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Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you well and that your child(ren) enjoyed curriculum enrichment week or work experience. I know you will join me in being very grateful to our fabulous staff team for planning and running such a wide range of fun and interesting activities this week. The students I spoke with certainly seemed to be having a great time. As usual, we finished the on-site week with the musical which is always a highlight, and it was wonderful to welcome so many of our parents to join us for it.

On Tuesday we are planning to run our sports day. It is likely to be warm, so we have put in some mitigating measures to support our school community:

- The longer running races will take part earlier in the day when it is due to be coolest.
- We are in the process of securing extra shade for students to use in addition to the permanent grandstand at the venue.
- The team-building events will be reviewed to keep exposure to full sun to a minimum.
- Our partners, Tesco and Southwest Water, have kindly donated extra water for the day.
- Students are asked to bring with them: **a hat, suncream, and at least 2 litres of water** with them, and to wear their PE kit to school.



Thank you for helping us to keep sports day fun and safe by ensuring your child has the above items with them. Sports day is one of the highlights of our school calendar and students and staff have been looking forward to it.

Our **last school day is Friday 17th July** and is Music Festival Day. Friday 17th July is a non-uniform day with normal start time, **but school will close at 12.30pm instead of 3.30pm**. Please accept our apologies for the typo in early communication which stated the finish time would be 1.30pm, this was an error. **School closes at 12.30pm on Friday 17th July** and the DHSB buses will run their PHSG pickup between 1.00pm and 1.30pm instead of the usual time. I ask that parents bear in mind the earlier school finish time when planning how their child will get home on Friday 17th July.

We return to school after the summer break in the following way.

- Wednesday 2nd September – Years 7 and 12 only
- Thursday 3rd September – the whole school

Spotlight on student excellence

Congratulations to the following students who have recently been celebrated for demonstrating commitment to our school values and ethos:

- Student of the Week: **Martha B, 9K** - "Martha has worked to produce an exceptionally detailed food and nutrition booklet. Documenting her learning this module so very well. Martha has produced some very skilled dishes and worked skilfully in Food Tech this term". Nominated by Mrs Banks
- Group of the Week: **Evelyn C, Martha C, Jess N, Year 9 Junior House Captains** - "An outstanding student panel. They represented the student body with incredible professionalism and maturity during our external recruitment

process. Thank you for taking this responsibility seriously. Your feedback helped SLT make a much more informed decision". Nominated by Mrs Gill

- Group of the Week: **Zara U, Albert G, Lizzie N, Ellen B, Anne-Marie I, Blossom C, Erin L, Maifi V, Laura L, and Cat L (Year 12)** - "Zara U (Deputy Head Student) for her well-thought-out hosting of the charity event on Friday 26th, and to Albert G, Lizzie N, Ellen B, Anne-Marie I, Blossom C, Erin L, Maifi V, Laura L, and Cat L (all Year 12) for their donations of cakes and volunteering at both the bake sale and pebble painting! Over £200 was raised for local charity, [Proud2be](#), thanks to their dedication to spreading awareness and kindness". Nominated by Miss Redmond

PHSG Curriculum enrichment week 2026

Our students have been having an amazing time this week! You can enjoy a preview of what they have been up to [on our website now](#), with a full round-up of Curriculum Enrichment Week activities and photographs featuring in our end-of-term Newsletter next week!

#WEAREONE Community Champions RNLI

Next week, we will be taking part in the Trust-wide charity event to raise awareness and funds for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution which is the Trust charity for this year! Catarina, Deputy Head Student for Charity, is hosting the following fundraising events at school on **Wednesday 15th July**:

- Breaktime: One of our ever-popular Plymouth High bake sales. The Head Student Team would also encourage students to bake something to donate where possible (please include an ingredients list), all support will be greatly appreciated.

- Lunchtime: A fun scavenger hunt around the school with lots of House points up for grabs! 20p entry fee.

Both events will take place on the courts. Don't forget to bring cash on the day!

Summer Concert – Final call for scones!

*"There once was a concert so grand,
With Disney and songs close at hand,
With scones piled up high,
'Neath a midsummer eve sky,
A magical evening well planned."*

Less than a week to go until our Disney-inspired Summer Concert on Thursday 16th July at 5pm on the courts (weather depending). Gates open at 4:45pm.

To help make the evening extra special, we would be very grateful for any **donations of scones** for our cream tea atmosphere! Thank you in advance for considering supporting us. Your generosity would be very much appreciated.

Tickets are priced at £5.00 and can be purchased on Arbor. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sparx Maths reward for Years 7 to 9

Next week, we will be inviting all students in Years 7 to 9 that reached 100% on every Sparx Maths homework since Easter to collect a lolly or ice cream as a reward for their ongoing accuracy and determination. Staff will be handing out frozen treats on the playground straight after Period 5 on Wednesday 17th July.

Students who have achieved this 100% success will be given a voucher by their form tutor early next week ready to exchange for their prize on Wednesday. The variety available will ensure that there will be something for all students with dietary requirements. Students, please make your teachers aware of this when choosing your treat so that they can help with the correct choices.

Well done to the vast number of students that completed their work and have won this prize, we have a lot of lollies and ice creams to give out!

University of Plymouth taster day

On Wednesday 1st July, Mr Law took a group of A level mathematics students attended the School of Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics taster day at the University of Plymouth. The event provided an exciting opportunity for students to experience university-level study and explore a range of disciplines through engaging, hands-on workshops led by experienced lecturers. Please [click here](#) to find out more about this important and interesting trip. Mr Law and the students had a great time, and we are very grateful to the University for hosting such an interesting day.

My Bookshelf – Spotlight on Mr Kidd, Site Manager at PHSG

“I thought I’d take a trip down memory lane with my bookshelf. Below are books that I studied at school and were part of my English Literature “O level” studies. Just to show my age further, we were the only year group to actually read George Orwell’s *1984* in 1984, which allowed for some interesting comparisons between Orwell’s predictions and what was actually happening!

These are all books that I would never have chosen to read but ended up enjoying reading and studying. A good message to all, not to be afraid of trying something different.”



Layering up for online safety

Protecting children and mitigating risk at home doesn't just mean applying a filter and changing a few app settings, it needs a layered approach, and this is where Internet Matters 'Layering Up for Online Safety' comes in. This helps and guides parents and carers to set up devices safely across networks, the devices themselves and the apps alongside regular conversations. There is a [downloadable guide](#) which will show you how to *layer up* in a simple, manageable way.

Thank you for another year of support, encouragement and kindness. Our staff team always appreciate the generosity of spirit of our wonderful parent body, a parent body that understands the challenges of school and are behind us all the way. Thank you.

Best wishes for a safe and fun summer.

Very best wishes,

Simon Underdown
Headteacher

Keep up to date with our latest news by clicking [here](#).

Dates for your diary:

All Years

14 th July	Sports Day (reserve date: 16 th July)
16 th July	Summer concert
17 th July	Music Festival, and Last day of term
	(students finish at 12.30pm, DHSB buses will run their pickup from PHSG between 1pm and 1.30pm rather than 3.30pm)
2 nd September	Years 7 and 12 return to school
3 rd September	Whole school returns