



22 July 2021

Dear students

As you will be aware Mr Diment is returning from his secondment this September and I will be leaving at the end of this school year to take up a new headship. I have written to your parents and carers this week to thank them for supporting you throughout this year.

However, I wanted to thank you all personally for your resilience and perseverance over the last two years, for rising to the challenge that Covid has presented you. I want you to know how proud I am of you.

As Headteacher I represent all the staff who have supported you by enabling the school to run. It is a position that I understand the responsibility of and I am very proud to have had the opportunity to lead your school since September 2019. I am very proud of the work our staff have undertaken to minimise, as much as we could, the impact the restrictions which have been imposed on us have had on your education.

You have continued to develop skills, knowledge and commitment that will prove invaluable in the years to come. Anything in life that is worth having requires that commitment.

Our vision has always been that you should strive to be the very best versions of yourself and demonstrate kindness in the way you treat others and yourself. You have shown this in the way that you are thoughtful, kind and compassionate; realising that self-regulation, understanding yourself and your emotions is as important as academic qualifications. Never forget that mental health and well-being are just as important as any other aspect of your studies in achieving life-long happiness and health.

It is important that you leave our school as people who can express their own voice, think critically, understand bias and privilege and to be able to empathise with the views of others.

My one piece of advice is to follow your dreams and never to let anyone tell you that you can't do something.

We were visited in November 2019 by Stephen Seki, he gave an inspiring talk to the students who were in Year 10 at that time, you will find out more about Stephen here: <https://www.plymouthherald.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/farmer-pharmacist-meet-amazing-plymouth-1080331>

What he says is true, *“the important thing is that success has no age. If you work hard enough you can do anything.”*

I wish all the best to those of you who return to Plymstock in September and for those who leave to pursue university, employment, apprenticeships and college. I wish you the all the very best for whatever your future may hold.

It has been a privilege to be your Headteacher.

Mr Pearsall



Headteacher