



Dear Parent/Carer

## Headteacher Update – Friday 24 February 2023

I hope this update finds you well and you have all managed to have an enjoyable and restful February half term. I am delighted to be starting the second part of the Spring term in the privileged position as the substantive and permanent Headteacher of Plymstock School. I would like to thank everyone who has passed on their congratulations to me.

The core purpose of Plymstock School remains to empower all young people to have the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in life and make a positive contribution to society. I passionately believe that every child that attends our school has the ability, talent and potential to achieve this ambition, and have full confidence that our parents and carers share these high aspirations for our children too.

I aim to continue to work as hard as I can with all members of the school and wider community in ensuring that every child that attends Plymstock School is accessing the quality of education they are entitled to, with the ambition that:

- All children have the equality of choice and opportunity at every stage of their lives.
- All children become better thinkers, effective problem solvers and future learners.
- All children achieve strong qualifications that leads them to pursue their personal and career aspirations.
- All children can participate in a healthy democracy where they can read and understand news and to question and challenge ideas.
- All children have the social entitlement by acquiring powerful knowledge that allows them to make a positive contribution to their communities.

At every opportunity I will be reminding ourselves that we are on a journey of '**restless excellence**' – better never stops!

## NEU Regional Strike Action Day – Thursday 2 March 2023

The National Education Union (NEU) are planning further Strike Action which will take place initially on Thursday, 2 March 2023. A reminder that the strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over Teachers' pay and conditions, and not because of any issues at our Trust or School.

I can confirm that if the Strike Action goes ahead, the plan for partial opening will be that the school will remain open for Year 13, 12 and 11. All other year groups will be provided with learning resources via remote learning (SatchelOne).

A more detail letter will be sent to all parents/carers on Monday 27 February 2023.

## PE Kit Information – see attached letter

I am delighted to share with you information regarding our new PE kit. As part of our ongoing commitment to explore ways to reduce uniform and PE kit costs, we have been able to establish a partnership with KitWorld who have worked in collaboration with the PE department in producing



a quality product at an affordable price. Thank you to Mrs Tyrrell, Head of PE, for all her hard work in developing this.

### **Parent Survey**

Prior to February half term, we provided the opportunity for parents/carers to complete a survey about their child's experience at Plymstock School. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete this survey. We have had over 450 responses. The responses were very positive, along with some helpful feedback on where we can make further improvements as a school.

### **Looking ahead...**

**Year 11 Mock Examinations – Monday 21 February to Friday 3 March 2023**

**Reading Festival – Monday 27 February to Friday 3 March 2023**

**World Book Day 2023 – Wednesday 1 March 2023**

**NEU Regional Strike Action Day – Thursday 2 March 2023**

**Year 7 Normandy Trip – Thursday 2 March to Tuesday 7 March 2023**

I would like to close by sharing that our focus remains on maintaining a culture of high expectations within our school community. I thank you for your ongoing support with our increased focus on uniform standards, including jewellery and equipment, that ensures that our students can learn effectively without distraction. I have seen a real improvement across the school community and I am proud of the manner in which students have taken individual responsibility in responding to this focus.

Thank you for your continued support of Plymstock School.

Yours faithfully,



Alan Yendell  
Headteacher

