

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the beginning of this term, I committed to listen to both positive and constructive feedback to support our improvement journey. I am pleased to say we are hearing from parents, carers, staff and students about their experiences, which are leading to informed decisions about our next steps. Below you will read more about some of those changes, while also being encouraged by some positive news too.

### Complete our Parent Survey

We want to hear from you to help the school on its journey of improvement. The deadline for our Term 6 parent survey has been extended to give as many parents as possible the opportunity to provide feedback about their experience of the school, both positive and constructive. We have already received praise for individual experiences people are having, as well as some useful, constructive feedback. [Complete the survey here.](#)

### Students respond well to 'Arrive in 5' launch

We are tackling the challenges we have with a small minority of students who spend time out of lessons without permission from a member of staff. Last week, we launched 'Arrive in 5'. This means that all students are expected to arrive to their next lesson within 5 minutes to get the best out of their in-class learning. This has been well received by the majority of students. If a student either leaves their lesson for an unauthorised reason, makes the decision to not attend their timetabled lesson, or the student does not 'arrive in 5' to a lesson, staff follow the new process which you can [read about here.](#)

### Careers and Aspirations Week Success

Year 10 students have now completed their second week of work experience. The second week started with the students attending a series of workshops at school to learn about future career paths and apprenticeships. The students had presentations from Portsmouth City Council, the Army, Channel 4 and the University of Portsmouth as well as participating in team building exercises on the sports field. The second half of the week saw students visiting the University of Portsmouth, Havant and South Downs College and Portsmouth College to gain first-hand experience of further education. The work experience fortnight has given the students a broad and comprehensive view of the world of work after they leave school and we hope it has inspired them to start planning for future success.



### Thank a Superhero

Saying 'thank you' to someone for something they have done really does have a positive impact. On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>, The Portsmouth Academy leadership came together to thank our teachers and support staff for the fantastic work they do to support your child. We brought our staff some doughnuts to enjoy, while also sharing a hamper kindly gifted by Teach Portsmouth as part of their Thank a Superhero initiative. Congratulations to Mr Andrews, Ms Traut, Ms Fairley, Ms Andrews, Mrs Williams, Miss Kendell and Ms Blackmore for their special recognition in the 'Thank a School Superhero' awards across the city too.





### Parent Coffee Morning

As shared at the Term 5 Parent Forum, we promised to launch a series of parent coffee mornings to provide those in attendance with the chance to see the school in action. Last week's coffee event presented some key updates to parents about improvements that are already being made across areas of the school. Thank you for your ongoing support.



### Showcasing the best of our one:one laptop device scheme

Last week, pupils from Year 7, 8, and 9 worked collaboratively with Mr Batten, Ms Bellazrak and Mr Poole on recording a video which will be made to help us further educate parents and the wider community about the benefits of our one:one laptop device scheme. We are a proud Microsoft Showcase School, driven to close the digital divide in Portsmouth by giving essential lifelong skills to our young people, so we are looking forward to sharing that with you. Well done to everyone involved and representing TPA brilliantly.



Your next newsletter will be on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Smith  
Executive Principal & Regional Director (South)