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Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

26 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well.

As usual, our students have been working hard in lessons this week. Senior leaders have been popping into classes and have been very impressed with what they have seen. Students have demonstrated excellent focus and concentration, and we have seen smart uniforms across the board along with super presentations in exercise books. Students have also been asking great questions to extend their knowledge and clear up misconceptions. They have also been enjoying their social time in the sunshine at break and lunch showing kindness to one another.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and students at our year 10 expectation evening this week. We are grateful to parents and carers for taking the time to join us for a reminder of what lies ahead for our young people as they embark on their GCSE journey.

House

I am delighted to share with you that we have refreshed our House information on the school website to help everyone stay better connected to their House. Parents and carers will know that the House structure at Plymouth High is central to our sense of belonging and extracurricular activities. We are incredibly proud of the rich heritage and community spirit that our House system represents.

The new House pages offer insights into the history, purpose, and current structure of our Houses, and how they help foster a sense of belonging, leadership, and healthy competition across the school. Find out more about our House teams by clicking [here](#). I do hope you enjoy learning more about this important part of school life.

Year 11

Students have been completing their 'seen' tasks in class since we returned from the summer break. Question papers specifically designed to help students prepare for the



challenges of the pre-Christmas mocks were given to students before the holidays. Students then sat fresh copies of the papers (hence the 'seen' nature of them) in class under examination conditions. Curriculum leaders have set pass marks for these papers. Passing the papers indicates that students are making progress towards being ready for the mocks. The pass marks are not directly connected to GCSE grades. Colleagues are in the process of marking and collecting scores for these papers and will be communicating with parents and carers. We have year 11 parents' evening coming up, and teachers may well be able to discuss the 'seen' task outcomes with parents.

Potential traffic disruption

Wales and West Utilities are planning some upcoming replacement gas works in the North Hill, Mutley area of Plymouth. This is all part of their 30-year, gas pipe investment programme across Wales and the Southwest of England. As part of this programme, old metal gas pipes within 30 metres of buildings are being upgraded to new, long-lasting plastic ones.

Work will be in three phases from 6 October to 4 November.

Phase 1 :

- Two-way traffic lights on North Hill and partial closure of the bus stop outside Plymouth Girls High School
- Alton Road will be closed at the junction with North Hill
- Hill Park Crescent Lane will be closed at the junction with North Hill

Phase 2:

- Bus stop suspension on North Hill Alton Place. No right hand turn from North Hill onto Alexandra Road and Greenbank Avenue.
- Alton Place will be closed from the junction with North Hill to 3 Alton Place
- Chester Place will be closed at the junction with North Hill

Phase 3:

- Road closure at Chester Place at the junction with North Hill
- Multiway traffic lights on Mutley Plain

Diversion routes will be signposted, and motorists are advised to allow extra time for travel. Times, dates and durations are subject to change.

This will impact on where parents can drop and collect their child from outside the school gates and the locations of bus stops may also change during this period. Please ensure that you are aware of when the works will start and any changes that may need to be factored in with regards to both your or your child's daily routines take account of these works and diversions.

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown

Headteacher

Dates for your diary.

All years

The last day of term for students is Thursday 16th October and they return to school on Tuesday 4th November. Both days are normal school days with full uniform.

Year 11

Year 11 parents' evenings are on Thursdays 9th and 16th October. Online booking details have been distributed to parents.