



10 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Headteacher Update – Week 9A

I would like to start by thanking you for your support last Thursday when we had to unexpectedly close the school due to the 'risk to life' warning from storm Ciaran. Whilst this caused some disruption to the first week of term, it has been wonderful to have our students back for the full week, as we quickly work to re-establish our routines and structures to enable our students to successfully meet our CORE expectations.

We continue to have a real focus on ensuring that all our students secure high levels of attendance. Excellent attendance allows our students to access the opportunities that we provide not only through the curriculum but extra-curricular opportunities too, which will support students in achieving their future ambitions. However, to achieve high attendance, I continue to ask parents/carers to ensure that their child attends school regularly and punctually - this makes a significant difference.

Where absence to attend an appointment is unavoidable, we request that the student should miss as little of the school day as possible. I would like to remind you of our expectation that we must be informed of the appointment in advance. The student will then be required to 'sign out' at the time of the appointment at the attendance office, which is located in the main hub of the school.

On occasions like these, parents/carers will be required to collect their child from the main reception and sign them out. This is part of our safeguarding arrangements to ensure all students remain safe. If the school has no information regarding the appointment, then parent/carers will be contacted before we allow the student to sign out.

I am pleased to share that preparations are well underway for this year's annual school production, "Elf Jr the Musical", and we know what a great show our students will put on! The show will take place from Thursday 7 December to Saturday 9 December and tickets are now available to purchase at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on?q=plymstock%20school>. It would be wonderful to see as many of you there as possible to support our students and staff.

Lest we forget... A big thank you to our head of history, Mr Withey, who has delivered Remembrance Day assemblies to all year groups throughout the week. The manner in which the students conducted themselves, and the respect they demonstrated throughout, was exemplary. Today, we observed a minute's silence as a school community, to remember those that made great sacrifices to enable us to have the lives that we lead today.

Finally, I would like to share my best wishes to all of our Year 11s who will be starting their GCSE mock examinations on Monday. They have been working hard and committing to going above and beyond to give themselves the best opportunity to do as well as they can.

Looking ahead...

Thursday 23 November 2023 – Year 13 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 29 November 2023 – Plymstock School Careers Fair

Thursday 30 November 2023 – Sixth Form Open Evening

Thank you for your continued support of Plymstock School.

Yours faithfully



Alan Yendell
Headteacher

