



Dear Parents and Carers,

Exams for our GCSE students at The Portsmouth Academy have officially begun and I wanted to take this opportunity to wish our pupils the very best over the coming weeks. Many hours of revision have led to this moment, including additional half term revisions sessions, so I really hope everyone achieves what they need.

Parent Forum this week

The [form to register your attendance at our Parent Forum](#) will close on Tuesday lunchtime. We look forward to welcoming parents into our school for the Parent Forum on Thursday, which will provide us with an opportunity to give further updates on our ongoing school improvements. We will share key updates with all parents via an end of term newsletter.

Five teams from TPA attend regional finals

Today (Monday 13th), we have five amazing teams of students at the Solutions for the Planet Big Ideas regional final. There were 131 submissions from 471 students across 24 schools across the country and we are so pleased for all our teams who have made it this far. They are Air Purity, CCS, Lower Reefs, Nature Heros, and Stay Green for More Trees. Thanks to Tom Ward, Ship Manager at Tarmac, who has been an amazing mentor to our students and for sending [this good luck message](#). It's investment like this that will transform their experiences of the working world, give them role models to aspire to and know that they have the skills, dedication and innovation to change the world for the better.

Summer Uniform

In Term 6 we move to our summer uniform policy. Students will not need to wear their blazer or tie to school, and black tailored shorts may be worn instead of trousers. In periods of extreme hot weather, we will write to parents to inform that students may wear PE kit – this must be the TPA kit and not branded sportswear. Students will be sent home if they are not wearing the correct uniform, and we ask for your support in upholding our expectations.

Gardening club is going well

Week 2 of gardening club has been busy for our students, who have sorted out some of the raised beds, and have planted peas, tomatoes, and started the herb garden with some camomile seeds. They have also planted some flower seeds around the garden for surprise summer blooms to enjoy. The local police joined the gardeners and scattered some seed bombs to help encourage butterfly, bees and other wildlife to enjoy the garden.

Year 10 Mock Exams

We are very proud of Year 10's who completed their mocks last week. This was their first experience of exams in the Sports Hall, which can be very daunting, but they conducted themselves impeccably. Teachers will be busily marking papers in the coming weeks and reports will follow next month.

Y11 Exams

Year 11 started their exams last week. So far, they have been incredible approaching the exams with maturity. Revision workshops have been busy from as early as 7am to as late as 5:30. Weekends have seen classrooms packed with students too. We wish them luck as we move into week 2.

Stories you may have missed

Did you know we upload positive news stories to our website to showcase the best things happening across The Portsmouth Academy? By [clicking here](#), you will be able to see many of the brilliant things taking place across our school that benefits students across all year groups.

Your ongoing support for the work we are doing at The Portsmouth Academy is appreciated and I look forward to bringing more positive updates in our next newsletter on Monday 20th May.

Yours faithfully

Mandy Gage
Director of Culture and Development