

Hele's School

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



Friday, 25 November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following the completion of their written Mock GCSE papers last week, it has been a joy to observe Year 11 students this week working on their practical subjects. Most notably, seeing the talent and creativity unfold before my eyes over the course of the day as students worked on their Art assessed piece, was a joy; there was some truly exceptional work from our students!

“Life Lessons with Scrooge” campaign: given the tough economic times, more families than ever are feeling the pinch this year and we are very aware that Food Banks are struggling for donations to support the growing need. In response to this and in conjunction with studying ‘A Christmas Carol’ in lessons, the English Department teachers are collecting donations for the Plymouth Food Bank.

Urgent ‘in need’ items from the Plymouth Food Bank are cereals; tinned meat (steak/chicken/curries/pies); tinned fruit/custard/rice pudding, coffee/tea bags; tinned peas/carrots/sweetcorn; jam/peanut butter/chocolate spread; UHT milk/long-life fruit juice cartons; crisps/savoury snacks; toiletries (deodorant/shampoo/shower gel/shaving items/nappies size 6 and 7); cleaning products and washing powder/conditioner.

Collection points are in E4, E7 and E10, but students can also pass on any donations to their usual English teacher at the end of any English lesson. Your support, no matter how big or small, would be very much appreciated.

Nasal Flu vaccination for Years 7 – 9: seasonal flu vaccination remains one of the most important public health interventions to protect individuals and prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society. The School Immunisation Team will be visiting Hele's on Tuesday 10th January 2023 to deliver the vaccine to as many consenting children as possible. A separate letter and link to give consent for the vaccination will be emailed to parents and carers of young people in Year 7 – 9 on Monday. Please look out for this important email and respond accordingly.

Free Multiply Numeracy courses for adults: adults across Plymouth who want to improve their numeracy skills can now sign up for free courses and activities thanks to a national investment aimed at boosting opportunities for more people to progress and secure well-paid jobs. The free courses are available to local residents on either a part-time or intensive basis and will be offered in flexible settings. These courses are available through On Course South West on Mutley Plain or online and are aimed at those aged 19 and above who do not already have a GCSE grade C/4 or higher in Maths or equivalent. The next course is around budgeting and helping households to manage bills. Topics include looking at foods that are value for money, exploring tools to save money such as apps and websites, as well as other practical ideas to save money at home. Multiply also offers free help to parents who wish to support their children with Maths homework. To find out more about courses, please go to [Multiply — On Course South West](#) or call 01752 660713.

Good news: the World Cup may have caused a ripple of excitement (and controversy) as it got underway this week, but Hele's students have created their own wave of euphoria through some fantastic sporting achievements! On the back of a great double victory for the Year 10 boys' football team at home to Newquay in round 4 of the English Schools U15 Cup and the Year 10 and Y11 girls' football team against DHSg, our U13 girls went on to win the EFL Girls' Cup in some style! Scoring 23 goals against 7 teams and conceding only 2 goals throughout their brilliant run, the girls now go forward to the next round in January, where we represent Plymouth Argyle in a regional event. The icing on the cake was seeing that the referee was former Hele's student Maddi Curno, who left us in the summer and is now studying Sport with the Plymouth Argyle Education Programme. Maddi was one of the first names on the team sheet when she was playing at Hele's so how wonderful to see she is continuing to be a fantastic role model to footballing

girls, both from Hele's and across the city. Well done to Molly Stroud; Freya Senior-Gosling; Maya Roberts; Lulia Petre; Kiana Norcross; Ava McClymont; Megan Lawton and Elizabeth Hoare.

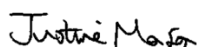
A different sport, but another super achievement from Ynah Sala and Catrina Bukid in Year 9, who were crowned champions at the U14 Plymouth Tennis Tournament this week. What an accolade! Well done to all our fantastic sportsmen and sportswomen; we are very proud of you. Thanks too to our awesome PE Department for all the coaching, support and encouragement along the way.

Looking ahead:

- Monday, 28 November: Light Up Plympton Christmas lights switch on
- Thursday, 1 December: Drama trip to watch 'Complicite' at the Theatre Royal Plymouth, 7.30pm
- Wednesday, 7 December: Christmas concert, 6.30 - 8.30pm
- Thursday, 8 December: Year 7 Sustainable Gifts Fayre, 5.00 - 6.30pm
- Saturday, 10 December: Plympton Team Ministry Christmas Tree and Crib Festival, Plympton St Mary and Plympton St Maurice churches, 10.00am – 5.00pm (free of charge)
- 11 December 2022: Plympton Team Ministry Christmas Tree and Crib Festival, Plympton St Mary and Plympton St Maurice churches, 12.30 – 4.00pm

Staffing update: on behalf of all at Hele's School, I'd like to extend our warmest thanks and give a fond farewell to Sam Oakley, Teacher of Physics and Year 7 Tutor, who leaves us today after 4 years as part of Team Hele's. Sam is heading for the snowy mountain caps of Canada to start a new and exciting adventure as a ski instructor. We wish Sam the best of luck on his travels and hope he stays fit and well, but importantly happy and fulfilled!

Kindest regards,



Justine Mason
Principal