

Executive Principal: Tina Graham
Milton Lane, Dartmouth, Devon, TQ69HW
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Dear Parent/Carer,

Before you read the rest of this newsletter I would like to take the opportunity to write to you for one final time as Principal of Dartmouth Academy. It has been my absolute privilege to lead this wonderful community of pupils, staff and parents for the last 5 years. We have seen the educational opportunity and experiences of the children go from strength to strength and this has happened as a result of incredible effort shown by pupils, an absolute commitment by staff to doing the right thing for children and a deep trust that has grown in parents that we will act in the best interests of your children. I want to thank you for working with us so that this could happen. I will be maintaining a close working relationship with the Academy as Executive Principal and have absolute confidence in the experienced leadership team that will take the Academy to new heights. I could not have wished for a better job in the last 5 years and wish everyone the very best for the future. Have a wonderful summer.

Tina Graham.

Tina Graham

End of Term Newsletter – July 2020

A few months ago, we could not have predicted how the end of 2019-20 would present itself and the new territory we have found ourselves in with the COVID-19 situation and subsequent changes to what school 'looks like'. However, what is always predictable, through the strength of our school community, is that any challenges would be met by what is at the heart of all that we do: 'Be Your Best Self'. The Academy staff, pupils and your families have worked together to be successful in meeting these changes with the compassion and resilience which I have the pleasure to witness daily as part of this school, even despite the personal challenges which this situation has caused for some.

It has been wonderful to hear so frequently of the successes that children have had as they have worked on their remote learning as true scholars, celebrated weekly in the 'Be Your Best Self' bulletin and through the remote learning e-commendations. I am proud to have also heard of so many of our young people working with their families to support others in their community during this time.

Thank you for the support that you have shown to the school over the last few months and for the very many positive messages we have received. As you will appreciate, we are currently working on plans for re-opening schools for September. Our priorities remain to **maximise the effectiveness of teaching and care for our students, whilst safeguarding the health and well-being of everyone on site**. We will aim to write to you with further information before 3rd August 2020.

Although we cannot share, as yet, the details of what our return in September will look like, I know that we will continue to work together to provide the very best for the children in our school and for our wider school community.

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Key Documents

In preparation for returning to school in September, we have sent the following communications home this week and copies of all letters can be found on our website via the link below: <https://www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk/letters>

Behaviour Management policy

Information for pupils' booklet including Social Distancing Policy

Primary permission to collect letter – we will retain contacts we have already received, however, if you wish to change these, please email admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk

New Return Dates

Tuesday 8th September: all Primary and Years 7 and 11 only.

Wednesday 9th September: full return of all year groups.

Staff Changes

We are delighted to welcome the following new staff to Dartmouth Academy in September 2020.

Jasmin Hladkij
PE Teacher



I am a newly qualified teacher, having completed my training at the University of Exeter. Before training to be a teacher I moved to London to study Sport, PE and Development. I love all sports and am a keen rower and coach. Having grown up in the South Hams, I am aware of the great opportunities this area has for young people to participate in sport and physical activity. I cannot wait to start at Dartmouth Academy and share my experience and passion for my subject area with all the pupils.

Ben Cox
Primary Teacher



I am bringing a wide range of experiences to this new stage of my life; working for education intervention charities, managing large scale restaurant operations and developing my practice as a storyteller. I feel like the luckiest teacher in the world to begin my career at Dartmouth Academy. I can't wait to welcome my new class in September and am excited to get to know all of you in the local community. I know I am arriving at a crucial moment for many pupils due to the current situation but together I am sure we will achieve great things.

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We are delighted to share that Sam Quick, who has been working with the school as a PE teacher this academic year, will work across Dartmouth Academy and Kingsbridge Community College for the academic year 2020-21. Mr Quick is well known to pupils and families and we look forward to seeing him contribute to the Academy in a new capacity.

It is also our pleasure to announce the safe arrival of Miss Thompson's baby and send our congratulations to Sam and her family. Sam will now be on Maternity leave.

At the end of this year, we are sad to say that the following staff will be leaving us for pastures new and we would like to wish them all the best for the future. I am sure that you will join me in thanking them for all they have done:

David Wibberley – Deputy Head
Kurt Dettman – Teacher
Nick Schofield – Teacher

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns over safeguarding during the summer, please call the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 155 1071 or, out of hours, 0845 600 0388. The MASH email address is mashsecure@devon.gov.uk. School staff will monitor the central DA Safeguarding email address safeguarding@dartmouthacademy.org.uk as back-up; in an emergency, please call 999.

Online safety information, advice and reporting can be found at <https://www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk/469/online-safety>

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed due to the current difficult situation and you think that you may now be eligible to claim Free School Meals for your child, please click on the links below to find out more information and apply.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/supportforschools/services-and-contacts/free-school-meals>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits>

<https://www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk/categories/benefits>

Even if your child is in Foundation, Year 1 or 2 and therefore in receipt of the Universal Free School Meal programme, you are still able to check your eligibility and register and we recommend that you do so.

Final Message

I am often contacted by parents and members of the community to thank staff for their incredible energy and commitment to our school and its pupils. I wish to echo that and thank all of you who support us in doing the best for your children.

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Finally, we would all like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a wonderful and well-deserved summer holiday. I am delighted that I will be greeting pupils for the new academic year as Head of School and look forward to working with you as we continue to strive for the very best educational experience for all.

If you have any questions relating to the information in this newsletter, please send them to admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk. Emails will be checked weekly over the holidays.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Emily Simpson-Horne'.

Emily Simpson-Horne
Head of School