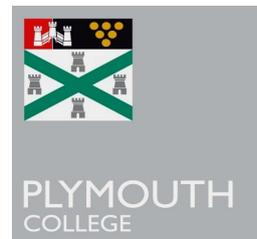


# Plymouth College Preparatory School



**Weekly Newsletter for 27th January 2017**

**From the Headmaster**

## **Senior School 'Value Added' results**

Once again Plymouth College has done extremely well in the DfE League Tables and I have great pleasure in quoting Mr Standen's Summary of this success.

We were delighted to see how well the school has performed in the DfE League Tables, which were published yesterday. Our A level results were excellent both in terms of actual grades awarded and also "value added." With an average overall VI form grade of B- and a value added score of + 0.34 we were the best school in Plymouth once again. One of the grammar schools also recorded an average grade of B-, but its value added was -0.1 Our actual grades and our value added were far stronger than any of the other schools in the city, whether selective or non-selective. When you consider that Plymouth College is not academically selective, it is a hugely impressive feat for us to record the best grades in a city with three selective schools. The value added score illustrates the very high standard of teaching and learning at Plymouth College, and places us in the top three schools (Independent and State) in Devon and Cornwall for the second successive year. You may be interested to note that our two closest Independent competitors came nowhere close to our level of achievement. The average grade at Mount Kelly was a C, with a value added of -0.11, and at Stover this was a C- with a value added of -0.21.

I would like to warmly congratulate our students and their teachers. The GCSE league tables record only approved GCSEs. They do not record the iGCSEs that we take at Plymouth College. Therefore they are inaccurate. I round this section off with my usual thought about school league tables. They are important because every school, state or independent, has to demonstrate that it is adding value in the classroom, and because grades lead to places at university. However school league tables take no account of our holistic education, and the broader value that Independent Schools add with character development, resilience and so forth, the skills and qualities which mean that independently educated students fly further and faster in life beyond the school gates than their peers educated elsewhere.

## **Year 5 and 6 Spoken Poetry**

This week I will be hearing Year 5 and 6 presenting their poems for this year's Spoken Poetry Competition. If they have not found one yet it is not too late.

I look forward to hearing them.

## **House Cross Country**

Well done to all pupils who ran so well in the House Cross Country Competition on Friday and also to all of the parents and grandparents who came to cheer them on.



## Headmaster's Commendations

Benjamin Cane in 3CLB for reading 20 books

Nadia Beed in 4NF for earning 20 House Points

Thomas Wills in 4PB for earning 20 House Points

Lydia Lambie in 6LM for earning 20 House Points

Berk Paker in 6LM for earning 20 House Points

James Webb in 6CG for earning 20 House Points

Sophia Yung in 5JN for earning 20 House Points

Abby Sweby in 3CP for earning 20 House Points

Anara Davenport in 2AP for earning 20 House Points

Tomas Kowalewski in 2AP for earning 20 House Points

Leonor Lopez-Nieto in 2AP for earning 20 House Points

Harry Timson in 2AP for earning 20 House Points

James Staples in 3CP for reading 20 books

Abby Sweby in 3CP for reading 20 books

Tom Turner in 3CP for reading 20 books

Amie Chung in 3CLB for reading **60** books

Julian Pastoor in 5DH for earning 20 House Points

## **Plymouth College Senior School**

**Entrance Exams and  
Academic Scholarship Exams**

on

**Saturday 4th February**

at

**9.45am**

in

**The Meade King Hall,  
Plymouth College, Ford Park**

## *Forthcoming Events*

### Tuesday 31st January

Dawn Getley to do whole school Assembly in the Chapel

**9.00am**

Year 1 visit to China Blue in Totnes  
**All Day**

House Cross Country Competition  
RESERVE DAY

**2.00pm**

### Wednesday 1st February

U11s A & B Football v Mount Kelly  
Away

**2.30pm**

U11s A & B Netball v Mount Kelly  
At Home

**2.30pm**

### Thursday 2nd February

U9s A & B Football v Mount Kelly  
At Home

**2.30pm**

U9s A & B Netball v Mount Kelly  
Away

**2.30pm**

1st Steps Music Concert in the School  
Chapel

**4.30pm**

### Friday 3rd February

U10s A Football v Bramdean—Away  
**2.30pm**

U10s A Netball v Bramdean—Away  
**2.30pm**

### Saturday 4th February

Plymouth College Year 7 Entrance/  
Scholarship exams at Ford Park

**9.45am**

## 1st Steps concert - Thursday 2 February

This informal concert is on Thursday in the Chapel at 4.30pm. Children will be told by their instrumental teacher if they are taking part. Any children who have lessons outside school and wish to play something, please let me know on Monday by emailing: [rstubbs@plymouthcollege.com](mailto:rstubbs@plymouthcollege.com)

Thank you

R Stubbs  
Director of Music

## Lost Property

Caden Wray-Williams in 2AP lost a red paper Star Wars book in the car park

Henry Harper in 1MS has lost his named school cap

Finn Keeling in 3CP has lost his entire swimming kit. The kits includes, a blue under arm bag; orange Speedo Biofuse goggles; black Next swim shorts, and a dark blue bath towel.

If either of these items are found, could you please return them to Reception so that they can reach their rightful owners.

Many thanks for your help.

## Community Awards

This week the Community Awards were given to:

KGN: Robert Harrison, Alexander Woods & Rufus Burt for settling in well.

Rec: Ruth Sutherland for helpfulness and kindness

Year 1: Mia Edge for responsible and kind behaviour

Year 2: Phoebe Harley for always being happy and cheerful

Year 3: Elsa Llewellyn-Rees for showing a good community spirit

Year 4: Thomas Hackett for a positive well-focussed start to his new school

Year 5: Hugo Campbell for being kind to a new pupil

Year 6: Jackson Davis for being unfailingly polite and enthusiastic

# Sainsbury's Active Kids



Sainsbury's Active Kids launches on Friday 25 January and runs until Friday 30 June this year. If you're shopping at Sainsbury's Local stores, supermarkets or online, please collect the vouchers. Our collection box is in Reception by the green chairs. Thank you so much for your support.

## "Let's get collecting."

# **FRIENDS DIARY**

Dear Friends

Many thanks to those who attended our meeting on Monday, it was great to catch up after the Christmas break and discuss our events for the year ahead. Our next meeting is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March and it will be great to see as many of you there as can make it.

One of our main discussions was concerning the 'Plymouth College Prep School May Ball' which is to be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May. This event will be a great chance for us all to get together for an evening of celebration and fundraising for your Parents and Friends Association. The Ball will be held at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel and tickets for the evening will be £45. The ticket price will include a glass of bubbly on arrival, three course dinner and coffee, wine on the table and entertainment from the Sky Walkers band. There will be an auction during the evening as well as a raffle and some other fun activities! On that note, if any of you have anything which we can auction or raffle off on the evening then that would be fabulous, these can be individual items, experiences etc so just email or speak to one of us regarding this. Also we will be looking for sponsorship of tables so look out for more information on this in the coming weeks. Tickets will be going on sale soon and so it's worth having a chat with friends and family members to see if you can get a table together. Tables will seat a maximum of 10 but don't worry if you don't know any other parents as we can seat you with others in your year group – this event is a great way to get to know other parents at the school! We really hope that as many of you as possible will support the May Ball to make it a really successful evening!

Another of our upcoming events is a film night for the students which will be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April, look out for more details of how to book tickets over the coming weeks.

The school lottery continues to be very successful and it was great to see some new parents signing up last week. The lottery is currently earning £1220 per year for the PFA and as well as our weekly in house winners there is also the chance to win the nationwide prize of £25000. Also all new subscribers have the chance to win a prize which is currently a Fitbit Digital. Last week's school lottery winner was Louise Barwell so congratulations to you! You can sign up at [www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk) for as little as £1 per week, just search for Plymouth college. Remember its open to all parents, carers, grandparents, any relatives or friends to get everyone you know involved!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Adele  
Chairperson

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March – PFA Meeting 9am Junior Library

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Film Night

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May – May Ball