



St Edward's School

Unity - Achievement - Faith

4th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the new Academic year, structures that I have mentioned in previous communications are now in place, and I welcome Mr Barnett as Headteacher, whilst I undertake the role of Executive Headteacher, working with both St Edward's, and two schools in Plymouth. As Deputy Headteacher, Mr Hurley will now undertake many of the tasks that Mr Barnett formerly undertook. We have a range of new colleagues joining us in different roles, and Mr Barnett will introduce them to you shortly.

We were informed during the summer break that one of our TAs, Rosie Cork, died suddenly. Rosie was a much-loved member of her SEND team, and will be much missed by staff and students alike. Members of our school community attended her funeral last Friday. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Our examination results this summer showed exceptional outcomes for many of our students, and I would like to thank them, and our staff, for the successes that they enjoyed. Our analysis of outcomes has clearly revealed the negative impact caused by students whose attendance at school has not been high. For this reason, as the impact of the pandemic on missed-learning continues to manifest itself, I ask you to do your very best to ensure that your child is in school every day, and sets aside regular time for home-learning. We are preparing our children for an uncertain future, and it is imperative that we work hard together to give them the best opportunities in their lives ahead.

We will be celebrating our 60th Anniversary this Friday, and will be joined by former headteachers, staff, and students of our school. As I contemplate all that is happening in education in our country, I am so grateful to those who began the school that we now celebrate; to those who initiated a vision of a holistic approach to education, and for opening partnerships between churches so that a model of Christian education could be built together. Navigating a future where the concept of truth stands challenged, where the environment is in jeopardy, and where the human story is so greatly at risk, requires schools to do more than fill heads with knowledge. The formation of a compassionate human person, the space to know who we are, and the inculcation of values, has never been more urgent. St Edward's positions itself to secure both human formation and academic success.

I look forward to seeing you in the terms ahead, and ask for your support and encouragement for all colleagues stepping into their new roles.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Antram
Executive Headteacher

