



Plympton Academy

REVIEW

SUMMER EDITION 2022



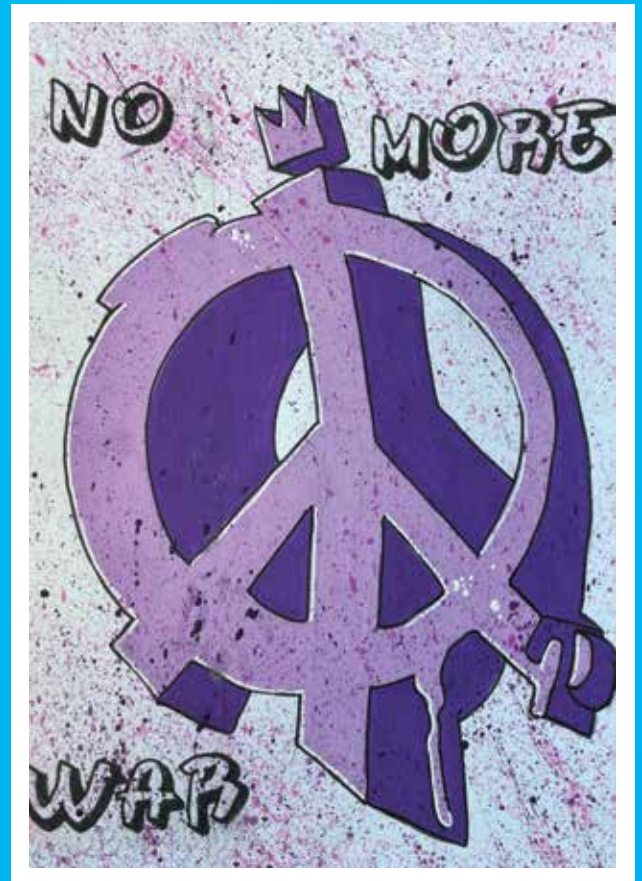
Sports' Day 2022

Celebrating our students' amazing personal and team performances

FIND MORE EXCITING NEWS INSIDE!



The Art 'Postcard Exchange'



MESSAGE from the PRINCIPAL



Plympton Academy
REVIEW



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As we head towards the summer recess this edition of our Review once again highlights for me just how busy all of our students are.

From celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and learning about Criminology in preparation for the introduction of the Criminology Diploma for Key Stage 5 in September and the wide range of experiences and activities everyone has been able to enjoy during 'Challenge Week', the students (and staff) have been busier than ever over the past term.

With the exam season finished for another year we have said fond farewells to our Year 13 students and to some of our Year 11 students who are not returning to our Sixth Form. We wish all of them the brightest of futures and look forward to celebrating with them on results day in August.

I wish all of our students a well-earned rest over the summer break and look forward to welcoming them back on 5th September (Year 7 and Year 12) and on 6th September (all year groups).■

Lisa Boorman, Principal



MORE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS IN TANZANIA -

Students and staff at Plympton Academy have been continuing to support the Rotarians to help schools in Tanzania.

Our students and staff have been collecting pre-loved children's books. They have now collected enough for a second large donation for the Rotarians to pack and ship to Tanzania.

Brian and Maxine Stoyel from the Rotary Clubs of Plymouth Mayflower and Saltash have been working with schools in Tanzania for 25 years and visited Plympton Academy to speak with students and collect their donations.

They said, "These books are invaluable for the education of our friends in Tanzania - not only for the children, but also their parents who have so often missed out on basic literacy."

Jaiden, aged 13, explained, "It's good to collect books because we are helping children to get a better education. I enjoyed this because I got to meet new people and learn more about Tanzania."

Brian and Maxine explained that, "Fifteen years ago we helped build their library and that building now serves as a community hub for children and adults hosting workshops and different learning experiences. We are very grateful to the pupils, parents and staff for their wonderful and continuing support."

Lee, aged 16, said, "This is the second time that we have collected books to send to Tanzania. The first time we asked for books we got quite a few, but this time we got loads!"

Marley, also aged 16, added, "It was great to see how many books we received and really good to know they are going to such a good place."

Plympton Academy is continuing to collect books to support the Rotarians' project.■



A celebration of service

Marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee marked seventy years of service to the country. It was also a time to reflect on duty and public service in a wider context.

At Plympton Academy, we recognised those students who demonstrated these qualities of public service. Staff were asked to nominate students who had shown a commitment to public service to the school or their wider community.

The students (pictured below) received a certificate and an official Platinum Jubilee lapel badge from our Lord Mayor, Councillor Dann.

Josh Sales, Maia Wain, Ciaran Blair, Amelia

Davis, Freddie-Ray Hayward, Konnor Grills, Lucy Gilbery, Mason Vosper, Wali Anwar, Oliver Batten, Molly Howe, Daniel French, Laura Redman and Josh Tucker.

PLATINUM JUBILEE CARD

Below (pictured bottom right) is an image of Plympton Academy's official card to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee!

Mrs Romanski created a collage of images drawn by Natasha Hopson, Chloe Keith, Nathan Annett and Lilly-Mae Stancombe.

The design was then used to make cards for students to send to Her Majesty. The cards were posted to Buckingham Palace and the Palace informed us that the Queen is shown almost all of her correspondence on a daily

'The cards were posted to Buckingham Palace and the Palace informed us that the **Queen** is shown almost all of her correspondence on a daily basis by one of her private secretaries'

basis by one of her private secretaries and she takes a keen interest in all the letters she receives. ■



New to team PA

A big welcome to Plympton Academy's new staff members

MR LETHBRIDGE - DT TECHNICIAN

My name is Andy Lethbridge, I joined Plympton Academy after the Easter Holidays.

My previous job was teaching Motor Vehicle Studies for the Institute of Motor Industries (IMI) at Norpro Training, All Saints Academy and at UTC Plymouth. In addition I taught Food Technology and Design Technology.

I am married with a young son and I have lived in Plymouth for most of my life.

I have many interests which include mountain biking and motorcycling (including building & maintenance). I have converted two commercial vans into camper vans as we like to go camping during our free time. I am also a part time youth worker.

I am so looking forward to meeting all the staff and students and supporting as many of you as I can. ■



Having struggled at school I am now enjoying the opportunity to help young people overcome their barriers to learning and reach their full potential.

I enjoy body boarding and cycling when I get the chance and spending time with my family, including three teenagers. ■

MR BENNETT - ICT TEACHER

My name is Mr Bennett. I have been teaching ICT and Computer Science since 2008 and joined Plympton Academy at the end of April this year.

My first job was a 'Watersports' Instructor at an Outdoor Education on the Isle of Wight. Watersports, mountain biking and cricket are my main hobbies and my favourite football team is Aston Villa. I have set myself a goal to complete a Triathlon this year. I believe it is really important to set yourself goals and targets, whether it's yearly, monthly or weekly as it gives you a sense of achievement.

I am looking forward to the Plympton Academy Challenge Week this term as well as working with the Plympton Academy Community. ■



MR AIRTON - TEACHING ASSISTANT

My name is Guy Airton and I joined Plympton Academy in April.

Having lived and worked in London and Derby I moved to Plymouth seventeen years ago where I have spent most of that time working as a youth and community worker in local schools and churches.



WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

Check online at www.plympton.academy/page/?title=JOB+VACANCIES&pid=15 to see our regular job section.



FUSION DANCE PLATFORM -

The Fusion Dance Platform 2022 was a celebration of dance across a range of styles. To name a few, these included Lyrical, Jazz, Street, House, Commercial and Hip-Hop. Our aim of the platform was to capture the sheer diversity within dance, fusing together internal dance practice and external workshops. Through the exposure of new dance styles, we are creating more opportunities to ignite inspiration within our students whilst ensuring that we continue to promote dance in a way that is both enjoyable and inclusive for all.

Students took part in a two day intensive workshop with external professional dance companies. These companies included Groovement Project Dance Company, Charlotte Smith and Linda Mortimore School of Dance, Ben De'ath and Studio 4. Within these workshops, not only were students taught the foundations and technicality of dance styles, they were also taught to collaborate, persevere and most importantly, have fun!

Our students presented excellent focus and professionalism as well as demonstrating great resilience when faced with unfamiliar and challenging choreography. The progress students made during these workshops was evident within the final performances of The Fusion Dance Platform. Both nights sold out and the atmosphere was incredible. Students performed a range of choreography, from exam work to their own choreography - they even managed to choreograph a dance that they had learnt that very day!

We are all incredibly proud of how everyone represented Plympton Academy and the huge success of The Fusion Dance Platform. We hope to build on this success as we continue to celebrate Dance at the Morpurgo Studios. ■

Challenge Week

Students take part in a range of activities, developing new skills and sharing experiences

Challenge Week is back! From Monday 27th June until Friday 1st July, over 650 students in years 7 to 9 took part in Challenge Week, which returned to its original form after two years of interruption due to Covid.

Students took part in a wide range of activities, whether it was developing new skills such as learning how to sail, creating amazing pieces of work including a rocket that soared higher than our new building. We also made drip cakes and decorated baseball caps. In addition we visited places of local interest including Bodmin Jail, completing the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition and were flung upside down on the Smiler 14 times at Alton Towers.

Amongst the highlights of the week, was the visit of double Olympic sailing gold medalist Hannah Mills who met our sailors to lead a workshop on sustainability which saw them being featured on BBC Spotlight, Radio Devon, Greatest Hits Radio and the BBC News Website. The group really enjoyed working with her and learning about her

experiences. Students also worked towards their RYA Level 1 Sailing Award during their week.

Our Horrible Histories crew visited the newly refurbished Bodmin Jail museum, learning about how prisoners, including children were treated in the 18th and 19th centuries. The museum also contains the only 'working' Victorian hanging pit in the UK which provided a real moment of reflection for the students. Alongside this, they also visited Tintagel Castle, completed an escape room style puzzle hunt across the streets of Bristol and had a tea party in the grounds of Saltram House.

The Histories' group were not the only students out and about during the week. Our Adrenalin Residential saw students visit Alton Towers, Thorpe Park and West Midlands Safari Park. This allowed them to experience a variety of stomach churning rides such as Swarm, the Wicker Man, Nemesis and Rita before relaxing (slightly) at a zoo. Just under 200 students ventured around Devon for the Devon Explorer trip which included having Quaywest exclusively to themselves

and dodging the Devon County Show traffic to explore Crealy. Our fishers battled sea sickness on their charter past the breakwater with most students preferring the dry land around the Barbican which allowed them to focus on their line rather than trying not to be sick. A big congratulations needs to go to our Duke of Edinburgh students who used the week to complete their Bronze expedition. They walked a set distance and camped out overnight as well as cooking their own meals.

A number of students took part in physical activities, whether it was sailing, surfing on both the south and north Devon coasts, horse riding or learning how to play a variety of new sports that included Danish Longball. These students weren't the only ones to work up a sweat, with the gardeners turning an overgrown patch of land into a beautiful reflection garden complete with pond. In recognition of their hard work, they were awarded their Level 1 and Level 2 Royal Horticultural Awards. They also started work on reviewing the sustainability of the academy site as part of their application for the EcoSchools' Award.

CHALLENGE WEEK 2022

For those who wanted a more relaxed or creative week there were a variety of options. Our mindfulness activity proved very popular, and after initial reluctance from some, 30 students were soon taking part in a variety of stress relieving activities such as painting, yoga, pilates and completing reflection journals. Our artists created some amazing pieces of work including graffiti canvases, baseball caps and mini sketchbooks. The bakers produced a range of savoury and sweet foodstuffs such as sausage rolls, flapjacks and drip cakes which fueled them throughout the week as they

prepared for a picnic on the last day. Big Bang Live saw students use a variety of scientific techniques to try to solve a murder that took place in the science corridor and Flight Club returned, with students building a variety of rockets and planes, including one that soared higher than the new Academy building! A huge thank you to all of the members of staff who worked so hard to make the week happen and to all of the students who participated in their activities so enthusiastically and in some cases, such as fishing, where members of the public tried to join in! ■



Year 7 Summer Celebrations

Highlighting the talents and successes of our students

Year 7 have had a fantastic year and to date have earned 119,410 positive class charts points and many of the students are now being awarded their Platinum Class Charts Award. We have had many opportunities to celebrate the talents and success of our Year 7 students including a huge celebration afternoon for students who had achieved outstanding reports from their subject teachers.

Our Year 7 boys' rugby team have had an amazing year and were unbeaten in all of their games. We hope that they can continue with this level of success next year. Our Year 7 girls' netball team and rounders' team have had a number of fantastic wins and have continued training sessions to prepare for next year's matches.

At Easter we were proud to be able to present a large number of gold awards to our Year 7 students as well as rewarding a number of students for their outstanding achievements that have been recognised by their tutors and the Year 7 pastoral team.

Year 7 excelled during their TSAT Art's Week and embraced their creativity. Students worked daily on a range of tasks to develop their skills and open their minds to the opportunities available within the Arts.

As the summer term draws to a close we will continue to celebrate the fantastic work, behaviour and talents that our Year 7s have shown us. We are very much looking forward to supporting the students on their journey into Year 8 and are ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities that await them. ■



Excelling at every opportunity

Year 8 demonstrate hard work and dedication in their drive to excel

Wow! What a year it has been for Year 8 at Plympton Academy. We started the year with a 'Roar' with the Lion King production, which easily far surpassed anything you can see on the West End. We then had an adventure around Plymouth for our first collapsed week when we completed our Moor to Sea Work. Celebrations were held at the end of Semester 1 to reward students for their hard work and commitment to learning. TSART week gave the students a chance to show off their artistic skills and Challenge Week provided the opportunity for students to take part in something that they might not normally ever get a chance to do. There have also been numerous sporting and academic successes. This year, Year 8, have truly excelled!

At the writing of this article, Year 8 students have accumulated over 20,000 positive points for attendance, over 13,000 for contribution to lessons and over 43,000 for demonstrating a desire to learn. This has meant that this year, students in Year 8 have collectively accumulated over 100,000 positive points. I could not be more proud of them for this.

As a result of their hard work and dedication, all students have achieved their Bronze award, 194 students achieved Silver and 97 students have achieved their Gold. A massive well done to those who surpassed this and achieved their Platinum award. As we look ahead to Year 9 I can't wait to see the students build on this and achieve even more.

Looking ahead to Year 9 I anticipate some real excitement as students begin to think

'As a result of their hard work and dedication all students have achieved their **Bronze** award, 194 students achieved **Silver** and 97 students have achieved their **Gold** and a massive well done to those that surpassed this and achieved their **Platinum** award'

about their options. We will make sure that students have all the support and guidance to help them with this. Keep an eye on our key dates at the start of the year so that you are aware of when the main events will take place in support of the Year 8 options process.

I started the academic year with a vision of Year 8 '**Excelling at every opportunity**' and I couldn't have asked for more. Myself, Mrs Keane and the Year 8 Tutors are so proud of all of you for everything you have achieved this year in your drive to excel. A new vision for Year 9 has been made and will be shared with the students at the start of the next academic year.

Finally, I would like to close by thanking you for your support as Parents and Guardians and I look forward to continuing to work with you in Year 9. Have a great summer and see you in September. ■

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE -

Year 10 recently completed their '**Work Experience Week**' and what a week it was. We had students working in; hospitals, nurseries, and schools as well as fantastic placements with the Armed Forces, Plymouth Argyle, Royal Mail and many more. It was great to see students out of their comfort zone, but still thriving and not only developing skills in the workplace, but also applying what they've learnt in school to the roles they've been given. Many placement providers commented on how polite and well-mannered students were, but also how hardworking they were during their week with them. This resulted in some students even being offered part-time jobs in the future as result of the great impression they made.

Head of Year 10, James Yates wasn't surprised by the all positive feedback and how it shows the future is bright for our Year 10 students, "Careers are a strong feature of our curriculum for all our students at all ages and seeing the students put the knowledge they've gained into practice was great to observe. Giving these opportunities is something we are really passionate about at Plympton Academy. Seeing some of them display the maturity and work ethic fills me with confidence of how they will do in their exams next year and beyond." ■



Exploring university life at Marjons

Year 9 students get a taste of potential post-16 options

On 3rd and 4th May, the whole of Year 9 were invited to attend a visit to Marjon University to get a taste for a potential option Post-16. During their visit, students learned about the structure of university life and were even given a tour of the campus. The cinema room was definitely an area of interest, along with the fantastic sports facilities on offer for all students. Many of the students found the experience useful, especially finding out more information about the sorts of degrees on offer.

In the afternoon, students were challenged in small groups to design their perfect degree, considering costs, entry

'The students got to speak to some first year students about the transition from school and also ask any questions that they had about university life'

requirements and also what qualifications would be required. There were some very interesting and comical contributions like degrees in mattress making and motor vehicle studies.

The staff from Marjon were amazed with how well engaged the students were and also the quality of their contributions. The students

spoke to some first year students about the transition from school and also asked any questions about university life.

Miss Kneebone, Head of Year 9, commented, "The trip was a real eye-opener for some of the students who had not previously considered university as an option. There were lots of smiley, excited faces on the bus ride back to school and many now have the aspiration to access higher education." ■

YEAR 9 EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Whilst Easter may seem like a distant memory, the students in Year 9 completed a fantastic act of kindness that we would like to share with you. A small group of students organised two bake sales to raise money to purchase Easter Eggs which were then donated to those in need at Easter. The boys made some cupcakes and cookies during their Hospitality and Catering sessions which were sold to students across the Academy.

In total, they raised a huge £122 and managed to buy/collect over 130 eggs which were then donated to the Salvation Army. Martyn Bellshaw, a representative from the Salvation Army, came into school to meet with some representatives from the year group and talk to them about where their donations would go and the support they give in the local community. The students were absolutely enthralled with his stories and enjoyed having a cup of tea with him!

Martyn has invited the students to come into their new kitchen and help prepare the food for the soup run in the near future, as a few students expressed an interest in food technology. Miss Kneebone is incredibly proud of the kindness displayed by the students. ■



Goodbye to our Year 11 students

Wishing everyone in our Year 11 community the very best for their future

It is that time of year again when we say farewell and wish our Year 11 students all the very best for their future! This has been a particularly hard 'goodbye' as this is a year group full of character, loyalty, courage, resilience, friendship and joy.

Plympton Academy will not be the same without them and every individual will be hugely missed!

The academic, social and life skills learned by this group of young people (along with outstanding success and personal achievements) will ensure they have bright futures ahead.

We sincerely wish everyone of our Year

'This has been a particularly hard 'goodbye' as this is a year group full of character, loyalty, courage, resilience, friendship and joy'

11 community the very best and hope they have a well-deserved long summer break!

Take care and keep in touch - Class of 2022! ■



Noughts and Crosses

Book reviews by Jessica Deady and Mollie Lavers

Noughts and crosses is the book we read last term as a year group. It is all about racism, but it is switched up so that white people (Noughts) are being discriminated against instead of black people (Crosses) so it makes you think about what it would be like if you were the one that was being discriminated against. It is a tragedy which means that the protagonist (main character) is likely to die. In this particular book they did.

The book is about two teenagers (Callum and Sephy) who fall in love, but there is a problem. They are the opposite race, Callum is a Nought and Sephy is a cross. She is very rich, but Callum is quite poor. Callum's Mum (Meggie) used to work for Sephy's mum (that's how they met), but she was fired after an incident. Callum and Sephy were still friends after the incident. They used to meet at Sephy's private beach almost every day, Sephy would help Callum study so he could be one of the first Noughts to get into Sephy's school (Heathcroft). After a lot of studying he got in, but he and the other Nought's experienced racial abuse and after defending Callum in the canteen one lunchtime Sephy got beaten up. Callum also had a sister Lynette, who gets introduced slightly later in the book, she is a bit different in a withdrawn kind of way. We later find out that Lynette had been in an accident and that is why she is slightly different.

After a fight with Callum's brother, Jude she leaves the house and kills herself as she is depressed. Later on in the book we find out that Callum's dad and his brother Jude join a terrorist group and set off a bomb in a shopping centre, Ryan (Callum's dad) then

pleads guilty and gets sentenced to be hung, but at the last minute it gets changed to a life in prison. He then tries to escape, but dies. He most likely only did it because he wanted to die. A few years later Sephy is kidnapped by Callum who became a terrorist and his brother Jude. After she escapes she falls pregnant with Callum's baby and because of this Callum is hanged.

I found this book very interesting as we certainly learnt a lot from it like new skills words and the context of it such as racial abuse and terrorist attacks. Overall it was a very good book and I would be happy to read it again. ■

Jessica Deady

During my time at Plympton Academy so far we have looked at many interesting topics, the most recent being Noughts and Crosses. Noughts and Crosses is a book by Malorie Blackman about two protagonists (main characters) of the opposite race. We follow their story of love, death and tragedy as their families are torn apart by racism. In the story we see how Malorie Blackman flipped racism making black people (Crosses) the superior race and white people (Noughts) the inferior race. I believe this is done to show that anyone can experience racism and can be used to help everyone understand how distressing and painful racism can be.

When we first looked at Noughts and Crosses, before we started to read the story we looked at context, this became a valuable skill throughout the unit. We learnt how one of the characters was in love with a Cross,



but she was a Nought so was punished by others, this linked to the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages act. This stopped people of a different race marrying. We can also link the Apartheid, a rule that separated every one of a different race in South Africa that ended when Nelson Mandela became the first black president of South Africa links to the segregation (being separated) Callum and Sephy the protagonists experience in school when Callum integrated (joined became a part of) into a Cross school.

During the story we see terrorist events one links to the Manchester Arndale shopping centre bombing.

We also learnt about connotations and were able to understand many of the racist names each race gave to each other. Connotations are emotions and feelings you associate with the word. Nought called Crosses daggers to imply they are dangerous and hurtful. Crosses called Noughts blankers to say they are nothing and don't think about anything. Connotations of blankers would be nothing, plain, blank and simple. Connotations of dagger would be dangerous, petrifying, frightening and sharp.

In conclusion I have learnt a lot from Noughts and Crosses. I feel I have grown my knowledge and understanding of racism. I have learnt connotations which I didn't know before and can effectively link the context to deepen my understanding of a story. ■

Mollie Lavers

Blood of Adam's Eye

By Logan Conlon, TABU

Riley looked out upon the ominous black cage of space, with the small shines of light battling in a losing war against the dark shadow cast over them. Just like he was. This was the fifth recovery mission in this nebula, The Iris of Adam, in the last 3 months. "How long until we reach the crash site, captain?" Riley asked his secondary navigator, Tesly. Their primary navigator was in intensive care after taking a shot to the right lung while in combat with carrier terrorists, bounty hunters paid to raid military craft and make off with any loot they can find, killing everyone they can. His thoughts cleared as he snapped back to reality to hear his navigator respond, "About half a parsec north into the belt, sir." "Very well, captain," Riley replied.

Riley's ship, the Resolute, eased through the asteroid field like a lion stalking through grass before pouncing on a prey. However, it was they who were afraid of the hunt. It was horrible. Asteroids were mistook for debris, and debris for bodies, and by the end the Resolute had taken on a paint job of blood and was scared along the side. However, they were much better off than Cain. The ship was ripped open, with bodies hanging out of it and the command centre embedded in an asteroid. "Even after years and years of experience on these missions, you never get over the sadness you feel of a fallen brother ship," whispered Match, medical specialist and tactical coordinator. Every one of the crew nodded assent. Then silence. No words were spoken, but the message was clear. Rest in peace, Cain. May God show

'Six people, with a space suit on, a holographic map of the Cain and solar modified weapons, entered the ship. Of these six was Match, Cameron, Layla, Lydia, Kit and Riley'

mercy to these valiant heroes? "Send out search ships, clear for survivors," Match ordered solemnly. Riley acknowledged this, then drew a deep breath. "Crew, prepare to board the Cain craft!"

The wreckage was split in half, bleeding fuels and oxygen. Wires and boards and iron rods stuck out of the ship like bones from a severed limb. Six people, with a space suit on, a holographic map of the Cain and solar modified weapons, entered the ship. Of these six was Match, Cameron, Layla, Lydia, Kit and Riley. Many people awaited their return just outside the entrance to the remains of the ship. A shame. The last they saw of them was their faces turning to say stand guard. Minutes later, they floated into the dark void of space, their shocked and horrified faces frozen in place, with ominous stains of red on their clothes. Two bloodshot eyes blinked out of the death ground.

Eyes of hatred.

Eyes of danger.

Eyes...

Of a killer.

And it was headed for the Resolute. ■

Design Technology at Key Stage 3

Getting hands-on in the workshop and kitchen

With another busy term in Design Technology, our students have been participating in lessons in both Product Design and Food Technology. They have been fortunate to have a considerable amount of time in the workshop and kitchen, completing some substantial pieces of work.

In Design Technology students have been producing a wooden trinket box with an Aboriginal inspired design on the lid. A range of hand tools have been used as well as some of the machinery available in the workshop. Students have been inducted into the workshop with health and safety lessons on the sanding machine and pillar drill as well as using a range of hand tools and techniques. The students have thoroughly enjoyed the activities.

Bella Greaves said, "I've enjoyed being in the workshop and have had the opportunity to do things you just don't get to do in a 'normal' lesson." Jessica Richmond added, "It's nice to be able to do something hands-on, rather than just writing." Bella said she will be using the box to keep sentimental items in.

In Food Technology, KS3 students have been preparing a number of dishes and considering the health and hygiene requirements that go along with working in a professional kitchen. Rhys Walsh and Tabitha D'Arcie Griffiths were able to discuss at length what they had produced this term and what they enjoyed making.

Rhys said he had produced several dishes, but enjoyed Swiss roll and burgers the best, saying that they were, 'pretty good!' Rhys



VALUED WORKSHOP TIME: Bella Greaves (pictured right) completing the construction of her box frame

went on to say that it's the freedom to be able to use the equipment in the kitchen to make food. He has enjoyed using recipes and ingredients and being able to get on with it and make something. He said he was looking forward to trying out the Swiss roll recipe at home.

Tabitha said her favourite dish was also the Swiss roll, but has since been using the pancake recipes frequently to perfect this at home, which has now become a Sunday ritual for her. Tabitha added, "I have enjoyed the opportunity to experience making things I have never done before and am looking forward to having a go at making my own bread next." ■



Criminology Club

Students build knowledge and understanding for investigating crime

Plympton Academy students put their investigating heads on in Criminology Club!

In preparation for the introduction of the Criminology Diploma for Key Stage 5 in September, Miss Caylor has started a Criminology Club for Key Stage 4 in order to spark their interest in the subject. Criminology Club has proved popular with our Year 10 students who have a keen interest to discover what motivates people to commit crime and how crimes are handled at each stage of the criminal justice system.

Over the last term, students have been building their knowledge and understanding of what happens during the process from crime scene to courtroom. Miss Caylor staged a 'fake crime' where a very helpful member of staff agreed to sneak in during Criminology Club and steal Miss Caylor's mug. The students were then asked the following week what they could recall in order to test their accuracy in eyewitness testimony, which in turn highlighted the effects that time has on accuracy in recall. Next, the students created an offender profile for the suspect and were then tested on their facial recognition skills. I'm pleased to say the students were able to find the culprit, who will be summoned to court in the coming weeks!

It has been excellent to see the students working collaboratively in order to investigate crimes and to see them engage so positively with the club; I hope to see many of their faces in Sixth Form studying Criminology! ■



Geographers on tour

Sixth Form Leeson House Residential

Last term saw the return of fieldwork for our Geographers post the COVID pandemic and what a fantastic return it was. Year 12 and 13 spent three days out on a residential trip at Leeson House, Dorset, exploring the processes affecting UK coastlines and visiting areas of outstanding natural beauty on the Jurassic Coast and

measuring the changing shape of the sand dune ecosystem on Studland Bay. In addition, conducted fieldwork on their changing perceptions of place at Boscombe and Corfe Castle, all of which will be fantastic preparation for completion of their own investigation later in the year.

Feedback from our current sixth formers indicated it was a worthwhile trip with Callum

Page stating on return, "The practical element of the fieldwork was very beneficial" and Ben Ferrier stating, "The whole residential was 'informative and pretty epic!' Safe to say, we think they enjoyed it!

The Geography Team are already looking into the possibilities of the residential opportunities that can be offered to the up and coming Year 11s. ■



Antarctic Flag Competition

Celebrating and raising awareness of Antarctic Day - an update

Every year the Antarctic Survey, run a flag competition to celebrate and raise awareness of Antarctic Day on December 1st. Every year, we set Year 7 the challenge of creating a flag to mark the occasion. This year the Geography department received a variety of fantastic entries. Members of the Year 7 Pastoral Team selected the winning entries.

This year we awarded certificates and prizes at the end of December our top three flag creations went to -

1st place - Lola Townsend
2nd place - Mollie Barwick
3rd place - Phoebe Logan

Our thanks once again for all those who sent in entries and to the UK Polar Network for organising such an amazing opportunity for our students.

We have now received the winning photos from Lagoon Island, Ryder Bay Antarctica! Congratulations to Lola, whose artwork will be on display in the research centre here. ■



HORRIBLE HISTORIES ON TOUR -

During challenge week, a number of students went on a series of history adventures.

From one day visiting Bristol and exploring the wonders of the MSheD museums exhibits, (Bristol's art gallery and museum) to solving a mystery puzzle whilst there. On another day, students visited the imposing Jail at Bodmin and then took a trip to Tintagel Castle in Cornwall and learned about the wonders of the legend of King Arthur. The students had plenty to see and do.

They were also able to explore the local history of Plympton in the week, visiting the beautiful and inspiring Saltram House to learn more about what makes Plympton such a special and important historical place.

They have been inspired to create historical objects and take part in a shoebox trench building competition. Students have certainly been given a lot of horrible history experiences. They have all been fantastic and a credit to the Academy. ■



HISTORICAL ADVENTURES: Tintagel Castle in Cornwall

The Art 'Postcard Exchange'

Students take part in art collaboration with other schools in the UK, Ireland and Spain

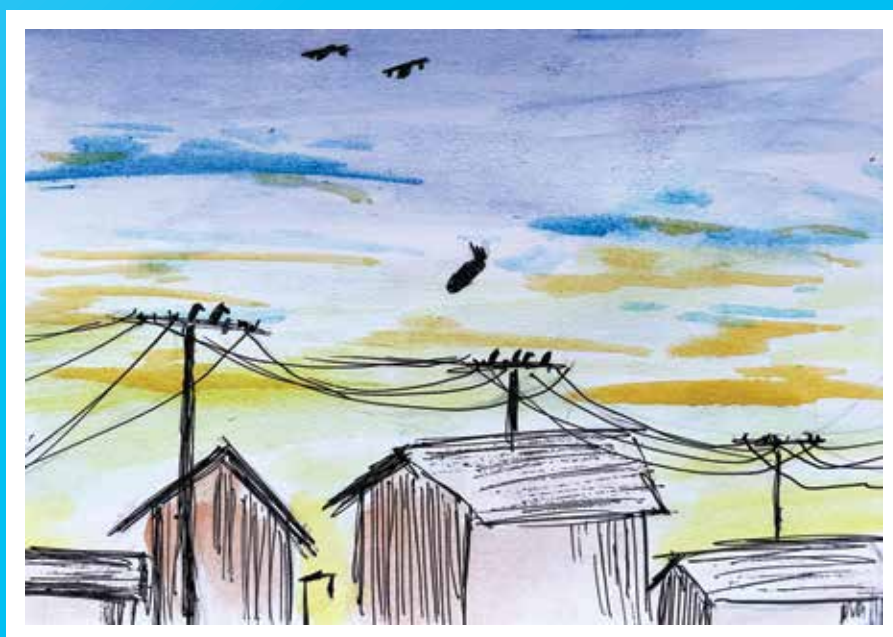
During May a selection of students from across all Key Stages were invited to take part in this wonderful art collaboration for 'The Postcard Exchange'. In total the exchange included 456 postcards from 21 schools in the UK, Ireland and an international school in Spain. The challenge for the postcard exchange was to interpret the theme of war and/or peace in whatever way the students saw fit, in whatever medium. The 17 students selected had a couple of weeks to produce their response to the theme.

The postcards will feature in an exhibition on Friday 26th August 2022 in Oriel Centre, Dundalk Gaol in Ireland. The venue itself was a jail (1850's - 1920's) and retains a majority of its original features.

A few politicians who have engaged with the exchange have expressed an interest in attending the event and a number of Irish artists are keen on seeing the artwork of the next generation!

Once the exhibition draws to a close, the students will receive a postcard in exchange for theirs, created by another pupil within one of the other schools. ■

'The challenge for the postcard exchange was to interpret the theme of war and/or peace in whatever way the students saw fit, in whatever medium'



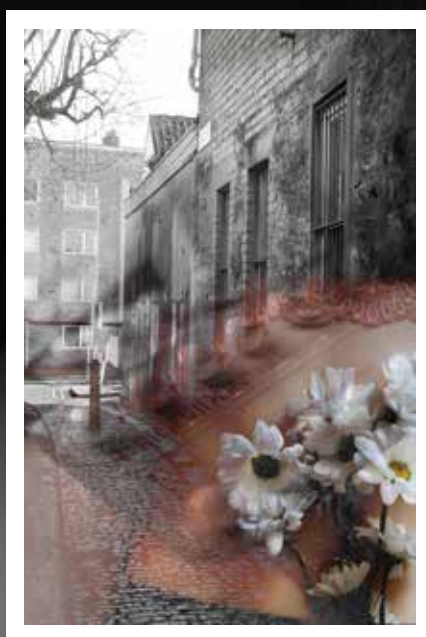
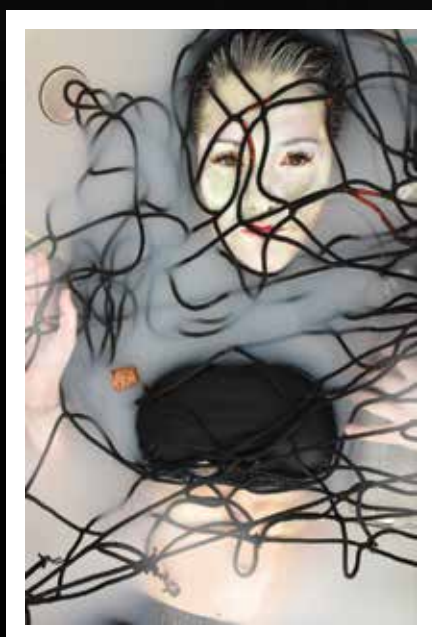


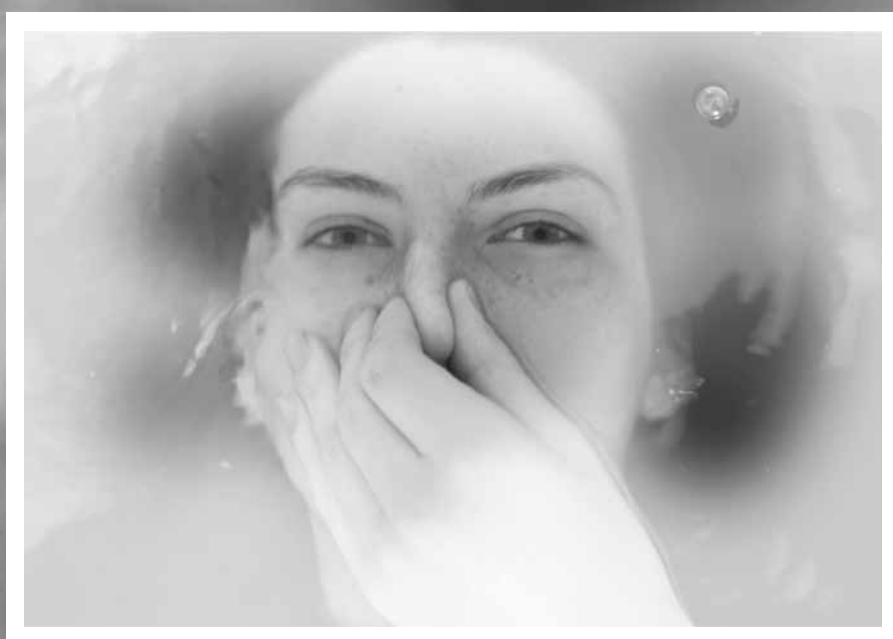
Visual Activism

Year 12 Photography

This term the **Year 12 Photography** students have been working on a visual activism project. The students have chosen social issues that they feel passionate about to represent through photography. The students have worked on projects based around, environmental

issues, violence against women and mental health and women's rights. Students have researched their chosen social issue, investigated the work of other photographers and created images and experimented with editing techniques to produce their final outcomes. ■





MARY POPPINS

The world's most famous nanny comes to Plympton Academy for a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious time

Twists and turns is a motif that popped up throughout the production of Mary Poppins and was a theme that was prevalent during the whole rehearsal process. Students demonstrated incredible resilience and commitment in one of the most challenging productions ever encountered at the Academy and they should all be extremely proud of their final performances.

Originally scheduled in February 2022, the rehearsal period was very long and significantly interrupted due to the lingering effects of Coronavirus on the educational setting. The whole cast overcame, persevered, practiced,

stepped up and stepped in time. We were also hugely excited to include some of our primary school students who participated in a transition workshop and then were able to join us for our final performance, which was a very brave thing to do.

The Performing Arts department would like to congratulate everyone involved, the cast members, crew and band for their hard work, their passion and all the time that they have given. Thank you as well to all the parents and carers who supported them throughout the production.

We hope everyone enjoyed the magic of Mary Poppins at Plympton Academy and had a supercalifragilisticexpialidocious time. ■

'Students demonstrated incredible resilience and commitment in one of the most challenging productions ever encountered at the Academy and they should all be extremely proud of their final performances'



PERFORMING ARTS



Goodbye from our Head Students

Chloe and Ciaran share their experiences

As the summer term and year comes to a close, I wanted to take the opportunity to say goodbye. Becoming Head Girl was a dream I had since I was young and in October 2020 it came true. So many things have been achieved and there are countless things to celebrate, such as taking part in open evenings and open days through giving speeches and leading tours. It has been heart-warming to see students from our first October opening evenings blossoming into hardworking Year 7 students here at the academy. However, one of the most important missions and achievements Ciaran and I had, has been our journey to raise awareness for mental health.

'Being Head Student/Head Girl 2020-2022 has been an amazing part of my **Sixth Form** journey and I have gained so much confidence, happiness and independence from my two years here and am very sad to be leaving it all behind'

Whilst this was a difficult journey to navigate through the pandemic, we managed to write newsletter articles, create PowerPoints and even YouTube videos to help spread help and

remind all of us who have struggled over the past 2-3 years that we aren't alone.

Being Head Student/Head Girl 2020-2022 has been an amazing part of my Sixth Form journey and I have gained so much confidence, happiness and independence from my two years here and am very sad to be leaving it all behind. I am excited to help and see the new Plympton Academy Head Students grow and I wish them the best of luck in this prestigious yet so rewarding role. It has been an honour and amazing opportunity that I will always be grateful for. ■

Chloé Marcellino

During my time at Plympton Academy Sixth Form, I have had the pleasure of being one of the Senior Head Students. During this time we achieved many things including putting together the Remembrance Day events each year to support the Forces and remember those who have fallen for us to be here today. My proudest moment was organising and participating in a charity row-a-thon for St Luke's Hospice at British Blood Bikes, where the Sixth Form raised over £500. Supporting others and being part of the community is one of our values, so I helped coordinate Foodbank donations and giving students support and guidance throughout the school. This all had to be adapted due to my Senior Head studentship covering the Covid pandemic. This provided more issues along the way with me having to plan and email from home for the certain events, to make sure that we had all the necessary requirements in place to cover social distancing, year group bubbles and where we had to wear masks and so on. Looking back



'Looking forward, I can't wait to come back in two years' time and see what the new **Senior Head Students** have provided and what other experiences they have developed for the school throughout their student role'

now at these events and the numerous opportunities I've had just shows that the past two years have been a massive learning experience. Looking forward, I can't wait to come back in two years' time and see what the new Senior Head Students have provided and what other experiences they have developed for the school throughout their student role.

Now onto my experiences of Sixth Form. Well, where to start, except it's been a thrilling experience! Through Sixth Form I have managed to develop my confidence to know that I can strive to overcome challenges, as well as knowing that actually I know the information, yes I may not put it to paper (sorry Mrs Phare), but that actually alongside staff encouragement and my own motivation, I have demonstrated that I can achieve so much academically; so much so that I am looking

to either go into the Air Force or pursue a pathway to becoming a paramedic. Something else that I have managed to develop over my time in Sixth Form is that even when the going gets tough throughout the year, you're not alone, but instead you need to make sure that you keep pushing forward and seeking help from your peers and the excellent pastoral team. Without a doubt, Sixth Form has high expectations of you academically; but don't shy away from the challenge, my advice is to keep in mind opening that results envelope, and know that your hard work will open doors to your future.

So from me to you, good luck throughout the future and I hope to come back in a few years' time and see the changes that have been made.■

Ciaran Blair

KATIE HOUSE

Katie left Sixth Form in 2012, after studying Spanish, Physics and Fine Art at A Level. She studied Illustration at Plymouth University and achieved a 2:1. Katie now runs her own business as a Portrait Artist, creating personalised commissions of people and beloved pets.

One of her paintings of a Bluetit (**pictured below**) was recently featured on BBC Spotlight and she also been running a watercolour painting class for a group of creative ladies.■



SIXTH FORM ALUMNI -

ABAGAIL WITTS

Abigail Witts studied her A Levels at Plympton Academy, leaving us in 2017 to go to Plymouth University to study Law. Abigail took A Levels in Spanish, History and English Literature, but didn't know she wanted to do Law until the second year of Sixth Form. She really enjoyed the university course, but didn't know she wanted to be a solicitor until she finished her degree.

Abigail is now working as a Legal Assistant at Bright LLP in Plymouth, assisting a senior property paralegal with property transactions. Here is a recent glowing testimonial from a customer - "Wonderful help from Abigail with my house purchase, always available to answer questions and queries."■

'Abigail took A Levels in Spanish, History and English Literature, but didn't know she wanted to do **Law** until the second year of Sixth Form'



Sports' Day 2022



Sports' Day 2022 at Plympton Academy went off with a BANG with over 1000 competitors throughout the day leading to the ultimate prize of being crowned House Champions. During the day all students across the Academy took part in a wide range of House game challenges ranging from eSports through to Rounders, gaining points for their House team. In the afternoon our students competed in both track and field events with record numbers of participants striving for success and the coveted podium positions. The staff at the Academy were blown away with some of the amazing personal and team performances with our athletes showing courage, determination and resilience to overcome their competitors and achieve a successful result. This was

celebrated in style with amazing support throughout the afternoon from our spectating students who attempted to lift and carry their House teams over the finish line.

As the results came in, it was evident that the title of House Champion was going to be a hard fought race with only 12 points separating the 5 houses from the mornings house games and activities. With regular updates throughout the afternoon, the lead position changed a number of times with the final results showing that our 2022 House Champions are TAMAR, followed exceptionally closely by runners up (4 points behind) Plym with Dart (1 point behind), Torridge and Yealm in 3rd, 4th and 5th place respectively.

Congratulations Tamar - the team to beat in next year's competitions!■

Stuart Taylor, Director of Sport



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