



# PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

## April Newsletter

### Head's Update

17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Once again, time flies by and we are already into the summer term – let's hope it brings some sunshine finally! This is the term where school settles into the exam season for most year groups and for students with external examinations, revision will have already started. I am sure many of you have been supporting your daughters and sons during the Easter holidays with many hours of revision, and hopefully some time off as well. We are so proud of our students and their attitude towards their studies, so please continue in encouraging them to revise, rest and repeat!

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Last term ended with celebrations for Miss Utton on her retirement. She has worked tirelessly for the school for the past ten years and has asked me to express her gratitude for the kind words and gifts. She was incredibly moved by the well wishes she received and will look back on her time with us fondly.

As Miss Utton has expressed many times, it is such a privilege to lead Plymouth High and I feel honoured to be working with students, staff, parents and governors in continuing the school's focus of challenging and supporting students to achieve their best. We aim for all students to achieve the highest possible academic standards and also gain experiences beyond the classroom, in keeping with our motto of 'for life, not school, we learn'. Ultimately, we want to prepare our students for whatever path they choose next and ensure they are equipped with the best results and experiences to help them achieve this. This will continue to underpin our work as we move forward in the future.

As always, there are so many successes to celebrate for our students both in and out of school, some of which are celebrated in this newsletter. We are always updating our Facebook page with the achievements of our students so please follow us on Facebook@PlymouthHighSchoolforGirls

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and I look forward to working with you all.

Mr S Willis  
Interim Headteacher

# Departmental News

## Food Technology



Each year, teams of Year 10 students from across the city and wider area travel to City College Plymouth for the annual 'Young Chef Team Challenge'.



This year we had Madison Smith, Coral Radford and Darcy Hollinson representing PHSG.

They were tasked with designing a menu based on using mackerel fillet for the starter,

chicken breast for the main course and dark chocolate for the pudding. They chose a lovely selection of pan-fried mackerel with horseradish cream; ballotine of chicken with duchesse potato; and hot chocolate pots with raspberry coulis.

The girls all worked as a team throughout a stressful morning, and helped each other solve any problems they encountered along the way.

They presented their food beautifully and were really happy to be announced as the winners by Dave Jenkins, head chef at Rock Salt Brasserie. They all put in a lot of work to choose and practise their recipes, so very well done!



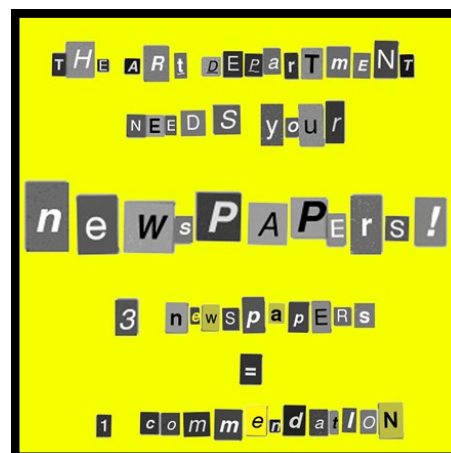
## Art

We have a busy and exciting month ahead for the Art Department. Our KS4 and 5 artists are gearing up for their exams now while KS3 artists work on their final pieces. Year 7s are exploring themes from landscapes inspired by the beautiful South West England, Year 8s are looking at Pop Art and critiquing the contemporary 'material world' while Year 9s are using lino printing techniques to create work inspired by urban spaces.

Year 11s and Year 13s are now preparing to respond to their exam titles: 'Fragments' and 'Freedom and Limitations'. We are extremely impressed with the level of creativity, innovation and experimentation we have seen from all our artists, and would like to wish them all the best for this final stretch.

We are also very much in need of newspapers in the art department.

We are asking students to bring in 3 newspapers in exchange for a commendation, and if you have any spare newspapers to donate to us they would be highly appreciated!



# Departmental News

## English

Our Senior Youth Speaks team, Harriet Gill, Hope Anderson and Elizabeth Tunnicliffe came second in the District Competition against some tough opposition from all over Devon and Cornwall.

They will now be going forward to the Regionals being held in Dorset on Saturday April 21st. This is only one step away from the National Finals so well done all and good luck for the regionals!



## P E — Team Successes

### Badminton

Some of our girls teamed up with the Kuasa Badminton Club boys to play in the Devon league. Well done to Juliette Thomas and Maddie Lister who were part of the winning team who have qualified to represent Devon in the next round.

### Swimming

The U13 A team won a bronze medal in the Plymouth Schools Regatta held at the Life Centre in March. Well done to Erin Powell, Niamh Hutchinson, Alice Mitchell and Klara Evans.

### U13 Indoor Athletics Team

The U13 indoor athletics team represented Plymouth in the Devon finals after finishing in 2nd place at the Plymouth schools round. The girls came 7th overall against teams from all over Devon.

### Netball Teams

Our year 8 and year 10 teams both finished runners-up in the Plymouth Schools central venue league.

Our year 9 team finished as runners up in the end of season tournament and were the overall winners of the Plymouth area league. The girls who played in the team include: Lucy Hall, Alice Bickley, Darcy Plaice, Nadia Radzinska, Maisy Staples, Eloise Rickard, Katie Gilmour, Tori Keen and Abbie Davies.



### SPORTS COUNCIL UPDATE

The Sports Council have had another busy term running inter-house events and lunchtime clubs. They also put on a great fundraiser on the last day of term to raise money for Brain Tumour Research with their 'Wear a Hat' competition and Bake Sale.

They also attended the Young Ambassador Celebration and Awards Day at Marjons which was hosted by the Plymouth Schools Sports Partnership. The team were awarded a Special commendation for their contributions and exceptional leadership that they have displayed this year. Well done all!

## KIT DONATIONS

If your daughter is in Year 11 and will no longer need their PHSG PE kit please consider donating it to the PE department. We are always in need of spare kit to lend to students if they forget their own for lessons. We are also grateful for any trainers once students grow out of them. Please send them into reception or ask your daughter to bring to the PE office.

## Student Achievements

### Student of the Week

#### 8/12/17 –Lydia Baggaley Year 10

*"For withstanding difficult cross-examination in the regional Bar Mock Competition despite only stepping into the role at the last minute."* Mrs Findlay

#### 12/1/18 Rahima Bhatti Year 13

*"For doing such an amazing job taking photos at the Year 11 Presentation Evening and working alongside Miss Roper – what a team!"* Miss Chalmers

#### 2/2/18 Evie Jones Year 10

*"For her recent positive and mature attitude in GCSE PE. She is attending extra climbing sessions to help improve her chances of a good grade, works really hard in lessons and is focused on achieving her best. Really lovely to see."* – Mrs Goolden

#### 9/2/18 Grace Dobbie Year 10

*"For being consistently brilliant!"* Miss Tomalin

## E-Safety

We all know how much time teenagers spend on their phones and computers, on social media or "researching". In school we regularly discuss e-safety with students but we are aware that parents often question what they can do. If you are interested in learning more, have a look at [www.internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org)

which has lots of good advice and links to support parents.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/14plus/>



# Important Notices

## PARKING

Out of respect for our neighbours and for health and safety reasons there is **NO PARKING** on the school site or for collecting/dropping off students on the double yellow lines outside our school gates.

## ACCESS TO SCHOOL VIA ALTON ROAD

From 16<sup>th</sup> April the Alton Road gate will be locked at all times except in an emergency.

Please bear this in mind when you drop off and collect students.

## CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT WEEK

A final reminder – all payments for curriculum enrichment should now have been received. If you have not yet paid please log into Parent Pay and make your payment to secure your child's activity. Thank you.

## STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

For safety reasons if your daughter has to leave school during the school day, and you are unable to collect her, she must have a note in her planner with clear instructions that you give permission for her to leave unaccompanied. Without your express instructions to this effect we will not allow any students to leave school unless they are collected by an adult from reception.

## IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

The school also benefits if your child is eligible for free school meals so please check the criteria below – if you meet any of these you can register by going online at: [www.democracy.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.democracy.plymouth.gov.uk) or call into the school if you are unsure.

Income Support

Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Alliance

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) that does not exceed £16,190

You will not normally be eligible if you receive any amount of Working Tax Credit. Please provide this information when requested as schools use this money to help support your children within the school environment to achieve their full potential in education.

## Term Dates

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### TERM DATES 2017-2018

#### **Summer Term:**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

*May Day - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May*

*Half term: Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June*

#### **Curriculum Enrichment Week**

*Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018*

Non-pupil days are:

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

*(These 2 days are commuted for staff into evening training sessions)*

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### TERM DATES 2018-2019

#### **Autumn Term:**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Years 7, 11 and 13 returns with Year 12 as required

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Whole School returns

*Half term: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018*

#### **Spring Term:**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

*Half term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019*

#### **Summer Term:**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 – Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019

*May Day: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May*

*Half term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019*

#### **Curriculum Enrichment Week**

*Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019*

#### **The five non-pupil days are:**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Fourth and Fifth day (20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> December) to be commuted to twilight sessions



## Dates for your Diary

Term Starts	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April
Year 12 Parents Evening	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
May Bank Holiday	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Year 11 & Year 13 Reports Home	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Key Stage 3 Exams	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Year 10 and Year 12 exams	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Duke of Edinburgh Practice	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June – Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Year 5 Open Evening	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2018 (2pm and 6pm)
Years 7, 8 and 9 Reports Home	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
Year 7 Parents Evening	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2018
Curriculum Enrichment Week	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> July – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Year 8 Parents Evening	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Years 10 and 12 Reports Home	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Duke of Edinburgh Practice	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> July – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Music Festival/End of Term	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2018



**Our Head Girl Team**