



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

15th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope this finds you well.

You will know that our student leaders do a wonderful job across many aspects of our school and make a positive and lasting difference. This week we are going through the process of appointing the new Head Student Team for 2025, led by our existing HST. Last week, during Anti-Bullying Week, the ambassadors asked students to write affirmations based on the importance of inclusion and respecting each other's differences. They collected affirmations in many different languages and as a celebration of the students' diverse backgrounds and cultures they will be creating a display of these affirmations in school.

Next week during Kindness Week the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will be working on a *Kindness Collage* on the courts and so are asking students to bring in pictures, photographs and drawings that represent what kindness means to them. All contributions should be with Miss Crouch by Wednesday 20 November.

CAMP 11th December

We have our annual Carols and Mince Pies event after school on the 11th December. If you would like to donate mince pies for the event, they should be left at reception for the attention of Miss Roughton, Deputy Headteacher. Thank you in advance to everyone who donates. Miss Roughton thought a Christmas poem would help to get us all ready for the festive season and she hopes you enjoy it.

The holidays are here, so join us, please,
For a festive night of carols and mince pies with ease!
At Plymouth High we'll gather, with voices clear,
To sing of the joy that fills this time of year.

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AcSEED



Our choir is ready, the hall's decked out,
With laughter and music, we'll sing and shout.
But to make the night even warmer and bright,
We'd love your help to add delight.

Could you donate a mince pie or two,
To share with friends, both old and new?
Every pie you bring is a gift of cheer,
Helping us spread joy through this time of year.

So mark the date, don't miss the fun,
Join us for songs till the evening's done.
We'll see you there, voices raised high—
For carols, mince pies, and holiday joy nigh!

Pulse

We are excited to introduce **Pulse**, a new wellbeing app designed for our students. This very important tool will be used for weekly check-ins to help us better understand their overall mood and wellbeing. Students will be reminded (via email) to check-in once a week, this will only take 60 seconds and the video link below explains the new system in more detail.

Please note that while Pulse is a great way for students to share how they're feeling, it is **not intended for urgent support requests**. If your child needs immediate help, please encourage them to speak directly with a trusted adult or use the appropriate emergency contacts.

[Pulse - Parent/Guardian Introduction Video](#)

Orchestra

Mr Simpson, who runs our orchestra, wanted to let parents and carers know that student rehearsal is every Tuesday at lunchtime. The orchestra is currently working towards the Christmas events which are only a few weeks away. Mr Simpson would be grateful if parents and carers could remind their children to bring their instruments every Tuesday and to attend all rehearsals. He wants to be sure that students feel ready and confident to play in the Carols and Mince Pies and Carol Service events.

The Day

Please see below for this week's academic reading recommendations from **The Day** website. These curated articles are designed to stimulate curiosity, spark meaningful discussions, and enhance critical thinking skills. We encourage everyone—students and parents/carers alike—to explore the diverse range of topics and stay informed on current events and thought-provoking issues. We will be providing recommended reads each week across the various academic subjects for both students and parents.

Mathematics [PM wages war on 'anti-maths mindset' - The Day](#)

History [New fort reveals secrets of Ancient Egyptians - The Day](#)

Music [The woman whose honesty remade pop - The Day](#)

Why Read These?

- **Students:** The articles will deepen understanding of various subjects and offer fresh perspectives to enhance classroom discussions. Plus, they can give ideas for school projects, essays, and debates.
- **Parents:** Engaging with these articles alongside your children will encourage their academic growth, and it is a fun way to stay informed together

We hope you enjoy this week's selections. Happy reading.

Matilda tickets

Miss Crouch, our Head of Drama, wanted to remind parents and carers that she has managed to secure 46 tickets for a matinee performance on 22 January 2026 (not 2025). The seats are stalls seats (rows D and E) and come at a cost of £40 each. We appreciate that these tickets are more expensive than usual but because the show is not until 2026, we are able to offer an instalment option.

To secure a ticket a £15 deposit is required and then there will be further five payments of £5. This trip is open to all students in years 7, 8 and 9 and will be on ParentPay from Monday 18th November.

Food service

Parents and carers will remember that from Monday 18th November, food ParentPay accounts will need to be sufficiently in credit for students to make their purchases. Don't forget that you can set alerts on ParentPay to inform you when you child's account has dipped below a level that you set. Thank you for your support in helping us to run a smooth and efficient service.

Parent Governor opportunity

We have vacancies for two parent governors. So if you are keen to work with our school leaders to make positive change for the students at PHSG and ensure they are receiving the best of what the Trust and Schools have to offer, then please get in touch. You can register your interest by applying via our advert [Parent Governor at Plymouth High School for Girls in Plymouth - TSAT](#) on the Trust's website. More information about TSAT governance can be found here <https://www.tsatrust.org.uk/about/governance/>

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.