

PRINCE HENRY'S HIGH SCHOOL

An "Outstanding" Academy for Students aged 13-18
Headteacher: Dr A.A.L. Evans, B.Sc. Ph.D.



November 2017

**SCHOOL YEAR 2017/18
NEWSLETTER NO. 2**

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

It was an extremely busy and very positive first half term which culminated in our traditional Open Evening on 19th October. A wonderful evening was had by all who attended. Throughout the school there was a huge buzz of excitement and enthusiasm, and in the evaluations our visitors commented again and again on how impressed they were with the event. My special thanks to the staff and students for the efforts they made in really showing Prince Henry's at its very best. We have posted some videos and photographs on the media area of the website.

Since September, the atmosphere in school has been excellent and the vast majority of our students have worked diligently at their studies. Members of the Senior Team and I have conducted several assemblies to all year groups, visited many lessons and looked at the potential targets the students are likely to achieve over the next academic year. Year 11 students have returned to school following their placements for work experience and we have received very many positive comments about them. Thank you to Mrs Tozer, Mr Brewster, Mrs Knott, Mrs Walker and Mrs Whiteley for their support here. Year 9 have settled in very well since joining us in September and Mr Thompson and his team are very pleased with the progress they are making.

Numerous events took place last half-term, including Year 9 Cultural Day; a number of Geography field trips; a visit to the school by Prince, the guide dog puppy which we sponsor; fundraising activities for [Young Minds on World Mental Health Day](#), as well as the Macmillan coffee morning; a visit to the Anthony Nolan Trust Institute in London; a rewards meeting for 24 Year 11 students, as well as auditions for "Oklahoma", which will be performed in March. Some of these are [highlighted in more detail in our Gazette](#), and sporting results and other news are, as ever, shown on the school website.

Finally, Tom Parkin (Head Boy), Isobel Hardwick (Head Girl), Mr Freeman and I will be representing Prince Henry's by laying a wreath at the Remembrance Day Parade in Evesham on Sunday 12th November 2017.



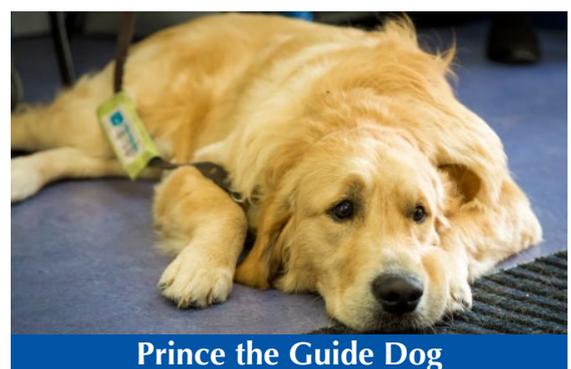
Open Evening 2017



Open Evening 2017



Young Minds Cake Sale



Prince the Guide Dog

School Games Gold Award

We were delighted to be recognized with this prestigious award once again.

We received the School Games Gold Award for the sixth consecutive year, and my thanks to Mrs Thorner for her work in overseeing this programme, which was established after the London Olympics and Paralympics to enable every school and child in the country to participate in competitive sport.

[Full details can be found on the website](#) and my thanks to all the staff who give of their time generously to support the excellent sporting and other extra-curricular opportunities available at Prince Henry's.

Training to be a Teacher

As you may be aware, at the start of term, Prince Henry's welcomed its first cohort of 12 trainee teachers as part of our SCITT Status (School-Centred Initial Teacher Training) and they are all settling very well into their respective training programmes. Working closely with an alliance of other First, Middle and High Schools, SCITT status means that we are able to recruit, train and "grow our own" teachers and the application process is now open for those looking to commence training in September 2018. If you, or someone known to you, is interested in a career in teaching, please see the full details in the [Teacher Training \(SCITT\) area of our website](#), or contact Mr Duffy, the Director of SCITT, at the school.

Year 13 and Year 11 Parents' Evenings / Mock Exams

We held an extremely positive Parents' Evening for Year 13 students on 26th September and Year 11 students on 31st October. Mrs Webb and Mrs Walker inform me that the vast majority of our Year 13 and Year 11 students are making excellent progress and we are looking forward to a high level of attainment from them in their exams. It is very important that they now maintain focus towards achieving the challenging target grades my colleagues have set them.

A crucial part of this will be the forthcoming mock exams. Year 13 mocks will be taking place from 20th – 24th November, whilst Year 11 mocks be held from 28th November - 6th December. Mr Freeman has recently spoken to Year 11 students in assembly, emphasizing the importance of spending quality time upon independent study in the build-up to both their mock and final examinations. If they do this, they will reap the rewards next summer. It goes without saying that thorough revision will be essential for these exams. [Please see the website for further information.](#)

Homework

Mrs Wood, Deputy Headteacher, has revised our Homework Policy, and this was introduced at the start of this academic year. Detailed information about homework approaches on a subject by subject



Interact Coffee Morning



Unique Voice Theatre Company



Y9 Cultural Day



Y11 Rewards Tea Party



'The Cricketer' Top 100 School

basis is given in the [Parents & Students/Home School Agreement and Homework area of our website](#).

As a reminder, I have also posted copies of the letters which were sent home to Year 9, 10 and 11 parents at the start of term regarding homework onto the website in the same area. Homework reinforces what is learnt in class. It goes without saying that if students adopt good working practices at home this inevitably enhances their overall learning and performance.

We encourage all parents to support good attitudes to learning at home.

Attendance

Our attendance figure is currently standing at 95.8%, (compared to 96.3% at this time last year). Our Persistent Absence (PA) figure stands at 6.1% (compared to 6.8% this time last year). Last academic year, the school achieved its highest attendance (96%, with 4.8% PA) on record. I thank you as parents for your support with this. I cannot emphasise enough the fact that good attendance to school significantly correlates to success. I must also thank Mrs Jennings our Attendance Officer and Mrs Haskell our Education Welfare Officer for the sterling work that they do.

School Uniform

We are very proud of the school uniform worn by our students in the lower school and Sixth Form. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that our students come to school smartly every day.

Reminder - Procedure for School Closure

As winter approaches, I want to remind you of our emergency school closure routine. As well as communicating any closure via our website and local radio stations, we will also text parents with key information.

Mobile Phones & Electronic Devices

Mobile phones/electronic devices are a distraction to the learning process and are not required during school time. In Years 9 – 11 inclusive, these devices must not be used in school. Any mobile phone/electronic device in plain sight will be confiscated and only returned to the appropriate parent/guardian who will need to collect it from the school office. Any mobile phone or other device that is brought into school is entirely at the risk of the student. The school will not be responsible for any loss or damage to the device.

Photos from the Tanzania Trip



Parent View

I am drawing ParentView to your attention, because your voice will be essential in terms of the judgement Prince Henry's receives in its next inspection. As you know, my colleagues and I have been very impressed with the way our students contribute to the school and the vast majority of students we meet and talk to seem very content and happy in their learning. The survey is not designed to receive complaints about the school. Parents who wish to make a complaint or have a serious concern regarding their child, should contact the school in the normal way and ask for the Head of Year. If you are a parent or carer, you simply need your email address and a password to register on the Parent View website at <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>, or by clicking on the Parent View logo on this page. This link will take you straight there. Once your login has been activated it only takes a few minutes to rate Prince Henry's against the 12 questions. You can also look at the views of some of our other parents. My staff and I would be very appreciative for five minutes of your time to kindly complete this survey for us. Thank you for your support with this.



Easy Fundraising

As Christmas approaches, did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be collecting free donations for Prince Henry's School, Evesham Charitable Trust? There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra! [Full details are on our website](#) and we would like to thank you in advance for any support you could give.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 7th November	Careers Fair, 6 pm - 8.30 pm
Thursday 9th November	Year 9 & Year 12 Parents' Evening (with Tutors)
20th – 24th November	Year 13 Mock Exams
Monday 27th November	TED (School closed to students)
28th November – 6th December	Year 11 Mock Exams
Monday 18th December	Christmas Concert, Arts Centre Theatre
Tuesday 19th December	Term Ends at 12.45 pm
Wednesday 3rd January 2018	Spring Term begins (Week Two)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Dr A Evans
Headteacher

