The Helstonian

February 2026

HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAGAZINE

SECONDARY DRAMA SHOWCASE - SEE PAGE 6

BENNI'S BRANCH - see page 5

What has HCC's therapy dog been getting up to this term?

ISSUE 21

In this issue: Student of the Month • Library News • Science XP Stars • Peter Pan • Careers • Sporting Achievements • School Streaks

ASPIRATION • AMBITION • ACHIEVEMENT

LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the College

Another half-term passes us by, but this one has been dominated by the weather! Despite the wind and the rain, students have again excelled in so many areas. There were nearly 200 nominations for Student of the Month (see pages 17 to 20), and almost 800 students completed their School Streaks challenge. More and more students have achieved their Gold Awards with some now smashing the 200 barrier to get their Platinum Awards. Not bad when we're only half-way through the year!

We've had two outstanding performances at the Hall for Cornwall to celebrate. Firstly, our amazing jazz orchestra wowed 700 teachers from across Cornwall with their sublime musical skills including the simply divine voice of Miriam McDonagh in Year 12. This was then followed two days later with our GCSE drama students performing their own devised piece retelling the story of Comoran the Giant (see page 6). We can safely say that the creative arts continue to thrive at HCC!

We've also seen some amazing successes in sport this term. Our Year 11 Boys' Football Team are through to the Cornwall Cup Final and our Table Cricket stars are yet again County Champions! There have been lots of individual achievements, too (see page 13 for more detail).

Well done to our exam students for all their ongoing hard work and revision. Year 11 have just sat their second round of mock exams, with Year 13 completing theirs after half-term. The attitude shown by so many of them has really impressed and we look forward to some amazing outcomes in the summer. To help the Year 11s with their preparation we are extending the school day again for them for the next 3 months. I'd also like to mention how articulate the Year 11 students have been when interviewed about their Post 16 choices. The maturity shown by them in relation to their future has been very impressive. It's is also wonderful to hear that so many are applying to stay on with us.

Thank you again for all your support. We look forward to see what the second half of the academic year brings!

Yours faithfully

Alex Lingard

Headteacher

• IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES •

Notice to Parents

Keeping our systems up to date and personal information current we are able to communicate and contact parents/carers quickly and efficiently.

After the half term break the College will be launching the Arbor parent portal. This will mean that primary guardians will be able to check their data and request a change to their own details. 'Watch out' for the notification/email giving clear instructions as to how you can register/log in. In the meantime if your details have changed please let us know by emailing enquiries@helston.tpacademytrust.org.

iPads and Styluses

Many thanks to parents for ensuring students have a stylus to use with their iPads - it really does help in a number of ways. Please remember, we have free styluses available from the library for any student in receipt of free school meals.

Please can you also help remind your child(ren) to charge their iPads each evening so that they are at least 80% each day.

Confiscation of Banned Items

Please may we remind you that if a child brings in a banned item to school, e.g. a vape, it is Trust policy to dispose of the item rather than return it, even to the parent.

Attendance

As you know, good attendance to school makes a huge difference to students' achievements. Recent data from the Department for Education shows that students with 95% attendance or higher (approximately 3 days of absence each term) are **twice as likely** to achieve a strong pass in their English and Maths GCSEs compared to those with less than 90% attendance (approximately 6 days of absence each term).

Term Dates 2026-2027

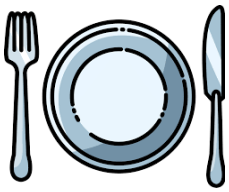
September 1st and 2nd - INSET Days

September 3rd - Students in Y7, Y11 and Y12 return

September 4th - All students back in school

October half-term: Monday 19th October - Friday 30th October

January 4th and 5th – INSET Days



Free School Meals

We are noticing that there are a number of students not coming into the canteen despite being eligible for free school meals. Please be aware that students on free school meals can use some of their allocation at breaktime as well as at lunch. If your child is on free school meals, please can we ask you to encourage them to take advantage of some of the great meals or snacks on offer.

2026 -27 Term Dates

October half-term

INSET Days

Y7, 11 & 12 only

All students

INSET Days

September 2026					
Mon		7	14	21	28
Tue	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thurs	3	10	17	24	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

October 2026					
Mon		5	12	19	26
Tue		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

November 2026					
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thurs		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

December 2026					
Mon		7	14	21	28
Tue	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thurs	3	10	17	24	31
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

January 2027				
Mon	4	11	18	25
Tue	5	12	19	26
Wed	6	13	20	27
Thurs	7	14	21	28
Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	3	10	17	24	31

February 2027				
Mon	1	8	15	22
Tue	2	9	16	23
Wed	3	10	17	24
Thurs	4	11	18	25
Fri	5	12	19	26
Sat	6	13	20	27
Sun	7	14	21	28

March 2027					
Mon	1	8	15	22	29
Tue	2	9	16	23	30
Wed	3	10	17	24	31
Thurs	4	11	18	25	
Fri	5	12	19	26	
Sat	6	13	20	27	
Sun	7	14	21	28	

April 2027					
Mon		5	12	19	26
Tue		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	
Sun	4	11	18	25	

May 2027					
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thurs		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

June 2027					
Mon		7	14	21	28
Tue	1	8	15	22	29
Wed	2	9	16	23	30
Thurs	3	10	17	24	
Fri	4	11	18	25	
Sat	5	12	19	26	
Sun	6	13	20	27	

July 2027					
Mon		5	12	19	26
Tue		6	13	20	27
Wed		7	14	21	28
Thurs	1	8	15	22	29
Fri	2	9	16	23	30
Sat	3	10	17	24	31
Sun	4	11	18	25	

August 2027					
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thurs		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

13th	Year 7 Progress Report
13th	Break-up for half term, 3.15pm
23rd	Back to College, 8.45am
25th	Year 7 Parent/Teacher Consultations (4.00pm start)

MARCH

6th	Year 8 Progress Reports
9th	Year 11 Hair and Beauty Assessments start
12th	Year 8 Parent/Teacher Consultations (4.00pm start)
16th	Year 11 Food Practical Exams start
18-20th	College Production
23rd	Year 11 Photography Exams start
24th	Year 12 Food Exam
25th	Post 16 Progress Report
27th	Year 11 Progress Report
31st	Post 16 Parent/Teacher Consultations (4.00pm start)

APRIL

2nd	Break-up for Easter, 3.15pm
20th	Back to College, 8.45am
30th	Year 10 Parent/Teacher Consultations (4.00pm start)

MAY

4th	May Day
4th	GCSE and A Level Written Exams start
8th	Flora Day
22nd	Break-up for Half Term, 3.15pm

2026-27 Term Dates are available to view on the College website.

SCHOOL STREAKS

School Streaks Success!

School Streaks continues to motivate and enthuse the students with almost 800 students managing to complete their streaks and claim a reward this term. Students have chosen rewards such as attending a silent disco, free stationery, shopping vouchers, prom tickets, skip the queue lunch passes and surprisingly, very popular, tea with the Head!

If you're not yet in the know about School Streaks here's the lowdown...

School Streaks is a piece of software that monitors students' attendance and behaviour to enable students to build up streaks and be rewarded for being in school and working hard. Once students have a certain number of streaks they can select their very own reward. Students will be able to monitor their streaks through an app on their iPads. Other schools who have trialed the software have reported increased motivation and consistency in students.

The school has the power to set its own streaks. For example, 1 streak could be achieved for 5 straight days of attendance with no behaviour points. And a reward could be given for all those achieving 5 streaks in a half-term. One of the great things about School Streaks is that if a streak is broken it resets the next day - it doesn't just work from Monday to Friday. Students can personalise their app on their iPad and use it to see how many days they need to complete a streak as well as using it to choose their reward.

Coming soon - your next Streak Challenge...

We are really excited about the next round of streaks after Christmas and will be launching the reward options when we return in January.

Streaks Are:

- A way to reward consistency
- A way to celebrate progress
- A way to build good habits that last
- A way to motivate you every day
- A way to support your future success

Streaks Are Not:

- A punishment
- About catching you out
- About comparing you unfairly
- Another system to stress you out

PTFA Bingo evening and Raffle Fundraiser

The Tanzania students were set the challenge of securing raffle prizes to help raise funds for their upcoming trip. All 26 students worked hard, approaching local businesses, family, and friends to gather fantastic items.

On Wednesday 11 February, some of the students proudly displayed the prizes at the PTFA bingo night, where they also sold raffle tickets. Thanks to the generous support of Helston staff, the enthusiastic bingo players armed with their dabbers, and Peter Carpenter for calling the numbers, the team raised from the raffle alone an amazing £1,021. A huge well done to the entire Tanzania team!

Students that helped on the night: James, Alfie, Riley, Tom, Melody, Darcy, Lewis B, Lewis G, Jayden and Jacob.

King Edward Mine Women in STEM day

On Thursday 12 February, 12 Year 10 girls attended a STEMday at KEM where they built and programmed a Lego Spike Prime robot to traverse a course and pick up some cargo.

The girls also had a tour of the mine and were treated to presentations from several female engineers who spoke about their careers and routes through education.

Science XP Stars - Autumn 2025

Congratulations to the following Science XP Stars who gained the highest XP points on Sparx Science over the Autumn term.

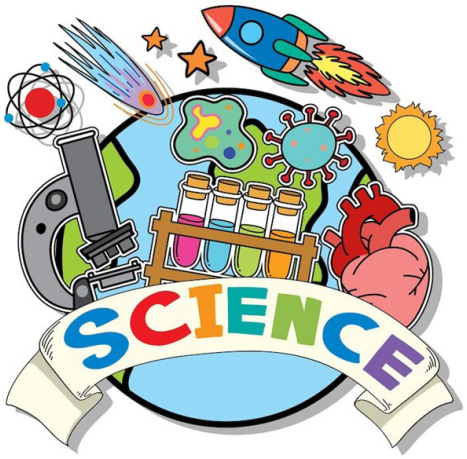
Year 7
1st Oliver R 7840 XP
2nd Isla P 7535 XP
3rd Olivia H 5295 XP

Year 8
1st Mollie J 7555 XP
2nd Amelie R 7256 XP
3rd Scarlett S 7110 XP

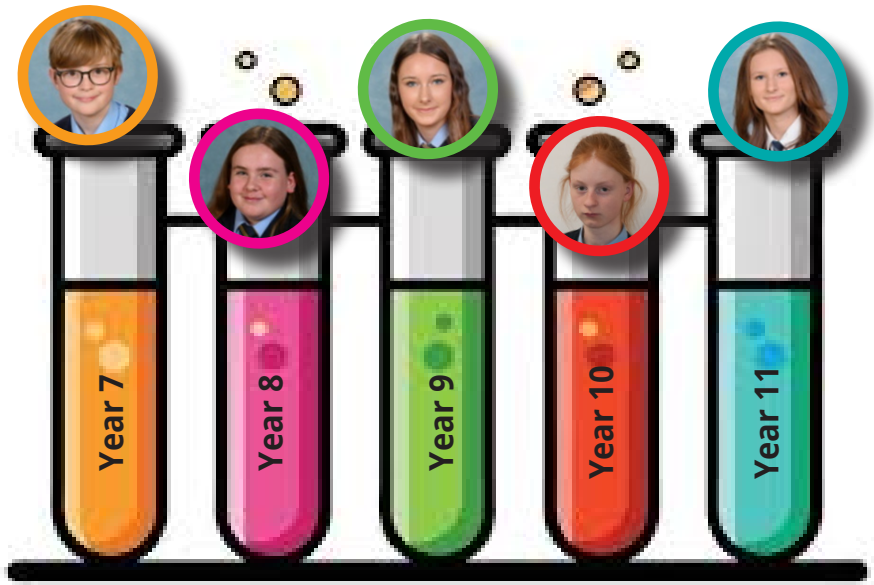
Year 9
1st Heidi G 10665 XP
2nd Flo H 9079 XP
3rd Callum P 6640 XP

Year 10
1st Lissa M 8875 XP
2nd Isabelle Griffin 6930 XP
3rd Emma K 6785 XP

Year 11
1st Poppy W 6538 XP
2nd Merryn B 6455 XP
3rd Sophie T 6305 XP



- Well done everyone! You will receive a certificate, praise points and your names will be entered into the draw for a prize at the end of the year!
- Remember, you can gain extra XP points by completing the XP boost and your additional study elements each week, as well as your compulsory homework.



BENNI'S BRANCH

Did you know...?

Therapy dogs in schools provide significant mental health, academic and social benefits by reducing student stress (lowering cortisol), increasing positive emotions, and improving focus. They foster a calmer, more nurturing environment, which helps improve attendance, behaviour, confidence, and even literacy skills, particularly when children read to them.

Key Advantages of Therapy Dogs in School:

Emotional & Mental Well-being: Dogs provide comfort and companionship, which helps reduce anxiety, stress, and fear, especially for children facing emotional challenges.
Improved Behaviour & Social Skills: Interaction with dogs enhances social competence, empathy, and emotional regulation, reducing negative behaviours.
Academic Support & Confidence: Reading to dogs improves literacy skills, including reading accuracy and fluency, as the dog provides a non-judgmental, calming audience.
Increased Attendance & Motivation: The presence of a dog creates a more positive, engaging, and welcoming school environment, which can increase student attendance and willingness to learn.
Responsibility & Empathy: Students learn to care for others, encouraging responsibility and respect for living things.
Therapy dogs offer a safe space for students to feel secure and supported, making them a valuable addition to student support services.

HCC'S THERAPY DOG

SECONDARY DRAMA SHOWCASE

On Wednesday 28 January 2026, 20 of our GCSE Drama students took part in the Secondary Drama Showcase at the Hall For Cornwall. We were given the brief of 'Kernow Rising' back in October and after some discussion and exploration work, we settled on adapting the old legend of Cormoran the giant but giving it a contemporary update. Cormoran became a 'giant' building corporation intent on knocking down a much loved engine house to build a 5* hotel. The villagers revolt and eventually win due to the discovery that the choughs are nesting there.

The challenge was that we were only permitted 7 minutes performance time to tell our story through theatre! We overcame this with stylised use of space and scene changes, stereotype characters and a dream sequence. Once again the Creative Arts Faculty pulled out all the stops with a fantastic chough puppet and 20 chough masks for the dream sequence created by Ms Chapman and Ms Wildor. The HFC tech team commented on the impressive quality of these during our tech rehearsal! Also, Mr Semmons our technician created a fabulous animation of an engine house and choughs flying which was projected onto the cyclorama and really made the dream sequence atmospheric and clear.

The students were amazing on the day. They were professional, alert, confident, supportive of each other and focused through the tech rehearsal and performance. We were also lucky enough to have a Q and A session with a director and producer for the HFC and a great workshop on acting skills. After their amazing performance, the student were able to see the work of 8 other schools which is always both interesting and inspiring.

An incredible day and a huge well done to Jess A, Belle J-R, Edward K, Aulay M, Tamsin M, Amy M, Karenza P, Lydia S, Emily B, Jacob C, Bella C, Poppy F, Finley L, Darcy M, Sophie O, Zennor S, Jayden R, Lily R, Melody S, Finley W-H and Jake W. Steph Richardson

PETER PAN – end of term pantomime

At the end of the Autumn term, in the final week before we broke up for Christmas, our annual pantomime took place. 26 students from Years 10, 11 and P16 (and our lighting technician in Y8!) worked tirelessly in only 10 rehearsals to create a 50-minute performance of our version of the much-loved tale of 'Peter Pan'. It was great to see such a committed group of people working so hard, and 5 of them were not GCSE or A level Drama students but just wanted to get involved and be part of something creative!

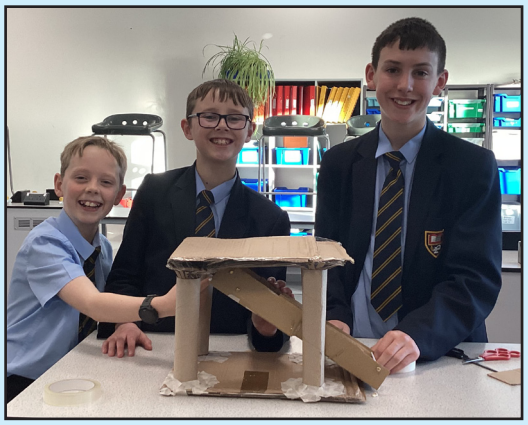
Some fantastic props were created once again including giant roof tops and stars for the flying scenes and costumes sourced, lighting and soundtracks created. The students were like a real 'theatre family' throughout the rehearsals and the 9 (yes 9) performances that took place which included a dress rehearsal performance to parents and then performances to all the year groups. The cast were supportive, confident, huge amounts of fun (Backstage Bingo to name one example!) and incredibly brave – no mean feat performing to a hall full of 230 of your peers for some of the performances! We were delighted to welcome students from Halwyn Primary School and the children from Helston Day Nursery to one of our performances – no one was too scared of the crocodile and Captain Hook!

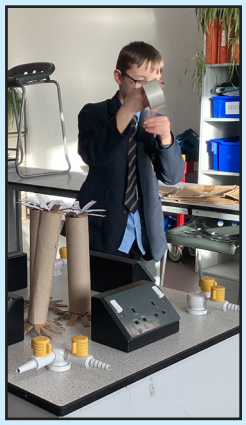
A massive well done to everyone who took part - Reubyn A, Jess A, Lily B, Meena B, Elias B, Milly B, Emily B, Jacob C, Roxy H-P, Belle J-R, Edward K, Bethany L, Finley L, Aulay M, Tamsin M, Darcy M, Amy M, Sophie O, Karenza P, Melody S, Sam T, Finley W-H, Beth W-R, Narla W, Lewis W and Jake W. And the staff who made it some to life with the design aspects, Ms Chapman, Ms Wildor, Mr Semmons, Mrs Crawshaw, Ms Stevenson, Mrs Lealand, Mrs Strong and Mrs Harris for admin support. Steph Richardson

Never grow up!

Science CLUB

The students in Science club have been building their marble run, to enable them to investigate the factors affecting the speed of the marble. At present, we have one layer with a pin ball slope completed. The next layer was prepared this week and will be added the previous layer after half term. The marble run will be a combination of a self-standing tiered structure and a number of pipe rolls running along the wall. The students are using both design and engineering skills in the building phase and will then use their scientific analysis skills when measuring the speed of the marble. This will be followed by some mathematical calculations of speed, which will complete the full STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) package. The students are enjoying the challenge and I am listening to some excellent problem solving conversations, whilst supervising a very student-led project.
Great work team!

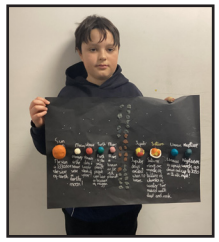




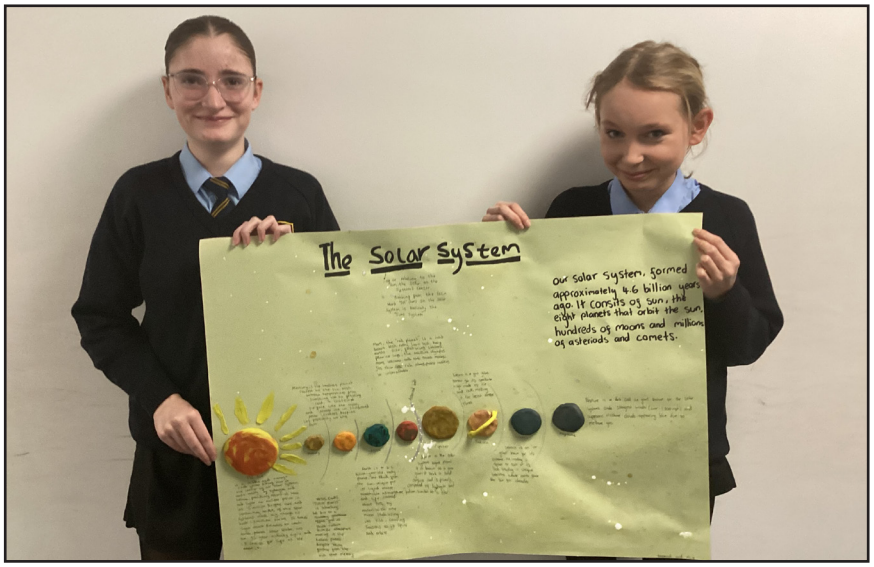
HELSTON SCHOOL JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Helston School Jazz Orchestra were honoured to have been asked to play at the opening of the TPAT teachers training event at Hall for Cornwall on January 26th
The band played three pieces to start the day off with high spirit and energy, including a vocal feature, 'Feeling Good' by Miriam McDonagh. Afterwards the 21 HSJO members enjoyed a well earned breakfast in the Green-Room Café.
Well done to all the talented young musicians, you did us proud!

OUR SOLAR SYSTEM



Year 8 students have been learning about Space and Forces in their recent Science lessons. With the use of the iPads they independently researched the planets and other celestial objects that make up our Solar system, using this information to produce fact file posters to display. With Mrs Mullins, students in 8Sc.p were able to use playdough to create 3D versions of the planets, mixing the clay to give the correct colour and adding in rings, asteroids, comets, and moons.
Savannah B and Elsie G worked amazingly well together to produce the most informative poster in the class. Daniel P worked with great effort and determination to produce an independent poster in a single lesson. Well done.



Ask the Experts: Hospitality

Terri Felton-Munday and Caleb Munday from Mousehole Deli attended to meet with interested students from Years 10-13. Terri and Caleb started by giving students an overview of their career journey to date. This resonated with students who gained a greater appreciation that journeys towards future careers can take many twists and turns along the way. Next, our guests answered questions posed by our students which included content on the best ways to access and make progress in hospitality careers. One of the valuable pieces of information was that students were encouraged to meet with providers, e.g. chefs, restaurant owners etc, as employers as more likely to employ young people that take the initiative to come to introduce themselves. Students finished the session encouraged, motivated and grateful for the opportunity to find out more about the hospitality industry.

Ask the Experts: Law

Chris Morse from Stephens Scown Solicitors inspired students interested in careers in Law. Chris gave details of his career path and how his role has changed during the eighteen years he has been with the company. Students were given an insight into the different routes into Law careers and were encouraged to carry out their own research/voluntary projects to gain further experience that would set themselves apart from others who apply for law-related roles. Chris explained clearly the difference in a range of roles and also the benefits and pressures/ expectations associated. The session was of great interest to the students present and has no doubt inspired some to continue their career journey following a role in law.

xello

Xello Careers Lessons

All students in Years 7-11 were introduced to the Careers platform Xello in the Autumn term. Year 7 students were the first to use Xello to complete their PSHE work on the topic: Living in the wider world. Lessons included the topics: School subjects at work; Interests; and Time Management. This has helped to prepare and inform students towards identifying their strengths ahead of mapping their future career path.

Other year groups are working through their Xello careers lessons during the spring term. The topics covered are:

Year 8 = Discover Learning Pathways; Learning Styles; Biases and Career Choices.

Year 9 = Skills; Explore Career Matches; Self-advocacy, Choosing your KS4 options.

Year 10 = Getting experience; Personality styles; Study skills and habits.

Year 11 = Work values; Workplace skills and attitudes; Transition to Further Education.

Year 9 Careers Carousel Options event

In mid January all Year 9 students were given the chance to meet with industry experts from a wide range of sectors and local further education and apprenticeship providers. Students in pairs were able to find out how their skills and interests matched with a variety of careers. They were given five minutes to ask and answer questions with our visitors and make notes using their iPads before moving on to the next presenter. As well as the benefits of learning about careers students were able to develop their interpersonal skills by conversing with guests they had not met before. The feedback received from students about this experience was overwhelmingly positive with many now with a clearer idea about the opportunities available to them in their futures, and guidance towards which subjects to consider choosing for their options to fit their careers ideas. Our visiting guests were very complementary about the attitude and engagement of the Year 9 students, with many students using this as an opportunity to enquire about work experience opportunities for when they are in Year 10.

Future Skills Questionnaires

During this term all students in Years 7-10 have had the chance to complete a Future Skills Questionnaire (FSQ). These are important as it helps the student to share their level of awareness and confidence in careers-related learning. It also indicates where they need further support so they are knowledgeable about the opportunities available to them. Students who have been unable to complete these so far can collect their unique questionnaire link from their form tutor.

Careers Open Evening

Following the success of the Year 9 options event, our guests stayed after school to meet with interested students from Years 9, 10 & 11. This was in an informal setting where there was no fixed agenda or time schedule for our experts to discuss careers options with students accompanied by their parents. Year 9 students welcomed the chance to meet with additional people who they didn't link with earlier in the day, and Year 10 and 11s were able to gain an understanding of the Post 16 options available to them including apprenticeships, A-levels and Vocational courses. There was a great atmosphere created with many students happy that they were now better informed regarding their future options.

Apprenticeship Expo

A range of local and National apprenticeship providers visited to Helston Community College to raise awareness of opportunities available to students from age 16 and 18. Year 11 students met with experts during their period 4 lesson and took advantage of the time to find out about application procedures and the make-up of the training and work schedule across the duration of the apprenticeship.

Apprenticeship Evening

After the Year 11s met with apprenticeship providers during period 4, many returned to the Post 16 centre to carry on their conversations after college. In addition, Year 12 and 13 students could attend with parents to ask questions in an informal setting. Many students took advantage of the opportunity to become better aware and informed about the Post 16 and Post 18 options available to them both locally and nationally. Thanks to our guests from the providers listed below who attended to provide this wonderful opportunity.

- Royal Navy
- British Army
- The Focus Training Group
- Serco
- Pendennis Shipyard
- Seasalt
- Dynamo Training
- Cormac
- MJL
- Bishop Fleming

UK Government

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026

National Apprenticeship Week 9th-15th February

Students in Years 7-9 were able to learn more about Apprenticeships through an online presentation delivered by Maria Mason from Schools Outreach Company. Maria ensured students knew about the wide range of career sectors which promote apprenticeships and made students aware of the benefits of both apprenticeships and going to university.
Year 7-9 students were given a research task for homework to find out about the range of apprenticeships available in curriculum areas around the school. In addition, they were given the chance to access apprenticeship webinars to find out more opportunities in careers that they find appealing.

FUTURE CAREERS EVENT DATES:

Ask the Experts: Technology. - Monday 23 March.
Robert Wiltshire from Tech Cornwall will be attending to give students an insight into careers in what is a growth sector in the UK.

Ask the Experts: Aviation - Monday 20 April.
Chloe Taylor and Mr Thorpe will be representing Ascent Flight Training, who are based at Culdrose. A chance to find out about entry requirements and content of courses linked with flying and aviation.

Ask the Experts: University - Wednesday 6 May.
Former Helston Community College student Josh Thomas will be giving his insights into life at university. Josh is currently in his fourth year studying at London School of Economics. This Q&A session could include tips for university life, and insights into the application process. This event has been rearranged from the college closure day in January.

Ask the Experts: Agriculture - Monday 18 May.
Ian Hampton from Skern Training & Skills will present his knowledge and experience of farming and other associated roles. Interested students will be able to ask their own questions to find out about training routes and recommendations for making progress with careers in this industry.

Careers Carousel - Tuesday 10 March - Year 5 & Year 7.
Year 5 students from feeder primary schools around Helston, along with Year 7s from Helston Community College, will have the chance to find out what career opportunities exist linked with their interests and skills. For Year 7 students this will build on from the similar work they have been completing on Xello as part of their careers-related PSHE work. This careers event is likely to feature over 400 students during the course of the day.

Public Services Careers Event (Year 8 during school time).
Thursday 11 June.
Open to students from all year groups after school until 5pm.

If any local businesses or Helston Alumni would like to contribute towards the careers development opportunities at Helston Community College please contact our Careers Lead: Martin Woolcock
mwoolcock@helston.tpacademytrust.org

A massive congratulations to our new Helston Community College Anti-Bullying Ambassadors!
We welcome to the team:

Athena Hopkins, Maisie Bacon, Jessica Benny, Miren Beesley, Savannah Sealey, Amelia Booth, Orla Penna, Ailla Dunn, Elana Roberts, Daisy Harris, Amy Houlden Smith, Florence Shannon, Erin Nesbitt and Olivia Harrison. They will join our team along with Evan Chapman, Aimee Benny, Lily Rishworth and Jen Fooks.

These students have all earned their badges and are here to help the students of the college who may be struggling with bullying.
Any worries or questions please do not hesitate to contact myself.
Many Thanks,
Miss Clare Stringer - Anti-Bullying Staff Lead

For more HCC Sports news follow us on Instagram!

@helstonccsport

HELSTONCCSPORT

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

Devon and Cornwall Food Action

If you have not yet visited a DCFA event, please come along to one! The dates are:

- February 21st
- March 21st
- April 18th (tbc)
- May 23rd (tbc)
- July 4th
- September 19th
- October 24th (tbc)
- December 5th

To book, please contact Debbie on 07880 835331

DEVON & CORNWALL FOOD ACTION
Registered Charity 1155213

Pop up Food Hub

See our Facebook Page

Helston

Pop up Saturday 21st February 10:00 - 11:00
Last order Tuesday 17th February

Helston Community College

Pre-Order Only – payment on the day

For £30, which helps to keep the charity running, you will receive a trolley load containing:

Tea or coffee
Pasta or rice
A selection of tins and cereal
Bag/box of Crisps
A box of pasties or pies
A bag of frozen items
A bag of fresh fruit/veg
A bag of household toiletries
Bread/rolls/cakes
Pet Food

ALL ITEMS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

All welcome. No referral needed
We look forward to seeing you there
Remember to bring a trolley or plenty of strong bags
To guarantee your bundle please contact
Debbie on **07880 835 331**

DCFA will endeavour to honour accepted special dietary request orders but cannot guarantee this.
Please note DCFA cannot guarantee that bundles are free from allergenic ingredients.

Enrichment Timetable Spring 2026

The Library is open everyday after school until 3.30pm.
To sign-up to a club, students simply register their interest with the teacher leading it.

MONDAY				
Activity	**Year/KS**	**Time**	**Venue**	**Staff**
Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
College Choir	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	M1	Mrs Parker
Girls Sports Club	Y7-11	1.00 - 1.35pm	Sports Hall	Mrs Pryor
Guitar Ensemble	All Years	1.15 - 2.00pm	M2	See Mr Martin
Lego Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	CO2	Mr Burke
Duke of Edinburgh	Bronze Y9	3.15 - 4.30pm	SS Hall	Mr Semmons
Girls Football Club WEEK A	Y9	3.15 - 4.30pm	3G	Mrs Pryor
Girls Football Club WEEK B	Y7-8	3.15 - 4.30pm	3G	Mrs Palmer & Miss Bragg
Hall for Cornwall Showcase Rehersals - In January Only	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	A2	Mrs Richardson
Hockey Club - A WEEK	Y7-8	3.15 - 4.30pm	MUGA	Mrs Palmer & Miss Bragg
Hockey Club - B WEEK	Y9	3.15 - 4.30pm	MUGA	Mrs Pryor
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.00pm	South Site Hub	Mrs Bloor
Melomaniacs	KS3	3.15 - 4.15pm	M1	Mr Parker

TUESDAY				
Activity	**Year/KS**	**Time**	**Venue**	**Staff**
Acapella Singers	All Years	1.15 - 2.00pm	M2	Mr Parker
Board Games Club	KS3	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Christian Union	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	EN2	Helston Light & Life Church Staff - Mr Britton/Miss Cowburn/Mrs Rootham
CyberCenturions	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	Co3	Mr Birkett
Jazz 2	All Years	1.15 - 2.00pm	M1	Mr King
Military Club	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	South Site Hub	Mrs Groseley
Pride Club	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	MA7	
Boys Football Club	Y7-10	3.15 - 4.30pm	3G/Fied	Mr Richardson, Mr Woolcock, Mr Hattam & Mr Lovelock
Duke of Edinburgh	Silver Y10	3.15 - 4.30pm	SS Hall	Mr Semmons
GCSE Art classes	Y10 & Y11	3.25 - 4.30pm	B10	
Hall for Cornwall Showcase Rehersals - In January Only	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	A2	Mrs Richardson
Hockey Club	Y10-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	MUGA	Miss Bragg
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.00pm	South Site Hub	Mrs Bloor
Languages Homework Club	Y7-9	3.30 - 4.15pm	L3	Miss Cristea
Podcasting Club (After half term)	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	A28	Ms Stevenson / DSe
Production Rehearsals (Annie)	Y7 -11	3.15 - 4.30pm	A29	Mrs Crawshaw
Science Club (Crest awards)	Y7-9	3.15 - 4.15pm	Lab 12	Miss Charlesworth

WEDNESDAY				
Activity	**Year/KS**	**Time**	**Venue**	**Staff**
Board Games Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
History Catch Up "Revision Drop-in"	Y10-11	1.00 - 1.35pm	A23	Mrs Creaser
Sports Club	Y8	1.00 - 1.35pm	Sports Hall	Mr Woolcock
Concert Band	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	M1	
Fitness Club	Y8-9	3.15 - 4.30pm	Fitness Suite	Miss Cristea
GCSE Art classes	Y10 & Y11	3.15 - 4.30pm	B10	
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.00pm	South Site Hub	Mrs Bloor
Production Rehearsals	Y7 - 10	3.15 - 4.30pm	A2 or A29	Mrs Crawshaw
Props Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.30pm	B9	Ms Wildour & Mrs Chapman
Post 16 Maths Workshop	Y12-13	3.15 - 4.30pm	MA4	Dr Godwin & Mrs Hart
Running Club	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	Field	Mrs Weir

THURSDAY				
Activity	**Year/KS**	**Time**	**Venue**	**Staff**
Board Games Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Brass Ensemble	Brass players	1.15 - 2.00pm	M4	Mr King
History Film Club	Y7-11	1.10 - 1.35pm	A24	Ms Creaser
Service Students Lunchtime Club	KS4	1.10 - 1.35pm	L3	Mrs Wake
Sports Club	Y7	1.00 - 1.35	Sports Hall	Mr Richardson
Annie Rehearsals	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.15pm	A29	Mrs Crawshaw
Boys & Girls Football Fixtures	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	Varies - Check w/PE Staff	PE Staff
DT Club	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.15pm	DT2	Miss Ford
GCSE Art classes	Y10 & Y11	3.25 - 4.30pm	B10	
Hockey Fixtures	Y7-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	Varies - Check w/PE Staff	PE Staff
Homework Club	All Years	3.15 - 4.00pm	South Site Hub	Mrs Bloor
HSJO	Invitation Only	3.15 - 4.30pm	M1	Mr King
Science Support	KS4	3.15 - 4.30pm	Lab 2 & 3	Science Staff

FRIDAY				
Activity	**Year/Key Stage**	**Time**	**Venue**	**Staff**
Board Games Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	A22 (A24 or A27 from 01/10)	
Creative History Club	Y7-9	1.00 - 1.35pm	A24	Mrs Oates
Young Carers Club	All Years	1.00 - 1.35pm	L2	Mrs Martin
Sax Ensemble	All Years	1.00 - 2.00pm	M1	Mrs McDonagh
Fitness Club	Y10-11	3.15 - 4.30pm	Fitness Suite	Mrs Lealand

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Under 15's Exeter Chiefs Foundation Programme

Hayden B has been selected for the Under 15's Exeter Chiefs Foundation Programme after going through trials.

As you can imagine we are extremely proud of Hayden as this is a massive achievement. This is the first step to Hayden's dream of becoming professional in a sport he has so much passion for.

Lord's Taverners Cricket

On Wednesday 24 January our table cricket team of 9 students travelled to Truro College to take part in the Lord's Taverners Table Cricket County finals. After playing 5 matches against other teams in the County and winning all of them we became Cornwall County Champions!

All 8 players, led by the team captain Logan R played exceptionally well and cheered their team on in every match.

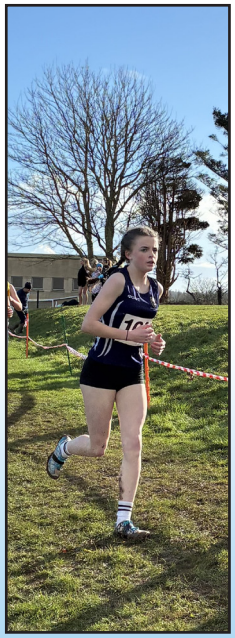
There was a real tension as we played each game and the determination of the team led to our overall winning of the competition.

The next stage of the competition takes us to Exeter.

Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship 2026

Eight students from years 7 and 9 represented Helston Community College at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship in January. Whilst the weather was good, underfoot conditions were challenging given the amount of rain we've had. Congratulations to all - there were some fantastic performances. Highlights were a fabulous 5th place for Aaron I and 10th for Emily H.

Aaron's placing meant he qualified for the Cornwall Schools Team and raced in the South West Regional Schools Cross Country Championships in Exeter. Another fantastic performance saw him finish 9th and qualify for the South West team to race at the National Championships in Liverpool in March. Good luck Aaron!



Year 11 Football – Cornwall Cup Success!

A fantastic couple of weeks for our Year 11s in the Cornwall Cup:

- 6–0 win vs Truro School
- 2–0 win vs Falmouth School

Two superb performances see the team through to the Cornwall Cup Finals. Brilliant effort from everyone involved - we are looking forward to your next outstanding performance!

Girls Football

Well done to our Year 7 & Year 9 teams who played against Camborne School recently — great effort from everyone involved!

Cornish Pirate Iwan Price-Thomas visits HCC

On the last day of term, we were delighted to welcome Cornish Pirate Iwan Price-Thomas to the College. Iwan is a former Wales U19 and England Students player, who is in his second season at Cornish Pirates RFC.

Iwan met with a group of rugby players from different year groups and talked about his journey through sport and life as a professional rugby player. Iwan explained how welcoming he found people at the Cornish Pirates and how the communities in Cornwall feel very similar to his roots in South Wales.

Our students asked lots of really thoughtful questions. As a result, they learned about the importance of nutrition, the challenges and opportunities that rugby provides, Iwan's experience of playing with/against world-class players such as Louis Rees-Zammitt and the values that Iwan feels are crucial to success in sport and life in general. He didn't even blush when students asked him about his GCSE results and how much he earned!

Iwan repeatedly emphasised the importance of resilience – pushing yourself to achieve, accepting that you will have setbacks and persevering for what's important to you. Students were interested to hear how much Iwan's rugby clubs valued his education and his life outside rugby. We even heard how one rugby coach would drop-in to his university lectures to check that his players were attending! We learned that to join a professional club, the focus is often less about a player's rugby skills (which they already know are good) and more about their personal skills – are they polite, hard-working, team players, etc? Iwan explained how important these things were in all walks of life.

Iwan ended his visit by drawing the winners for our end of term Consequence Card Prize Draw – celebrating students who have shown kindness, good manners, or have demonstrated being a good citizen over the last term. This was a great way to finish school before the Christmas break.

We are really grateful to Iwan and the Cornish Pirates for visiting us and look forward to working with them more this year.

THE TONY HIBBERT PRIZE

History Competition

There is an exciting opportunity for students in years 7 to 13 to enter the Tony Hibbert Prize. This is a prize dedicated to young people interested in History. The theme for the 2026 competition is: ***'Cornwall at war'***.

Students have been asked to create;

- Essays or written stories: We recommend a minimum length of 500 words and a maximum word length of 1,000 words
- Posters: Posters, up to A2 in size (with minimum text size: 14 pts).
- Films/videos: Films can be submitted, up to a maximum duration of 5 minutes.
- Podcasts: An audio podcast can be submitted, up to a maximum duration of 8 minutes.

The judges are looking for entries that engage with this theme by students who can link their interest in the history of modern war with the world we live in today and can encourage their audiences to think about the relationship between 20th century conflict and the challenges the world faces today.

Judges will award marks based on:

- Engagement with the theme
- Creativity in approach – innovative angle on the content, original interpretation of the theme, challenging preconceptions/ misconceptions
- Content – clear, accurate, imaginative, and informative
- Effective communication – presented and communicated in an engaging way
- A passion for history and its present-day relevance
- Proper acknowledgement of any sources used

The deadline for the competition is 12.00pm on Friday 24 April 2026.

Prizes include £100 worth of book tokens and a prize giving ceremony at Trebah Gardens.

Please come and see Mrs Oates in A24 if you are interested in entering.

The Tony Hibbert Prize | University of Exeter

University of Exeter

Praise Points Leaderboard

Year 7

Reuben W	7E	267
Elowen I	7D	227
Charlie B	7B	207
George W	7E	194
Matthew B	7F	186
Olivia H	7D	185
Nellie H	7D	184
Mollie C	7E	180
Sienna L	7G	180
Hettie W	7D	174

Year 8

Jessica B	8E	265
Harley T	8D	243
Olivia C	8D	195
Ana-Maria C	8G	176
Maisie B	8E	165
Raya P	8G	164
Elana-Brooke R	8D	158
Anna H	8F	154
Ava H-E	8D	151
Edward M	8E	150
Ethan R	8H	150

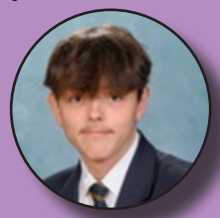
Year 9

Archie R	9B	234
Aaron I	9F	227
Tori K	9C	189
Amelia B	9F	177
Theo C	9C	177
Isobel P	9E	176
Daniel W	9B	174
Noah H	9B	171
Jesse H	9F	163
Jude N	9D	159

Year 10

Tyler W	10E	193
Jacob C	10C	177
Frederick W	10E	158
Hayden B	10A	157
Jen F	10H	149
Finley W-H	10E	145
Lily R	10H	143
Rohan B	10D	136
Chloe T	10E	135
Sophie O	10B	133

Year 11

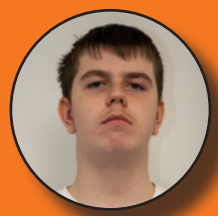


Jay H	11D	156
Thomas H	11D	153
David S	11A	153
Lewis W	11E	152
Alex M	11G	146
Dylan P	11H	146
Jowan S	11G	145
Hugh K	11D	144
Lucy A	11H	139
Chase R	11E	137

Year 12

Elias B	12A	32
Summer R	12A	29
Maya C	12B	28
Andrew D	12C	27
Finley S	12C	26
Emma S	12A	23
Zenna W	12C	21
Alfie C	12B	20
Chloe S	12E	20
Beth W-R	12E	19

Year 13



Jacob S	13A	32
Tom M	13C	19
Alistair S	13D	18
Kieran S	13C	17
Samuel T	13A	15
Emma T	13A	15
Rhys W	13D	15
Lilly P	13A	14
Lilly-Mai T	13D	13
Isabella T	13B	13
Kaitlyn W	13B	13

(Praise Points as of 10/02/26

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

January-February

Year 7

Ashwin A

Nominated by Ms Hawksworth for providing excellent geographical answers and by Ms Ford for the progress he is making in literacy. Ashwin has also achieved his Gold Award, has excellent attendance is a very polite young man!

Year 8

Maisie B

Nominated by Mr Stuteley, for her consistent hard work, Maisie has had an excellent first half of Year 8 with superb attendance and an outstanding number of praise points.

Year 9

Tori K

Tori impresses her teachers every lesson with her focus, hard work and attention to detail. Nominated by Ms Bryce, Tori has nearly achieved her Platinum Award already and has an amazing attendance record.

Year 10

Sophie O

Sophie was nominated by three members of staff! Firstly, for her confidence, conduct and performance skills on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase, and also for her heroic effort in RE and on her assignment in Health & Social Care. To top it all off, Sophie has a huge number of Praise Points too!

Year 11

Jess A

Nominated by Ms Richardson, not only for her support to others in the practical GCSE Drama exam preparation, but also for her performance at the Hall for Cornwall. If that wasn't enough, Ms Charlesworth also nominated her for great attitude in science lessons. Jess has great attendance and a huge number of praise points too!

Post 16

Chloe A

Chloe has been nominated by Ms Hocking for her excellent application to Business work in and out of lessons, and also by Ms Robertson for her efforts during her assignment writing. A great role model!

Well Done

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Nominations

YEAR 7

Benjamin F	7	Fantastic Computing assessment.	L Hocking
Charlie B	7	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Elowen I	7	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Freddie S	7	Being an excellent scientist and supportive lab partner.	D Long
Freya W	7	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Harry P	7	Effort & contribution to group & class discussions.	O Jones
Harvi-Jay H	7	Determination, effort & focus in D&T.	O Jones
Hettie W	7	Always providing excellent geographical answers.	K Ryan
Hettie W	7	Excellent result for your first Science checkpoint - well done Hettie!	K Watson
Isaac D-F	7	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Ivy C	7	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Jacob W	7	or representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
John S	7	John works hard, and is a genuinely kind and respectful pupil.	R. Cox
Lenny Y	7	For representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Levi P	7	For the enthusiasm he shows during literacy intervention.	S Ford
Lilah R-R	7	Lilah consistently demonstrates outstanding hard work and dedication in Science.	R. Cox
Linnea D	7	For representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Linnea D	7	Her consistent effort and enthusiasm she shows every Science lesson. Always willing to support others to achieve their best.	S. Mullins
Lottie C	7	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Luca F	7	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Mia M	7	Fantastic Computing assessment.	L Hocking
Nellie H	7	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Nura P	7	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Olivia E	7	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Reuben W	7	Reuben always works exceptionally hard in his Geography classes, completing his work to a very high standard.	J Bryce
Roise H	7	Her fantastic science checkpoint assessment, showing great progress in the recent modules of work.	S. Mullins
Sienna L	7	Excellent effort, focus & completion of practical project work.	O Jones
Sienna L	7	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Vincent VH	7	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Wyatt M	7	Demonstrating independence and resilience resulting in excellent Computing lessons.	L Hocking

YEAR 8

Albert H	8	Outstanding first impressions and an asset in Year 8 PE.	T. Richardson
Amy P	8	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Amy P	8	Consistently working well in every Computing lesson.	L Hocking
Ava H-E	8	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Bella A	8	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Blake L	8	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Bree-Anna F	8	Outstanding score on her assessment.	L Ford
Eden N	8	A fantastic science checkpoint on the Biology topic - Eden has shown great progress.	S. Mullins
Eloyse H	8	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Eurwyn B	8	Outstanding score on his assessment.	L Ford
Evie B	8	Excellent work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Harry L	8	Fantastic effort and engagement in his Science lessons.	L Davies
Isabelle S	8	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Jenson M	8	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Jessica B	8	Positive attitude and trying so hard in school.	S Ford
Joe W	8	Excellent attendance since Christmas and a big improvement on last term - 0 days off!	A Weir
Lennox Q	8	A fantastic science checkpoint on the Biology topic - Lennox has shown great progress.	S. Mullins
Lennox Q	8	Lennox is hard-working, conscientious and focused in all of his Spanish lessons. In our recent assessment Lennox wrote over 120 words from memory and achieved 100% on the written element of the test. Incredible!	L.Wake
Lily H	8	For overcoming her nerves and performing a great piece based on 'Macbeth' in Drama.	S. Richardson
Matthew M	8	Outstanding score on his assessment.	L Ford
Raya P	8	Consistent hard work in Geography.	J Stuteley
Rory D-H	8	Outstanding first impressions and an asset in Year 8 PE.	T. Richardson
Xander H	8	Fantastic effort & determination in D&T.	O Jones
Yara W	8	Outstanding score on her assessment.	L Ford

YEAR 9

Aaron I	9	Representing HCC, Cornwall Schools and qualifying to represent the South West at the National Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Archie L	9	For representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Charlie L	9	Well considered responses in History.	P. Martin
Corey R	9	Always completing homework and showing a great attitude to learning.	C Charlesworth
Eden C	9	Awesome attitude and work in History.	P. Martin
Emily H	9	Perseverance with her pewter casting outcome.	L Ford
Emily H	9	For representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Hal J	9	Super attendance since Christmas and a big improvement on last term - 0 days off!	A Weir
Hal J	9	For representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Harry C	9	Mature and considered responses in History.	P. Martin
Iris Y	9	For representing HCC at the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championship.	A Weir
Isobel P	9	For being so ready to learn and being truly interested in her work. Also an incredible memory for Macbeth.	C. Bloor
Jack W	9	Consistent engagement in his Science lessons.	L Davies
Jessica L	9	Fantastic attendance since Christmas and a big improvement on last term - 0 days off!	A Weir
Liam T	9	Liam focuses well in lessons and always tries his best in Science.	R. Cox
Lily S	9	Consistently excellent effort in PE lessons and fantastic commitment to extra curricular fixtures.	V. Pryor
Maddie C	9	Fantastic History work.	P. Martin
Maya B	9	Sharing her vast knowledge of countries, their culture and bias while exploring Data Science in Computing this term.	L Hocking
Megan C	9	For consistently achieving top 5 scores in recall/activation quizzes.	C Charlesworth
Meilor E	9	Demonstrating excellent understanding in Chemistry and engaging well in lessons.	C Charlesworth
Mia L	9	Mia works exceptionally well in practical sessions and shows excellent focus throughout her Science lessons.	R. Cox

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Nominations

YEAR 9

Nathan W	9	Being excited by difficult Chemistry and wanting to try harder questions.	D Long
Olivia A	9	Consistently excellent effort in PE lessons and fantastic commitment to extra curricular fixtures.	V. Pryor
Orla P	9	Improving in Science every lesson and showing real interest in the subject.	D Long
Polly R	9	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Rose S	9	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Stanley C	9	Fabulous attendance since Christmas and a big improvement on last term - 0 days off!	A Weir

YEAR 10

Aimee B	10	Thanks for your help with Paired Reading.	S Ford
Alaska S	10	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Bella C	10	Excellent effort in RE.	G.Parekh
Bella C	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC	S. Richardson
Callum W	10	For consistently achieving 100% in recall/activation quizzes.	C Charlesworth
Cayden A	10	Excellent effort in RE.	G.Parekh
Charlie R	10	Showing commitment and working hard to achieve great progress and results in Geography.	J Bryce
Darcy M	10	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Darcy M	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Edward N	10	Demonstrating great improvement in Science.	D Long
Elena D	10	Heroic effort in RE exam.	A Olsen
Ellie T	10	Consistently works hard, listens to advice and feedback and scored the highest in her class on her checkpoint assessment for science.	S. Mullins
Ellie T	10	Ellie puts great effort into her work, is consistently respectful and hardworking, and performs excellently in practical sessions.	R. Cox
Emily G	10	For hard work and engagement in Geography.	C White
Emily B	10	Consistent hard work in geography	J Stuteley
Emily B	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Emma K	10	Excellent effort and result in the recent RE assessment.	G.Parekh
Finley W-H	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Florence S-W	10	For always striving to to her best in Science.	C Charlesworth
Grace F	10	Consistently works hard, listens to advice and feedback and scored very highly on her checkpoint assessment for Science.	S. Mullins
Isaac N	10	Excellent contributions in class - Accurate, concise and rich content to answers provided	A Birkett
Isabelle A	10	Excellent effort in Physics recently - well done Issy!	K Watson
Jacob C	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Jake W	10	For his commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Jake W	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
James W	10	Excellent effort in RE.	G.Parekh
Jasper B	10	Having drive to improve every lesson.	D Long
Jayden R	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Jen F	10	Thanks for your help with Paired Reading.	S Ford
Joel R	10	Joel worked particularly hard on his checkpoint assessment and achieved excellent results through his dedication.	R. Cox
John C	10	Contributes every lesson with great thoughts and questions in Triple Physics. Taking the time and effort to read around the subject content we are covering and watch additional youtube videos, just so he can ask more advance questions - well done you.	S. Mullins
John C	10	Being resilient when the Maths wasn't working - such an improved attitude to learning.	C Lealand
John C	10	Fantastic engagement in his Biology lessons- asking really thoughtful questions.	L Davies
Jowan W	10	Excellent effort in RE.	G.Parekh
Lewis F	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Lily R	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Melody S	10	Showing continued improvement in science	D Long
Melody S	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC	S. Richardson
Narla W	10	For her commitment to Annie rehearsals.	K Crawshaw
Rue B	10	Excellent contributions in class - Accurate, concise and rich content to answers provided.	A Birkett
Sam J	10	Excellent contributions in RE	G.Parekh
Sam P	10	Brilliant attendance since Christmas and a big improvement on last term - 0 days off!	A Weir
Thea G	10	Excellent effort in RE.	G.Parekh
Zack B	10	Consistent hard work in Geography	J Stuteley
Zennor S	10	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson

YEAR 11

Abigail B	11	Abigail works hard in every lesson and completes her practical activities to a consistently high standard.	R. Cox
Abigail B	11	Consistent effort and determination to succeed throughout year 11 GCSE Computer Science.	L Hocking
Amber F	11	Amber is dedicated to achieving her very best in GCSE Science and consistently works hard to reach her goals.	R. Cox
Amelie M	11	Always striving to achieve her best in all her Biology lessons.	L Davies
Amy M	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Ashton L	11	Ashton focuses exceptionally well in lessons and works confidently and effectively during practical activities, always showing great concentration	R. Cox
Athena H	11	After a shaky start coped well in her mock exams.	S Garty

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Nominations

YEAR 11

Aulay M	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Belle J-R	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Ben H	11	Completing all home work (revision) set and engaging well in lessons - a great attitude to learning.	C Charlesworth
Connie H	11	For her renewed enthusiasm and dedication to English. Keep it up, it will pay off!	N. Chappel
Edward	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Ethan Y	11	Amazing attendance since Christmas and a big improvement on last term - 0 days off!	A Weir
Ethan Y	11	Working extremely hard in Geography with a commitment to improve.	F Hawksworth
Heidi T	11	Consistently working hard to prepare for your mock exam.	J Robertson
Henry C	11	Henry has shown outstanding commitment to his GCSEs and is now working with impressive focus and determination.	R. Cox
Hugh K	11	Positive attitude and effort in GCSE Computer Science, it is really making a difference.	L Hocking
India J	11	Showing a commitment to improve.	D Long
Jade W	11	Completing all home work (revision) set and engaging well in lessons - a great attitude to learning.	C Charlesworth
Jago G	11	Consistent effort and determination to succeed throughout year 11 GCSE Computer Science.	L Hocking
Karenza P	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Karl K	11	Completing all home work (revision) set and engaging well in lessons - a great attitude to learning.	C Charlesworth
Krystal A	11	Consistently working hard to prepare for your mock exam.	J Robertson
Libby W	11	Showing a commitment to improve.	D Long
Lydia S	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC.	S. Richardson
Maisy M	11	For her commitment to mock revision and being such a ray of sunshine.	E Hawkey
Maya R	11	Ongoing strong commitment to exam preparation in Media Studies	E Stevenson
Megan D-F	11	For all her time and help standing in for one of the GCSE Drama exam pieces when she doesn't even do Drama!	S. Richardson
Mia R	11	A great start to her Component 2 Photography assignment. Thorough research and excellent experimental imagery.	B Ellis
Mills N	11	For the turn around in effort when it has come to exams.	C Price
Poppy W	11	Excellent revision and hard work in class.	J Bryce
Sam T	11	Ongoing strong commitment to exam preparation in Media Studies	E Stevenson
Seth C	11	Showing exceptional knowledge and clear drive to succeed	D Long
Tamsin M	11	For the confidence, conduct, performance skills, team/ensemble work and professional attitude to perform on the Hall for Cornwall stage as part of the Secondary Drama Showcase representing HCC. Excellent puppet work too!	S. Richardson

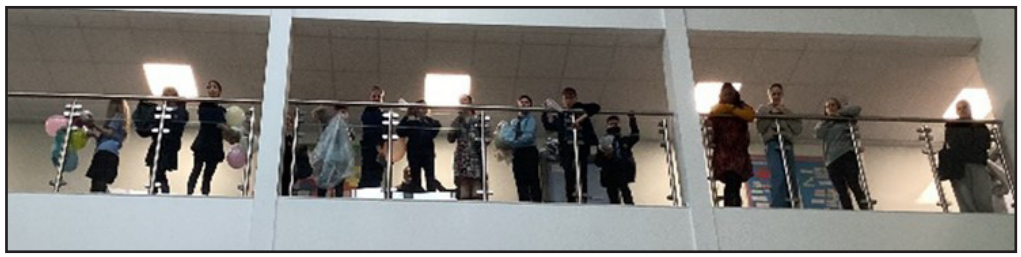
POST 16

Amanda R	12	Excellent application to Business work in and out of lessons.	L Hocking
Elias B	12	For excellent directing and creativity in the shadow theatre workshop in Drama.	S. Richardson
Jacob C	12	Jacob consistently does everything necessary to achieve highly in Medical Science and shows excellent dedication to his studies.	R. Cox
Daniella H	12	For her positivity and focus on super-curriculum opportunities.	K Ryan
Ella S	12	For working tirelessly in Psychology.	D Dudley
Eva C	12	For her dedication to working outside of her lessons to be the best person she can be.	D Dudley
Jasmin W	12	Having a desire to succeed and being conscientious in every lesson.	D Long
Joel K	12	Excellent contributions & effort in Geology lessons.	K Ryan
Olivia H	12	Consistently working hard in your assignment writing.	J Robertson
Pandora C	12	Fantastic effort to all her Post 16 studies and her EPQ.	K Ryan
Reggie P	12	Effort & focus on work in Design Engineering.	O Jones
Reggie P	12	Excellent application to Business work in and out of lessons.	L Hocking
Zenna W	12	For her conscientious and meticulous approach to her Geology practical work.	K Ryan
Chloe D	13	For topping the Uplearn leaderboard every month.	K Ryan
Harry T	13	Stoic & good humour nature in the face of deadlines & mock exams.	J Howe
Isabella T	13	Remaining positive and patient with the university application process.	K Ryan
Jessica G	13	Always exceptionally helpful and the massive effort she puts nto her studies.	J Howe
Jessica G	13	Consistently working hard in your assignment writing.	J Robertson
Kieran S	13	Excellent practical work & detailed notes in Geology.	K Ryan
Laila C	13	For her consistent hardwork, engagement and endeavour in all her lessons	D Dudley
Lilly-Mai T	13	Her daily enthusiasm in Post 16 and supporting other students	K Ryan
Emma T	13	Emma stays consistently focused on her goals and always puts in the effort needed to achieve them.	R. Cox

Well Done

Head of Year 7

Dear All,
I hope you are all safe and well… especially after the storms and subsequent testing weather.
Hopefully, we can now start seeing the sun peeking through! Sorry about the number of wet PE kits…I know the feeling well!
In the last few assemblies we have presented on the themes of Inclusion, Safer Internet Day and making it clear to Year 7 that we are aiming for consistent progress not always perfection.
We are currently meeting with the Year 7 Leadership Team so they can let us know their feelings on the College and subsequently feedback our thoughts to the whole College community and the Senior Team. We have now officially launched Flora Day so your child can sign up to dance, so get ready for lots of questions about partners and dresses ready for Helston's big day…rehearsals will start soon!
The year 7 reports are now out after the last two weeks of assessments (Well done Year 7!) and our Year 7 Parent Teacher Consultation evening takes place when we return. I am looking forward to seeing you all then where you have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress in the different subject areas. One of the perks of my job…is to 'check in' on the Year 7 learning in a number of different lessons ranging from technology projects, rehearsing Spanish vocabulary, getting into historical character…you never know what is about to greet you! Which included this week Science experiments involving parachuting eggs over the second-floor balcony!
Well done to all of those students that have maintained 100% attendance, been racking up those praise points and completing their positive consequence cards. Students may also be rewarded this week with their 5-week streaks for 100% attendance. Also well done to those students who have made a real effort this term therefore gaining more praise points to achieve a postcard and badge and those whose attendance has improved since last term…keep it up!
Thank you for all your support with uniform, ensuring the children are on time for school and they have all their equipment including a charged Ipad. From a parent's perspective I understand your efforts and from a teacher's perspective It is much appreciated because it makes a significant impact when your class is on time, looking smart, equipment set and they are all ready to learn and you can get going straight away.
Hopefully all the students have a good break, stay dry and have a chance to re-charge.
Best wishes,
Terry Richardson - Head of Year 7 and Transition



Head of Year 8

Dear Year 8 Students and Families,
As we end Spring Term 1, I want to express how incredibly proud I am of the resilience, determination, and positivity our students have shown—especially in the face of the exceptionally wet and windy start to 2026.
January brought not just rain and wind, but three significant storms that swept across the UK: Storm Goretti, followed by Storm Ingrid and Storm Chandra. Each brought its own challenges, from strong winds and heavy rain to widespread disruption. Storm Goretti, for example, delivered damaging winds to many of you across Helston and the surrounding catchment.
Despite these demanding conditions, Year 8 students have shown admirable adaptability—arriving at school in good spirits, supporting one another, and demonstrating maturity beyond their years. Their ability to stay focused, organised, and positive through unpredictable weather reflects the core values we strive to build: resilience, community, and perseverance. It has been a delight to see how well they have engaged with the most recent round of assessments. I look forward to sharing the reports with you in the coming weeks.

We also have the Year 8 Parent Teacher Consultation on Thursday 12th March. I look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate the students' achievements.

Our pupils have demonstrated outstanding dedication, teamwork, and resilience across a wide range of sports. Whether representing the school in competitive fixtures or contributing enthusiastically during PE lessons, they continue to impress both staff and coaches with their skill, attitude, and sportsmanship. I have received a number of great emails from parents regarding achievements outside of College.

As the days gradually lengthen and we move toward brighter weather, we will continue encouraging everyone to maintain this excellent start—both in lessons and in their wider school life.

Thank you for your continued support, and well done to Year 8 for setting such a strong tone for the term ahead.
Warm regards,

Jack Dudley - Head of Year 8

Head of Year 9

After a dark and wet start to the year, the students are very much looking forward to more time outside with some sun! They have had 6 long weeks, largely being couped up indoors and I would like to thank them for being responsible and calm during our break times and lunchtimes.

The options process is now over and all bar a handful of students have made choices. This will now be processed and the new Key Stage 4 timetable for the Class of 2028 will be built. Some students may be apprehensive as to whether they have been allocated their choices. Please reassure them that the College will do its best and as soon as we are ready we will get in touch to confirm. If they need to have a chat about their concerns, please ask them to pop in and see me. Our Student Leaders have been taking part in a fundraiser for Year 7. The aim was to both build a connection between the youngest in the College and raise some money for the British Heart Foundation. The theme Send a Heart to Mend a Heart has seen our leaders organise the delivery of Valentines cards for Year 7 students.

In preparation for the expectations of Key Stage 4 I would like to focus on homework and preparation for the end of module tests. A lot of what they are learning in Year 9 will be setting the foundation for their GCSE courses. Getting into a routine of completing regular homework, submitting it in good time and taking any tests seriously, will be a skill which students need to master by the end of the year. How can you help as parents? Encourage your child to do their homework in short focused sessions, use active recall (testing their knowledge through memory tasks) to test understanding, and spread study across several days. These strategies boost memory, confidence, and ultimately exam performance. We will start to think more about these in Tutor Time ready for the next set of end of module tests.

You will have been reminded elsewhere but could you please ensure that your child has clean unpainted nails ready for the first day back after the half term. For some this may require booking appointments to have unsuitable gel nails removed. This being sorted in good time will mean that I can start the half term off with a big smile on my face and not have to constantly nag!. The same applies for restocking pencil case items and ensuring that they have their IPads fully charged for the first day back. I would like to thank you for your support and would like to wish you a very happy half term break.

Warm regards,

Siobhan Barnes - Head of Year 9

Head of Year 10

As we reach the end of the first half term of 2026, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly positive and productive start for Year 10. From the very first week back, the year group has shown maturity and a real commitment to their learning—qualities that have set a strong tone for the months ahead.

A major focus this term has been the Year 10 checkpoint assessments. These assessments are an important part of the learning journey, giving students the chance to demonstrate what they know, identify areas they need to strengthen and practise working under examconditions. They also help teachers tailor support and plan lessons that meet the needs of every learner.

Revision played a crucial role in this process and I was genuinely impressed by the attitude students showed in preparing for these assessments. Their mature approach, balancing classwork, homework, and revision, was evident in the way they conducted themselves throughout the assessment period. It's clear that many students are beginning to understand how consistent revision and reflection can transform their progress. You should now have received a report outlining you child's strengths and areas for development. These reports are designed to guide you and your child as they move forward, helping them focus their efforts and celebrate the progress they've already made. Over the coming weeks, students will be given structured opportunities, both in lessons and during dedicated improvement time, to reflect on their assessment performance. Teachers will model effective strategies for improvement, helping students understand how to turn feedback into action. This reflective process is essential in Year 10, as it builds the habits and resilience needed for success in Year 11 and beyond.

This term, all Year 10 students also took part in a session delivered by YZUP, a charity that works with young people to raise awareness around drugs and substance misuse. The sessions were informative and incredibly valuable in supporting students' understanding of the risks and realities they may encounter. I was proud of how respectfully and thoughtfully the year group engaged with the workshop. Their behaviour was exemplary and the questions they asked showed real maturity and curiosity.

Since Christmas, we've seen a noticeable improvement in attendance across the year group. As the days grow brighter and longer, we're hopeful this positive trend will continue. While we are still slightly below where we were at this point last year, the direction of travel is encouraging and we are working hard together to reach our full potential. Overall this has been a strong first half of the academic year—full of hard work, personal growth and meaningful learning. Year 10 should feel proud of what they have achieved so far. After a well deserved break, I look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready to embrace the second half of the year. With the attitude and effort they've shown so far, I have every confidence that Year 10 will continue to thrive.

Jamie Lovelock - Head of Year 10

Head of Year 11

As we reach the end of the February half-term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the journey our Year 11 students have taken so far - one marked by determination, maturity, and a genuine commitment to their own success.

First and foremost, a huge well done to every student for the way you approached your mock exams. Mocks are never easy - they demand preparation, resilience, and the ability to perform under pressure. Regardless of individual results, what truly matters is the effort and dedication you brought to the process. These exams were an invaluable opportunity to understand your strengths and highlight the areas that need sharpening as we move closer to the summer.

I've been particularly impressed by the thoughtful and mature approach many of you have taken to revision. These habits are exactly what will carry you forward. Revision is not just about time spent - it's about intention, consistency, and learning to self-reflect. Keep building on these positive routines; your future self will thank you. The period 5 sessions begin again after February half-term and will run as they did before the November mocks.

Beyond academics, I want to acknowledge the excellent attitude and conduct shown by so many across the year group. Year 11 can be demanding - balancing workload, deadlines, and the natural anxieties that come with final exams. Yet your resilience, willingness to support each other, and the maturity you bring to school each day have been outstanding.

As we move into the next half-term, the finish line begins to come into sight. This is the moment to stay focused, stay organised, and keep believing in what you can achieve. Your teachers and tutors are here to support you every step of the way, so please continue to reach out, ask questions, and use every resource available to you.

Finally, I hope you all enjoy a well-earned break over half-term. Use the time to rest, reset, and return ready for the exciting and important months ahead.

Ellis Hawkey - Head of Year 11

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE FROM COLLEGE

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 £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further 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 for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days. Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period.

Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend Court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Absence not authorised by the school may also 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. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the Government.

'Parent' as set out in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996, defines parent to include: natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person or body who has parental responsibility for a child (as defined by the Children Act 1989) and; any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child. Having care of a child means a person with whom a child lives and who looks after a child, irrespective of what their relationship is with said child.

The Department for Education does not allow Headteachers to grant any leave of absence for children during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you consider that your request for absence is exceptional, please complete the form on the College website.

https://www.helston.cornwall.sch.uk/web/attendance/672277

A response from the school will be sent to you as soon as possible. If leave is not authorised and you nevertheless withdraw your child from school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

ATTENDANCE

I know you have had a number of messages about the importance of attendance over the academic year. However, we just want to reiterate what the impact of being in school every day has on students. The data is really clear - students with high attendance (95%+) on average achieve more than those with low attendance. This is not just the case with assessments and exams, but also in respect of the wider aspects of school life, such as developing social skills and friendships; being involved in leadership roles or extra-curricular activities.

We do, of course, understand that everyone gets ill at times, but when illness is minor, we do expect students to be resilient and make every effort to come in. If they are too unwell to remain in school, they can be sent home. Being resilient is an important part of growing up and an important part of life generally. Please do support us in trying to develop this in the students.

As you know, we are unable to authorise term-time holidays. We can do so in exceptional circumstances; however these really are very rare. The direction and guidance from the government is very clear so please be prepared to receive a penalty notice should you choose to take your child out of school during term.

We run a tiered approach to supporting students' attendance. If attendance starts to become a concern, the student will be placed at tier 1 and you will be notified in writing. This is a supportive measure to see if there is anything we can do to improve the situation. However, should the attendance continue to decline, then a student will be placed on tier 2, where a Pupil Support Plan will be drawn up in collaboration with parents/carers. If all support options have been exhausted and are not successful, then the Education Welfare Officer will take on the case.

We know that every situation is different and there are genuine reasons for absence. We really do want to work with families to help when attendance declines. Please take this as it is meant - we simply want to work together with you to ensure the students in our care get the best out of school, by being in as much as possible.

Opening times of the College receptions and our contact details:

South Site reception is open 8.15am – 2.15pm
(Once the reception at South Site is closed students will need to walk up to North Site to sign out before they leave the College, parents/carers will need to collect their child from North Site).
North Site reception is open 8.00am – 4.15pm

Leaving/Returning to school during the day
If a student is required to leave school at any point during the day, they must sign out at a Reception and sign back in at the attendance office if they return the same day. This is to ensure that we comply with our safeguarding requirements.

Enquiries
Email: enquiries@helston.tpacademytrust.org
(Year 7-11) Tel: 01326 572685
(Post 16) Tel: 01326 575022

Absence – What to do if your child is absent
If a student is absent from school, a parent/carer must inform the school by 8.30am on the day of the absence, by contacting the Attendance Team. If a student is absent for more than one day, the Attendance Team must be contacted on each day of the absence.
• (Years 7-11) Tel: 01326 575016
• (Post 16) Tel: 01326 575001

Medical Appointments
Every effort should be made to arrange appointments outside of school hours. Where students need to attend medical appointments in school hours, please organise them for the afternoon to reduce impact on lessons and notify the Attendance Team prior to the appointment.

Our website can be accessed via this link: ***Helston Community College - Home***

TECH CORNWALL

Ask the Experts 6: Technology

HELSTON CAREERS

An event for students interested in learning more about careers in Technology.
Robert Wiltshire from Tech Cornwall will be attending.
Places are limited. Scan the QR code to add your name and secure a place at this event.
Speak to Mr Woolcock for more details.

Monday 23rd March 2026

1.45pm – 2.15pm

Post 16 Building

Open to students in Years 10 - 13

Technology Careers could include the following options:

Cloud Architect, Full-Stack Developer, AI-First Software Engineer, Data Engineer, IT support, Game Designer

Ascent

Ask the Experts 7: Aviation

HELSTON CAREERS

An event for students interested in learning more about careers in Aviation.
Chloe Taylor from Ascent Flight Training will be attending.
Places are limited. Scan the QR code to add your name and secure a place at this event.
Speak to Mr Woolcock for more details.

Monday 20th April 2026

1.45pm – 2.15pm

Post 16 Building

Open to students in Years 10 - 13

Aviation careers could include the following options:

Pilot, Aircraft Technician, Aircraft Maintenance Technician, Flight Attendant