



28 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Headteacher End of Term Update

It is with mixed emotions that I write to you with an end of term update but also my last parent/carers correspondence as Headteacher at Plymstock School. I was given the opportunity to be part of the school community when I joined in January 2021 as Deputy Headteacher, and it has been an honour and privilege to have led the school as Headteacher for the past two years.

There have been too many highlights throughout my time to mention, but the most memorable ones are always those where the students are positively impacted from their experiences, both in and out of the classroom. I have always enjoyed hearing from the staff and students when they have been on trips, residential or represented the school in a sports fixture or school performance.

This brings me to share my thanks to Mr Riden and colleagues who organised the recent trip to France and Belgium as part of the Battlefields experience. One of the highlights of the trip was when the group were visiting a cemetery at the same time as the Secretary General of NATO, Jens Stoltenberg. Despite the heavy security presence, the group managed to get a picture with him – an unforgettable experience for them all.

On Tuesday 19th March, I travelled to Brentwood in Essex to support the Under 13s girls football team, who were taking on Shenfield High School in the much-anticipated semi-final of the ESFA national cup competition. It was a fantastic game of football played between two very good teams but unfortunately, the girls fell just short, losing 2-1. Despite the disappointment of the result, we are so proud of the girls' achievements; they finished in the top 4 schools within the country. I would like to thank Mrs Tyrrell and Mrs Campbell for all they have done in supporting the girls and all the miles they have travelled up and down the south of the country in their pursuit of success.

So, on to my goodbyes! I would like to thank all of my staff for their hard work and dedication in endeavouring to give all our students the very best educational experience. I have the fortune to come to work every day and be inspired by what they do not only in the classroom but also in ensuring that further opportunities are given, so that students can enrich themselves even more.

Having to say goodbye to our students has been the hardest part: I am so proud of each and every one of them. Our children and young people face so many different challenges on a daily basis. However, I have always been so impressed in the way they demonstrate such high levels of determination, resilience and grit in pursuit of being their very best. I will miss the students greatly and I know they will all go onto achieve great things in the future.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank you, our parent/carers, for your support over the past few years.

Finally, I would like to welcome Mr Koehler-Lewis to Plymstock School who will be my successor as Headteacher. I know he shares the same values and beliefs as myself in wanting to provide the very best educational experience for every child who is part of the school community.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Easter break and wish you the very best both now and in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Alan Yendell
Headteacher

