



Plymouth High School for Girls

"For life, not school, we learn"

27th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well.

As we all continue to endure the struggles of COVID-19 in this latest, (and hopefully last), lockdown, I know we are all looking forward to a return to some kind of normality. As the vaccination programme continues across the country, we can perhaps allow ourselves a feeling of optimism as we crave an end to the scourge of COVID. However, until it is safe to do so, it is imperative that our school community remains vigilant and continues to follow the guidance to keep everybody safe.

I fully appreciate that whilst this has not been easy for any of us; it has been particularly difficult for those with school age children. In addition to juggling your normal family and work commitments, the added difficulties of school closures and remote learning have only added to the challenges you face.

Throughout this whole period, I think the Plymouth High School community of staff, students and parents have been doing an exceptional job in the most difficult and testing of times. I echo Mr Underdown's recent comments about how very proud we are of our amazing young people. The way they have adapted, embraced and coped with the home learning imposed on them has been very impressive and very humbling and you have every right to be as proud of them as we are. However, they could not do it without your help and encouragement, so I thank you for your support.

The school has been sending you regular correspondence to keep you informed and updated on what is happening and to explain what the school is doing to keep your child's learning going through the ever-changing situation. Our primary aim is always to provide your child with the best possible platform for learning but, in these extraordinarily difficult times, this has been a huge challenge but one the school has endeavoured to meet. By supporting your child in their home learning efforts you have made a big difference to how successful they will be and I thank you for you for this.

Our students are at the heart of everything we do and their safety, well-being and education is paramount. Collectively, I believe we have seen a remarkable effort

from the whole school community but I would like to take this opportunity to offer a particular and personal message to you, the parents and carers, by sending my heartfelt thanks.

Every member of staff at Plymouth High will continue to work tirelessly and selflessly under these extremely stressful conditions and they do this whilst also having to manage their own families and their own children's' needs.

Our amazing staff always give their very best for every single student and if you need help or clarity with anything we are doing for your child, please do not hesitate to contact the school. The staff will always do their utmost to help.

Parents and Carers have been so kind to write in and thank school staff for their efforts during lockdown. Every supportive message has a priceless and heart-warming effect on every single hard working member of staff.

This past year will definitely be one to remember albeit, for all the wrong reasons. When we look back however, I think we will all feel an immense amount of pride at what we have achieved together. The whole Plymouth High School community has demonstrated resilience, enthusiasm, and a strong sense of togetherness and I am immensely proud and grateful for the remarkable way in which everyone in our school community have risen to this challenge.

Stay safe and best wishes

Gary Chapman

Chair of Governors

