

Hele's School

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



Friday, 19 May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been blessed with sunshine over the past week or so and this weekend looks set to be no different which is particularly good news for our students currently completing Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. Last week, it was our youngest Bronze Award students in action and this weekend sees the Silver Award expedition. Congratulations to those who completed last week's activities and good luck to those involved this weekend – don't forget the sunscreen!

Vaping: You may well be aware of the growing popularity of vaping amongst young people. Whilst vaping is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to buy or use a vape, vaping products are routinely marketed at children. We are currently working closely with partners in Public Health, Police and organisations such as SHARP (substance misuse organisation) to ensure our young people and parents have all the information they need around this subject. More to follow on this in coming weeks, but I wanted to just reiterate the message that **vaping and possession of any vaping paraphernalia is strictly prohibited on our school site and is dealt with very seriously**. I would ask that parents are mindful of this and ensure students are not bringing anything of this nature into school with them.

On a related note, we have also passed some intelligence shared with us by parents with Police this week about vapes being sold to young people from a house in Plympton. If you have any further information on this or any other area of concern, please do 'call it out' and let us know; we always work to share any relevant information with appropriate partners to ensure our young people remain safe, whether in school or in the community. Our Safeguarding email is safeguarding@heles.plymouth.sch.uk. Further details of our [child protection and safeguarding team, policy and procedures](#) can be found on our website.

Good news: Congratulations to Lily Knapp 9D, Sam Fagan 9E, Ruby Hill 9H, Megan Lawton 8B and Chloe Bennett 10H, who all play for Drake u14s girls' football team. Last Sunday, they played their League Cup Final and won 1-0 against Marjon, thanks to an amazing goal by Lily Knapp. The girls are now focusing on playing their second cup final on the last Sunday in May, which will be the Devon County Final against Newton Fire in Newton Abbot. We wish the team all the very best!

Maths teacher, Jenny Clegg, has been successful in her application to be a Secondary Maths Mastery Specialist and has been appointed to join the CODE maths hub as one of just a handful of Maths practitioners across the southwest – a real accolade for Mrs Clegg personally, and a feather in the cap for Hele's School to have one of the SW specialists on our staff! We look forward to more Maths fun coming our way!

Looking ahead:

- Friday, 19 May: Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice Expedition, Friday – Sunday, Dartmoor
- Tuesday, 23 May: Year 9 Art trip to St Ives
Visit to Marjon University - Psychology Taster Day
- Thursday, 25 May: Celebration day marking the 80th anniversary of the Hele's CCF

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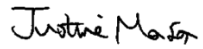
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- Friday, 26 May: Celebratory breakfast for the 'Humanutopia Heroes' (Y9 'Heroes')
Year 13 Leavers' Assembly
RAF Cadets to Boscombe Down
Term 5 ends
- Monday, 5 June: Term 6 starts for all staff and students

With just one more week of term 5 left, I'm sure I'm not the only one looking forward to the half term break ahead and a bit of down time. As always, we aim to ensure the term finishes on a high, so your support in ensuring high standards of uniform, punctuality and attendance are not compromised in any way is much appreciated.

Kindest regards,



Justine Mason
Principal