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Respect, Integrity, Self-Discipline, Courage, Gratitude, Empathy

Dear Parents and Carers

With World Book Day taking place on Thursday, this week was always going to be special. Over the last two years, I have been regularly asked by our secondary pupils if they could join in with the World Book Day celebrations and this year we agreed! We had a vast array of characters represented and it was a lovely day. It was finished with a preloved book sale led by our PTFA, which coincided with our year 8 parents evening. Thank you to those families that donated, there were hundreds of excellent books to choose from. Teachers got involved in dressing up too, and if you saw some of our primary colleagues, you may have noticed Thing 1 and Thing 2, Professor McGonagall, Willie Wonka and our key stage 1 and EYFS team were the entire cast of the Three Little Pigs!

We have been busy interviewing for new posts this week and we have made some fantastic appointments to expand both our maths and science teams. We will share more details of our successful candidates in the coming weeks.

Following your recent feedback, we completed a full survey of the school toilets to ensure all locks are functioning. I have asked our site team to complete daily checks to ensure that maintenance of key areas of the school is of good quality. We have also been regularly meeting with the Head Office of our cleaning contractors to ensure a better level of cleaning, and Mr Hagan-Vaughan reports any concerns directly. Thank you for your points raised in these areas.

Within other areas of feedback we received this week, some parents have mentioned that secondary pupils timetables need to be replaced. We will look to reprint next week. We are also working with Arbor to try and make certain points clearer for you as parents to support your children in school, and visibility of timetables is one area we are discussing. We also want to promote the 6 school values more and one way we want to do this is to update how all of our reward points are communicated to pupils and parents. Pupils will now get a reward point that is linked directly to one of our values, and this will be visible to you through the app and shared through text or email. Our values are:

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We recently conducted a pupil survey around behaviour, following some comments from parents. We have done a lot of work with teachers to improve consistency of expectations, along with working to build good

relationships to help pupils feel valued in school. We are working to increase restorative practice and ensure that we can rebuild relationships to support better opportunities for learning.

Next week we have our Governors Improvement Board meeting on Monday, which is an in-depth look at the school and evaluation of our progress. Following this, there is our Year 11 parents drop in to review the recent exams. We have a further Parents Evening for our Year 9 cohort on Thursday from 16:00 – 17:00, and this will give a fantastic opportunity to discuss which GCSE courses to take as part of the options process. Some pupil voice has asked that the current Year 11s discuss with the Year 9s how the courses have been to study, so that the learning experience is even clearer.

Yet again, our 10 Tors Team are training this weekend, and the testing conditions of Dartmoor this Saturday will prove a good challenge for our senior teams.

If you would like to share any points or feedback with the school, please continue to complete our form via the website. We are looking into all areas we can improve, and we have been delighted to work with parents and pupils on issues raised.

[Parent Feedback Form](#)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Arnold', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Phil Arnold
Headteacher