

Plympton Academy

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Dear parents/carers

Whilst walking around some of the lessons today, I find myself thinking how quickly this Autumn term has gone.

Our Year 7 students have settled in fantastically well and great new friendships are developing. Keen and ready to learn, they will go far both individually and as a year group.

Dates for the Diary

3rd January - school closed to students (staff training day)

4th January - students are welcomed back

25th January - year 11 parents evening

Week beginning 5th February - Academy performance of We Will Rock You

9th February - progress reports issued; last day of half term

19th February - students return to school

Year 8 are now considering their future exam courses. Thank you to all the parents who turned up to the GCSE options information evening: it was great to see so many of you there.

Year 9 have completed a successful first semester undertaking their KS4 courses, finishing off with a wonderful Week 10 looking at topics such as Fair Trade and Human Rights.

Year 10 have their first GCSE exams this year and will need to start thinking about revision programmes to help boost their grades in June, whilst Year 11 are on that long haul to the finish. They are working incredibly hard and are dedicated to ensuring they do their absolute best. All staff involved are very proud of them and are there to support them over the next few months.

Our sixth form students are focussed on their studies, using the new study rooms and making sure study time is utilised well. With their time at the Academy slowly counting down, our Year 13 students are also thinking about future plans, and the implementation of the Guilds will help them, and

students further down the Academy, to gleam advice and guidance about possible careers. In short, exciting times ahead for all of our students.

The campus developments are ploughing full steam ahead, with the completion of the refurbished MUGA area and the new 3G pitch expected early February. This will be such a fantastic addition to our sport offer, both for the students in the Academy and



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also the members of the local community, many of whom already enjoy our fitness suite in the Sports Centre.

Looking ahead to the new term and the second half of Semester 2, the Academy production of 'We will Rock You' is bound to gain momentum. Just seeing the standard of rehearsals has made me realise what talent is being nurtured by Miss Crook and the team in our Performance Centre. I do hope many of you will be able to join us for the performances in early February.

I would like to take this opportunity to also wish a fond farewell to some of our staff who are leaving us for pastures new. Richard Thompson (Maths) has decided to pursue a career outside of teaching and he will be a loss to the profession. Anthony Fitzpatrick (Science) and Jenna Trolley (Science) have secured teaching roles at other schools and we wish them the best of luck. Claire Burns will be sadly leaving the Geography department after many years here and we wish her luck with her new ventures. We are also saying goodbye to Rachel Skelley (SEN department) who has supported many students in the Every Child Matters environment. I would like to pass on our thanks to all of these staff who have contributed to the outcomes of our students during their time here with great effect.

So it just leaves me to wish you all an enjoyable break and a Happy New Year, and I look forward to the success 2018 will undoubtedly bring for our students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Boorman'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'L' and 'B'.

Lisa Boorman
Principal