

Dear Parents and Carers,

There is plenty happening across the school as we approach the summer break, including key milestones for both our school leavers and new joiners, as well as some insight into the good work happening across our year groups. Enjoy your read of this newsletter.

#### **Good luck to our Class of 2024**

Recently, our Year 11s returned to school for one final time as a year group for their leavers' breakfast. Hosted by Mr Smith, Head of Year 11, the students enjoyed breakfast sandwiches, signed each other's shirts, and watched a video with farewell messages from school staff. The mood was celebratory, with the GCSEs now finished, as the students bid farewell to their time at secondary school. And of course, it was a chance to see all their friends, tutors and teachers in one place before everyone goes their separate ways.



#### **Staff recognised in ['Thank a Superhero'](#) initiative**

Congratulations to some members of our staff who have been recognised for their contribution to Transform Life Chances within the 'Thank a Superhero' citywide initiative. The recognition, led by Teach Portsmouth in collaboration with Portsmouth City Council, launched to honour the incredible achievements of school staff.



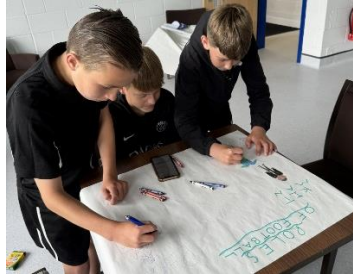
#### **Listening to the voices of our food and nutrition students**

At The Portsmouth Academy, we value our pupils' opinions to help improve our school menu. Food and nutrition students recently gave feedback to Chartwells, our school catering provider, about new items soon to appear on our menu. They made comments about texture, spice, and colour to help our catering team deliver a balanced and tasty menu for many to enjoy. Good work, team! We are proud of you for representing The Portsmouth Academy.



#### **Exploring careers in football**

Football enthusiastic boys from Year 7 and Year 9 attended a career in football workshop last week, led by Pompey in the Community. The workshop gave everyone the chance to look behind the scenes of football to explore careers available too. It was an important reminder that whilst you have a passion for playing football, you can also work within the industry too. Everyone participated extremely well and engaged in all activities.



#### Transition day success

Our Year 6 transition days were a huge success. Our school community enjoyed welcoming pupils from schools across the city to The Portsmouth Academy for their transition, which provides an opportunity to meet some new friends, be welcomed by teachers, and get a taste of secondary school life. The two days were filled with team building activities, creative tasks and challenges to encourage independent working. Our theme was based on the Olympics with a focus on camaraderie and working together as a community, including learning about 'The TPA Way'. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7s in September.



#### Collating results from our parent survey

The results are in from our parent survey. Thank you to more than 100 of you who have provided feedback about your experience of the school. There has been a balance of positive and constructive feedback, which we will use to strengthen the good work we are doing and also support with our School Improvement Plan. From hearing testimonials about thriving students to recommendations about improving how we communicate, our leadership team will be reviewing these and coming back to you with key actions influenced by what you said.

#### Summer holiday tips from the Naval Children's Charity

With the summer holidays approaching, the Naval Children's Charity have shared some challenges and tips for parents and carers who have to juggle work, life and all the practical challenges the six-week holiday presents. [Read them here.](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support with the work we are doing to continually improve the school to ensure everyone has a positive experience of The Portsmouth Academy.

Yours faithfully,

Michelle Smith  
Executive Principal and Regional Director (South)