

Be All You Can Be For S1-3 Pupils

All of us at Preston Lodge High School want to give every pupil the opportunity to be successful and happy in their school life. We are determined to set the highest standards so that pupils, parents/guardians and the community can be proud of our school.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP US TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN ACHIEVE THE VERY BEST THEY CAN:

- **ALWAYS SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IN DRESS CODE** - this stops name calling and gives everyone a sense of pride and teamwork.
- **ALWAYS SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT** - a bag is essential, pens and pencils, ruler, calculator, homework diary, PE kit, Home Economics money.
- **ALWAYS CHECK HOMEWORK DIARIES AND ENSURE HOMEWORK IS CARRIED OUT** - Teachers monitor this in school on a regular basis.
- **ATTENDANCE/PUNCTUALITY** - ensure that your child gets to school on time. If your child is absent from school for any reason the school need to know why. Give your child a note for any absences - with no information your child will be assumed to be truanting. Holidays should be avoided during term time.
- **ALWAYS SHARE OUR MESSAGE** - Preston Lodge can help your child to fulfil their dreams but it takes commitment and dedication.

Here are important dates and events to watch out for during session 2007-2008:

For S1

- 1 November - S1 Parents' Meeting 4.30 pm
- 11/12 December - Christmas Concert
- 28 May - S1 Reports
- 27 May - S1 Sports Day
- 2 June - Start of New Timetable
- 5 June - S1 Parents' Meeting 4.30pm
- 17 June - Prize Giving
- 23-27 June - Activities Week

For S2

- 11/12 December - Christmas Concert
- 5 February - S2 Options Parents' Meeting
- 13 March - S2 Reports
- 19 March - S2 Parents' Meeting 4.30pm
- 28 May - S2 Sports Day
- 2 June - Start of New Timetable
- 17 June - Prize Giving
- 23-27 June - Activities Week

What you can expect to happen during S1 and S2:

- Cover a two-year programme involving many new and exciting subjects, which will build on their learning from primary and help prepare them for their subject choices at the end of Second Year.
- Meet formally with their guidance teacher and be monitored by that teacher throughout the year to help ease the transition into secondary school.
- Receive regular homework from every subject, organised through their own personal Homework Diary.
- Be encouraged at all times to work for success and to **'Be All They Can Be'**.

For S2 only

- After Christmas, begin to work with their guidance teacher on course selection for S3, S4.
- Reduce their subjects usually from 13 to 8 Standard Grades and we will work together on helping them to make a selection which is most likely to lead to success in national examinations.

For S3

- 3 October - DTP Vaccinations
- 11/12 December - Christmas Concert
- 16 January - S3 Parents' Meeting 4.30pm
- 29 May - S3 Sports Day
- 2 June - Start of New Timetable
- 16 June - S3 Reports
- 17 June - Prize Giving
- 23-27 June - Activities Week

What you can expect to happen during this year:

- **Starting Standard Grade Courses** - these are 2 year courses with a final SQA exam being sat at the end of S4. There will be an increase in pace, work and amount of homework. Adopting good practice of getting homework in on time, attending homework clubs etc will all help to achieve the best standard grades possible.
- **Moving towards Standard Grade Exams** - Encourage your child to file all their notes in a safe place at home: the work covered in S3 will be needed for S4 exams. If your child is absent, it is their responsibility to catch up on any work missed. Encourage your child to see Standard Grade as a 2 year course and not a last minute dash to complete work in S4.

Be All You Can Be For S4-6 Pupils

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP US TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN ACHIEVE THE VERY BEST THEY CAN:

- **ENSURE YOUR CHILD COMES TO SCHOOL IN FULL DRESS CODE, INCLUDING SHIRT AND TIE, EVERY DAY** - this creates very positive role models for students in the junior school and gives everyone a sense of pride and teamwork.
- **DISCUSS SUBJECT TARGETS WITH YOUR CHILD AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO SEEK HELP FROM ALL AVAILABLE SOURCES TO MEET THESE TARGETS** - subject teachers, Guidance staff, Heads of House.
- **ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND DEPARTMENTAL STUDY SUPPORT SESSIONS** - throughout the year and not just as prelims and the final exams loom.
- **HELP YOUR CHILD TO ORGANISE SPORT AND WORK ACTIVITIES SO THAT STUDY IS THE KEY PRIORITY** - part-time working should be kept to a minimum.
- **ENSURE YOUR CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL EACH DAY UNLESS NOT POSSIBLE, AND IS PUNCTUAL** - one day missed can mean two-fifths of that week's work for a subject missed. Please do not take holidays in term time.
- **HELP YOUR CHILD TO PRODUCE AND WORK WITH A STUDY PLANNER** - the planner and the timeline for internal assessments should be displayed in a prominent place at home.
- **ALWAYS SHARE OUR MESSAGE** - Preston Lodge can help your child to fulfil their dreams but it takes commitment and dedication.

Here are important dates and events to watch out for during session 2007-2008

For S4

- Week beg 24 September or Week beg 1 October - Work Experience weeks
- 4 September- S4 Information Evening
- 16 November - Prelims begin
- 30 November - Prelims end
- 11/12 December - Christmas Concert
- 20 December - Senior Christmas Dance
- 18 January - S4 Reports
- 29 January - S4 Parents' Meeting 4.30 pm
- 18 February - S4/5 Options Parents' Meeting
- 30 April - Study Leave starts
- 1 May - SQA Exams start
- 30 May - Study Leave ends
- 2 June - Start of New Timetable
- 5-6 June - (New) S5 Induction
- 5 June - SQA Exams end
- 17 June - Prize Giving
- 23-27 June - Activities Week

What you can expect to happen during this year:

- **S4 Prelims Exams** - these exams are very important. As the evidence from these exams can be used as appeal material for the final exam in May/June. Report card will be issued based on success at prelim exams.
- **Internal Assessments** - a major part of Standard Grades. This is work which is done in class and at home. The Booklet 'Making S4 Work for You' highlights the assessment and deadline for each subject.
- **S4/5/6 Information Evening** - for parents of pupils who will be staying on at school. This evening will inform you of what you can expect in S5.
- **Making Decisions About Where to Next** - S4 pupils will have an interviews with members of the SMT and Guidance Teacher to discuss the most appropriate arrangements for the pupil's future: school, college or the work place.
- **Start of new timetable in June**, when pupils staying on at school will start with a full day induction programme.
- **Refer to the booklet 'Making S4 Work for You' for tips to help with successful studying.**

Here are important dates and events to watch out for during session 2007-2008

For S5/6

- 30 August- S5/6 Information Evening
- 3 December - S5/6 Parents' Meeting 4.30 pm
- 11/12 December - Christmas Concert
- 20 December - Senior Christmas Dance
- 28 January - Prelims begin
- 18 February - S5 Options Evening
- 10 March - S5/6 Reports
- 30 April - SQA Exams start
- 13 May - S5/6 Study Leave starts
- 2 June - Start of New Timetable
- 3-4 June - S6 Induction
- 5-6 June - S5 Induction
- 5 June - SQA Exams end
- 17 June - Prize Giving
- 23-27 June - Activities Week

What you can expect to happen during this year:

- Students will **negotiate targets** with subject teachers. You will receive a letter telling you your son/daughters initial targets. Teachers will **track** your child's progress throughout the year and you will be contacted if we have any cause for concern.
- **Students in S5** will find the **pace of work** required at Higher/Intermediate levels is much greater than that at Standard Grade.
- **Students in S6**, especially those studying courses at Advanced Higher level, will find that the degree of **independent study** required is much greater than that expected in S5.
- Each Higher Still unit is **internally assessed**. Students must pass each of these units in order to gain an overall award. There is only **one** opportunity for re-assessment. Students may find that they have more than one assessment on a particular day. It is crucial that they **plan** ahead for these assessments.
- As the **pace and volume** of work increases throughout the year students may feel overwhelmed. It is essential that they discuss this with their **guidance teacher** in the first instance. It may be possible to drop a level in certain subjects to ease some of the pressure or the student may require help with self-confidence or help to plan and organise their workload.

**AT ANYTIME YOU WISH FURTHER INFORMATION OR HAVE ANY CONCERNS
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S GUIDANCE TEACHER ON 01875 811170.**

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP IS THE BEST WAY WE CAN BRING SUCCESS TO YOUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THIS COMING YEAR.

