



16 June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this finds you all well.

Just a few short reminders and updates from me this week.

## **Cars waiting outside school on St Lawrence Rd**

The work continues on St Lawrence Road (the road outside the school gates) resulting in a congested and hazardous environment. To improve the safety for all students, it would be best if parents did not park on St Lawrence Road when school finishes. We always open our back gate onto Alton Rd at the end of every day, and there are often parking opportunities further along past the gate on Alton Rd. Thank you in advance for thinking carefully about where to wait in your car as the safety of everyone's children is paramount.

## **Breakfast club**

Breakfast club has not been as successful as we thought it might be. We are seeing too much wastage as so few students have decided to make use of the service. This initial breakfast club trial will finish on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023.

## **Essential Staff Training on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

The afternoon of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June is when we have our essential staff training and students will be leaving school at 12.30pm. The details were in my letter last week. Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June is a full school uniform day.

### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June Year 11 prom**

The year 11 prom is in the evening of Thursday 29th June, and we hope that our students have a wonderful time. It's a super way to bring the students together to celebrate all their hard work and determination over the last five years and to spend time with good friends.

### **Trust wide pupil voice committee**

Next week is the summer term Trust wide pupil voice committee meeting. This is where student leaders from across all hubs in the Trust (there are Trust hubs from Essex to Plymouth taking in Kent, Portsmouth and Torbay along the way) present the views of the student body directly to the Executive board. I am delighted to announce that student leaders from Plymouth High will be part of the student presentation team, just as they were at the Spring term pupil voice committee meeting.

### **Sparx**

We have now launched Sparx reader. Sparx reader is an online package to help our key stage 3 learners improve their reading comprehension, speed and accuracy. It enables students to improve, regardless of their starting point. Initial student feedback is very positive. If your child is in year 7, 8 or 9, please do discuss Sparx reader with them and encourage them to do their best to complete the set tasks. We continue with Sparx maths for maths homework. The system is designed to enable students to work at the challenge level that is appropriate to them.

For students to get the most out of Sparx maths and Sparx reader, they should aim for 100% in every homework. Thank you in advance for your support with Sparx.

### **Paint a brick**

Next week there will be the opportunity for students to paint a brick on our 'paint a brick' wall. Students are welcome to paint a design of their choice. It should be an uplifting and kind design. It will cost £1.50 for 1 brick or 3 for £3.50. All proceeds will

go towards a charity picked by the charity student leaders. More information will be available to students in school.

Very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Underdown', followed by a horizontal flourish.

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