



Weekly Update

11.11.24 - 15.11.24

Dear Parent/ Carer,

There has been so much going on this week, I am not sure we can fit it all into one newsletter! The week started with the school community honouring Armistice Day in a moving ceremony of Remembrance - it was wonderful to see our students representing the Forces and watching the falling poppies, as our school observed the two minutes silence. A moving tribute to those who gave so much.

This week we welcomed Mr Rickard from Plympton St Maurice Primary School and Councillor Beer who, along with touring the school and dropping into lessons, got to see the work of our Dance students who were working with the Matthew Bourne Company in developing interpretations of Swan Lake. As always, our students shone and upheld the values of the Academy - they were also really tired by the end of the day! Our visitors also got a chance to speak to our Sixth Form students who are starting to get offers from a range of Universities, including Russell Group, as well as success with Apprenticeship applications.

There is so much more I could tell you about including our House Relaunch, SPARX t-shirts, positive ClassCharts points - but if you don't already, please follow our Facebook page which we are updating more regularly so you can see some of the great work we are doing and also see the information below.

Thanks for your continued support.

Shaun Willis.

Headteacher.



Subject Showcase : English

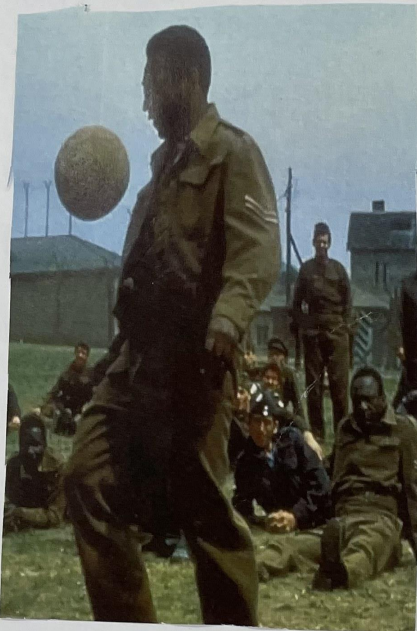
Black History Month

Over half term, students were tasked with researching someone they were interested in for their Black History Month Homework. We had some excellent responses to showcase.

Full Force Friday!

To develop students resilience in extended writing, we have been challenging students to complete independent extended writing on Friday each week. This week's student pick is from Mr Livingstone who was really impressed with Y11 Kiri's resilience, creativity and effort in writing a Dystopian response.

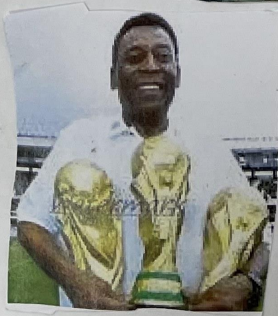
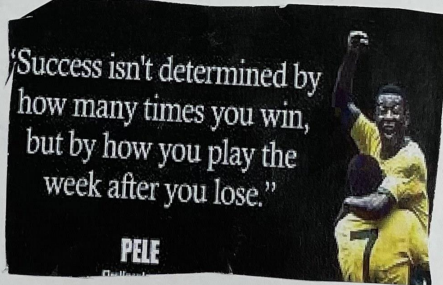
PELE: A sporting icon who made football beautiful. Ada Bryant



Certainly, most commentators regarded him as the finest exponent of the beautiful game. Pele's skill and electrifying speed were coupled with deadly in front of a goal.



He grew up in a relative poverty city of Bauru, and contributed to the family income by getting part-time jobs in local cafes.



Inevitably, he became the youngest player a world cup ~~final~~ goal, putting one past Wales in quarter-finals. In the semi-final, Brazil were leading 2-1 against France when Pele scored a second-half hat-trick to put the match beyond doubt. It seemed he could do no wrong as he stroked two goals past Sweden in the final, as Brazil won 5-2. Pele will be remembered.

Serlina Boyd

Serlina Boyd is the Author and founder of 'Cocoa girl' and 'Cocoa boy' which are the UK's first black Children's magazines.

Serlina created the magazines after daughter got bullied at school, she also wanted to give black children a voice.

Her daughter, Faith, is heavily involved in the magazines to create Positivity within the ethnic community.

She won the 'newcomer award 2020' In the British society of magazine Editors award.



BRITISH AWARDS
SOCIETY OF
MAGAZINE
EDITORS 2020
WINNER 'Launch of the Year'

When 'cocoa girl' launched it sold over 11,000 copies.

The magazines are aimed at 7-11 year old black children to empower them and to give them a voice after Being misrepresented by mainstream Media.

So what will you find in one of her magazines?
You will find information on role models, black history, Fashion trends, competitions and much more.



Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks was a civil rights activist that fought to end segregation. This all started when she organised/caused the Montgomery Bus Boycott after refusing to give up her seat on the bus. This led to her being arrested but people continued to fight for her. Her actions caused multiple civil rights movements. The Montgomery Boycott ended on the 20th of December, 1956 when the city had no choice but to lift the enforcement of segregation on city busses. She still to this day continues to be an important person in history.

Born: Feb 4, 1913

'Memories of our lives,
of our works and our
deeds will continue
in others'
- Rosa Parks

Died: Oct 24, 2005

'She inspires me to fight for what I believe.'

2020-2022 he was named Arsenal's Player of the season

Prior to joining Arsenal Saka played youth for Greenford Celtic

Bukayo SAKA Arsenal

Saka is an English Right Winger he plays for Arsenal in the Premier League and he is in the English national squad.

Saka attended Greenwood School and he has



Saka wears 7 for Arsenal and 17 for England

he got Premier League Player of the Month this October

Saka has spent all his time at Arsenal winning a FA Cup and two FA Community Shields

Saka's full name is Bukayo Ayoyinka Tomilayo Saka born 5 September 2001



growing up Saka's idol was Thierry Henry

Saka is playing in the champions league for Arsenal and is playing next week

He was raised by Nigerian parents and played for Arsenal since 7

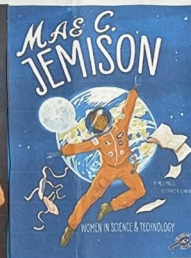
Dr Mae Jemison the first

African American woman astronaut shattered boundaries and reached for the stars despite the challenges she faced throughout her journey. Born in 1956 in Alabama

Jemison developed a fascination with space at an early age. Despite facing discrimination and limited opportunities she pursued her education with determination, earning a degree in chemical engineering from Stanford University, and a medical degree from Cornell University. In 1992 Jemison made history by becoming the first African American woman to travel to space as a crew member on the Space Shuttle Endeavour.

"I like to think of ideas as potential energy. They're really wonderful, but nothing will happen until we risk putting them into action."

Mae C. Jemison
an American Engineer



Year Nine Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Year Nine tutor groups have taken on a Christmas Shoebox Appeal this year and have worked as a group to create presents ready to be sent off anywhere around the world for children who may be less fortunate. Miss Hulcoop has been so impressed by the level of kindness, thoughtfulness and organisation from our Year Nine students this term and wanted to celebrate them widely! Well done Year Nine !



New Adventures Dance Workshops



MATTHEW BOURNE'S

SWAN LAKE

THE NEXT GENERATION







New Adventures Swan Lake Workshop

This week students from Plympton Academy took part in a workshop with professional dancers and company members from Matthew Bourne's *New Adventures*. The session was based on Matthew Bourne's iconic *Swan Lake* and our students really took flight on this project soaring and gliding across the dance studio in the style of contemporary/ballet.

Student quote:

This was an amazing opportunity for us to work with professionals who have been in Swan Lake, to have them at the Academy with us was really special.

-Tilly

In addition:

It was brilliant to see the students being creative in the space. They were hardworking, resilient and represented the Academy so well- Miss Bond

Mrs Jenner Head of Dance at Plympton Academy said:



Providing these opportunities for students to work with industry professionals is so valuable, our young people are able to gain so much knowledge and perspective from experts that help them to gain insight, skill and make connections, these experiences form such important lifelong memories.

Swan Lake Theatre Trip

In addition to the professional workshops the Dance Department organised a theatre trip for students to watch Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake, it was a truly spectacular show, and our students were in awe of the production and the sheer talent of the performers.

Over the course of this academic year the Dance Department will be providing more opportunities, and preparing for the highly anticipated Fusion Dance Platform, we look forward to welcoming members of our community and Parents/carers to this event.

House System Relaunch

<p>PLYMPTON ACADEMY HOUSE SYSTEM RELAUNCH</p> <p><i>'5 HOUSES ONE HOME'</i></p>	<p><i>New House System</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 New houses• Voted for by you!• All voting on Microsoft form/CC• House opening ceremonies (January)• Tutors in Houses
	 <p>7 nominations / 5 houses <i>Deadline Tuesday 19th of November</i></p>

We are excited to announce the relaunch of our House System, a tradition at Plympton Academy that aims to foster a sense of belonging, school spirit, and healthy competition across all year groups. The House System will play a central role in strengthening our school community by bringing students together in ways that encourage personal growth, teamwork, and leadership.

Each House will be named after Plymouth figures that have achieved success both nationally and globally, and students will be placed into one of these Houses at the beginning of the year. House membership will remain with each student throughout their time at Plympton Academy, allowing them to build strong connections with fellow House members across different year levels.

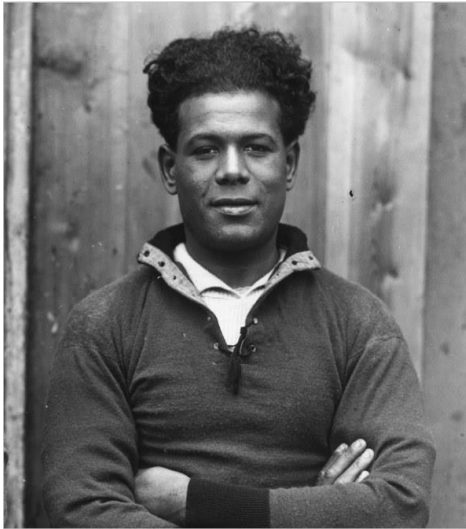
As part of the relaunch of our House System, we are excited to invite parents to take an active role in the selection of 5 House nominations. A letter went home via email on the 12th of November with details of how to cast your vote for one of the following House names.



Dawn French

Dawn French is an actress/writer who was born on 11 October 1957 and attended school/grew up in her home-town Plymouth.

She is known for her creativity, comedic writing and acting, receiving multiple BAFTA nominations, and winning a BAFTA fellowship award. Most notably her role and writing on the famous show Vicar of Dibley.



Jack Leslie

John Francis Leslie (17 August 1901 – 25 November 1988) was an English professional footballer.

Leslie was the only black professional player in England during his time with Plymouth Argyle.

Leslie was invited to play for England; however, this was withdrawn due to the colour of his skin. In the face of this, Jack displayed and in the face of adversity Leslie went on to enjoy 14 seasons at Plymouth Argyle



Tom Daley

Thomas Robert Daley OBE is a retired Olympic diver and was born in Plymouth on the 21st of May.

Daley started diving at the age of seven and is a member of Plymouth Diving Club, where his talent was identified early, and made an impact in national and international competitions from age nine. He represented Great Britain at the 2008 Summer Olympics where he was Britain's youngest competitor, age fourteen, and the youngest from any nation to participate in a final.

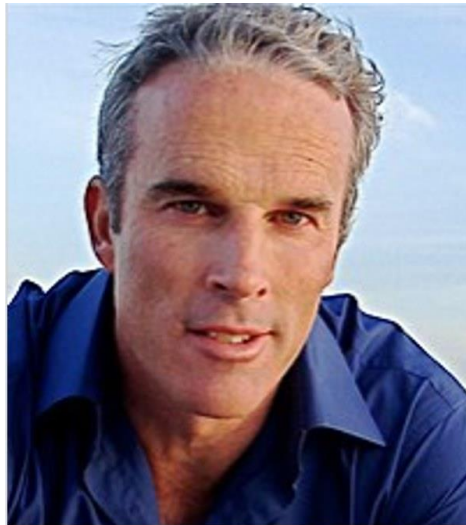
He won gold in 2020 Olympics in the men's synchronized 10-metre platform event and double champion world champion.



Jacquetta Marshall

Jacquetta Marshall OBE born on the 7th of November 1878 – 28 December 1961 was the first female Lord Mayor of Plymouth in 1950–51.

A gold medal in Marshall's name was awarded annually from 1951 to the most outstanding nurse at the Freedom Fields section of the South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Plymouth in acknowledgement of the difficulties of being the first woman to hold any particular office.



Lewis Pugh

Lewis William Gordon Pugh born in Plymouth on the 5th of December 1969. He is a British-South African endurance swimmer and ocean advocate. He is the first person to complete a long-distance swim in every ocean of the world, and he frequently swims in vulnerable ecosystems to draw attention to their plight.

Pugh is known for undertaking the first swim across the North Pole in 2007 with the aim of highlighting the melting of the Arctic sea ice.

In 2010 he swam across a glacial lake on Mount Everest; to draw attention to the melting of the glaciers in the Himalaya.

In 2018 he swam the full length of the English Channel to call for 30% of the world's oceans to be protected by 2030.

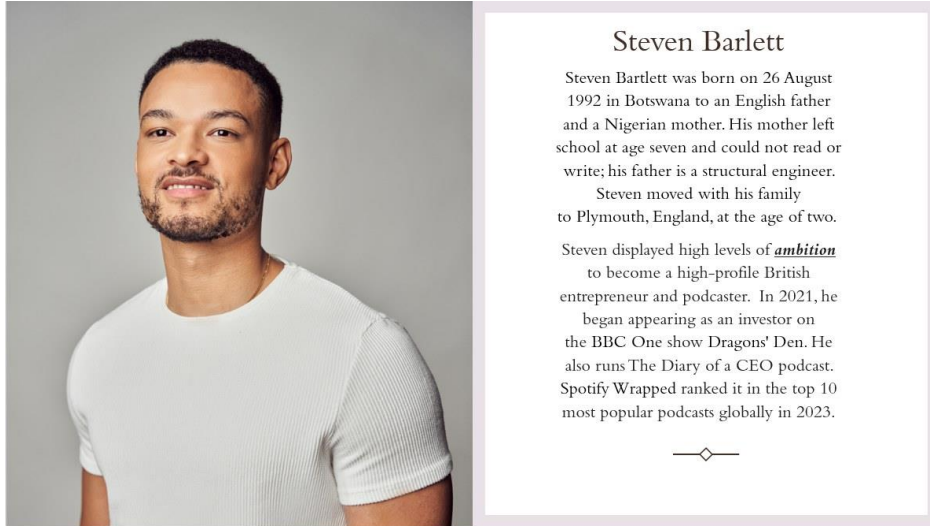


Katie Nesbitt

Kate Louise Nesbitt born 21 April 1988 is a pharmacy technician in the Royal Navy from Plymouth.

Nesbitt was the first female member of the Royal Navy, and the second woman in the British Armed Forces, to be awarded the Military Cross. The award was a result of her actions in Afghanistan in March 2009.

At 21 years old Katie dashed across 75-yards of open land to reach the stricken soldier as bullets ripped up the ground around her. Pinned down by upwards of 150 Taliban fighters, she pressed her fingers against the soldier's neck to stop him bleeding to death.



Sixth Form Stars



This week, we're thrilled to shine the spotlight on our sixth form star Grace! Grace has received a full set of university offers to study Psychology, including offers from Russell Group universities - congratulations, Grace!

The good news doesn't stop there. Across the sixth form, 17 university applications have already been submitted, and the offers have been rolling in spanning a wide range of disciplines. From Law and Diagnostic Radiography to Midwifery, International Relations and Politics, Criminology, and Graphic Design, our students are being recognised for their passion and academic

commitment. Some of the offers are from institutions such as Cardiff, Exeter, Queen Mary, and Southampton, showcasing our students' ambition.

In addition to these offers, several students have been invited to interview for competitive midwifery and primary education courses. We're also excited to see students pursuing degree apprenticeships, with some receiving interview calls from leading employers like Babcock, providing an incredible opportunity to combine work and study.

Jorgie - Street House Champion



Congratulations to Year 8 student Jorgie!

Jorgie brought home some fantastic achievements from the recent Street House Championship in Taunton! She earned 1st place in her duo, a couple of impressive 2nd places, and celebrated her first-ever 1st place in the individual competition!

Well done, Jorgie – Keep up the amazing work!

Sparx Reader Leader Board

Huge congratulations to our Sparx Reader Champions and all our Sparx Gold Readers! You've all done an amazing job – keep up the fantastic work!

	Jasmine	(Jasmine the Memory-maker)	956 SRP
	Isaac	(Isaac the Videophile)	712 SRP
	Marshall	(Marshall the Forerunner)	673 SRP

We are a community – courageous, compassionate and curious about our world.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.