



THINKING  
SCHOOLS  
ACADEMY TRUST



ACCREDITED  
THINKING  
SCHOOL

# Plymouth High School for Girls

*"For life, not school, we learn"*

18 July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We enjoyed our annual school sports day this week and had a wonderful time. The students were, as always, so supportive of each other and heartily cheered their house competitors in every track and field event as well as the hugely popular tug of war and the rounders competition. A huge thank you to our wonderful PTFA and kitchen team, both of whom provided refreshments on the day.

We also held our Sports Award evening this week where we celebrated the considerable successes of our outstanding athletes. There were two new awards this year, one in memory of Miss Luscombe, which was kindly donated by a parent, and also an award based on submissions from families about the sports our young people do outside of school. The awards event was enjoyed by all as were the raffle prizes (for those who won!) and the refreshments. Thank you to the families of nominees and award winners for joining us for this successful evening.

## School lottery

Our wonderful and hardworking PTFA have decided that they would like to trial the use of School Lottery to raise funds for school. Whilst the PTFA are not intending to specifically promote gambling, they have found that many schools have successfully used School Lottery to raise funds for school for those little extra things. Parents can find out more about School Lottery [here](#). Of course, there would be no expectation that parents buy lottery tickets, and the option to contribute to school via the usual methods to PTFA remain open. Should parents decide to take part in school lottery, some of the cost of each 'ticket' does go to School Lottery to cover things like administration costs. However, there are prizes, just like in any lottery, and a share of the ticket money comes directly to school. Should you wish to get involved, please [click here](#).



## PHSG wins the Advocacy Award

I am delighted to share that PHSG has won the annual Trust wide Advocacy award for our work on student voice both within our school and across the Trust. Our young people have engaged enthusiastically with student voice and have offered their support and guidance to students in other Trust schools. The areas of focus for student voice are; Earth Alliance, Reading, Behaviour Principles and Anti-Bullying, the Food Service, Charities and Diversity. PHSG students have set agendas for student meetings, managed meetings and created minutes, worked with Trust leaders and agreed common project plans with students from other Trust schools. They have risen to the challenge and have made a difference; we are super proud of them.

## Library hours from September

From September 2025, the school library will continue to remain open for the regular after school sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, but at this time, we do not have cover for the after-school slot on Monday or Friday. We are still looking to see how we might be able to run the after-school library provision on Monday and Friday, but at this time, I ask parents and carers to assume that it will not be running on these days. I will, of course, update you all if this position changes.

## Reading

Studies show that reading can increase our emotional intelligence as we understand a range of perspectives and motivations. When we read we create mental simulations of the activities, sights and sounds of scenes in a story, blending these with our own memories and experiences, all of which stimulates the neural pathways.

Research suggests that reading for 30 minutes a week increases health and wellbeing. Reading for pleasure has been found to improve our confidence and self-esteem, providing the grounding we need to pursue our goals and make life decisions. It can also aid our sleep and reduce feelings of loneliness.

The reading suggestions this week are.

Psychology [Five big lessons from The Traitors - The Day](#)

Physics [How relying on computers leads to 'disaster' - The Day](#)

Mathematics [Maths: the secret to the game of life - The Day](#)

Our summer term newsletter will be published before the end of term and provides a super round up of what has been going on in school, please do look out for the email. We have a few days left of the summer term and finish at 12.20pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

July. On behalf of us all at PHSG, I wish you a happy, healthy and restful summer break.

Very best wishes,



**Simon Underdown**  
**Headteacher**

**School website latest news page.**

This is where we celebrate student achievements and promote school related news. Please click [here](#) for our latest news

**Dates for your diary**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July last day of school. Students finish at 12.30pm

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Year 7 and year 12 first day of term. Normal school day timings.

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September – All years return, normal school day timings.