



10 November 2023

Dear Parent and Carers

I hope you are well.

This week we were delighted to host students and their families from our own year 11 and those from other schools to our sixth form open evening. The event was more popular than ever with teachers reporting significant interest in their subject areas. Students were able to find out what it is like to be a sixth form student at Plymouth High and to learn of the rigour and demands of studying A levels. We anticipate another year of high application numbers and expect to welcome a sizeable cohort of young people from other schools by the time we get to September. As usual, our student leaders present on the night were amazing and parents commented to us just how welcoming and supportive they were.

Year 13 parents evening

A reminder that year 13 parents evenings are being held across both the 16th November and 23rd November. The appointments are online and online invitations have been sent out to parents. We hope that you find the discussions helpful.

Head Student Team 2024

As is the case every year, we received very high quality applications for HST from our year 12 and whilst not everyone who applies to join HST can be part of the new team, everyone should be proud of what they have written and how they have presented themselves. Interviews are planned for next week and we will be able to release details of the new team before the end of this term.

CAMP

Our carols and mince pies event is due to take place on Wednesday 6th December at 6pm in Newman Hall. Tickets (£3 adults and £2 concessions) can be purchased via ticket master and details of how to secure your ticket will be sent out soon by our music teacher, Mrs Marcer. There will be a raffle on the night, so do bring some cash with you.

Children in need mufti day

We will be supporting children in need on Friday 17th November with a mufti day. Students can choose to wear CIN relating clothing or general mufti. As usual, we will ask for a donation if your child wishes to take part, all donation will be sent to CIN. We ask that parents donate via ParentPay, details have been sent to parents via ParentPay. When selecting their mufti outfit, students must be mindful of what is appropriate for school. Of course, changing hair colour to an unnatural colour is not acceptable for a mufti day. Thank you for your support and generosity.

The new bell

We have a new bell in school. We have had to move away from the old bell as we were not able to update it for accurate automatic timings and for it to be heard clearly across the school in all areas. The new bell system also enables us to operate a reliable and modern fire and lockdown siren. Some students and parents have expressed concerns about the sound and duration of the changeover bell we have been using. Please be assured that we have taken on board comments made and we are looking at where we can mute sounders so that everyone can still hear the sound, but that it is less intrusive. Thank you for your patience whilst we try out different options.

Last day of term

We finish on Friday the 15th December at 1.30pm after the carol service in St Matthias' Church on North Hill. We are unable to bring forward the afternoon collection time for contract buses on Friday 15th December. If your child catches a contract bus, they

are welcome to stay in school until 3.30pm to wait for the bus. Please be kind enough to let your child's head of year know if you would like us to provide a safe place for your child to wait in school from 1.30pm to 3.30pm on Friday 15th December. Any child is welcome to stay in school until 3.30pm on Friday 15th December, but we do need to know if they are taking this option as the official finish time for us on the last day is 1.30pm.

Vaccinations

The School-Age Immunisation Service is delivering the flu immunisation programme to Years 7-11 at PHSG on 4th December 2023.

The vaccination is free and recommended for children and young people; it is administered by a quick and simple spray up the nose. Please visit www.nhs.uk/child-flu to access information explaining the vaccination programme which also includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

In order to access the online consent form, please enter or click on the following <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> PLEASE ENSURE YOU QUOTE THE FULL CODE. The code for our school is: DV148369

Please submit your consent **by midday on 30th November 2023** to ensure your child receives their vaccination. If you experience any problems accessing the form please **telephone 01392 342678**, and the team will be happy to help. Please note that as in previous years **you must opt in** to the programme. If a consent form is not submitted your child might not be vaccinated.

A letter with full details has been sent to parents this week via email.

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.