



30 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Headteacher Update – Thursday 30 March 2023

I hope this update finds you well. As we draw a close to the Spring term and head into the Easter holidays, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support of Plymstock School. There have been lots of positives to celebrate within the school community, which I hope I have captured during my Headteacher updates throughout the term.

I would like to recognise the students who recently took part in the BBC Young Reporter competition. They worked on a number of stories - including Luke Pollard MP, local business leaders and our very own famous Mr Sprenkel! A big thank you to Mrs Parish and Ms Cohen who organised the day and supported the students. We have also seen another group of students take part in the National Theatre Company experience where they performed a play called *Is My Microphone On?* The play is about climate catastrophe and the challenges of having your voice heard. On Friday they will have the opportunity to perform at Plymouth's Theatre Royal – what an experience!

We continue to see our students enjoy sporting successes. The under 13s football team remain unbeaten and have reached the Devon Cup Final, which will be played after the Easter break. We would also like to congratulate Nate in Year 8, who recently competed in the London Open (Judo) in a new weight group (U66kg) and achieved a silver medal. This follows on from the silver medal he achieved in the Matsumae Cup, which was held in Denmark.

We continue to work hard in establishing high standards and expectations for everyone within our school community. This work will remain a key priority in ensuring that we have high ambitions for our students, and as part of this I am delighted to welcome Mrs Nichola Offer, who will join Plymstock School at the start of the summer term as Deputy Headteacher. This follows on from the appointment of Miss Hannah Martin in January 2023.

On an important note, I would like to reinforce my expectations around the behaviour and attitudes that apply to every member of our school community. The majority of our students come to school and take full responsibility for their choices and actions; however, I have been disappointed with a handful of students that are persistently displaying behaviours that will not be tolerated at Plymstock School. I would therefore like to take the opportunity to remind everyone that any form of physical, intimidating or verbal aggression towards another student or adult will be deemed a serious misbehaviour and, as per our behaviour and relationships policy, we will apply the higher-level sanctions, including the most serious sanction of suspensions where required.

I would like to add an additional reminder that our school uniform is an important part of our identity; it helps to ensure our students feel a sense of belonging within our school community, alongside our staff and parent/carers as well as the wider community.

As a result, as a “community”, we take pride in the professional appearance and dress of our students, and it is a school requirement that all our students wear the full school uniform consistently and with pride. Parents/carers and student cooperation is essential if we are to

achieve this high standard. We would very much appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is sent to school correctly dressed. This supports staff time being spent on our principal purpose of delivering high quality teaching and learning across the college.

Finally, I would like to invite any parent/carers that would like to support us with reviewing our current school expectations, uniform and means of communication to complete the expression of interest form at the link below with the view of creating a Parent Forum. The link will close on Sunday 16th April 2023. Thank you for your support with this.

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/kaR0qXizPC>

Looking ahead...

Staff Training Day – Monday 17th April 2023

Start of Summer Term – Tuesday 18th April 2023 (All students return)

I would like to wish you all a Happy Easter break. Thank you for your continued support of Plymstock School.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Yendell
Headteacher

