



4 November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope you all enjoyed the half term break and that you are well. In my note to you this week there are some key messages from the Languages and Mathematics teams.

## French and German Speakers

Do you speak fluent French or German? Do you have a little spare time on your hands? If so, we would love to hear from you. Year 12 and 13 would really benefit from the chance to do some extra speaking practice outside of their lessons. If you are able to offer even a short amount of time and are interested in finding out more, please contact Mrs Anna Carter at [Anna.Carter@phsg.tsat.uk](mailto:Anna.Carter@phsg.tsat.uk).

## Mathematical marvels

The Senior Mathematical Challenge is a 90-minute, multiple-choice Challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. The problems on the Senior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think. Most are accessible, yet still challenge those with more experience.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> October some of our year 12 and 13 students sat the Senior Mathematics Challenge and between them they achieved 4 Silver and 5 Bronze awards and 2 students achieved a certificate of participation. One of our silver awards was even more amazing as it was achieved by Megan who is in year 10, but loves mathematics and wanted to take the senior challenge for fun. Well done to all who took part.

## Shoebox appeal

You will remember that we are running a shoebox appeal to support families from Ukraine. The deadline for shoeboxes to be delivered to school is 18/11/22. Many thanks indeed for the boxes that have already been delivered. For further information, please see our website [here](#).

### **Sixth form open evening**

We will be holding our sixth form open evening on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of November from 4.30pm. It is a great opportunity to find out more about what our sixth form has to offer. You will also have the chance to chat to the teachers who deliver the subjects and meet the sixth form leadership team. Full details are on our website [here](#)

### **Year 11 parents' evenings**

The year 11 parents' evening is coming up in the second half of November. Parents will receive a letter from school with more details, but I wanted to remind you that all parents' evenings will be run via Teams. In the unlikely event that you find the booking slots for your child's teacher have all gone, please do contact the Head of Year 11 who will look to find an alternative for you. It is our intention to try and provide appointments for all who want them.

### **Parent surveys**

Many thanks indeed to all the parents who have attended our open evenings and who have completed the surveys via the QR codes. The feedback has been really positive and I am very grateful to you for your support. Of all the responses we have had so far, all but one said they would recommend Plymouth High to others, thank you for this wonderful vote of confidence. We will send out a link in a separate email for those parents who have not yet completed the survey and would like to do so.

You may have seen the tragic news reported yesterday of a young person who was killed after a fatal collision near the railway station in Ivybridge. The young person attended Ivybridge Community College. If your child has been particularly affected by the incident, please do contact their tutor who can provide support in the first instance. On behalf of our school community, I have written to the Principal at Ivybridge Community College to express our deep condolences and sympathy at this very difficult time.

Very best wishes



**Simon Underdown.**  
**Headteacher.**