

Plympton Academy

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Summer Newsletter 2017

Dear parent/carer

As this half term draws to a close it sees us saying goodbye to our Year 13 students who have now completed their studies and embark on their next adventure. Universities, apprenticeships, the world of work and travelling awaits them and I wish them well in their chosen area.

We will soon be saying goodbye to our Year 11 students as well. Both of these year groups have worked so incredibly hard towards their exams and I look forward to seeing them get a great set of results in August. Details of how to collect results will be sent out by the appropriate Head of Academic Progress and will be posted on the website as well.

Our intrepid Ten Tors explorers took to Dartmoor again this year and stomped home in great times and I am sure they will feel a good sense of achievement. If you would like to become involved in this for next year, please see Mr Rhymer who will be able to talk through the details further. These types of activities promote all the characteristics that the PiXL Edge programme promotes within the Academy and provide life skills for our students. Another exciting activity was the first ski trip for our students to Austria in the Easter holidays. Some great experiences were had for many who had not skied before and I am sure the next one for February 2019 will also be as popular. More details of this will be available in the summer term.

We will be sad to say goodbye to some staff at the end of the summer term, but we are also very proud that so many have moved onto promotions in other schools and we wish them the best of luck with their new careers. They will be missed but we have a new group of staff joining over the next few months that will carry on the excellence established at the Academy:

Claire Finch is moving up country to Uppingham School in Rutland as a Maths teacher;

Harriet Turner is moving closer to home in Exeter and joining St James' school as an English teacher;

Tim Welsh is also moving closer to home. He is taking up the post of Chemistry teacher at Bodmin College;

Lauren Partridge has been successful in gaining promotion to Head of RS at Queen Elizabeth's School in Crediton;

Jason Ryder has been successful in gaining a senior leader role in Lipson Co-Operative Academy in Plymouth;



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Martin Poveda is jetting off to Phuket, Thailand after securing a promotion to a Director of ICT/Head of Vith form role;

Claire Sampson has been successful in gaining employment as a full time Head of History at Notre Dame School; and

Craig Follet has been successful in a promotion to Vice Principal at Stoke Damerel Community College in Plymouth.

Chelsi Ludlow has been successful in promotion to Head at Drama at St James in Exeter.

Cecile Ussher is moving to Cornwall with her family.

Kristy Marcer has been successful in gaining part-time employment as a Music teacher at Plymouth High School for Girls, as she wants to spend more time with her new family.

In addition Gwen Hughes, Matt Holmes and Rowena Welbourn have been on temporary contracts with the Academy and we will be saying goodbye to them at the end of the summer term.

We have, joining us after the half term holiday, Jo Crook, who is the new Director of Performing Arts and I look forward to welcoming her to the Academy. An exciting time for her to join with the opening of the new Performing Arts block just months away.

Next term provides some exciting opportunities for students with the Collapsed Learning Day in June and Challenge Week at the start of July. Prior to this are the end of year assessments; assessment timetables will be distributed very soon.

We welcome our new Year 7 to the Academy during July and open our doors to parents for Sports Day, provisionally booked for the 12th July dependent on weather.

Our Summer Fair will be taking place on Friday 14th July, 1pm to 4pm. Further details will follow.

Can I ask that parents continue to support our drive to improve attendance at the Academy. Current figures show that our students have more time absent from school than the national average. The target for all students is 100% attendance as evidence shows that missing regular lessons impacts on success. We all appreciate that there are times where absence is unavoidable but if you are in doubt please support your child in coming to school; we can always send home if their condition deteriorates. It is great to celebrate with students who have shown a real improvement in their attendance and also those who have been successful in achieving 100% attendance. Well done!

I hope to have final news of our capital projects in the next newsletter, however, there have been planning delays around the installation of the 3G pitch that have taken nearly all year to resolve. This should be getting under way shortly.

I wish you all an enjoyable, and hopefully sunny, half term and look forward to seeing you at one of our events in the summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Boorman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'L'.

Lisa Boorman
Principal