



# FAMILY NEWSLETTER

@Ellen Tinkham

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020

Dear Families,

This is the last newsletter of what has been quite an extraordinary term. Thank you again for the support you have shown to both the children and staff over the last few months. The positivity of the pupils and their resilience to either returning to school, going out on walks with staff or accessing home learning materials online has been great. I'm sure you will join me in thanking the staff for their hard work during these difficult times.

**September Classes** - You will have received your new class letter this week and know which teacher will be teaching your child from September. If you haven't received your letter, please let us know. We are welcoming new teachers to our team next year - Lizzie Swinford, Danni Alpin-Moore, Danielle Betts, Jack Mizen and Ed Rice. Ably supported by existing staff and teaching assistants within classes, I am sure the new teachers will enjoy teaching your children and being part of the great team we work with.

**Student Leavers** – Today is the last day for our Year 14 leavers at the College. Usually, we hold events in the run up to the end of term to mark the occasion (eg our annual Summer Ball and Leavers' Assembly with family invitations), but today's farewell will be a bit different. I am very proud of these students and all they have achieved, and wish them good luck for the future!

**Staff Leavers** - Today, we are also saying goodbye to some familiar, friendly staff faces. Teachers Richard Hunter and Ellie Pavlaki are leaving this term for new teaching roles elsewhere – good luck! Stuart Heron, the Deputy Head at Ellen Tinkham School is moving to Mayfield School in Torbay to become their new Headteacher. We wish Stuart all the best in this exciting role.

Pam Long, who has taught at the school for over 25 years, is today starting her well-earned retirement. Pam's enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment over the years has been outstanding and we will really miss her presence around school and College. We will be welcoming Pam back into College in the Autumn Term, when it is safe to do so, for the students to say their goodbyes.

Also leaving us this term is Sue Smye. Sue has led our PE Department at Ellen Tinkham for over 23 years and was instrumental in forging links with Stoke Mandeville, as well as accompanying pupils to various off-site sporting festivals and competitions. A few years ago, PE was the focus of a subject Ofsted Inspection and under Sue's guidance, we continued to be an "outstanding" school. Sue will also be missed by everyone and we hope to see her again next term for a visit.

**The Hex** – Our new provision in Dartington opens in September. Katy Bradley, Assistant Head will be on site with teachers Georgie Benjafield from Bidwell Brook and Amber McMenamie from Ellen Tinkham.

**Senior Leaders** – From September, our Senior Leaders based in Exeter will be:

@ Hollow Lane = Nikki Burroughs, Deputy Head and Simon Winward, Assistant Head (shared)

@ Wayside Crescent = Monika Davis, Deputy Head and Simon Winward, Assistant Head (shared)

The school and College officially closes today, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 for the summer break. We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Please check our website at the beginning of September, just in case there are any changes to our re-opening plans due to COVID-19.

Wishing everyone a lovely summer holiday.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqui Warne".

Jacqui Warne - Executive Head