



7<sup>th</sup> July 2016



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Dear Parents and Carers

As this academic year draws to a close, I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support for the College. We really do value our partnership with you, your children and our community. Thank you for engaging with the wide range of parent events, from parent teacher consultations to parent information evenings such as Year 7 Tutor/Parent session, Higher Education for Post 16 students, option evenings, E-safety, to coffee drop-ins and the array of concerts, performances, sports events and awards evenings. We keep you all very busy!

This year, we have been embedding the changes to the curriculum at Key Stage 3, and rolling out the new GCSEs and A levels as they have come on stream. It is as ever a time of great change and high demands on children and staff alike. Together we are definitely rising to the challenge.

Over and above the work going on in the classrooms, it has been a tremendous year with so much on offer for students. The Arts have once again had a phenomenal year with students winning an array of prizes at the CreatEd Exhibition at Falmouth University, showcases of work at CAST, Drama performances at the Minack and the superb College production of Peter Pan, entertaining and moving performances by a huge range of music ensembles, bands and choir.

We have achieved many sporting successes as a College this year. The gymnastics team competed at the National Finals and came third overall, our Year 9 Hockey team won the County tournament and represented Cornwall at the Regional finals. The Inter Girls' Athletics team won the English School Athletics County Championships and represented Cornwall at the Regional Finals in Exeter. The U19 Netball team won the Challenge Cup for the second year, and a number of our Cross Country runners qualified to represent Cornwall at Nottingham in the National Cross Country finals. The Year 10 Football team made it to the final of the County Cup and, for the first time this year, our Post 16 students took part in the Cornwall Sixth Forms Together sport events where we won every competition. We have had another successful year with the Sainsbury School Games, where we received medals for athletics, volleyball and cricket, which resulted in us being placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the medals table overall. We are very proud of all of our students and look forward to celebrating more success next year. We have had 161 students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. There have also been additional clubs, projects, trips and visits from every subject area - far too many to list. It is so important for our students to get involved in the opportunities open to them – they grow as young adults through their participation, learning resilience, team work and gaining a real sense of achievement.

The College remains committed to high standards and tries very hard to maintain them. I would ask that you help us by ensuring your child wears the correct College uniform each day, and brings the right equipment with them. At this time of year, parents often renew their child's uniform. Please ensure that skirts are of the correct length (no more than 2cms above the knee), and that school trousers fall freely from the knee. Parents have commended us on the strong stance we are taking on the uniform, and we want to thank you for your support with this. As always, students have been told that this will be further reinforced in September. We want the students to look smart and confident in their uniform. If you are unsure of the correct uniform, please check the uniform list on the website. Thank you for your support.

It may have seemed a little quiet on the building front but work is happening behind the scenes. We have been having regular meetings with the EFA and Project Management Company. We are still at the feasibility stage, working out how many classrooms we are allowed under the EFA formulas, thinking about where on the site the new build will be located and undertaking environmental surveys. As things become clearer we will keep you in the picture.



Thank you to those of you who have participated in the information and consultation sessions about the plans to become a Multi-Academy Trust. You still have time to respond to the consultation which closes on 15<sup>th</sup> July. If you have not responded and would like to express your views, please do email the Trust administrator [Kteague@parc-eglos.cornwall.sch](mailto:Kteague@parc-eglos.cornwall.sch) stating that you are associated with Helston. She will be collating the responses and forwarding them to governing bodies for their consideration as part of the consultation process. If you missed the meetings, the slides used are available on the College website.

The responses we have received so far, both in the various meetings and by email, are helping to shape the proposed model further. In the light of feedback received so far, the working party is revisiting the proposed governance structure and scheme of delegation to try to achieve a flatter structure with less tiers, whilst maintaining local representation at the trustee committee level. The recommendations will then be considered by governing bodies. Early next term, the draft Scheme of Delegation and the draft Articles of Association documents will be made available to you on the College website (these documents provide a legal framework for the proposed Multi-Academy Trust and explain who will be responsible for what). There will then be a further period of consultation in September. A summary of the views expressed, and the governors' consideration of these, will be published at the close of the consultation period.

One result of us moving forward with the Multi-Academy Trust is that much of my time is spent leading the developments forward on behalf of all the schools. I have taken up the role of interim Chief Executive Officer for the MAT but will still be based at the College. The day to day running of the College will be the remit of Wayne Jenkins who will be Head of College. Paula Martin will be Deputy Head and Dave Dudley joins the Senior Team as Assistant Head Teacher. Siobhan Barnes becomes Head of Progress for Year 8 and Mark Quilter Head of Progress for Year 9.

This summer, we are saying farewell to quite a number of staff, many of whom have worked for the College for many years. Nigel East and Dave Lockwood have begun to see the children of students they taught, and are beginning to worry that the grandchildren might be on the way! We are really grateful to all of these staff for all they have brought to the life of the College and for their commitment to the students: Adrian Allen (Maths); Lesley Billingham (Photography); Clare Brown (Music); Julia Burgan (English); Jen Button (Maths); Dave Cummins (Construction); Nigel East (SLT); John Fitch (Film/Media); Mike Harland (Technology); Helen Hawkins (History); Jeff Kitto (ICT/Computing); Dave Lockwood (PE); Philip Moyle (Construction); Ben Oldfield (Drama); Trevor Smith (Land Based Studies); Alan Thomas (MOTEC) and Francesca Thomas (RE). We also say goodbye to a number of support staff: Ally Atkinson (Driver); Teresa Collins (Catering); David Hall (Grounds); Laura Shepard (Reception); Jen Williams (SEN/Driver); Bianca Wrigglesworth (SEND); Sandy Smith (SEND). I am sure you would join with me in wishing them all the very best in their future plans

The Autumn Term 2016 commences for students in Years 7 - 12 on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am, and for Year 13 students on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am. Staff return on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September for In-Service Training.

I wish you all a very happy and enjoyable summer holiday.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs Donna Bryant**  
Head Teacher