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# Plymouth High School for Girls

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

7 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well and that you enjoyed a relaxing time over the half term break. I think the 2-week holiday has helped our students to have a well-earned rest, they certainly seem to have returned to school ready to learn and appear to be refreshed.

## Student leaders

We are in the process of selecting our new student leader teams for 2026. Each year, students from across the school have the chance to apply for significant leadership roles where they will get the chance to make a difference and to develop their own skills. For 2026, we will have a range of new people in various positions including; learning mentors, junior House Captains, House Captains, Earth Alliance leaders, prefects, subject Captains, Head Student Team, student librarians, and Sports Captains. Every year we are inundated with high quality applications from talented and enthusiastic students. Thank you to our wonderfully supportive parent body for the way you encourage and support your child to take part.

On Wednesday of this week, we held our Trust wide student leadership conference where student representatives from all the 26 schools in our Trust were invited to join to discuss and make plans around the things that are important to our young people. We have 6 priority areas, they are; Reading, Earth Alliance, anti-bullying, food service, charities and diversity. Each group is chaired by a student or a pair of students and these people are responsible for making sure that everyone has the chance to share their views and to keep the meeting on track and to decide on the agreed next steps. Plymouth High students chaired 4 of these groups and performed magnificently, it was such a proud moment for us.

## Year 11

Our year 11 students will soon be heading for their mocks. All the revision material they will need has been posted on their class Teams channel and, in some cases, also



on the curriculum area revision website. All year 11 students know where to access this information and they may enjoy showing you what is available and how they plan to revise. Your child may wish to show you the PHSG revision hub that we are in the process of developing, found [here](#) on our website. As a reminder, all subject areas offer extra-curricular revision clubs for year 11 (and 13) students, the full list can be found [here](#)

## Behaviour system

Parents will know that we have recently introduced a new behaviour system with the aim of giving students the chance to correct their behaviour before receiving a sanction. I am pleased to report that we have seen a significant drop in the number of sanctions issued since the new system was introduced, but we would really like this to reduce still further. A significant proportion of the 'C2's issued (these are like warnings that do not themselves lead to a sanction but are part of the 'totting up' process that would lead to a sanction) are for small uniform faults and for missing a homework deadline. I am sure that these are things our students could work on and in my letter to them this week, I will highlight that this as a potential area of focus.

## CAMP Countdown 5 Weeks to Go!

Our Carols and Mince Pies event is coming soon — 10 December, 5–6:30pm at school. It's a great way to get in the festive spirit and enjoy an evening of signing and mince pies. As is the case every year, we would be grateful to anyone who is able to donate a box of mince pies. Every pie helps us spread festive cheer to our school community. We are also looking for donations for our raffle (to be drawn at CAMP) and we would be very grateful for donations along the lines of;

- Bottles of wine
- Boxes of chocolates
- New or unused/unwanted gifts

All contributions can be delivered to school reception and will certainly help to make the event a great success. Thank you so much for your support.

Miss Roughton, who oversees CAMP, thought the following limerick might be just the thing to get us all in the Christmas spirit.

*There once was a pie full of spice,  
With raisins and sugar so nice.*

*It danced on a plate,  
Could hardly wait,  
To be part of our festive slice!*

## **Children in need mufti**

Friday 14 November is Children in Need mufti day, and students are encouraged to dress in bright colours and spots! (Our usual expectations and rules around hair colour, jewellery and makeup remain in place) Parents will be able to make donations via the ArborPay Shop should they wish. The Head Student Team have plans for children in need activities on the day, so there should be lots for everyone to get involved in.

Very best wishes,

Simon Underdown

Headteacher.

## **Dates for your diary**

### **Year 11**

13 November – Sixth form open evening, after school. Please see our website for more details

14 November Children in Need mufti day

11 December – Carols and Mince Pies (CAMP)