

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Headteacher's Report for the Annual General Meeting of 25th April 2018.

I would like to thank our Chair, Keith Radford, our Secretary, Rhona Jenking-Rees and Treasurer, Marion Ford, supported by other committee members for the superb job they have done to make sure things run smoothly. I would like to thank them for the time they give to PHSG and their hard work on behalf of the school.

The PTFA has achieved a lot this year; we need to be proud of our successes and the funding we have been able to raise. There has been a significant amount raised which has helped to support the school in many ways, especially in the academic and pastoral development of our students. I will leave it to our Chair to report on the PTFA activities, their fund raising and how that has helped to support the school.

As you are all aware, Miss Utton retired as Headteacher at the end of the Spring term and the Governors have appointed me as Interim Headteacher and Claire Eales-White as Interim Deputy until September 2019. We will continue to work closely with the PTFA as we fully recognise the benefits they bring to the school and want to continue this association.

The year, we have focused on reviewing our assessment systems, improving student progress and developing a growth mind-set within our students. As always we have worked hard on maintaining our budget in tough economic times and we are starting to see the benefits of this work, although the support provided by the PTFA has been crucial in helping us with projects which otherwise would not have been possible. 96 Chromebooks were purchased at the end of the Easter term as a result of the large donations made by the PTFA and a parent. This is a very significant contribution and will have a major impact upon teaching and learning in the classroom and is a clear demonstration of the enormous support the PTFA have given the school.

Much of what we have achieved this year has already been outlined for parents and carers through our regular newsletter so I will not repeat myself here except to comment on our recent priorities:

1. Exam outcomes August 2017. In a tough year nationally for results, we remained consistent in both GCSE and A Level outcomes. A full report can be found in the September newsletter.
2. Assessment. We are working hard to improve our assessment systems post levels and with the change to GCSE grades from letters to numbers. We have trialled a new system at KS3 and changed our reporting system across all key stages which has helped students, staff and parents to understand current performance and how to improve.
3. SLT presence around the school. Out of 50 members of teaching staff, 22 have had 2 observations each, 21 have had 1 observation, 2 members of staff have as yet to have an observation, delayed due to maternity leave and 5 members of staff require an observation. In total to date therefore 65 observations have taken place and been recorded on our system. This does not include drop ins and learning walks which are completed frequently.
4. Headteacher interviews with Year 7 girls. The purpose of these meetings was for Miss Utton to gain an understanding of their experience after the first term. The experience was overwhelmingly positive with students commenting on their love for the school, the houses and each other. They feel challenged in lessons and are pleased they have chosen PHSG.
5. Deliver the priorities as outlined in the School Improvement Plan for 2017/2018: all staff have been working on the different aspects of the School Improvement Plan which focuses on key areas of our development.

Once again I would like to thank the parents who give their time to the PTFA and therefore the school for the benefit of our students. We truly value the work completed by the PTFA.

Shaun Willis
Interim Headteacher.