

Hele's School

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



Friday, 8 December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has certainly been a busy time with much to share and celebrate across the school. The hard work of our Year 7 students and Tutors reached a crescendo with a packed Sustainable Gifts Fayre last night, our Duke of Edinburgh students showcased their skills at the DoE Awards Evening, and our Year 9 Heroes trained by Humanutopia delivered a day of workshops to over 120 Year 5 students from Woodford Primary, Sherford Vale and Wembury...all in a week's work!

'B in 2 win': Students continue to engage really well with the attendance challenge, with almost 1100 young people across the school achieving 100% last week. With just over a week until the end of term, we continue to stress that every lesson counts right up to the last day. Next week is the last chance for students to secure a place in the 100% club prize draw and maximise their chances of winning a prize. There are lots of prizes available, including generous donations from local businesses such as Friary Mill, Henderson Webdesign, and a huge range of prizes and vouchers, gestures donated from staff, and lots of festive food, including 12 lucky winners destined to have hot chocolate and mince pies with the Principal! Prizes will be drawn on Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 December, and *students need to be in school to claim their prize*. Alongside this, the group in each year with the highest percentage attendance for the term will be served their celebratory breakfasts – the competition is rife, and Year 8 in particular are taking this very seriously!

Food Bank Appeal: Thank you to families for the ongoing donations for the appeal. A reminder that requested items for this year's appeal are:

- Toiletries (deodorant/ shampoo/ shower gel/ shaving items/ nappies)
- Any 'festive treats' with dates that last beyond 27 December
- Rice (550g or 1kg) and dried noodles
- Jam/ peanut butter/ chocolate spread
- Tinned fish
- Packet soups
- Tinned soup/ veg/ meat
- Sponge pudding
- Crisps/ savoury snacks
- Biscuits/ chocolate bars/ treats
- Long-life fruit juice
- Toilet rolls

STEM opportunities: Through our ongoing relationship with EDT, we continue to share STEM education and careers opportunities. Some courses that may be of interest include:

- The [Virtual Routes into STEM Course](#) is an excellent opportunity for students in Years 9 and 10 who would like to find out about the various educational pathways into a STEM career. Students can join and complete this course flexibly, with the approximate time to fully complete being 20 hours.
- Applications for the [Residential Insight into University Course](#) remain open until 31st January 2024. This is a fantastic opportunity for students in Year 12 to experience STEM studies at university and the career opportunities that these subjects can lead to. This course is recommended on the UCAS website as a tool to prepare students for higher education to make their application stand out.

Principal: Justine Mason

Seymour Road, Plympton, Plymouth, Devon PL7 4LT

Telephone: 01752 337193 Fax: 01752 331460

email: heles.school@plymouth.gov.uk website: www.heles.plymouth.sch.uk

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- An online masterclass for Year 12 students entitled 'Your Route to Chartership' will run on Tuesday, 19 December from 4 - 5.30pm on

To view all of the opportunities that EDT offer, please click here: [EDT opportunities 2023/24](#).

Looking ahead:

W/b Monday, 11 December: Christmas Dinner (pre-booked tickets only)
Deadline for Enrichment Week 2024 choice returns (Monday)

Tuesday, 12 December: Christmas Music Concert – mince pies from 6.30pm, show starts at 7pm

Thursday, 14 December: A Level Awards Evening, Main Hall, 6.30pm

Friday, 15 December: Year 11 Mock Exam Results event, 8.30am

W/b Monday, 18 December: Year 11 celebration breakfast
Celebration breakfasts for Tutor groups with highest attendance this term
B in 2 win grand prize draw

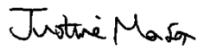
Tuesday, 19 December: Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children, £1 donation
Term 2 ends for all students and staff, 3.10pm

We are so excited to hear that Harry Westbury in Year 7 will be diving for Hele's School at the English School Swimming Association Championships this Saturday and Sunday in the Manchester Aquatics Centre. The event will be live streamed on the ESSA YouTube channel:

https://m.youtube.com/@englishschoolsswimming?fbclid=IwAR0NC6bMhmssHDYkCbJ6WzkBT8JKYJ12ZCIPiOusnv_cZbMRK6HJumhKhk

We wish Harry the very best of luck and can't wait to hear about his experience!

Kindest regards,



Justine Mason
Principal