



THINKING
SCHOOLS
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SCHOOL

Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

19 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well.

Yesterday, we welcomed potential new families into our school for the first of our open events this academic year. The evening was hugely popular, so much so that both scheduled presentations were filled to capacity, and we had to squeeze in another talk to accommodate everyone. As always, our student ambassadors were amazing. So many visitors praised our young people for their enthusiasm, knowledge and maturity. We were so proud of them all.

Medical and illness Support

As students grow and their bodies are changing, they can become more susceptible to headaches and pains in the stomach or back due to their menstrual cycle. If your child does suffer with this, it would really help if they had paracetamol on them to self-medicate. We ask that parents do not send their child to school with a box of tablets, but to have two tablets on them in case of a headache or particularly bad menstrual cycle pain would help them and support our onsite first aid team.

If your child more regularly needs to self-medicate with paracetamol, please communicate with our support base so that these medications can be kept securely in a central location to be issued when needed.

If your child has new shoes and there is a chance that they might get blisters it would help if they had plasters with them. We do have plasters in school, but it can be so much more convenient for students if they are able to look after themselves.

Girls will sometimes, unexpectedly, need sanitary products from time to time. We have a small stock of products that students can help themselves to in our toilet areas



and in main reception and in A01, but students may find it more convenient to have spares with them.

Lost property

We currently have a significant amount of lost property left unclaimed from the last academic year, including:

- Over 40 coats
- Numerous PE tops
- Many water bottles
- And various other items

While all named items are routinely returned to students, unfortunately, these remaining items are unnamed and have not been claimed.

We will be giving students one week to look through the lost property and reclaim any items they may have misplaced. After this period, any unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

Please encourage your child to check the lost property area this week if they are missing anything. The deadline is Friday 26th September.

KS3 Homework

As we begin the new term, we would like to share with you the [homework timetables](#) for Key Stage 3 students and highlight the importance of homework in supporting your child's learning journey.

Homework plays a vital role in reinforcing classroom learning, developing independent study habits, and encouraging responsibility. It allows students to:

- Consolidate and extend their understanding of key concepts.
- Practise skills taught in lessons.
- Prepare for upcoming topics or assessments.
- Develop time management and organisational skills. Please click here for details of the KS3 homework schedule.

The schedule outlines when subjects will set homework. We encourage students to use these timetables to plan their week and avoid last-minute stress.

Homework will vary by subject but may include:

- English: Reading comprehension tasks, creative writing, or vocabulary building or online tasks via platforms like BEDROCK.
- Maths: Practice problems, revision quizzes, or online tasks via platforms like SPARX.
- Science: Research assignments, revision notes, or practical write-ups.
- Humanities: Source analysis, map work, or short essays.
- Languages: Vocabulary practice, grammar exercises, or short translations.
- Drama: Writing scripts or learning lines.
- Art in KS3, homework can be set on any Art lesson for any Art lesson the following week, as and when it is needed. The nature of the HW depends on stage of project – collecting resources/completing class activities/stand-alone task.

We appreciate your support in encouraging your child to complete homework regularly and to the best of their ability. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher(s).

Year 11 and Year 13 revision

Our teachers will be offering bespoke revision and preparation sessions for year 11 and year 13 at various points between now and the public examinations. The timetable for these sessions can be found [here](#). Tutors will be going through the timetable with their groups on Monday 22nd September and helping students to prioritise which sessions they should attend. Thank you to parents and carers in advance for discussing these revision opportunities with your children and encouraging them to attend the sessions that would be most appropriate. As usual, please do contact your child's teacher(s) if you have a question or a concern, they are ready to help.

October holiday

There is a two-week October holiday coming up. Year 11 and 13 will find this very helpful to both have some downtime and complete some revision for their mocks. Year 11 mocks are before Christmas, year 13 mocks are after Christmas.

The extended breaks help other year groups to have a rest from a busy start to the year, to review their learning so far and to get involved in enriching activities and events with their friends and family. I suspect it will also help with maintaining our excellent student attendance record in the run up to Christmas. Our current attendance puts us in the top 10% of schools nationally, thank you for supporting with our attendance drive.

Food service

In my message to students this week, I have included a video from the food service team to outline the various offers and meal deals. Our Head Student Team watched the video this week and think it's helpful. Parents and carers may wish to watch the video with their child to see what is on offer.

Please click [here](#) for our latest news

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown
Headteacher

Dates for your diary

Yr10 Expectations eve Wed 24th September

Yr11 parents eve 9th & 16th October

All year groups

Non-pupil days: Friday 17th October and Monday 3rd November

October holiday: 20th to 31st October

Tuesday 4th November: First day back