

Dear Parents

It's "onwards and upwards" for Focus School Plymouth Campus. This expression can be defined as "...becoming increasingly successful; continuing to advance and make progress." In my opinion this is the case with our wonderful school. The partnership between home and school, the excellent relationships that exist within school have helped make this a school to be proud of. Yet, no-one is resting back on our laurels. Everyone is working to a common goal – we want this school to be the best it can possibly be and we are making great strides to achieve this. Our efforts have been noted by our Regional Principal (Mrs Bradbury) who spent two days at our school carrying out a review which was very useful. In time, our judgements and hers will be confirmed by the SIS Inspection team and we will be acknowledged as being an outstanding school. That is the goal we are all striving for.

I am pleased with the academic culture which is growing within the school where there is a 'can-do' attitude and a general acceptance by the students that it is cool to be smart, hard-working, determined to do one's best, and willing to aim high and not settle for second-best. We are rapidly developing a culture where success is celebrated at all levels. This is tremendous news and it bodes well for the future of our school. Indeed, there is so much positive energy within the school that we have made the decision to hold this year's Prize-Giving ceremony at a more suitable venue.

Our Prize-Giving ceremony will now be held at the Plymouth Guildhall on Thursday 9th November (1-3pm) and we hope everyone can come along and enjoy the celebrations. The main hall can accommodate 400 people and so it would be a great opportunity for the whole community to gather and recognise the achievements of our students. Mr Jeff Keam has arranged for a Guest Speaker to join us, and our Regional Principal (Mrs Bradbury) will be there too. The venue will mean that refreshments can be provided outside of the main hall. It promises to be a very special occasion and I do hope you can come.

There is also a 'buzz' around the school because of past and upcoming football and hockey fixtures. On Thursday 19th October our First XI football team played against the former students in a hard-fought match, with the school team winning 5-1. Next week the football squad will be travelling to the Wilton Campus for a match and they will be joined by our girls' hockey team (Friday 10th November).

Please note the following dates in your diaries: -

School closes at the end of the Autumn Term on Tuesday 19th December 2017 and students return on Thursday 4th January 2018. Staff return for an INSET day on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.

M P Kerridge

Oct. '17