

# Hele's School

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



Friday, 14 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been a week of celebration at school this week, with year group assemblies celebrating individual and collective successes over the year, followed by Sports Day and Awards Evening on Wednesday. Despite the tiredness which comes for all at the end of the school year, it has been wonderful to recognise and celebrate the efforts and triumphs of so many students over the course of the week and to look forward to the year ahead and all the excitement that's still to come as we push towards the end of term.

**Enrichment Week:** Enrichment Week is here, and we are excited to have such a fantastic week ahead of us to wrap up the academic year and hope all students are looking forward to their activities. The weather forecast for the week ahead is looking fair, with a mix of showers at the start of the week and then a spell of being dry but with some cloud – certainly not the high temperatures we have seen earlier this term. That said, we know only too well how changeable the weather is, so please do ensure your child is prepared for all eventualities.

Some of our staff and students leave for their 4-week expedition to Kenya next week, and we wish them the very best of luck as they spend time working on vital community, wildlife and environmental projects, making a measurable impact locally whilst supporting the global aims of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We wish all our students a wonderful week of making memories, whether in school, around the local area, on residential in the UK, on Work Experience, or indeed on international visits to Barcelona, Paris, or Kenya. If you are on Twitter, please do follow [@HelesEnrichment](#) to see some of the exciting activities unfolding throughout the week – I've no doubt there will be much to see!

For those based in school, please be advised that the catering for the week remains the same as usual: breakfast runs from 8 – 8.30am, Break 1 from 11- 11.30am and Break 2 from 1.30 – 2pm.

**Junior Leadership Team, 2023-24:** Mr Stone and I had the privilege of interviewing several fantastic Sixth Form students this week, who were passionate about joining the Junior Leadership Team for the academic year ahead. Without exception, each person shared their many positive experiences which had helped to grow them over their 6 years at Hele's, and their desire to give back to our school community with some great ideas for how they can leave a positive legacy when they graduate this time next year. We are really excited about the work they are going to lead on and offer our warmest congratulations and our gratitude to our incoming team:

**Head Girl:** Emily Allen

**Deputy Head Girl:** Cicely Beveridge

**Assistant Head Girl:** Xsara Lord

**Assistant Head Girl:** Erin May

**Head Boy:** Harrison Aslett

**Deputy Head Boy:** Dan Brookes

**Assistant Head Boy:** Oli Hubbarde

**Assistant Head Boy:** Sam Williams

**Post 16 charity:** Well done to the Post 16 students in their fundraising efforts for Devon Mind with the Staff v Sixth Form netball match (which ended 1 match apiece), the cake sale and a head shaving of a willing volunteer – what a good sport, Erik Francino Nehezova in Year 12 is! Students raised £280.41 yesterday, bringing the total raised this year for Devon Mind to £714.14. Very well done to all who organised, took part, donated, or supported in any way.

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**Principal: Justine Mason**

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**Tie collection:** We still have a number of ties at Reception that have been paid for but not yet collected. We would appreciate collection before the end of term. Reception is open as normal throughout next week.

**Staffing update:** We welcome back from Maternity Leave Lauren Douglas to the Maths department on Monday.

**Good news:** Throughout this academic year, Science teachers Miss Rutley and Mr Ramage have been working in association with IRIS (Institute for Research in Schools) for three groups of students to pursue their choice of original Scientific research. The IRIS Conferences 2023 were a huge success. More than 430 students from 52 schools nationally presented at events in London, Manchester and Exeter. Hele's students prepared academic posters to summarise their extensive research into Cosmic Mining and Big Data ATLS, and gave a verbal presentation of their work in front of 200+ students from across the southwest at Exeter University. I would recommend taking a look at this brief clip to get a flavour of this high-profile event – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUPtPPviyeA>

You will recognise several faces from the Hele's student body within, and what a job they did!

**Cosmic Mining – Year 12**

Seb Price  
Ella Clemow  
Harrison Aslett  
Xsara Lord  
Seb Langmead  
William Lean

**Big Data ATLS – Year 12**

Oliver Hart  
Max Phillips  
Rafi Kazi  
Islay Black  
Danielle Mudge  
Kurt Brown  
Archie Packer

**Cosmic Mining – Year 10**

Aaron Butt  
Toby Woolven-Allen

We are incredibly proud of our students, and I was delighted to attend the certificate presentation event with students and staff at lunchtime today – what a marvellous way to end a busy week!

**Looking ahead:**

Mon, 17 – Fri. 21 July:	Enrichment Week Year 10 and Year 12 Work Experience
Friday, 21 July:	Last day of the academic year
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	A Level Results, 8.30am Hele's School
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> August	GCSE Results, 8.30am Hele's School
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Hele's School Staff Training Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Westcountry Schools Trust Staff Training Day
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7 start school, accompanied by Year 10 Mentors only
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	First day back for all students in all year groups

I'll write next week with reminders about uniform, staffing changes and the start of term arrangements. Until then, here's hoping that we have a brilliant Enrichment Week ahead to end the school year on a high! If you fancy some reading in the meantime, may I recommend the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of 'Hear from Hele's', the student magazine produced by Year 8 students. Featuring the story of our first female monarch, Lady Jane Grey, a spotlight on Mothecombe Beach, advice on travel currencies, and the regular sporting round up, you're in for a treat. The magazine will be online imminently at [Hele's School - Hear from Hele's \(heles.plymouth.sch.uk\)](http://heles.plymouth.sch.uk). Enjoy!

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Kindest regards,



Justine Mason  
**Principal**