

18th September 2023

Dear parents, carers and families

A very warm welcome back to the new term. It has been a busy and productive first week and a half and I am delighted with the positive start that students have made. It has been a particular pleasure to see all of our new Year 7 students getting to know the school and taking on the challenges and rewards of secondary school life. Please see a number of up-dates below:

Key dates

21st Sept - Year 13 Progress Evening and Year 7 Tutor Evening

26th Sept - Year 7 Porthpean Residential Parent Information Evening

28th Sept - Year 6 Open Evening

3rd Oct - Parent SEND Workshop

10th Oct - Parent Information Evening

Results

While we are still anticipating the confirmation of national progress data by the government, we are confident that this year's GCSE exam results show very impressive progress – it is looking likely that this year's results will show the best overall progress in the last five years. This is especially impressive given that this supersedes results during Covid which were awarded generously across the country. We are so proud of our students and staff for achieving such excellent success.

The Hub & Student Services

We have been working hard over the summer to improve a range of aspects of the school site and organisation. One development I am very excited about is our new pastoral support spaces. The Hub (located at the heart of the site near the school library) is our 'one stop shop' for pastoral support. If students have any need of additional support, there is always a trained member of our pastoral team there to help. Students can access counselling and a range of support services here. Right next door is our new Student Services, where students can get quick and easy support with uniform, timetables, equipment and any aspect of organisation needed to help them succeed every day.

The Bridge

We are very proud of our new Liskeard School Wellbeing hub, The Bridge. This is now the permanent home of our two in-school counsellors, where students in need of additional specialist support and guidance can have one-to-one counselling. We are also working with a range of outside agencies to provide a number of health, wellbeing and mental health services to students here.

Student Leadership

Prioritising student voice is a key aim for the school this year and we have been very busy recruiting students to our new and updated student leadership positions. We have significantly extended the size and scope of our student council and the first meeting of aspiring councillors took place this week. Our Peer Mentors

have been working hard this week to support new Year 7 students as they find their way around school. We are also beginning the selection process for a number of school prefects who will take day to day responsibility for supporting their peers and staff with the smooth running of the school. We are looking forward to announcing more leadership opportunities soon.

I couldn't be prouder of the excellent start that students have made. The school continues to feel exceptionally welcoming, calm and focused on learning. Please feel free to book an appointment for a tour of our wonderful school. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Wendon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan Wendon