

# Hele's School

*A great place to learn. A great place to grow.*



Friday, 30 September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a busy week of Open Mornings at Hele's as we opened our doors to prospective families and showed the school on a normal working day. Without exception, the feedback from parents has been incredibly positive and the calm, purposeful learning environment and 'smiley, friendly students and staff' were cited as stand out features - even a highly sensitive heat detector being triggered by the Bunsen burners being used in Science and an impromptu evacuation in response to the fire bell sounding after didn't ruin the experience yesterday!

**Governance opportunity:** Westcountry Schools Trust is seeking interest for Hub Advisory Board (HAB) Members. This key role will provide a community voice and influence the Trust direction of travel. With 3 meetings each year, Members will have a chance to make a significant positive difference to our WeST schools. Visit [www.westst.org.uk](http://www.westst.org.uk) for more details.

**Good news:** We are absolutely thrilled to hear that our bid to run the Latin Excellence Programme at Hele's School has been approved by the Department for Education and Future Academies. This is wonderful news and affords Hele's the resourcing and training to grow our Latin provision over the coming years. It also supports our ambition of Latin being a strong academic qualification option available for all children interested in taking the subject as part of their GCSE curriculum diet by September 2025 at the latest, but sooner if feasible. We are planning to recruit interested Year 7 and Year 8 students to start lessons after school from next term. More details to follow.

#### Looking ahead:

Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October: Year 12 Drama 'Transition' tour to Plympton Primaries

Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> October: European Day of Languages Year 7 event  
Year 11 Geography fieldtrip to Slapton Sands

Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October: Othello Theatre Trip, 7.30pm

Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October: Year 11 photos (a.m.)

Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> October: Year 12 Drama 'Transition' tour to Plympton Primaries

**Uniform reminder:** It's hard to believe we are over half way through Term 1 already and we have been very pleased with the way in which the vast majority of students have embraced the challenges of the new school year. There are still a very small minority of students in incorrect uniform items or not consistently wearing their blazer to school – can I please remind parents of the need to ensure all students are dressed correctly each day and to work with tutors and the pastoral team to resolve any issues promptly. October Half Term will be the final deadline for resolving any uniform issues. Many thanks as always for your ongoing support.

Support will be in abundance this weekend, for Miss Prifti, Head of Year 11 as she heads to the capital to take part in her first ever London Marathon – we wish her the very best of luck and will be sending her a huge Team Hele's cheer!

Kindest regards,

Justine Mason

**Principal**

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