



# The Helstonian

February 2024

HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAGAZINE

*I Belong ... on page 14!*

Helston Community College



**TABLE TOP CRICKET CHAMPIONS ... page 13**



**In this issue:** Student of the Month • Praise Points • Sport • Ready Steady Cook! • Apprenticeships

**ASPIRATION • AMBITION • ACHIEVEMENT**

ISSUE

9



## LETTER FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the College,

We've made it to the half-way point of the academic year and, as ever, the College has been busy putting on a myriad of extra-curricular activities and opportunities. Reading through the articles in this edition of The Helstonian, it is great to see how the staff have been linking brilliant events with careers education. Preparing students for their futures is, of course, one of our main priorities. Talking of extra-curricular activities, working hard behind the scenes are students and staff rehearsing for the upcoming College production of Return to the Forbidden Planet in early March. Tickets go on sale from 19 February, so make sure you don't miss out! May I encourage all students to view again the list of clubs that are taking place this term (included later in the magazine for ease) - we see it time and time again how involvement in such activities broaden students' horizons, build friendships and develop their skills. They are also fun!

I'd like to celebrate the students who have achieved their Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Awards already this year - the number achieving these milestones has been wonderful. Incredibly, we now have 6 students who have reached the 300 mark gaining the prestigious Diamond Award! I'm delighted to say that in relation to the 'PERKS' (Proud, Engaged, Ready, Kind, Safe), the most praise points have been awarded for being engaged in their learning and for being kind.

Developing students' literacy skills, especially their reading is another of our College priorities. I had the joy of covering Ms Wilton's reading session after lunch with 7F last week. In just 15 minutes of reading 'October, October' with the class, I was gripped by the story and the wonderful style of writing. Described as a classic for anyone who longed to be wild, I find myself needing to get

my own copy to find out how the story ends. I hope students are sharing the stories they have been reading with you at home. To help further encourage students to read for pleasure, we have also invested in a great new library system which includes the chance to access audiobooks and e-books for free. Information is included later on in the magazine.

May I end with a huge thanks to all parents and carers for your ongoing support. We're getting some great feedback.

With best wishes,

*Alex Lingard*

Head Teacher

### Student Leader Charity event

**To raise money for a local charity, the Student Leader Team has organised a Jazz band and bake sale.**

**Proceeds from the cake sale will go to the Cornwall Air Ambulance! WOO-HOO!**

- **Date: 14th of March 2024**
- **Venue: South Site canteen**
- **Times: 5:30-6:30**
- **Cakes will be on sale throughout**

*♪♪ We hope to see you there. ♪♪*



# HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PTFA

We are excited to announce the launch of our new Parent, Teacher and Friends Association. Many thanks to the parents and teachers who have joined the PTFA committee already. The PTFA will be organising some great events to help raise funds for the College.

Watch this space for more information.

**Dee Benny - Chair • Hollie Shannon - Treasurer • Ruth Styles - Vice Treasurer  
Sarah Shannon - Secretary**

If you are interested in helping out with any future events, please email: [dbenny@helston.tpacademytrust.org](mailto:dbenny@helston.tpacademytrust.org)

## • IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES •

### EQUIPMENT

We have noticed a number of students not coming to college with the necessary equipment. Please can you use the half term break to ensure your child has at least the following: a pencil case containing a black pen, a green pen, a pencil, a ruler, a pencil sharpener and an eraser.

### PUNCTUALITY

Please remember that the first lesson (tutor time) starts at 8.45am, so students should arrive to College by 8.40am at the latest.

### JUMPERS, HOODIES AND SOCKS

Just a reminder that students are not allowed to wear hoodies to school. Socks must be black and jumpers must be a plain blue v-neck. These jumpers can be worn under the blazer, not instead of a blazer. Jewellery should be kept to 1 pair of stud earrings and 1 nose stud. No rings, bracelets or necklaces are allowed.

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child doesn't currently get FSM, but you think they may be eligible, please follow this [link](#). Not only does your child get a free meal, but the College receives additional funding.

## HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S FUNDRAISER FOR RNLI



To celebrate the RNLI's 200th anniversary, the Head Teacher has set the College a two-day challenge to travel from Godrevy to Porthleven visiting each RNLI station on the way. Staff are taking up the challenge by various modes of transport: swim, or craft (SUP, canoe, kayak etc), run or walk the coastal footpath, or cycle or walk the coastal road.

We hope that students will join in the challenge by completing designated sections of the route. They are also completing an online challenge related to RNLI and living around the coast.

Too many people are still drowning. More than ever we need the RNLI's help. As a charity, the RNLI depends on our donations so it can go on saving lives and keeping us and our loved ones safe.

RNLI lifesavers are our lifeline. They're the lifeboat crews who provide 24-hour search and rescue

right around the UK and Ireland. The lifeguards keeping watch on 240 of the busiest beaches in the UK and Channel Islands. And the RNLI safety teams and educators working tirelessly to stop people getting into trouble in the first place. The challenge is planned to take place in July, just before the end of term. More details to follow nearer the time!



## CAREERS IN ADVENTURE

On Friday 12 January we had the pleasure of welcoming Ian from Vertical Blue in to speak to our Year 9 students to discuss opportunities and careers in adventure.

<https://www.verticalblue.co.uk/>



## OXFORD UNIVERSITY COMPUTING CHALLENGE 2024

On Wednesday 17 January, 20 students from Years 7-9 took part in the Oxford University Computing Challenge 2024 having received an invite following completion, along with all their peers in years 7-9 of the November Bebras challenge. Students did exceptionally well in the November challenge achieving the Gold Certificate: Aaron I, Orla P, Rory Williams Harry Brown, Leo B-R, Alfie R, Charlie N, James W, Skye C, Ella T, Stanley F, Oliver W and Connor C. Best is school certificates also going to Lilia P, Nathan W.



## YEAR 7 DISCO

On Friday 19 January, Year 9 students hosted a disco for Year 7.

This disco was held in aid of Young Minds, a mental health charity aimed at supporting young people and their families.

We are pleased to say that the students raised over £650 for the charity.

Well done Year 9 and a huge thank you to the Year 7 that attended.

## CAREERS IN PHYSIOTHERAPY

On Thursday 18 January some Post 16 students visited Physio Practice Cornwall to learn about a career in Physiotherapy. They participated in practical activities led by Becky Duncan and her team and learned about different pathways that can lead to becoming a physiotherapist.

Students were inspired and fully engaged and several are looking forward to returning to the practice to gain some work experience to further their knowledge and understanding.



## CYBERFIRST GIRLS

CyberFirst Girls Competition which is run by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), to encourage more girls to consider Computer Science as an option at school and a career in cyber security. As we rely more and more on social media, online shopping and online services as part of our everyday lives, we need the right talent in place to protect us from online threats.

The students demonstrated themselves to be able young leaders, problem solvers, communicators and forward-thinkers, in their teams of four girls they took part in the challenges every lunchtime over a week period.

All students taking part were awarded their certificates in assembly on Monday 5 February:

Millie Hibbert, Merry Pascoe, Olivia Billing, Emma Waters, Beibhinn Dunn, Jen Fooks, Millie Walsh-Reading, Eva Wilcos, Angela Mackellar, Sophie Osborne, Isabel Gray, Jessica Burke, Lucy Hatton, Florence Kettleborough, Harriet Foden, Ellie-May Steward, Samara Roberts.

The winning team: Hedy Lemarr with 2118 points were: Elsie Etherington, Emily Burke, Darcy French and Emma Kenyon.



# SPORTS SUCCESS STORIES

## SURFING SUCCESS!

Joel is a keen surfer and has been surfing since he was 7. Recently he's been surfing long hours at our local break in Porthleven and been competing in competitions for the Porthleven Surf Club. In the Clubs recent annual award ceremony, Joel came first in the Juniors Surfing Competition with Jago P second and Arlo P third. Joel was also awarded the "Surfer's Surfer" award by the club members. Well Done Joel!



## ACT OF



A member of the public, Kim Fuller, would like to thank one of our Helston students for their kindness and bravery in helping an elderly woman who fell nearby the College.

Miss Fuller was so impressed by the Helston student who raced to the elderly woman's aid. Unfortunately, she doesn't know the student's name but wanted to pass on her thanks.



If you have had any sporting successes that you would like to share with us, please email your articles to: [enquiries@helston.tpacademytrust.org](mailto:enquiries@helston.tpacademytrust.org)



## MILITARY MUSICAL APPLICATION SUCCESS FOR POST 16 STUDENT

Post 16 student and talented musician, Leighton King has been successful in his application to join the Army as a musician. Leighton took part in a work experience residential at Oakhampton camp back in September organised by Mrs Williams. Following this experience, Leighton realised that the Army and his love of his music could be combined and was encouraged to apply for the Army bursary scheme, where the Army pay all of the university tuition fees if you are playing to an exceptionally high standard.

Leighton then travelled to Sandhurst to sit a formal exam and perform a daunting musical audition in front of a panel of judges who are current serving Army musicians.



Several weeks later, Leighton received the good news that his bursary application had been successful, he clearly blew them away with his musical ability. He will head off to The Royal Birmingham conservatoire in September to study music. Following his music degree he will enlist in the Army as an Officer and the Army will repay all of his university fees. Leighton then commits to a minimum of 4 years' return of service in the Army. Hopefully he will then continue to have a long and successful career. Who knows, he might even play for the King one day.

Post 16 has a successful Military support pathway. If it is something that you aspire to in the future a then get in touch with Natalie Williams in the Post 16 for more information.

[nwilliams@helston.tpacademytrust.org](mailto:nwilliams@helston.tpacademytrust.org)

# APPRENTICESHIP EXPO



On Thursday 25 January, Post 16 held the annual Apprenticeship Expo for Years 11 and 13. We were thrilled to have a wide range of employers available to attend the expo event. The employers were keen to inspire the students by sharing information about the training opportunities within their businesses. The employers offered their time and expertise and complimented staff on the sensible and mature attitude of the students at Helston. The apprenticeships on offer varied from a Level 2 to Degree level, thus enabling all of the students that attended to have potential access to further training. We were also fortunate to have representation from the Army, Navy and RAF who had a steady flow of potential recruits. Many of the students are now better informed on what requirements certain employers would expect in order to be successful if they decide to apply. We were also enormously proud to see several of our College Alumni on the stands representing their employers. The expo was very well attended in the late afternoon

by parents and carers who also had the opportunity to have a look with their children at the Post 16 centre and see what we have on offer and chat with the employers. Many expressing an interest to start all over again. There was a great atmosphere and the feedback has been extremely positive.

We would like to thank the following employers for attending, NHS Treliske, Cormac, Pendennis, Army, Navy, RAF, Cornwall Marine Network, Devon and Cornwall Police, Fugro, B F Adventure, Cornwall County Council, Specsavers, Cornwall College Game Design, Dutchy College, Skern Training and Skills , ASK, Bishop Flemming Accountancy, Realise Training and PALL Aerospace.

If you think that our Apprenticeship Expo would be an advantage to you as a business and that you would like to attend any future events then please contact Mrs Natalie Williams on [nwilliams@helston.tpacademytrust.org](mailto:nwilliams@helston.tpacademytrust.org) to secure a place.





# The Wizard of Oz™



Students from P16 and Years 10 and 11 performed a Christmas Show for the College on the last two days of term. The show was our own version of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The students did so well! We put it together in 8 weeks and showed great confidence, skill and energy performing it 6 times to each year group. A huge thank you to Ms Chapman and Mr Bloor in Art for some super props and costumes, Katie C for super backstage help, Mrs Spink for her support and understudying and to Mr Semmons for excellent tech support as usual with amazing lighting and sound for the 6 performances. Keep an eye out for the next one!



# Ready, Steady, Cook!

The Food Department at Helston Community College were lucky enough to host senior chefs from the Royal Navy on Wednesday 31 January to work with over 60 Year 10 GCSE Food and Nutrition students during professional cooking and careers sessions. During the careers talk, students were shown the fantastic opportunities of working within our armed forces, and especially as a professional and skilled chef. Students were then supported by Royal Navy Chefs in a 'team cook-off' making fish cakes and sticky toffee pudding with caramel sauce.

The students were able to show off the skills they had learnt during their time cooking, and were incredibly well supported by the Royal Navy staff in developing new and existing skills. It was a fierce, but good natured 'cook off'. The chefs were incredibly proud of all students that took part and very impressed with their skills and the team work that was shown, commenting that the cooking "was some of the most impressive they had seen in their visits to secondary schools". A fantastic day was had by all with students incredibly grateful for their visit from the Royal Navy team.



# KRAKOW & BERLIN TRIP 2024



In January, thirty GCSE and A LEVEL History students returned from a trip to Krakow and Berlin. A memorable time was had by all, visiting historical sites like Oscar Schindler's factory and Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, which had a profound impact on everybody. Other highlights included visiting a Jewish restaurant in Krakow and being serenaded by Klezmer musicians, as well as the Olympic Stadium in Berlin, scene of Jesse

Owens exploits in 1936 and the 2006 World Cup Final, a particularly enjoyable day out for some of the boys.

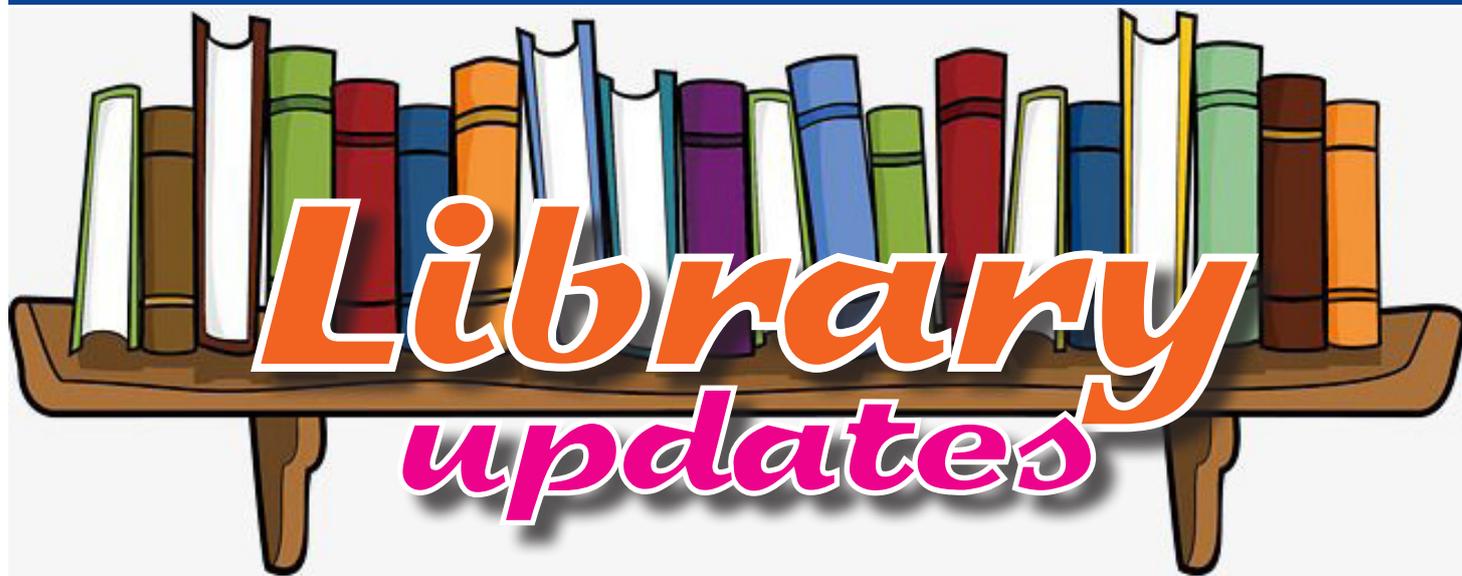
Thanks to the wonderfully funny teachers: Mr Trevithick, Mr Heron and Mrs Hutchings and their comedy fast walking tours of both cities; such a fantastic trip full of laughter, great memories and an epic snowball fight in a Polish park. Thanks also to Tabby Whitehouse for this report.



## ART EXHIBITION

Last month two extremely talented ex-BTEC Art & Design students Willow Scorey and Anya Dunstan put on their second exhibition of young Cornish artists' work since leaving the College in 2022 to pursue creative career paths. This exciting exhibition filled The Old Chapel in Godolphin Cross, where you could view high quality paintings, drawings, films, sculptures and installations from a number of current and ex-HCC students. The pair have plans for more exhibitions and events over the next year, and have been talking to Feast about the possibilities of funding. Here you can see the Bloor family enjoying the brilliant work. We are all very proud!  
Mx S-J Marsden.

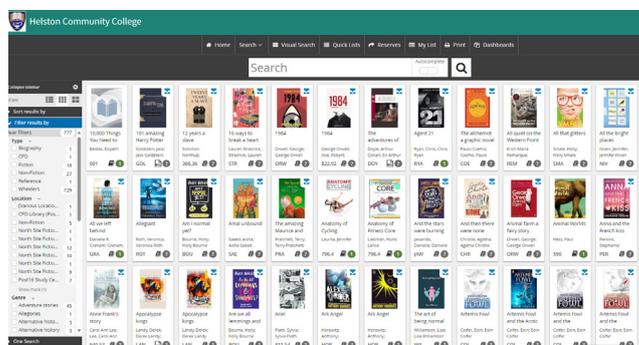




Following the new library web-based system introduced in October, we are pleased to announce we now have a large number of e-Books as well as audio books available for students to borrow. Students can use their school login details to borrow these. Access to the library site can be made via the home page of the College website under quick links.

UPCOMING EVENTS		QUICK LINKS	
JAN 31	3:15pm Y7-10 Boys Football v Truro School	<a href="#">Safeguarding</a>	<a href="#">Report an incident or concern</a>
FEB 1	9:00am Year 7 Netball Tournament	<a href="#">Want to work with us?</a>	<a href="#">HCC Remote Learning Portal</a>
FEB 1	6:00pm Year 9 Options	<a href="#">Book our facilities</a>	<a href="#">Parents' Guide 2023-24</a>
<a href="#">VIEW ALL</a>		<a href="#">Library</a>	

Typing e-Book or audio book into the search bar will list those that are available; alternatively typing the title of a book will give you options for a paper copy or audio/e-Book if available.



Borrowing e-Books can allow the reader to change the background colour/ word spacing as well as font style and size making them accessible to all readers.

### Other options include:

Grammar options: (lines & wand icon)

- Syl-la-bles - Click button to activate. The whole page will break down every word into syllables for easy identification.
- Parts of Speech - Click buttons to view: Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs. Can have all active at once, with options colour coded for easy identification.

### Line Focus: (open book icon)

- Click button to activate. Select option to view 1, 3 or 5 lines at a time.

### Translate: (open book icon)

- Use the drop-down bar to choose a language. Once selected, you can choose to translate a single word or the whole page.
- Click button again to deactivate and default back to English language. You can toggle between English and the Language selected at the top.

We are naturally very excited to be sharing this new development. If you would like further information or a demonstration, please feel free to contact the Librarian.



The Library continues to grow from strength to strength with students utilising every space not only to read but to enjoy some chess!

We have successfully increased the number of books issued each week by 566% and have a large selection of new titles ready to hit the shelves after half term.



We have celebrated Children's Mental Health week with book and wall displays demonstrating what we have on offer to support students.

After half term we will be celebrating LGBT+ History Month with book and wall displays.

Under 'quick links' on the library app will also display books for both LGBT+ titles as well as Wellbeing.



**Watch this space for a new award from the library - Student of the Month.**

**Congratulations** to tutor groups: **7A, 7C, 7D & 7G** for having the most weekly issues so far this term and having the library duck for a week!



## COUNTY SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

Swimmers for the College from Years 7 to 12 have been competing in the 2024 County Swimming Championships over the past two weekends. They have done themselves and the College proud. The results are below:

Swimmers who received qualifying times to swim at Cornwall County Championships 2024 from HCC - Year 7 - Connie, Hal, Archie, Evelyn who swam incredibly well knocking seconds off their entry times. Jude in Year 7 made the finals in Breaststroke. Agnes in Year 7 made 8 finals and came away with 2 second and 2 third place medals. Elsie in Year 10 made 3 finals and came away with 2 third place medals and three Junior Champ medals. Chloe in Year 10 - came home with 11 first place, one 2nd place, and one 3rd all of which gave her junior champ medals. Cassie in Year 12 came away with 3rd in 1500m and a senior champ medal. Tom in Year 12 made 3 finals and came away with a 3rd in 100IM and a senior champ medal. Darcey in Year 12 came home with 2 second place and 2 third place medals all of which gave her senior champ medals.



## LONDON TRIP



On Thursday 1 February, a group of 20 Year 12 and 13 English students set off with Mr Gillman and Mrs. Renyard to visit London. They enjoyed two action packed days, seeing some of the sights and experiencing some fantastic theatre. Some of the highlights included visiting the Tower of London and seeing the Crown Jewels, seeing 'Othello' at the Wanamaker Theatre (which is part of the Globe), attending a drama workshop on the text of Othello with an actor and seeing 'Stranger Things' at the Phoenix theatre. There was also a little time for shopping and a visit to Pizza Express squeezed in there too! The students shared some of their highlights: 'Othello was a brilliant, touching story'.

'The atmosphere of Othello was brilliant and so authentic'.  
'I loved getting to explore the Tower of London'.  
'Stranger Things was incredible - the effects were so good it didn't look real!'.  
'I loved that the Wanamaker Theatre was candlelit'.  
'The Othello workshop was excellent - it was so good to look into the text in a practical way.'  
'I loved the colours at Borough Market'.  
'The tour of the Globe Theatre was so interesting'.

Overall, it was a fantastic trip and everyone felt very lucky to have enjoyed such excellent theatre.



**HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRODUCTION**

This year our musical extravaganza is

# RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET!

**6, 7 & 8 March at 7.00pm**

Return to the Forbidden Planet is a jukebox musical by Bob Carlton based on the 1956 science fiction film Forbidden Planet, which, in turn, is loosely based on Shakespeare's play The Tempest.

The show features a score of 1950s and 1960s rock and roll classics and dialogue largely adapted from well-known passages from Shakespeare.

Often billed as "Shakespeare's forgotten rock and roll masterpiece",

Return to the Forbidden Planet has been performed all over the world since its premiere in London in the 1980s.

It won the Olivier Award for Best New Musical for both 1989 and 1990.

**Tickets will be on sale from Monday 19 February at 2.00pm via this link:**

**<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/helston-community-college>**

*Our last musical, Little Shop of Horrors sold out so make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!*



## LORD'S TAVERENERS TABLE CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIP

HCC travelled to Truro college campus this week and competed in the Cornwall championship for Lord's Tavereners table cricket. Our team of 7 were Isabelle P, Sophia, Nathan, Regan, Leo and Logan R and our team captain Cruz. We were extremely excited from the start to be there with all the other teams hoping to take home the shield. We played first against Hayle A team and won comfortably. We knew we had smashed it but had to win the next to be in the final. Led by captain Cruz we absolutely batted our socks off and fielded with great skill and triumphed in the next game against Curnow.

Tension heightened as we quickly realised the trophy was within our reach. We all knew that if we won the final against Richard Lander we would be competing at Exeter next in the South West league, so we were all nervous, but took up the challenge and hit home so many sixes that we were unstoppable.

A great team spirit was evident in our players encouragement with each other. We were filled with excitement and jubilation.

They kept us in suspense to know if we had won the final battle and would be bringing home the trophy.

We were incredibly proud when they were given the trophy by the chairman of the league. Praise points indeed all round. Well done HCC!



# I Belong Programme

On Tuesday 6 February Mrs Hocking and Ms Martin took an early morning flight from Newquay airport to London Gatwick, train into central London and after a walk around some historic streets and buildings spent the afternoon at the impressive Tata Consultancy Services brand new Pace Port space at 22 Bishopsgate. They were invited to an event which brought together industry, education and government, with a focus on gender imbalance in computer science education - and what we can do to tackle it. VARIOUS high flying, successful women shared their reflections on the females in technology.

Jenny Oldroyd from the Department for Education and Karen Blake from Tech Talent Charter spoke about why initiatives such as 'I Belong' are needed. Mrs Hocking, was then presented (as one of the five pioneering schools invited) with the I Belong programme completion certificate.

Throughout the event there were recurring messages such as the importance of collaboration, creating a sense of belonging, and of advocacy and collaborative alliance - both in education and in industry.

Unfortunately, a mad dash back to Gatwick airport was met with a cancelled flight that resulted in road travel back to Newquay - a long day became even longer. However, it was worth it to advocate the amazing opportunities on offer at Helston Community College that have been in place for many years, and not all of



them are solely aimed at females - many also benefit all our students. Mrs Hocking accepted the award on behalf of the whole team of staff at Helston, it serves to recognise the work put in by the Computing team not only the changes we have made to the curriculum over the last number years; including annual challenges such as Bebras, Apps for Good and Tech She Can but also the extra-curricular enrichment offer the team provide outside of lesson time each year. We were one of the first schools in the county to take up the Lego Challenge, in its original form of EEP Robotics Challenge, back in 2017, GCHQ's CyberFirst Girls, Cyber Explorers, Y7 Coding Success and our close working relationship with TECgirls, Cisco, ServiceNow, IBM, RNAS Culdrose to name a few. Thanks must go to everyone who has supported us in any way, especially taking time out of their working day to do so.

Education doesn't just happen inside the classroom nor only with teachers! We might be a coastal school at the far end of Cornwall but we offer amazing opportunities for all of our students!



## Term-Time Holidays

The Department for Education does not allow Headteachers to grant any leave of absence for children during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please complete the form available on the College website if you believe your circumstances are exceptional. If leave is not authorised and you nevertheless withdraw your child from school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

At Helston Community College we consider 'Good' attendance to be 97% and above. A student with between 90% and 97% is considered to be a regular attender. The Government clarifies less than 90% is 'persistent absence'.

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act.

Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £60 if paid within 21 days or £120 if paid after this but within 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may result in legal action. Absence not authorised by the school may result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court. If found guilty, the parent(s) will receive a criminal conviction.

## ABSENCE – Important Notices for Parents and Carers

If your child is absent from College, please can you call the College every day of their absence before 8.30am. Please leave a message with specific detail as to why they are unable to attend. Please can we also ask you to let us know of any medical/orthodontist appointments in advance. This helps unnecessary phone calls being made.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### February

19 ..... Back to College 8.45am  
 19 ..... Post 16 Mocks start  
 19 ..... Year 11 Second Mocks for Core Subjects start  
 22 ..... Year 7 Parent/Teacher Consultations, 4.30pm start



### March

4 ..... Year 11 Food NEA 2 (Practical Exams) start  
 6 - 8 ..... College Production (South Site Hall)  
 11 ..... Year 10 Assessments start  
 18 ..... Year 9 Assessments start  
 27 ..... Post 16 Parent/Teacher Consultations, 4.30pm start  
 28 ..... Break up for Easter 3.15pm

### April

15 ..... Back to College 8.45am

**2023-24 Term Dates are available to view on the College website.**

# Praise Points



# Leaderboard



## Year 7

Theo C	7B	298
Aaron I	7F	286
Joeli T	7C	251
Polly R	7H	246
Jude N	7D	233
Callum P	7F	227
Thomas H	7C	218
Olivia E	7G	216
Noah H	7B	215
Ollie H	7F	215



## Year 10

Miriam M	10B	176
Emma S	10A	166
Emily M	10C	164
Andrew D	10C	163
Josh B	10D	161
Liv R	10D	151
James P	10G	147
Reggie P	10H	145
Ava J	10C	141
Eva W	10G	136



## Year 8

Aimee B	8H	302
Jen F	8H	300
Lily R	8H	242
Alex H	8F	241
Lexi H	8H	239
Tommy H	8H	236
Archie S	8H	235
Freya G	8H	230
Ruan W	8H	222
Amy J	8H	218



## Year 11

Chloe C	11D	148
Phoebe J	11D	136
Benjamin P	11H	136
Luke P	11F	135
Emily P	11D	125
Jenna P	11G	123
Isabella B	11B	121
Katie C	11G	119
Lucas F	11F	118
Lucy W	11E	117



## Year 9

Isaac A	9D	372
Harley W	9B	312
Lucy A	9H	264
Joe C	9C	263
Anya E	9D	232
Hugo T	9D	222
James B	9C	220
Tamsin M	9A	218
Temera-Jane O	9D	218
Amelie M	9G	218



## Year 12

Liv B	12P9	76
Evie F	12P9	67
Logan H	12P9	50
Ben R	12P9	49
Daniel W	12P9	48
Hattie M	12P9	40
Tom W	12P9	37
James R	12P9	34



## Year 13

Charlie S	13P3	56
Charlotte G	13P4	48
Charlotte B	13P3	43
Millie B	13P3	40
Tabby W	13P5	38
Megan R	13P3	31
Christopher P	13P3	30
Katie C	13P4	30

*Well Done!*

(Praise Points as of 01.02.24)

# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## February

### Year 7

#### Tori K

Tori is one of a number of girls in Year 7 who has shown outstanding effort in PE lessons and a real commitment to extra curricular clubs. Tori also has amazing attendance and is in reaching distance of achieving her Platinum Award. Tori was nominated by Ms Pryor.



### Year 10

#### Miriam M

Miriam was nominated by Ms Spink for her outstanding effort in lessons and commitment to the school production. She was also the first Year 10 to achieve her Gold Award this year and still has 100% attendance!



### Year 8

#### Jacob S

Jacob has been nominated by Ms Hawksworth for his enthusiasm and excellent contributions to class discussion in geography. He also has recently achieved his Platinum Award and has no behaviour points!



### Year 11

#### Rupert C

Rupert is showing huge commitment to his GCSEs, spending half an hour each day before school on French revision. He has also given his time generously to rehearsing and performing in a number of music concerts for the College. Rupert was nominated for Student of the Month by Ms Morbey.



### Year 9

#### Lewis W

Also nominated by Ms Hawksworth, Lewis has demonstrated an excellent application of key geographical terms in his contributions to class discussion. He has perfect attendance and a perfect behaviour record.



### Post 16

#### Charlotte B

Charlotte was nominated by Dr Ryan for all the support she provides to students in KS3 & balancing this with her commitment to her studies. Simply amazing!



# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## Nominations

YEAR 7

Polly	R	7	Outstanding contribution to class discussion in geography.	L Allsey
Ethan	W	7	For his constant kindness and smiley disposition.	S Ford
Ellie	S	7	Outstanding effort in lessons and commitment to extra curricular clubs.	V Pryor
Ella	J	7	Outstanding effort in lessons and commitment to extra curricular clubs.	V Pryor
Evelyn	M	7	Outstanding effort in lessons and commitment to extra curricular clubs.	V Pryor
Arthur	S	7	Continued great effort in Spanish.	S Morbey
Nico	A	7	Improved work and engagement in Spanish.	S Morbey
Bibi	P	7	Improved involvement in French lessons.	S Morbey
George	L	7	For improved punctuality in tutor time.	S Morbey
Evie	D	7	For her consistent hard work in geography.	F Hawsworth
Noah	H	7	For great contributions and focus in Spanish.	A Graham
Isobel	P	7	For excellent effort and participation in French.	A Graham

YEAR 8

Jake	W	8	Continued great effort in French.	S Morbey
Summer	M	8	Continued great effort in Spanish.	S Morbey
Deacon	O	8	Much improved involvement and achievement in Spanish.	S Morbey
Ava	C	8	For consistent hard work and positive attitude in French.	A Graham
Bella	C	8	Fantastic focus in Computing lessons, every lesson completing work to her best ability.	L Hocking
Aston	M	9	Outstanding effort in Geography and brilliant contribution to class discussion.	L Allsey
Felix	P	9	Continued great effort in Spanish.	S Morbey
Tamsin	M	9	Continued great effort in French.	S Morbey
Harley	W	9	For being a quietly conscientious student who gets it right every day and deserves recognition.	E Hawkey

YEAR 9

Cody	A	9	For his changed attitude to learning and effort to make better choices.	E Hawkey
Phoebe	A	9	For being a quietly conscientious student who gets it right every day and deserves recognition.	E Hawkey
Skye	G	9	For consistent hard work and positive attitude in Spanish.	A Graham
Max	A	10	For his outstanding contributions to the practical lesson and for his mature and professional attitude.	

YEAR 10

Elsie	R-M	10	For really getting involved in lessons and striving to do her best.	S Morbey
Max	R	10	For his brilliant contributions to class discussion.	E Hawkey
Morgan	T	10	For his brilliant contributions to class discussion.	E Hawkey
Jacob	T	10	For his brilliant contributions to class discussion.	E Hawkey

YEAR 11

Lucas	F	11	Outstanding effort in Geography and brilliant contribution to class discussion.	L Allsey
Hollie-Mai	H	11	For her outstanding effort in lessons and commitment to English revision.	E Hawkey
Grace	S	11	For her outstanding effort in lessons and commitment to English revision.	E Hawkey
Eleanor	M	11	For her consistent contribution to geography discussion.	F Hawsworth
Lucy	W	11	Unstinting effort and commitment every lesson, when completing her R069 controlled assessment, to produce the best work possible.	L Hocking

YEAR 12

Isaac	G	11	Excellent attitude to R069 controlled assessment - every lesson.	L Hocking
Lily	H	12	The amazing effort & time she puts into all her subjects.	K Ryan
Jake	W	12	For his conscientious approach and progress in Geology.	K Ryan
George	B	12	For his brilliant attitude to learning in geography.	L Allsey
Charlie	S	13	For his unending positivity and friendly nature in lessons and Post 16.	K Ryan
Cary	S	13	For putting in a sterling effort and demonstrating magnificent resilience when completing a host of exams at the beginning of January, two IT and two Business with one of the days having a 3 hour Business exam in the morning followed by Travel and Tourism in the afternoon.	L Hocking

### Head of Year 7

I trust this message finds you well. As we navigate through the middle of the academic year, I wanted to provide you with an update on our Year 7 students' progress and the exciting happenings in our year group.

Academically, our Year 7 students have shown commendable dedication and enthusiasm in their studies. We are closely monitoring their progress, and teachers are available at our upcoming parent-teacher evening in the coming weeks to discuss concerns or questions you may have about your child's academic journey. I read results from a study recently conducted by Oxford University that there are nine minutes in a child's day that have the greatest impact on their mental and emotional wellbeing. The first three minutes after they wake up, the three minutes when they get home from school and last three minutes before they go to sleep. I do hope that you can spend some time each evening asking your children about their day, looking at their Class Charts tasks, discussing Praise Points and planning ahead.

On the social front, friendships have been flourishing, and the students are becoming more integrated into our College community. Our ongoing efforts include fostering a positive and inclusive environment where every student feels valued.

In January we held a Year 7 Disco and I was amazed to hear that the students raised an incredible £650 for our chosen charity, Young Minds. It was certainly the best one that I have run even with the Macarena only getting a 6/10 from me!

Looking ahead, we have planned engaging activities and initiatives to keep the students motivated and focused and have released the latest version of our Enrichment Programme. We also have the return of activities week in July. Please stay connected with us through our social media channels and of course the College website.

If you ever have questions or if there is anything specific, you'd like to discuss about your child's Year 7 experience, please don't hesitate to reach out.

[jdudley@helston.tpacademytrust.org](mailto:jdudley@helston.tpacademytrust.org)

Thank you for continued support.  
Best regards,

**Jack Dudley - Head of Year 7 and Transition**



### Head of Year 8

It doesn't feel like more than a few days ago it was 2023. For such a short half term, it feels like we have achieved a lot since returning in 2024. Year 8 have hit the ground running since their Christmas break. I have been impressed by their renewed sense of enthusiasm and motivation towards their studies. Importantly, I continue to be proud of their attendance as a year group and their dedication to be in every day. At the point of writing this, we are sitting at 93.5% and we have 30 students in the year who have yet to miss a day which is fantastic. As well as this, we are working well on the targets I outlined at the start of the year. These were to close the gap between our attendance and Year 7's (0.2% closer in just a few weeks!) and to reduce our persistently absent (PA) number which we continue to drive towards. The final target was to have a tutor group hit 100% for a whole week, and we narrowly missed out on this when 8E had 100% Mon-Thurs but fell at the last hurdle. Despite this, they did enjoy a small afternoon treat of a hot chocolate! Each day, I get the chance to drop into different lessons

and see the students at work and it is always lovely to see the buzz in the room and listen to the discussions they are having about their learning. I am hoping many of you had the opportunity to catch up with your child's subject teachers at our annual PTC and discuss how your child is doing and how they fared in their most recent assessments. It was great to meet new faces, and catch up with familiar faces during the evening and we have received lots of positive feedback, so thank you for your continued support. If you didn't get the chance to come into College, please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or Mrs Marsh who can point you in the right direction to get feedback on how your child is doing in their individual lessons. As we look forward to the remainder of this term, I am looking forward to continuing positively and striving for more.

**Jamie Lovelock - Head of Year 8**



### Head of Year 9

We are half-way through the academic year already! For our Year 9 students, it has been a busy five weeks. We have continued to celebrate the successes of our students and were pleased to also be able to share these accomplishments with parents and carers at the Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening towards the end of January – a huge thanks to those who attended and gave positive feedback about the evening.

There has been a significant increase in the number of students achieving their Praise Point Awards – most students have now achieved, or are working towards, their Silver and Gold Awards. We have started to award some Platinum and Diamond awards too! This half-term has also seen more trips and visits, including an afternoon at the Hall for Cornwall watching a West End production of 'The Woman in Black', as well as more successes in sporting fixtures.

The launch of the Key Stage 4 Options has caused a buzz of excitement amongst the students – thank you to those of you who attended the evening; I hope you all found it to be helpful and informative. A gentle reminder that the deadline for students to submit their option choices is Friday 23 February.

If you require any support with this, please get in touch. I still feel immensely proud to be working with such a wonderful group of young people. Wishing all the students and their families a well-deserved break.

**Ellis Hawkey - Head of Year 9**



### Head of Year 10

I hope you are all well and looking forward to the half term along with the lighter mornings and longer evenings! In recent assemblies we have highlighted the importance of education and learning on our future opportunities with a guest speaker from Falmouth University. This week we had a reflection assembly on understanding the significance of Holocaust Memorial Day where our Year 11 students spoke very eloquently after their History trip to Germany/Poland earlier in the year. Mr Lingard has also presented on our plans for the New Year and how we are all making good progress since last year.

Please could you continue to support your young person in securing a Work Experience place for w/c 15 July. Well done for those who have already had a placement confirmed and returned the appropriate paperwork. You should have all the necessary work experience paperwork to be able to sign up with a local employer of interest. Please contact us if you need any further support to secure a placement.

As we start the next half-term please could I remind you of the importance of your child(ren)s attendance especially as they are working hard towards their GCSE subjects. We need all students to attend College as much as possible even if this means making it in to start the day and giving it a go! This is especially the case now as the Year 10 students are settled and putting in the hard work now to reap the rewards in 18 months time.

As we move into February the College Drama and Music departments are continuing rehearsals for the College production of 'Return to the Forbidden Planet', school trips are ongoing and the sporting fixtures are in full swing. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students and staff that work so hard putting in extra to enhance the school experience.

Please can you remind your child(ren) to attend every lesson on time as a significant number of behaviour points and sanctions are being awarded for students being consistently late...which means students are missing the vital recap and recall of previous learning and disrupting the learning of others. On the other hand it gives me great pleasure to help celebrate the increasing number of Year 10 students who are achieving their Silver Award by reaching 100 praise points and getting nominated for the students' of the week/month awards. Congratulations to all the recent award winners.

Enjoy your half-term.

With best wishes,

**Terry Richardson - Head of Year 10**



## Head of Year 11

Happy New Year to all the families of students in Year 11. I would like to thank you in advance for all your support with the year group. We know that the best way to help students be comfortable and feeling prepared ready for the exams is for the College and the family to work closely together to guide these wonderful young people through the whole process.

We have started with the after school coaching sessions to help give that extra little bit of guidance and revision help. Parents/carers being there pick up and drop off where necessary is really appreciated by the College and the students (although they might not actually say it!). I would like to congratulate all those who are attending the sessions and making the most of this opportunity. Well done!

As the weeks go by, there are not many now, students might find their normal resilience needing a boost. Please do not hesitate in getting in touch with myself or Mrs Breasley if you are concerned your child needs a chat or guidance or just a pat on the back.

We are very much looking forward to all the celebrations that this school year brings. We have the confirmed date of the 5 July for the Summer Ball. The venue is the Falmouth Hotel. Details will be coming out shortly regarding timings and costings. In addition, I would like to inform you that we have some very pretty vintage Summer Ball dresses and suits for an amazing £20. These are going to be available to be taken home and tried on. A payment of a £10 deposit will be required to take them away and try them out in the comfort of their own homes. The funds raised will go to reducing the cost of the Summer Ball ticket. Below are a couple of examples. Mindful of the level of the cost of living at present, we have been contacted by the Fisherman's Mission in Helston to

remind the students that they have a 'Posh Room' dedicated to beautiful gowns that can be purchased at a very good price. There is not expectation that student needs to wear traditional Ball attire a pretty dress or trousers, shirt and tie will be more than adequate.

Looking back on a very busy start of the year, I would like to thank you for our attendance and positive feedback to the Year 11 parents' evening. Students have clear ideas as to where to go next before the February mocks that start on the week beginning 19 February. We have seen our Historians have an amazing time on the History trip to Krakov and Berlin. I have had some very emotive conversations with students. We were also able to enjoy Charlie's and Blake's assembly about the Holocaust, no doubt inspired by this trip. Fixtures are tapering away in preparation for the start of the exam season but we do have an inter-tutor group dodgeball competition going on to let off some steam. I am sure that Mrs Mugford will be mentioning the Apprenticeship fair that Year 11 were able to attend, giving them the opportunity to make enquiries on alternative routes into careers. They were very happy with the fidget toys and other promotional items! If as a result you require your child to have a further meeting with the Careers advisor then please let me know and I will make arrangements.

I would like to wish you a very peaceful half term. The year group know they need to rest but also to continue revising and preparing for their mocks exams and ultimately the final exams in May.

**Siobhan Barnes - Head of Year 11**



# Enrichment Timetable Spring 2024

The Library is open everyday after school until 3.45pm (3.30pm on Fridays)

Homework Club runs Mon-Thu in Co4 after school until 4.15pm. Chess Club will at lunch for all years - Room/Days TBC

To sign-up to a club, students simply register their interest with the teacher leading it.

## MONDAY

Activity	Year/KS	Time	Venue	Staff
Lego Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	Co1	ABi /RVa
Chill Club	Y7-8	1.00 - 1.35pm	B9	SMn
Year 9 Sports Activities	Y9	1.00 - 1.35pm	Sports Hall	PE Staff
KS3 Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Muga Football	Y10	1.00 - 1.35pm	Muga	PE Staff
Junior Jazz Orchestra	KS3	1.15 - 2.00pm	M2	
Acting Rehearsal - College Production	Cast Only	3.15 - 4.30pm	A29	
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.15pm	Co4	
Rock School	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	M2	
Hockey Training	Y7-8	3.15 - 4.30pm	Muga	PE Staff
Duke of Edinburgh	Bronze Y9	3.00 - 4.30pm	SS Hall	DSe

## TUESDAY

Activity	Year/KS	Time	Venue	Staff
LGBT+	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	Lab12	LHe / SMn
Guitar Ensemble	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	M1	
Muga Football	Y11	1.00 - 1.35pm	Muga	PE Staff
CyberCenturions	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	Co3	LHo
KS3 Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Brass Ensemble	All Years	1.15 - 2.00pm	M1	
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.15pm	Co4	
Singing Rehearsal - College Production	Singing Cast Only	3.15 - 4.30pm	M1	
Duke of Edinburgh	Silver Y10	3.00 - 4.30pm	SS Hall	Mr Semmons
CANSAT Club	Post16	3.15 - 4.30pm	Lab4	
AstroPi Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	Lab4	
Podcasting Club (After half term)	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	A28	Est / DSe
Hockey Training	Y9 - 11	3.15 - 4.30pm	MUGA	PE Staff
Boys Football Training	Y7-10	3.15 - 4.30pm	3G/Fields	PE Staff
Fitness Club	Y8-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	Fitness Suite	PE Staff
All Yr10 & 11 GCSE Art classes	Y10 & Y11	3.25 - 4.30pm	B10	

## WEDNESDAY

Activity	Year/KS	Time	Venue	Staff
Key Stage 3 Choir	Y7-Y9	1.15 - 2.00pm	M1	
History Film Club	All Yrs	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22	
Year 10 Sports Activities	Y10	1.00 - 1.35pm	Sports Hall	PE Staff
Muga Football	Y9	1.00 - 1.35pm	Muga	PE Staff
Chill Club	Y7-8	1.00 - 1.35pm	B9	SMn
KS3 Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.15pm	Co4	
Young Designers	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	DT1	OJo
Dance Rehearsals for production	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	A2	SRI
All Yr10 & 11 GCSE Art classes	Y10 & Y11	3.15 - 4.30pm	B10	
Badminton Club	Y7-8	3.15 - 4.30pm	Sports Hall	PE Staff
RE Exam support	Year 10	3.15 - 4.30pm	A23	ECr
Cross Country/ Running Club	Y7 - 11	3.15 - 4.30pm	Courts/Field	DHa / AWe
Concert Band	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	M1	
KS3 Photography Workshop	KS3	3.30 - 4.30pm	B4	BEI

## THURSDAY

Activity	Year/KS	Time	Venue	Staff
Year 11 Sports Activities	Y11	1.00 - 1.35pm	Sports Hall	PE Staff
Muga Football	Y10	1.00 - 1.35pm	Muga	PE Staff
Coding & Comic Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	CO2	NBu
History Club	Y7-11	1.10 - 1.35pm	A24	CHU, KOA, ECR
Chill Club	Y7-8	1.00 - 1.35pm	B9	SMn
Senior Choir	Yr10-P16	1.00 - 1.35pm	M1	
KS3 Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
A-level Physics Masterclass	Y13	3.20 - 4.30pm	Sc9	NBi
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.15pm	Co4	
KS4 Science Support	KS4	3.15 - 4.30pm	Lab 2 & 3	Science Staff
Jazz Orchestra	Invitation Only	3.15 - 4.30pm	M1	
All Yr10 & 11 GCSE Art classes	Y10 & Y11	3.25 - 4.30pm	B10	
Hockey Fixtures	Y7-11	TBC	Muga	PE Staff
Girls Football Training	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	3G/Fields	PE Staff
Football Fixtures	Y7-11	TBC	3G/Fields	PE Staff

## FRIDAY

Activity	Year/Key Stage	Time	Venue	Staff
Muga Football	Y11	1.00 - 1.35pm	Muga	PE Staff
Sax Ensemble	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	M2	
KS3 Maths Club	Years 7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	Ma4	JVa / RVa
KS3 Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Badminton	Y10, Y11 & P16	3.15 - 4.30pm	Sports Hall	PE Staff
Magistrates Mock Trials	Age 12 - 14 (Selected students only)	3.15 - 4.30pm	A1	MMu

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