

# Hele's School

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



Friday, September 15, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Jamie (Jay) Neale graduated from Hele's School in 2008 to pursue his love of the Arts, and is today an award-winning Director/Writer/Movement Coach/Creative Coach who resides in Los Angeles and works with some of the top global brands. A passion for story-telling, Jay has achieved a number of accolades in his career to date and was nominated for an Emmy Award in 2019 in the Outstanding Television Movie category for his work on 'My Dinner With Herve'. We were absolutely thrilled to welcome Jay back to his old school this morning, to inspire our Sixth Form and Staff through sharing his career path from the corridors of Hele's to the red carpets of prestigious awards ceremonies across the world and to run a workshop for our Drama students; an incredible example of what can be achieved if we dream big, follow our passion, work hard and never give up, as well as demonstrating that 'once Team Hele's, always Team Hele's'!

**School places appeals – request from Plymouth City Council:** Due to increasing demand and volume, Plymouth City Council is looking for volunteers to join an independent panel to hear appeals for school places for both Primary and Secondary school children. The panel meet and hear cases presented by the parents and the admissions authority/school and decide whether to grant the child access to the school in question. If you have an existing connection to a specific school, you will not be able to sit on appeal hearings for that school, but may sit on others. You don't need any specific qualifications; full training is provided you will have the opportunity to shadow before sitting on a panel for the first time. Appeals take place during term time, Monday - Friday (usually between 10am – 4pm) and are heard in-person at the Council House. This is an unpaid, voluntary role; however lunch, refreshments and free parking are available for panel members, as well as reimbursement for travel expenses. All info and our application form can be found on the webpage here : [School Appeals Panel Members | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/school-appeals-panel-members)

**Good news:** Congratulations to Harrison Randall-King in Year 12 who has been selected to attend the Qualified Aerospace Instructors Course (QAIC), part of the RAF Air Cadet's talent pipeline and affectionately known as 'Tomorrow's Top Guns'. Harrison is one of an elite group nationally who will work with the RAF on a programme of theoretical aerospace instruction with practical simulator-based training. A great honour for Harrison and another great achievement for a thriving RAF Section at Hele's School CCF.

Keeping the spotlight on our CCF Cadets, Izzy Prowse in Year 12 took part in her re-investiture ceremony last week as Lord Lieutenant's Cadet. An RAF Cadet with the CCF, Izzy had previously performed this prestigious role with such dedication and professionalism that she was selected for a second term in office – an unprecedented achievement and one that has attracted much acclaim from dignitaries in the military. We look forward to hearing of Izzy's future successes, of which we have no doubt there will be many to share and celebrate.

From air to sea, Tom Bevan in Year 11 has certainly taken advantage of living in Britain's Ocean City this summer. Tom has recently returned from his latest voyage, sailing over 300 miles with the Island Trust on board various tall ships in his ongoing quest to secure his offshore sailing qualifications. He will be super busy in forthcoming months preparing for the South West Winter Sailing Series which he has been selected to take part in alongside revising for his GCSEs, but Tom has 'nailed his colours to the mast' and declared that he will be duly packing his flash cards and revision plan as he travels the country and takes to the high seas next term – a great work ethic, well done to Tom!

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**Principal: Justine Mason**

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**Looking ahead:**

Wednesday, 20 September: Year 12 CCF Cadets visiting The King's Guard, London  
Year 6 Open Evening, 5-8pm (no pre-booking required)

Monday, 25 September: Year 7 Day of Languages

Weds. 27 - Fri. 29 September: Year 6 Open Mornings (pre-booking on an organised tour is essential)

A reminder that our facilities are used by a number of groups for a wide range of sporting, musical, physical and learning activities for all age ranges. Whilst these groups are not directly connected with Hele's School and simply hire our facilities, I draw your attention to a FREE and fun evening for women of all ages being run by the Mayflower Acapella Chorus on Monday, 25 September from 7 - 9.30pm at Hele's. This friendly group is looking to encourage eager new female members to join the chorus. Should you be interested in trying something new, further details can be found on the Mayflower Acapella Chorus FaceBook page.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,



Justine Mason  
**Principal**