

# @PrestatynHigh

PRESTATYN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER  
December 2023 Edition 31

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making the most of school life

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A message from the Headteacher  
Christmas holiday message.

Social Media in Print  
Get your PHS school related post published.  
Best post wins a prize...

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Front page football trip to Manchester City & Harry Potter wand building during enrichment sessions.

## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Prestatyn High School's after school enrichment timetable complements the successful lessons delivered during the school day and takes place between 3pm and 4pm. The enrichment opportunities provide students with additional learning, new social opportunities, and they help to develop new skills and interests. Enrichment is a fantastic way to increase enjoyment of school life and create an inclusive, community spirit within the school, whilst also increasing skills and building character. Taking part in these sessions not only helps the students build confidence, but it also helps them feel part of a team where they can develop communication skills.

This Autumn term we have had a host of fun craft sessions on offer for the students to get involved in, as well as all the other clubs such as Games Club, Lego, Debating, Art, Hair and Beauty to name but a few.

Over the Halloween season we had the opportunity to do a pumpkin carving master class in school with some very talented and creative designs. For Christmas, we have been designing a host of Christmas craft designs and the students have been making little reindeers from wood that has fallen from local trees in the school and community. This has been a great session and shows how we can repurpose discarded items to something more useful.

The Harry Potter Club has been in full wizard form and this month we have been creating our own wands from sticks and branches we have found in the school eco garden. We have been in the technology and woodwork rooms so we can design and create our own fabulous wand that Ollivander's Wand Shop would be proud to display and allocate to the new wizards. The wands incorporated some Lego or gems that the students felt would make them more unique and all students enjoyed the creative aspect of the sessions.



## SPORTING ACTIVITIES



There is a variety of activities on offer throughout the week. All year groups are catered for, from Year 7 to Year 13. There is currently a choice of traditional sports such as netball, football, basketball and gymnastics. The timetable changes every half term and will include a variety of activities including less traditional sports such as archery, table tennis and lacrosse.

## DLL SPORTS AWARD

We are truly humbled and very grateful to have won 'secondary school of the year' at the Denbighshire Leisure Active Communities Awards 2023. Without all staff, pupils and partners it would not have been possible to win this award. The PE Enrichment Programme has a bespoke officer, who alongside the School Sports Council, builds on the excellent values of the old 5X60 Programme. The school regularly provides pupil voice 'listening to learners' opportunities through surveys and sports council interviews.



## KARATE STAR FRANCIS

Francis recently competed in the Karate Union Of Great Britain (KUGB) Grandslam Competition 2023. After his national win in the Welsh Championships he competed, and represented Wales with an international win. Francis won the male individual Kumite (sparring) under 16 category. Francis hopes to be competing in the European and World Championships in the next few years.



## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

During 'Anti-Bullying Week' staff and pupils wore odd socks to raise awareness about and diversity. #OddSocksDay



## CAROL CONCERT

On the 18th December, we hosted the 'Creative Arts Dept' annual Christmas concert. A mixture of instrumental, dance, drama, band and solo performances. Thank you to all of our wonderful young performers. Congratulations to **Oliver Hughes**, who received the '**Joe Irving Young Musician**' award!



## CHILDREN IN NEED

PHS celebrated Children In Need by wearing something spotty. The Year 12 Hospitality students held a hot dog sale at break time for students and raised £60. Thank you for your support with Children In Need.



To all Parents and Carers,

**As we approach the end of 2023, I once again want to share my thanks and gratitude to all parents, carers, staff and governors for supporting the school and our pupils throughout the year.**

It has been an exceptionally busy and rewarding time for Prestatyn High School but a year we can look back to with pride. We have achieved great things as a school community during very turbulent times, both socially and financially. We have pulled together as a community to ensure that our pupils get the best education and experiences possible.

Our results at both GCSE and A-level were very good again, allowing the young people of PHS to move onto the next stage of their education seamlessly. Our Creative Arts Department have put on several shows over 2023, including the outstanding theatrical performance of "We Will Rock You". They are now fully engaged in rehearsing for "Matilda", our big show for next year and we all cannot wait to watch it.

There have been several trips in the UK and abroad this year and our ski trip is currently taking place in Andorra. I am sure all of the 80+ pupils and staff involved will have a simply amazing experience.

The annual Carol Concert, led by the Creative Arts department, was a great success and it really got the school community into the Christmas mood. I would like to thank all staff and pupils involved for such a memorable concert.

The Estyn inspection in 2023 of PHS was an excellent visit and event, praising the school for all of the things we are doing. Looking forward to next year, we are determined to continue to raise standards in all areas of the school, to build on the recent Estyn inspection and make sure we do even more to improve the life chances of our young people.

Attendance to school is still too low at PHS and across the UK. We will continue to focus on attendance and go further to make sure all pupils are in school all of the time, where possible. Please make sure that, unless absolutely unavoidable, your children attend school all of the time.

**School closes on the 22nd December for the Christmas break, with pupils leaving at 12.20pm. School reopens on Tuesday the 9th January 2024 to all pupils. Monday 8th January is a staff INSET training day.**

Have a magical Christmas break and I will see you in the new year.

Best wishes,



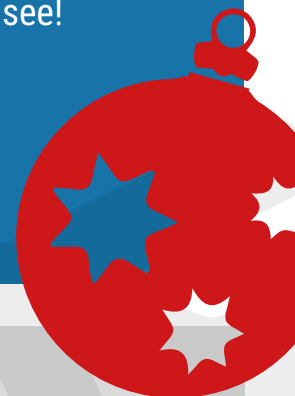
Neil Foley B.Sc. MA.



**Prestatyn High**

@PrestatynHigh NOVEMBER 27 2023

The Animal Care Club have chosen Draco as this week's winner for 'Animal of the Week' ! He is now displayed on the AC1 noticeboard for everyone to see!



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