



TOP TIP: We have added a number of tutorial videos to our Remote Learning Portal - [here](#). Please let us know if there are others that you would like us to produce.

**COVID-19 Weekly Newsletter
 For Parents, Carers and Students
 5 February 2021**

Wayne Jenkins - Headteacher

Headlines

Thank you for supporting your children through this difficult time. It is not easy having to juggle home learning alongside so many other personal and potential challenges, and the encouragement you give them to keep going is so important.

Approximately 120 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 shared examples of their best work with me last week and it took quite some time to reply to all of them, but it was lovely to be able to interact directly. We had a virtual prize draw on Tuesday and 8 gift vouchers were awarded. This week it is the turn of Years 10 and 11, so I am expecting great things! Please encourage your child to share their work with me.

It is always helpful to receive feedback from you so that we know what is going well with our online learning provision and what can be improved. If you haven't already done so, I would be grateful if you could complete this quick survey. I am hopeful that we only have a few more weeks left of this before we can get students safely back into College.

<https://forms.gle/BeHacWdwcrU2vEb7>

We are conscious that it is important to consult with parents and carers on various policies. In this respect we would welcome feedback from parents and carers on our new 'Anti-Bullying' Policy: [Policy Link](#). Please email our Inclusion Manager, Miss Dalton, at ndalton@helston.cornwall.sch.uk with your views.

A link to the keyworker and vulnerable student provision booking form is sent out by email and/or text each Wednesday. **I must reiterate that it is essential that you complete the form by 1pm each Friday**, so that we can organise our staffing for the following week. Numbers have crept up to 180 students, which I believe is one of the highest in the County for secondary schools.

Paula Martin – Deputy Headteacher

Options

We are pleased to announce the launch of this year's Y9 Options. It is a very important time for our Y9 students as they are about to choose the option subjects they would like to study In Years 10 and 11. All Y9 parents and carers should have received a letter via email. In addition there is detailed information on the College website. Our virtual Options Evening will, this year, consist of Google Classrooms, which will contain subject information, and live Google Meets between families and teachers.



Dave Dudley – Assistant Headteacher

IT

Inviting parents as guardians to Google Classrooms - if you would like to see summaries of the work set and whether it has been handed in, the College can invite you as a guardian to your son or daughter’s Google Classroom. Please find more information here: [Inviting parents as guardians to Google Classrooms](#). Please contact the relevant Pupil Support Assistant if you would like this facility. We will then arrange for an invitation to be sent from Google Classroom to enable you to sign up. If you do not receive an invitation within a couple of days of your request, please check your spam folder. Otherwise, contact the College again and request that we send another invitation.

Post 16

Yesterday, on 4 February 2021, the Post 16 team started to interview all the Year 11 students remotely. This is a chance to discuss their ambitions, aspirations and their Post 16 Options. Letters have been sent to parents directly, however, if you need more information please contact Mrs Jane Rowe (JRowe@helston.cornwall.sch.uk).

The Post 16 team would like to congratulate all those students who are working hard remotely and keeping up to date. All of the students would have had a phone call from their tutor or a member of the Post 16 team, but if students or parents would like to get in touch please call 01326 575022 and we will call you back!

Eugene McFadden – Assistant Headteacher

Remote Learning Provision

Thank you for all the support you are giving your children in accessing the online provision.

Thank you also for your feedback from the parental survey form, we are using this to further refine our provision.

If you have any concerns, queries or praise, please let us know. First port of call should be your child’s year group Pupil Support Assistant (“PSA”), or Champion if they have additional needs.

Key Stage 3

Years 7 and 8 reports have gone home this week via email or post; please check your spam boxes if you have yet to receive your child’s report. If you have any concerns or comments, please contact your child’s Tutor.

We will have a Parent Teacher Consultation Evening for both year groups in March, which will give you a chance to have a virtual meeting with your child’s subject teachers.

Justine Hart – Assistant Headteacher

Free School Meals

Free School Meals vouchers are issued on a weekly basis by Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust, these are sent out via email, or by post if this is not possible. If you have any specific queries please email accounts@southerlypoint.co, providing your child's name. The Government has provided a FAQ document which can be found on the College website [here](#).

Parent/Carer Contact Details

Whilst the majority of students are learning from home, this is an ideal opportunity to scrutinize our data, and ensure that the contact details of your children are correct and up to date. Email addresses are vital to ensure that progress data, reports, letters and handouts are received by you throughout the year. In addition, contact telephone numbers are equally important should we need to contact you in an emergency whilst your child is in our care.

If you have any updates for your contact details, please let us know by contacting the College reception on 01326 572685 or by emailing enquiries@helston.cornwall.sch.uk.



Important Dates

Year 9 - the Year 9 Virtual Options Evening will take place via Google Classrooms and Google Meets on Wednesday 10 February 2021.

Year 11 - remote interviews to discuss Post 16 Options will take place from Thursday 4 February 2021 until Friday 12 February 2021.

Please note that the College will be closed to all year groups during February Half Term, Monday 15 February 2021 until Friday 19 February 2021. In-school provision for the children of keyworkers and for vulnerable students will resume on Monday 22 February 2021.

Nuala Dalton – Inclusion Manager

Student Support

Our class Tutors and year group PSAs have been busy contacting families while we are not in College together. If there is something that you would like some help or advice with, please feel free to contact the school and ask to speak to a PSA and we will do what we can to help. We know some students may prefer to contact outside agencies, here is a list of some local and National organisations:

www.kooth.com is a free, anonymous, confidential, safe, online wellbeing service, offering counselling, information, and forums for children and young people.

WEEKDAYS from 3pm - 9pm.



[Coronavirus - Your Way \(your-way.org.uk\)](http://your-way.org.uk)

Your Way are offering Online Chat weekdays from 3pm - 9pm

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters> offers a range of mental health advice as well as an interactive quiz that is designed to help you feel more in control of your emotional/mental wellbeing.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/> is a children and young people mental health charity that gives help and advice. Young Minds Crisis Messenger Text YM to 85258

<https://penhaligonfriends.org.uk/> A Cornish charity supporting bereaved children & young people.

Other Important Information

Canteen	Our canteen is open to keyworker students attending College, please follow this link for the weekly menu. Students: Main Meal £2.00, Dessert £0.75, Meal deal £2.35.
Library	Due to current Covid restrictions, the HCC Library will provide a click and collect/delivery service to all students. For further information please visit our Library Services on our website. For library log in details; or if you require a particular book please email mlawford@helston.cornwall.sch.uk . For delivery enquiries please email srogers@helston.cornwall.sch.uk .
Trust Executive Leader Newsletter	Please see attached the January Trust Executive Leader Newsletter from the Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust which enables you to share in the work of the Trust this month.