



Weekly Update

18.11.24 - 22.11.24

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am writing this after a very successful Sixth Form Open Evening - it was great to see so many of our own students (and students from other schools) considering their futures and picking their courses. Just a reminder that the deadline for applications is 13th December. If you have any questions, please contact: ian.hartley@plymptonacademy.tsat.uk

*A key area of focus this term has been on **Community**. We are proud to be a community school and want to work with those near us more in the future. You will have seen the many different visits from local Primary Headteachers, Councillors (and MP's in the new year) - these meetings have brought about some very exciting collaborations which I will be able to tell you about soon.*

On Thursday we host our 'Look to the Future Fayre' where we consider different career pathways and options for our students moving forward. This is also an opportunity for Year 9

parents to find out about the 'options process' - please come with any questions you need answering so that we can all work together and help our students with their decisions.

Thank you for your continued messages of support and enjoy this week's update.

Shaun Willis.

Headteacher.



Subject Showcase : PE





Badminton

The U16 team had a fantastic afternoon at DHSB, showcasing great sportsmanship and securing impressive wins against Lipson and Coombe Dean. A brilliant effort and valuable experience for the team!

Football

Our U15s triumphed in the ESFA National Cup 3rd Round, beating Ivybridge 4-1 on penalties after a hard-fought 2-2 draw. Goals from Tyler B and a winning penalty by Owen S sealed the victory. On to the 4th Round vs. Lipson next week!

Netball

Year 10/11 girls shone in their league matches with a win against DHSG, and Elicia (Year 10) earned a Devon County trial! Year 8/9 girls had a strong showing at their county qualifiers, with

an 11-1 win over Lipson and close games against Plymouth College and DHSG. They represented our academy brilliantly!

Well done to all teams for their effort, determination, and success!

Student Showcase : William

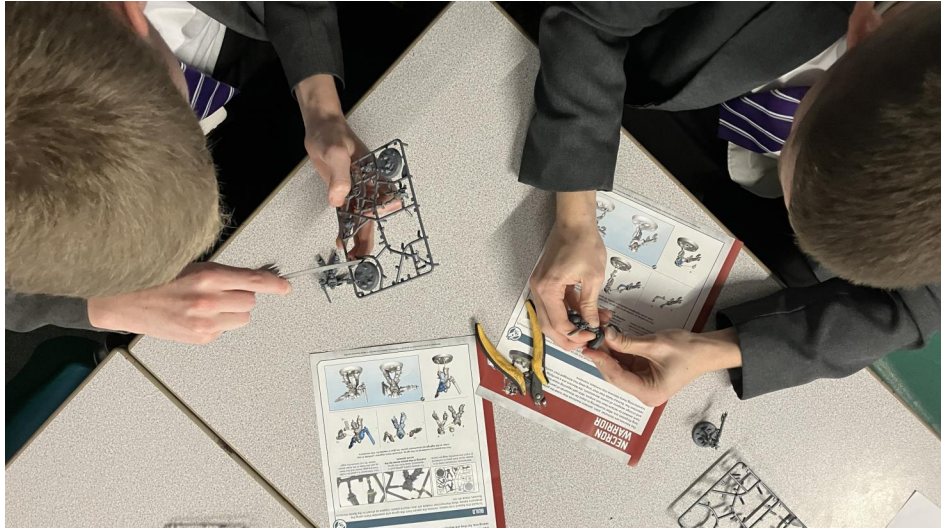
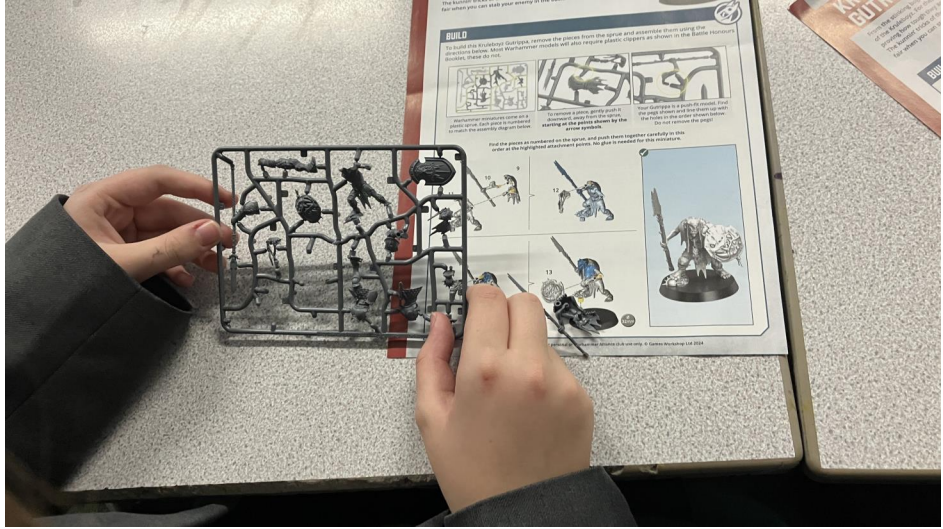


Year 11 Student William achieved an impressive milestone this past weekend by officiating a basketball game for the Plymouth Raiders. This accomplishment followed his successful completion of the Level 2 practical course. Adding a personal touch to the experience, William officiated the game alongside his grandfather, making it a memorable and proud moment for both. Well Done Will.

Warhammer Club

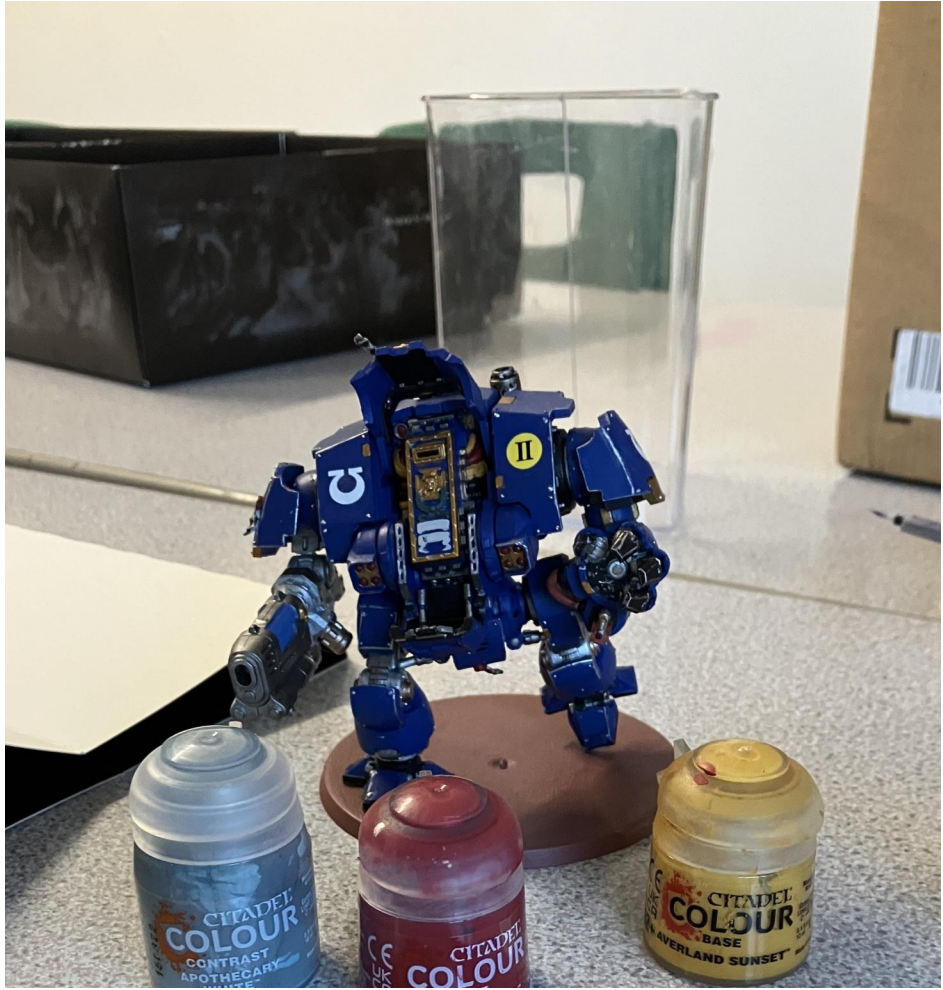
At Plympton Academy, we have a diverse range of extracurricular activities to inspire and engage our students. One of our popular clubs is the Warhammer Club, where creativity, strategy, and teamwork come to life. Students immerse themselves in the world of tabletop gaming, designing intricate models, crafting imaginative battlefields, and engaging in epic campaigns. Take a look at the photos to see some of the amazing creations and adventures they've been a part of—it's a fantastic opportunity for students to develop skills, make friends, and have fun! 🎲🎮











Meet the Houses

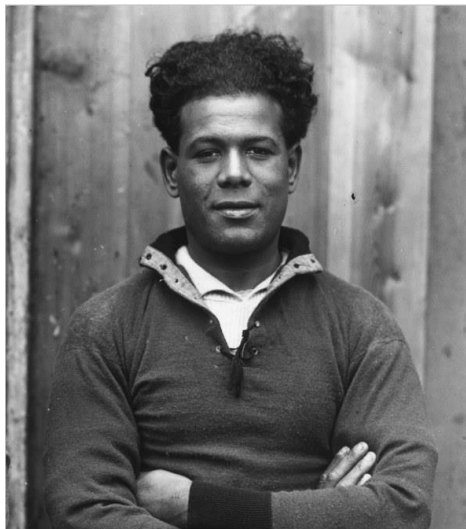
Students and staff cast their votes to decide the names of our new House Teams! After much anticipation and careful tallying, we're thrilled to reveal the winning choices. A big thank you to everyone who participated in the voting process – it's amazing to see such enthusiasm and engagement from the entire school community.



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



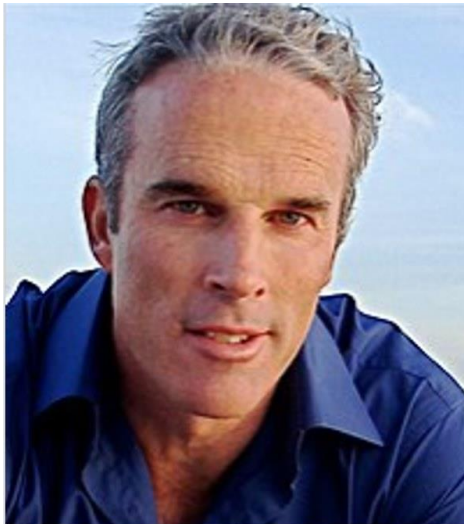


Katie Nesbitt

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.



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.



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.

What's Next?

The excitement doesn't stop here! Coming up we have:

- **House Captains Announcement:** Before the end of term, student leaders will be selected as house captains. These individuals will play a vital role in fostering house pride.
- **Staff Representatives:** A member of staff will also be chosen to represent and support each house, working closely with the House Captains and students in their houses.
- **House Opening Ceremonies:** Kicking off in January, we will be hosting House opening ceremonies.

Pizza Thursdays

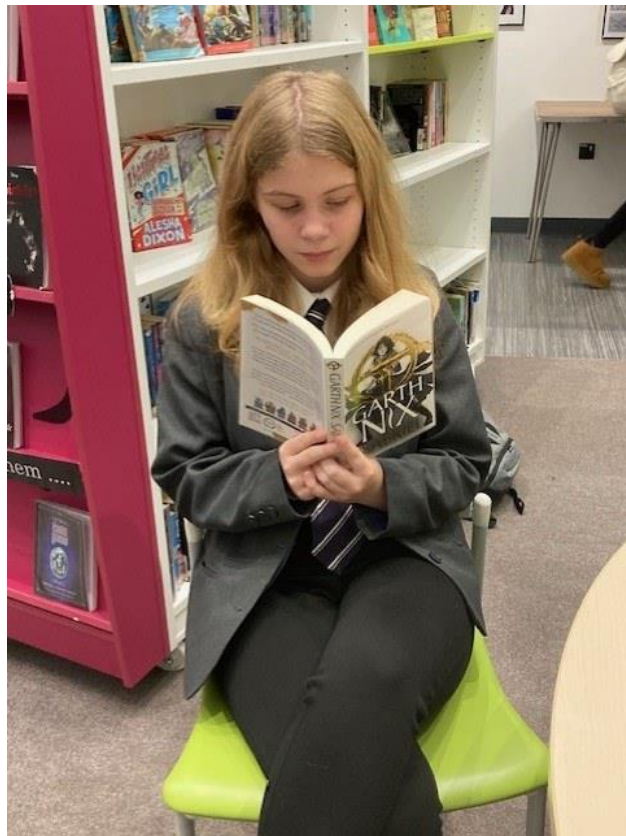
This week, we launched *Pizza Thursday* as part of our exciting student rewards program! Every other Thursday, students will be selected by their class teachers to enjoy a slice of pizza during lunch, celebrating their hard work, achievements, and positive contributions.

We can't wait to see who will join us next time!



The benefits of a good shirt story...







As any parent/guardian knows, children have an expensive habit of growing. That means that the shirt or blazer that fitted last term can suddenly be too small for this one. Thankfully, we have lots of generous parents/guardians who pass on old items of uniform to the school.

Here, our wonderful librarian, Julie McGlinchey, runs our pre-loved uniform shop where it can be bought at a much-reduced price. Not only does this keep the costs down for parents/guardians but the money raised goes towards buying new sets of books for the school.

Research shows that regular reading is fantastic for improving vocabulary, understanding and empathy as well as being great for reducing stress. In other words, the pre-loved uniform is helping to keep our students smart! (In both senses of the word).

Please contact us at preloveduniformshop@plymptonacademy.tsat.uk if you want to donate or buy any pre-loved uniform . Any donations can be passed directly into reception marked for the attention of Julie McGlinchey.

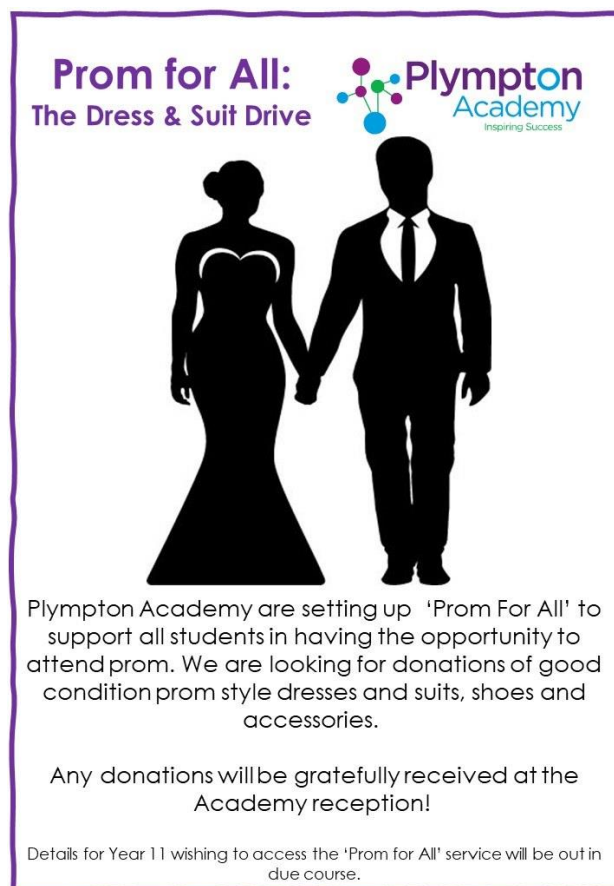
Every School Day Counts



To report an absence, please notify the Academy before 8.30am by calling 0333 360 2220 (selecting option 1) and leave a message detailing your child's full name, year/tutor group and, crucially, a reason for absence. Alternatively, you can email studentabsence@plymptonacademy.org.uk, again with your child's full name, year/tutor group and a reason for absence. **This must be done every day of your child's absence before 8.30am to comply with safeguarding procedures.**

If your child is going to arrive at the Academy late for any reason, please also notify us as soon as possible using the above contact details. Please ensure your child is on site by 8.35am for the beginning of the day and ready to learn.

Prom For All



The poster features the Plympton Academy logo at the top right, which includes a colorful molecular-style icon and the text 'Plympton Academy Inspiring Success'. To the left of the logo, the text reads 'Prom for All: The Dress & Suit Drive'. In the center, there is a black silhouette of a couple in formal attire, with the woman in a long gown and the man in a suit, holding hands. Below the silhouette, the text states: 'Plympton Academy are setting up 'Prom For All' to support all students in having the opportunity to attend prom. We are looking for donations of good condition prom style dresses and suits, shoes and accessories. Any donations will be gratefully received at the Academy reception! Details for Year 11 wishing to access the 'Prom for All' service will be out in due course.'

Upcoming Events and Key Dates

Thursday 28th November

Look to the Future Day - KS3/4

Look to the Future Fayre- Yr9

Thursday 12th December

Yr10 Parents Evening

Thursday 19th December

Carol Concert

Friday 20th December

Students Finish at 12:40

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

We hope you have a lovely weekend.
