



22 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope this finds you well.

Site update

You will know from my letter earlier this term that our courts are currently out of action due to a subsidence issue. We are working hard in the background to find a solution to this and are in the process of planning a way forward. In a recent development, engineers have informed us that three of the trees near the courts will likely become unsafe as a consequence of the planned works. As a result, we may need to remove them to keep students, staff and contractors safe. We also have ash trees that have suffered from die back along the St Lawrence Road part of our site that will need to be removed. Please be assured that our tree surgeons will work closely with the local authority throughout the whole process and will only remove trees where it is necessary. Our site will retain its current feel and we will continue to enjoy seeing the many trees on site for years to come.

Christmas appeal

For the second year running, we will be collecting Christmas Boxes for the Ukraine appeal. The idea is that donations from our school family will go directly to families suffering as a result of the conflict. Tutors have informed students of the appeal so your child may well discuss this with you. If you would like to contribute a shoebox of presents, the deadline is the end of October. This will ensure boxes reach the recipients for the big day. We collected 84 boxes last year and would like to try and beat that if we could. For further details, please [click here](#)

Parental survey

Many thanks to all the parents who have completed the survey that I sent out last week. Your feedback has been really helpful. Please do complete the survey if you have not yet had chance to do so, it really does help to inform our school improvement journey. [Please click here to take part in the survey](#). One thing that has come out so far is that some parents were not aware that we post all curriculum information on our website. We do this so that you can keep abreast of what your child is learning. Please [click here](#) for full details of our curriculum offer.



Black History Month

The theme for Black History Month is 'Saluting Our Sisters' and will focus on the crucial role black women have played in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities. You will recall that I wrote to you this week about the art competition for BHM. Please [click here for the BHM art competition details](#)

Student survey outcomes

Year 7 and 8 have recently taken part in surveys that measure their feelings about school. The survey asks students a range of questions and collates answers into 9 categories. I am delighted to report that in all 9 categories for both year 7 and 8 our cohorts returned the highest rating of satisfaction with school. Thank you for all you do to encourage a positive approach to school, it really does make all the difference.

Calendar dates

I thought it would be helpful to remind you that we provide a summary of key dates on our website to save parents trawling through the calendar to find what you most commonly need. [Please click here for key dates for your diary](#)

Open evening

On Thursday 21st September we held our open evening for year 7 entry. It was a delight to welcome so many families to our evening, we were full for the whole event. Parents were so complimentary about Plymouth High, but particularly mentioned our amazing students. The tour guides, room ambassadors and student speakers were all very highly praised by our visitors. Thank you to all parents who supported the event by encouraging their child to be part of the evening.

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.