL IS A CULTURAL TREAT

Introducing interesting flavours from other cultures as a part of their Year 7 RE lessons gave Deputy Headteacher Mrs G Fraser an excellent opportunity to demonstrate her culinary skills – and giving students the fragrant taste of India into the bargain!

Mrs Fraser's homemade Temple Dahl, a healthy treat that many Indians consider to be the purest form of food that many have constantly available in their homes, contained red split lentils, lemon, turmeric chilli powder, tomatoes, and fresh coriander – and clearly went down a treat with her class!





## WEBSITE'S NEW E-SAFETY SECTION

The online safety of students is very important to us and now, thanks to Mr Simon, Subject Leader – IT and Computing, we have a new, e-safety-first newsletter that students, parents and carers can view on our website.

The newsletter, to be published monthly, gives useful and up-to-date tips and advice. For example, the May 2018 edition advised caution when using Call of Duty, Snapchat, and Fortnite: Battle Royale, a game that is very popular at present with many young people.

Year 7 students Adriel, Jessie and Hanim can be seen here reading the newsletter – you can too by searching for the 'E-Safety' tab in the 'Parents' section of our website. We hope it becomes a useful part of your regular reading.



## ICT IN BRIEF:

Thanks to Mr Simon, Subject Leader IT & Computer Science, we held an E-Safety Workshop with singer Danny Boyle. Through his songs, he tackles issues on Mental Health, Online Safety & Cyber Bullying.

Year 10s visited the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester to see BABY, the first computer that actually stored data whilst running a program.

Year 8s created a Magic Eight Ball program on the BBC Microbit . They created their own themes for the program and we know they worked because they tested them on each other!

Year 9s were set an interesting challenge when they had to escape the ICT room by solving tasks that included Binary and Hexidecimal addition and debugging of codes.

## JUNE E-SAFETY NEWSLETTER LOOKS AT YOUTUBE

Research has revealed that all children between the ages of 4 and 18 have watched more Netflix and YouTube than standard TV channels. It is therefore most important that parents are able to support children stay safe when online, and the June edition of our Online Safety newsletter was there to help.

Articles also gave tips on setting up a family account on YouTube, general YouTube advice, how to report unsuitable YouTube videos, and articles on posting videos on YouTube and Video Blogging – Vlogging.



## RISING TO THE MATHS CHALLENGES

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) advances the education of young people in mathematics and their Junior Challenge is the UK's most popular mathematics competition.

Over 300,000 students take part each year with the top-scoring 40% receiving either bronze, silver or gold certificates. Around 8,000 high performers go on to take part in the Junior Kangaroo.

Our thirty Year 7 and 8 students worked hard to impress - many congratulations to Year 7 student Holly, who received a Gold certificate and the Best in School award. Holly's efforts meant that she qualified for the Junior Kangaroo Challenge, in which she again did well.

Well done to Year 8 students Gabrielle, Evie, and Amy, who all received Silver certificates and to Bronze certificate holders - Alicia, Olivia, Eloise and Shamara, all Year 8, and to Melanie and Erin from Year 7.

Congratulations also go to our Intermediate Challenge students: Emma who gained Silver and Best in Year, Elissa and Abbey who gained Bronze (all Year 10) and to Keira and Isabelle from Year 9 who were joint Best in Year.



## A Number of Maths Teachers

We welcomed a number of Heads of Mathematics departments from other Wirral Secondary schools when we hosted a Maths Hub in the Learning Resource Base.

## Music, Prenton Theatre Company and Drama

### ‘OSCARS’ PRESENTED TO FESTIVAL WINNERS

Our Music, Dance and Drama Festival last term attracted a large number of competitors and audiences were treated to a wide variety of excellent talent.

The winners were presented with certificates on the afternoon of the finals, held just before we finished for the Easter holidays, and now, thanks to organiser Mrs Jones teacher of Music, they each have their own ‘Oscar’.

Mrs Ayling, Headteacher, made the presentation and our winners are pictured here with their statuettes. Congratulations to:

- Solo Vocal Performance - May
- Dance - Lottie and Grace
- Group Vocal Performance (and Overall Winners) - Cleo, Jessica, Grace and Molly



## Prenton Daisies

### TIA'S COLOURFUL CONTRIBUTION!

The exceptionally cold start to the year meant that everything in the school garden was late – and, like many other garden lovers, we were keen to see some spring colour around school.

That was where Year 8 student Tia came in – thanks to her family of keen gardeners, they donated a wonderful selection of colourful bedding plants to the school.

It was a perfect sunny day when our Prenton Daisies team received the trays of plants and, as the photograph here shows, Tia and

our Prenton Daisies could hardly wait to get planting.

A big thank you to Tia's family for helping to make the school setting that much more colourful!



### “SCRUMPT-DELIC-IOUS!”

That was the verdict when our Prenton Daisies gardening club members had a tasty surprise!

Using a choice selection of the Daisies' home-grown rhubarb from the school garden, Mrs Owen, Headteacher's PA, made a delicious crumble as a special lunchtime treat.



Served with a choice of custard or cream and with the sun shining, this was the perfect way to enjoy some of our own produce. Thanks, Mrs Owen, your rhubarb crumble has contributed a new word to the English language – ‘Scrumpt-delic-ious’!

## Prenton Parliament

### PARLIAMENT GETS THE BUSINESS DONE

Thanks to all the Form representatives who attended the Prenton Parliament this term and thanks go to outgoing Chairperson, Grace, and Deputy Chair, Imogen, who have run our sessions so smoothly and received a round of applause for their contribution during their tenure.

The parliament has tackled a wide range of topics over the year in a most business-like

manner and, although there was a limited space of time to complete each agenda, they always managed it in time for afternoon registration!





Thanks to our wonderful PTA who raised money to help help out with refreshments each evening of the summer production of Mary Poppins and on Sports Day. Look out on our website for the next meeting: [www.prentonhighschool.co.uk](http://www.prentonhighschool.co.uk)

## Student Enterprise

### PIP - PRODUCED IN PRENTON

Our Year 8 Design Technology Enterprise Club have been busy turning unwanted materials into useful key-rings.



Our thanks go to parent Mr James Clarke, Director of Cowen Signs in Birkenhead, for donating a selection of off-cuts for us to use. The money generated from the sale of these attractive, acrylic mirrored products is re-invested by the Club to 'Produce in Prenton' even more creative projects. Hannah and Emellia are pictured here on the Enterprise Club stall.

### COASTER FOR COFFEE?

For those students unsure what special gift to give Dad for Father's Day, our Year 8 Enterprise team were on hand to help.



From an idea of their own, the team have developed and created a series of eye-catching key-rings and gift-wrapped coasters especially for Father's Day. Our enterprising team reported brisk sales after just their first lunchtime behind their stall!

## LOOKING AFTER OUR MENTAL HEALTH

Our events during May's Mental Awareness Week were helped by some wonderful sunny weather. In one lunchtime session, students met up with the Prenton Daisies gardeners in the garden to 'Keep Calm in the Garden'.

Whilst some relaxed by planting seeds and potting plants – they will have great satisfaction watching them grow over the following weeks - others spent time around the garden pond viewing the plentiful wild-life it sustains, and even catching a glimpse of the occasional frog.

Over in the school playground, School Counsellor Michelle Higgins led a Mindfulness



session in the sunshine. As the pictures suggest, everyone was suitably fortified for the afternoon's lessons.

The full week of lunchtime and break activities included: HeadSpace peer to peer support, Sing Yourself Happy, Keep Calm and Make Something, Yoga in the gymnasium, and talks about Mental Health in the Learning Resource Base.

Thanks to Michelle, everyone was encouraged just to come along to the sessions and try something new – great for our mental health and well-being.





# GOLDEN TICKET FOR A SPECIAL BREAKFAST

What better way to start the day than with a nice breakfast – especially if it is a reward for a great half-term's work?



Thanks to Assistant Headteacher, Miss Eastwood, and Year 7 and Year 9



Progress Leaders, Miss Roberts and Miss Hockenhill, students who had notably impressed with their hard work throughout the first half of the summer term were invited to a special continental-style start to the day.

Some of our Golden Ticket students are pictured here – great work everyone!

# WORKSHOP TO SUPPORT PARENTS

The challenges facing teenagers today can be stressful, not just for the teenagers themselves, but also their parents and carers. Designed to help adults to support their children in an informal, relaxed and friendly atmosphere, we held another in a series of workshops aimed at providing practical tips to help their daughters through adolescence.

The latest session, organised by Assistant Headteacher, Miss Eastwood, was delivered in partnership with the Response Counselling Service and looked at understanding behaviours, risk-taking behaviours, and appropriate responses to behaviours. These sessions are really focused and allow parents to share experiences and use one another for guidance through the teenage years.



## WELCOME TO PRENTON – AND BUSHCRAFT!

When I start my new school, will I know anyone, will I have any friends? Try not to worry, help is at hand!

Our three-day summer residential Bushcraft provision starts on 25 July and is open to all those Year 7 students joining us in September. The course, based upon teamwork and friendship building, is run by professional outdoor specialists and attended by a group of our own dedicated staff. It is a great way to get to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere before school starts on Wednesday 5 September.

## REWARD ASSEMBLY SAYS:

**'WELL DONE!'** There was much to celebrate at a special Reward Assembly for over sixty Year 9 students – twelve of whom are pictured here with Miss Hockenhill, Year 9 Progress Leader. Both Miss Eastwood, Assistant Headteacher, and Miss Hockenhill, were delighted to present them with certificates for their 100% attendance and Club Zero recognition.



# KEEP CALM – GET REVISING!

Year 10s certainly had a busy morning when their studies were split between a series of Brook sessions in



Humanities and Revision Skills tuition in the gymnasium delivered by Mrs Fraser, Deputy Headteacher.

Their revision sessions, preparing them for the important year ahead, were part of the PiXL (Partners in Excellence) partnership scheme, in which over 1600 secondary schools share best practice to raise educational standards.

Students are working their way through a specially compiled revision booklet, packed with tips on effective and proven tips on how best to retain information in preparation for the forthcoming examinations.

Work hard and, as the course is entitled - keep calm and keep revising!

## CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (CAMHS) WORKSHOP

Thanks to organiser Miss Dunbar from Student Services, Year 10 students Laura, Abbie, Neve and Ellie attended a CAMHS Peer Educator workshop held at Woodchurch High School over two days.

# TAKING A LOOK AT OURSELVES WITH BROOK

Thanks to Lucy, Demi and Len from The Brook, thirty-two of our Year 8 students took part in a series of three-hour bite-size workshops.

The Brook, who encourage healthy lives for young people, were invited into school by Miss Dunbar, Student Support. This follows a survey conducted last term in which students expressed an interest in finding out more about a range of issues that affect teenagers today. The workshop investigated developing a healthy body image, body confidence, liking yourself - who you are, what you look like - recognising one's skills and qualities, and learning not to judge yourself or others purely on the way we look. Finally, they looked at resilience, and coping with life's problems and ups and downs.

Brook also came into school for four consecutive Fridays during June, conducting all-day workshops for sixteen Year 9 students entitled 'Future Focus'. This was an accredited workshop, with the students gaining an Open Award Level 1 certificate in Skills for Further Learning and Employment.

Thank you to Brook for some really useful sessions over this term!



**SINGING AND SONG WRITING BOOSTS CONFIDENCE** A group of Year 9 students took part in the GIRLS Project, aimed at raising self-confidence and self-esteem through singing and song writing. This seven-week programme culminates in a Red Carpet Celebration event at Pilgrim Street Arts Centre at the end of term.

# PROUD OF OUR UTOPIA STUDENTS

The Utopia Outreach Project is an education, training and well-being service that offers a number of challenges - and eleven of our Year 9 students have tackled them head-on, thanks to Utopia course director Danny Cooke and organiser Miss Dunbar from Student Services.

Over seven weeks our students have undertaken problem solving and team building, indoor climbing, horse riding, and kayaking. They also went on a fifteen-mile charity bike-ride, raising £78 for the Bradley Lowery Foundation. Their achievements will be celebrated at the end of term with a Red Carpet event with local dignitaries when the course finishes.

## Student Leadership

### A BEAUTIFUL SONG AND SOME UPLIFTING MESSAGES

Early in the term, Year 10 students were treated to an assembly that opened with Year 11 students Lois and Ellie singing from their GCSE Ensemble performance, a beautiful rendition of 'All I Want' by Kodaline.

It was followed by Head Girl Niah and her Deputy Anya, opening with the question: 'Do you have what it takes to be a leader?'. Delivered by two key members of the current Student Senior Leadership Team the question came as a timely reminder - it was the closing date for applications to be part of next year's team.

Niah and Anya outlined the qualities that were needed to fulfil any of the senior roles and their presentation further developed this

theme by taking a look at the qualities that will help everyone in Year 10 over their important year ahead. A motivational clip proffering much good and useful

advice from the actor Denzel Washington helped to underline their message.



Headteacher, Mrs Ayling, closed the assembly by thanking the current Student Senior Leadership Team for all their work and support over the past year and encouraged Year 10 students to aspire also to 'make a difference' in the coming twelve months.

### TASTY TREATS ARE PROM FUNDRAISERS

Our ongoing competition to see which department has the best baking skills continues! The latest 'Cake-Off' saw the Year 11 team, led by Mr Tang, take on Mr Hignett's Science department and, between them, staff have been treated to a wonderful selection

of fare – from lemon drizzle cake to baked raspberry cheesecake with raspberry coulis, to a seriously chocolate chocolate torte!

Proving our baking talent knows no bounds, the Science department narrowly edged a victory and, for the Year 11 team, Miss Zukova's chocolate torte was the most popular treat. However, it was our Year 11 Prom-goers who were the eventual winners as the £37 raised went towards their Prom fund.

# STUDENT TEAM HELPS TO DISCOVER HIDDEN POWERS

Year 9 students received a motivational talk in one of their assemblies, based on the powers of resilience and feminism.

Delivered by Niah, Ellie, Victoria, Anya, Melissa and Megan from the Student Senior Leadership Team, they looked at the role feminism plays in relation to equality between men and women, and the prospect of a world in which both men and women have equal rights and opportunities.

To achieve this position, students should develop the ability to tap into a power that we all possess

- yet may not know it yet: that of resilience, a quality that gives the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties and setbacks. Together with a positive mind-set, each can help remove barriers in the jobs we aspire to, helping to break down past thinking on female stereotypes. Their message was clear: Be resilient, never give up, aspire, dream, believe.



# PE WIN THE LIP SYNC BATTLE!

Lunchtime entertainment does not get better than this! Students and staff filled the Main Hall to watch our first ever Lip Sync Battle – raising money for the 2018 Year 11 Prom.

First on stage were the Senior Leadership Team syncing to 'I'm a Believer' from Shrek, followed by the Humanities team with their interpretation of 'Spice Up Your Life' from the Spice Girls, and then the PE department's version of 'Independent Women' by Destiny's Child.

Congratulations to compère Lois, the Year 11 Prom fundraising team, and to the PE team of Miss Gore and Miss Doyle who received a coveted Year 11 Lip Syncing trophy. Thanks to everyone who put so much enthusiasm into making our lunchtime such fun!



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW STUDENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Student Senior Leadership Team for the coming year has been announced and our congratulations and best wishes go to new Head Girl, Beth.

Beth is supported by Deputy Head Girls Jayne and Megan, and by Assistant Head Girls Amy, Heather, Kaitlyn and Poppy.



They take over from the outgoing team, led by Niah, of Anya and Megan, and Vicky, Ellie and Melissa. We thank them for all their hard work and support over the past twelve months.

# PEER MENTORS THANKED - AND WELCOMED

A special 'Thank you' lunch was laid on for all of the 2017 -2018 Year 10 Peer Mentors in the dining hall with Ms Kelly, Student Leadership, saying that they had all been a wonderful support throughout the year.



Ms Kelly has also appointed her new team of ten Lead Peer Mentors, supported by twenty-eight Peer Mentors, for 2018 – 2019 following their successful applications. These Peer Mentor roles all have important Student Leadership responsibilities. Ms Kelly has already been delighted with their work helping and guiding our new Year 7 students when we welcomed them to Prenton High School on Induction evening and Induction day.

Pictured here is Year 7 student Hazel, who won the Peer Mentor prize at the Bedford House Awards assembly at the end of term. Hazel wrote a lovely open letter to the new Year 7s starting this September.



## Science and STEM



### YEAR 7s LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Our Year 7 students had a taste of what might await them should they win a place at the University of Liverpool, thanks to Ms Craven, Progress Leader and teacher of Science,



During the day, they enthusiastically worked with University staff on a 'wonderfully windy problem' in the physics laboratory and undertook experiments with liquid nitrogen.

### OUR BIG BOOST TO BIOLOGY BURST SESSION

A group of our Year 11 GCSE Biology students had a welcome surprise when they attended a quick morning 'burst' revision session with Progress Leader and teacher of Science, Miss Hockenhull.



Demonstrating the importance of a healthy and nutritious start to the day, she provided a range of fruit and fruit juice prior to the afternoon's Biology exam. We hope this gave them a welcome energy and 'brain-power' boost - Miss Hockenhull adds that it demonstrates the students' keen, mature and focused approach that many Year 11s have adopted this week at the start of their GCSE exams. Good luck everyone and stay healthy!

# YOUNG MEDICS IN LIVERPOOL

Thanks to Ms Craven, Year 10 Progress Leader and teacher of Science, four Year 9 students Eleanor, Faye, Isobelle, and Lucy, attended some Young Medics lectures at the University of Liverpool.

## SCIENTISTS HEAD TO THE BIG BANG FAIR

It was one-way traffic for our young scientists when the Big Bang Fair was held at the Liverpool Exhibition Centre in July. The Fair boasts exciting, engaging and interactive events, a wide range of exhibitors and performers, along with hands-on experiments and science experiences.

Firstly, our Year 9 Science students of Lucie, Kira and Natalia spent a day participating in their STEM competition, and then all Year 8 students spent an afternoon looking at the latest developments in science, technology, engineering and maths, and taking part in interactive events and competitions. Nicole, Karina, Emily and Maddie are pictured here on the NHS stand.



## Sport



## UNDER 15s GIVE STERLING PERFORMANCES

Our Under 15 team produced two determined performances against some strong opposition in the U15 outdoor cricket finals, held at Upton Cricket Club.

They chased 78-1 in their first match against Upton Hall School FCJ, making 75-1 in their 8 overs. Despite our key opening batswomen Freya and Jess having to retire, we managed a respectable 71-5 in reply, meaning we lost by just 7 runs.

In our second contest, against Birkenhead School, we also batted second chasing 83-3. Freya played another sterling innings before she had to retire, but the team's efforts just fell short, finishing on 74-7, a loss of 9 runs.

Team Manager, Mr B Taylor, reports that both matches were: 'really close and very tense as only a few runs were needed to win in the final overs of each game'.

Well done on a great effort team involved were: Maddie (Captain), Jess, Freya, Jess, Cora, Grace, Jess, Lauren and Mollie May.



# STUDENTS' CHANCE TO SEE TOP TENNIS

Ten students have had the opportunity to go to Wimbledon with Mrs Hepke, teacher of MFL, in July and Year 8 students Cleo, Cerys and Grace are pictured here taking a 'break-point' during one of their fundraising events in their free time. Their aim was to raise enough money to buy some strawberries and cream for which Wimbledon is famous!



Not only did students have the opportunity to visit one of the world's most prestigious tennis clubs, they were also able to watch the men's semi-finals matches using their tickets for court number one and the centre court. The highest level of professional tennis - guaranteed!

## REPRESENTING PRENTON IN TRACK AND FIELD

Here is our team of twenty-six Year 7, 8 and 9 students who represented Prenton High School at the Wirral Schools Athletics Championships, held at the Oval Athletics Track this week.

Accompanied by Miss Gore, Subject Leader PE, and Miss Doyle, teacher of PE, the girls had a wonderful day competing in a range of events including hurdling, sprinting, distance running, shot, discus, javelin, high jump and long jump.

Miss Gore reports that it was the first opportunity for some students to compete on an athletics track and that they held their own and displayed solid performances.

Well competed, everyone!



## UNDER 13s CHAMPION DISPLAY

Our team reached the final of the Under 13 Wirral Outdoor Cricket Competition at Upton Hall School FCJ in June.

Facing Upton in the final, we won the toss and chose to field first. The home side got off to a bright start scoring three sixes, but our good outfield play restricted them to 72-2 off their eight overs.



The Prenton reply started well with Keira having to retire on 20 runs, but a middle order wobble meant the match went down to the last over. With tension mounting Olivia hit a six off the third ball, meaning that our side won by one wicket.

'Well done' to our team of: Lillie (Captain), Keira, Eloise, Gracie Mae, Hollie, Ruby, Jess and Olivia.

# ROUNDERS TOURNAMENT

Our Year 7 and Year 8 teams battled hard in their rounders tournament hosted by Wirral Grammar School for Girls on what was probably one of the hottest days of the year.

Year 7 played against St John Plessington, Wirral Grammar School for Girls, The Birkenhead Park School and Hilbre High School. Year 8s played St John Plessington, Birkenhead High School Academy and Upton Hall School FCJ.

**We hope you enjoyed representing your school!**

# CHARLOTTE'S SWIMMING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Year 7 student Charlotte, who came away from the Wirral Peninsula Swimming championships with three medals from the five events she entered at the weekend.

Held at the Europa Pool in Birkenhead, Charlotte - who swims for Woodchurch Swimming Club - won the 50m and 100m breast stroke and the 100m front crawl.

Charlotte, who has been swimming since the age of two, has been with her club for the past two and a half years.

**Great swimming, Charlotte!**



# SPORTS LEADERS FOR TOMORROW

Well done to the six year 9 students Ciara, Jessica, Bonnie Mae, Cora, Freya and Holly who attended a special training event conducted by Janna Dowling, a Great Britain inline skater. They are the first students from school to have been selected to gain experience and training in leadership through sport.



The session focussed on what makes an outstanding leader and provided students with a range of challenging practical activities. Our new Sports Leaders will now be able to pass on their newly developed skills to other - current and new - leaders in the new academic year. **Well done, everyone!**



# JESS IS A CUP-WINNER

Congratulations to Year 7 student Jess who, with her team the New Ferry Rangers, has just won the Wirral Junior Football League cup. Jess, pictured here with the team's silverware, plays striker and scored a goal in her team's 7-4 win over Glenavon Belles in the final.



## SPORTS DAY

Sports Day this year will take place on July 18, too late sadly for us to report upon in this edition of High Life. However, we will give readers a flavour of the day on the website:

[www.prentonhighschool.co.uk](http://www.prentonhighschool.co.uk) and twitter: [@prentonhigh](https://twitter.com/prentonhigh).

Always the biggest day in our sporting year, it will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to use the superb facilities of the Bebington Oval, and to demonstrate their prowess in track and field. Miss Gore, Subject Leader – PE, says that the emphasis is on taking part and having fun!

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## Wirral Volleyball Competition

Our Volleyballers competed well in the Wirral Volleyball competition at the end of term. The U13 A team came second in their competition and the U15 A team came fourth. The U13 B team were fifth and the U15 B team sixth.

Well played: Gracie, Holly, Amber, Madison, Lois, Eloise, Jess, Lilly, Bonnie Mae, Cora, Jess, Holly, Freya, Lauren, Abbie and Grace, pictured here. Also pictured are our U13 A team.



# 2018/19 DIARY

## Autumn term 2018

INSET (Staff only)  
INSET (Staff only)  
Open

Open Evening  
INSET (Staff only)  
Open Morning  
Close

### Half term holiday

Open  
Close

### Christmas holiday

Monday 3 September 2018  
Tuesday 4 September 2018  
Wednesday 5 September 2018  
(Years 7 – 11)  
Thursday 4 October 6pm – 8pm  
Friday 5 October  
Monday 8 October 9.30am – 11.30am  
Friday 19 October 2018

### Monday 22 – Friday 26 October 2018

Monday 29 October 2018  
Friday 21 December 2018 at 1 pm

Monday 24 December 2018 –  
Friday 4 January 2019

## Spring term 2019

Open  
Close

### Half term holiday

Open  
Close

### Spring holiday

Monday 7 January 2019  
Friday 15 February 2019  
Monday 18 – Friday 22 February 2019  
Monday 25 February 2019  
Friday 29 March 2019  
Monday 1 April – Friday 12 April 2019

## Summer term 2019

Open  
Good Friday/Bank Holiday

Monday 15 April 2019  
Friday 19 April 2019

## Easter Monday/Bank Holiday Monday 22 April 2019

### Bank holiday

Close

### Half term holiday

Open  
Close  
INSET (Staff only)  
INSET (Staff only)

Monday 6 May 2019  
Friday 24 May 2019  
Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May 2019  
Monday 3 June 2019  
Friday 19 July 2019 at 1pm  
Monday 22 July 2019  
Tuesday 23 July 2019

Parents - please keep in touch via ParentMail,  
our website and twitter as some dates may change.  
[www.prentonhighschool.co.uk](http://www.prentonhighschool.co.uk) | Twitter @prentonhigh

# Pictures from 'Mary Poppins' Summer Spectacular 2018



# Pictures from 'Mary Poppins' Summer Spectacular 2018

