



26 May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It is time for me to say goodbye as I complete my last week at Helston Community College. I have attended final assemblies with students and packed up my office. I have received some amazing cards from students that I will keep and cherish, plus a signed rugby ball.

I was appointed as a teacher by Dennis Johnson in 1997 and since then approximately 7500 students have passed through Helston Community College. Goodness knows how many science lessons I have taught, but I continue to love my subject and hope that I have inspired others to do the same.

I have found teaching to be a challenging but highly rewarding profession. I do not believe it is something that can ever be perfected because every student is unique, with differing abilities, knowledge, skills and needs. However, when staff, students and parents/carers work together, amazing successes can be achieved, this I am certain of having witnessed it time and time again during my 32 years of teaching.

My final tips to students, based on my personal life experiences were:

- Do not let your background define you or your future. Think big!
- Believe in yourself and commit to your goals.
- Be willing to listen and learn from others who can help you succeed.
- Develop a good set of core values.
- Make the most of opportunities and do not be put off by failure.
- Cultivate positive relationships – set up a support system.
- Be willing to work hard, but also look after your health.

I am optimistic for the College. We are in a stronger position financially and have been able to increase staffing capacity for September. The extra-curricular opportunities and trips and visits, which enrich the curriculum are increasing rapidly. There is also a new student leadership programme in development, which has been launched to students in recent weeks. There are so many opportunities for students to develop as a person beyond the academic curriculum and play a full part in the College and wider community.

We are catching up with development plans following delays caused by the pandemic. School improvement activities are currently taking place with the support of Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust, and we are working with the Ted Wragg Trust as part of a DfE Behaviour Hubs scheme. Staff are certainly not winding down as we move into the final half term.

I will continue to take an interest in the College and follow its progress, as it will always have a dear place in my heart. I am confident that you will demonstrate support and engage positively with Ms Paula Martin, my deputy and interim Headteacher, as she steps up temporarily to the lead the College. In September, a new era will begin under the leadership of Mr Alex Lingard, someone I have known for a long time who has the experience, high standards and values that will enable the College to thrive.

My very best wishes to you all

Yours faithfully

Wayne Jenkins
Headteacher