

Hele's School

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



Friday, 12 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to welcome so many families to School this week to share details about our Sixth Form offer, both in and out of the classroom, and to find out why studying Level 3 qualifications at Hele's Post 16 can make students stand out from the crowd. For those considering options for next year, it is important to remember that this is just the start of an important process, but be assured that students will be supported every step of the way.

Exploring available pathways is not just the domain of Year 11 and Year 13, of course; considering future possibilities is relevant to students of all ages, and with that in mind I'd like to remind you of next Tuesday's Careers Roadshow at Hele's School. Open to all ages, the event starts at 4.30pm in the Main Hall and will involve over 30 Employers, Training Providers and FE/HE institutions. We'd love to see you there!

Pastoral consultation: as you will be aware from last week's newsletter, we are in the process of reviewing our pastoral system for next academic year. This includes considering the benefits of designated year group zones for tutor period and social time, as well as the value of a dedicated year 7 induction team. Teaching staff and key pastoral staff have already shared views, and student voice is currently being collected via School Council Reps. We would value parents taking time to contribute views by completing this short survey:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Eq1kcZGRku>

Any changes to our current system will be implemented from September 2024 and communicated to all students, parents, carers and staff in advance, once the views of all stakeholders have been considered later this term.

County Lines session: the Technical Lead for Safer Communities from Plymouth City Council has signposted a free 1-hour online County Lines awareness raising session aimed at parents, grandparents and carers. This is on Thursday, 29 February 2024, from 10 – 11am. The session will cover:

- What is 'County Lines'?
- Why should Parents/Grandparents/Carers be aware of the issue?
- How can we spot the signs?
- What can we do about County Lines and how can we talk to our children about it?

Tickets are available free of charge via Eventbrite by [clicking on this link](#).

Looking ahead:

Tuesday 16 January:	Year 12 Art visit to Arts University Plymouth, periods 1 and 2 Careers Fair, 4.30-6.30pm (4.15pm early access for Year 11 students)
Thursday 18 January:	Arts Award Trinity College Performance (selected Year 7 and Year 8 students)
Thurs 18 and Fri 19 January:	Year 11 Employer Interviews
Wednesday, 24 January:	KS3 Drama trip to Bristol Hippodrome to watch <i>Wicked</i>
Thursday, 25 January:	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Thursday, 25 & Friday 26:	Year 7 Geography trips to The Eden Project

Principal: Justine Mason

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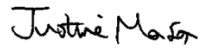
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We have been overwhelmed with ticket sales for our Whole School Production of Les Misérables, with over 50% of tickets selling in just 1 week! If you are planning on securing tickets during performance week (5 – 9 February inclusive), then please do act swiftly to guarantee access to a show. If you haven't previously thought about coming to a performance, then perhaps this short trailer will persuade you otherwise: <https://youtu.be/ohhY4tUEhPA>.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justine Mason". The script is cursive and fluid.

Justine Mason

Principal