HT Update Friday 28/6/24

Dear pupils, staff and parents/carers,

Prizegiving

* We held our annual Prizegiving speech last night. It was a wonderful event to recognise the academic and community based achievements of our young people.
* As well as the superb musical introduction from Rowan Steele and Fin Price, we enjoyed superb speeches from outgoing Head Team member Charlie Frankin-White and our guest speaker and former pupil Colin Kaljee.
* Charlie delivered a fantastic address about how his experiences at PHS have helped him set and achieve his goals and how grateful he and his fellow S6 were grateful for everything the staff have done for them.
* At the age of 25, Colin is the Briefing Officer in the No.10 Research & Information Unit following a 1st Class Honours Degree from Cambridge. Colin’s final words are a great message for all of us:-
* “I’d like to talk about kindness. It doesn’t sound like something that helps you achieve goals or become successful, but it does. I was here as a student only seven years ago, but I already know that my number one regret is that I was not kinder to myself. We unfortunately do live in a society where social media constantly encourages us to question our own value, to be unkind to ourselves and our friends, and to reduce the source of our own self confidence down to likes, views and followers.”
* “Value your own achievements - the reason you are here today. Don’t dismiss them, or devalue them in comparison to the achievements of others. To put it in the most grandiose style possible - *you are the only person qualified to judge yourself, so do so kindly.* Because people who are kind to themselves, are confident. And confident people are successful people.”
* “In summary – ambition, determination, resilience, independence – these are the qualities that got you into this room, and which will serve you best outside it. When facing a challenge, remember that you are the only person who can set limits for yourself. Remember that at least one person in any room should have your back – so back yourself.”

Thank you to our whole school community for everything you all do for our school community. I hope everyone has a nice summer holiday. We will see everyone on Wednesday 14th August and good luck to our seniors on Tuesday 6th August.

Yours faithfully,

Kevin Ryalls

Headteacher