

The Helstonian



May 2026

HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAGAZINE



Flora Day 2026



Pages 7-9

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• Careers • Sporting Achievements • Flora Day • NEW Post 16 Centre

ASPIRATION • AMBITION • ACHIEVEMENT

ISSUE

23



LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the College

It feels like only two minutes ago since we sent out the last edition of the Helstonian, however we have certainly crammed a lot in since Easter!

I have to start by saying a huge well done to all our Year 11 and Year 13 students for their commitment and resilience with regards to their exams. It is a long exam season, and students have really stepped up both in school and clearly with all the revision they have been doing at home. Whilst we know how important it is to revise over the half-term break, we also need to remind them of the importance of getting a proper rest and some downtime too.

I experienced my 4th Flora Day this year and unsurprisingly it didn't disappoint! What an amazing day - the students looked wonderful and danced brilliantly. The sun was shining and there was a lovely feeling all round. As these festive days across Cornwall seem to be dwindling elsewhere, the tradition in Helston seems to be stronger than ever. With 600 students dancing just from our school alone the future looks very bright. We also had strong representation in the midday dance with many teachers and support staff being selected to take part. There are a few photos later in the magazine to enjoy.

As a school, we have been working hard to ensure we are supporting all students, especially those with special educational needs. We are delighted to share that on 11th June our school will be hosting an Inclusive and Dyslexia Friendly Schools (IDFS) accreditation day.

This marks an important milestone following two years of dedicated work towards achieving this recognition. On the day, we will welcome visitors from the Cognition and Learning Team and Dyslexia Cornwall, who will spend time getting to know our provision. They will meet with our SEN Team and wider staff, visit lessons across the school and speak with our pupils about their experiences. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the inclusive practices we have developed and to showcase our commitment to supporting all learners.

Breaking News!!

We are hugely excited to announce that the proposal to host an Area Resource Base (ARB) on-site (to support students diagnosed with Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs) is moving forward. This will be based where our Post 16 building is currently situated. This therefore means that the old Languages building at the front of school is getting a refurb to become our new, bigger Post 16 Centre. To give you a taste of what it will look like, a simple mock-up of the design has been included in the magazine. The new Post 16 Centre will be opening at some point during the 2026-2027 academic year, so both our current Year 12 students and Year 11 students will be our first cohort to enjoy and benefit from these amazing new facilities. Work will then commence on the new ARB.

Yours

Alex Lingard

Headteacher



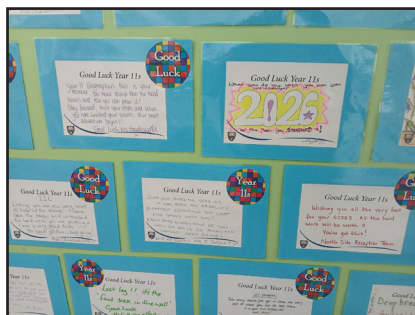
• IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES • IMPORTANT NOTICES •

SUMMER TERM ASSESSMENTS AND MOCK EXAMS

The end of year assessments for Year 7 & Year 9 are coming up soon, as are the first set of mock exams for Year 10 & Year 12. (Year 8 assessments follow soon after.) In the lead up to these, homework is being paused so that students can dedicate time at home for revision. To support students, we have produced a revision preparation toolkit for each year group detailing when the assessments are, what topics are to be tested and, most importantly, revision resources to use. The toolkits are available via the students' Showbie class on their iPads, but also via the website using the following link [HERE](#)

- **Year 7 - start date:**
8th June
- **Year 9 - start date:**
8th June
- **Year 10 - start date:**
17th June

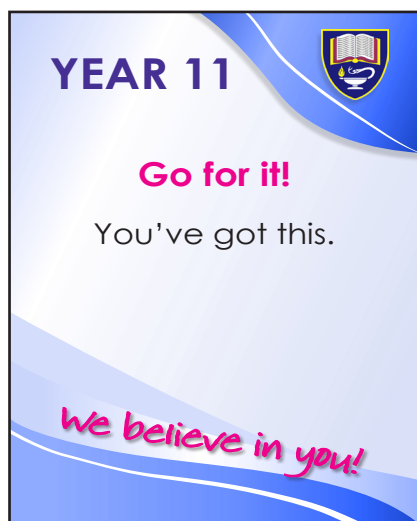
The Year 8 booklet will come out soon after half-term and parents will be emailed directly with the link.



GOOD LUCK TO OUR AMAZING YEAR 11 STUDENTS

Over 50 staff messages to Year 11 students have been displayed in the canteen, wishing them all the best in their exams.

We believe in you, Year 11! Keep going!



EQUIPMENT AND IPADS

We ask that all students check that they have all the equipment items they need ready for the next half-term. As a reminder, the required **equipment list is given below**. Please remember that students in receipt of Free School Meals can pick up missing items for free from the library. We also sell items at great value via our college shop: [College Shop](#)

Every Lesson	Maths and Science	IT and Languages	PE	Food Technology
Black pen Pencil Eraser Sharpener Ruler Glue stick Yellow highlighter Green highlighter Green pen for marking corrections and improving work *Calculator **Fully charged iPad and charger	Protractor Compass	Headphones Dictionary (Spanish or French)	Games kit and suitable footwear for the activity; trainers or football boots	Ingredients or money as required. Large container for the dish being made. <u>Practical Subjects</u> Students with long hair will also need a hair band when doing practicals in Science and Technology.

*Not all calculators work the same way. We recommend one similar to the one for sale in our School shop be used in your Maths and Science lessons.

**iPad must be charged to at least 80% at the start of every day.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

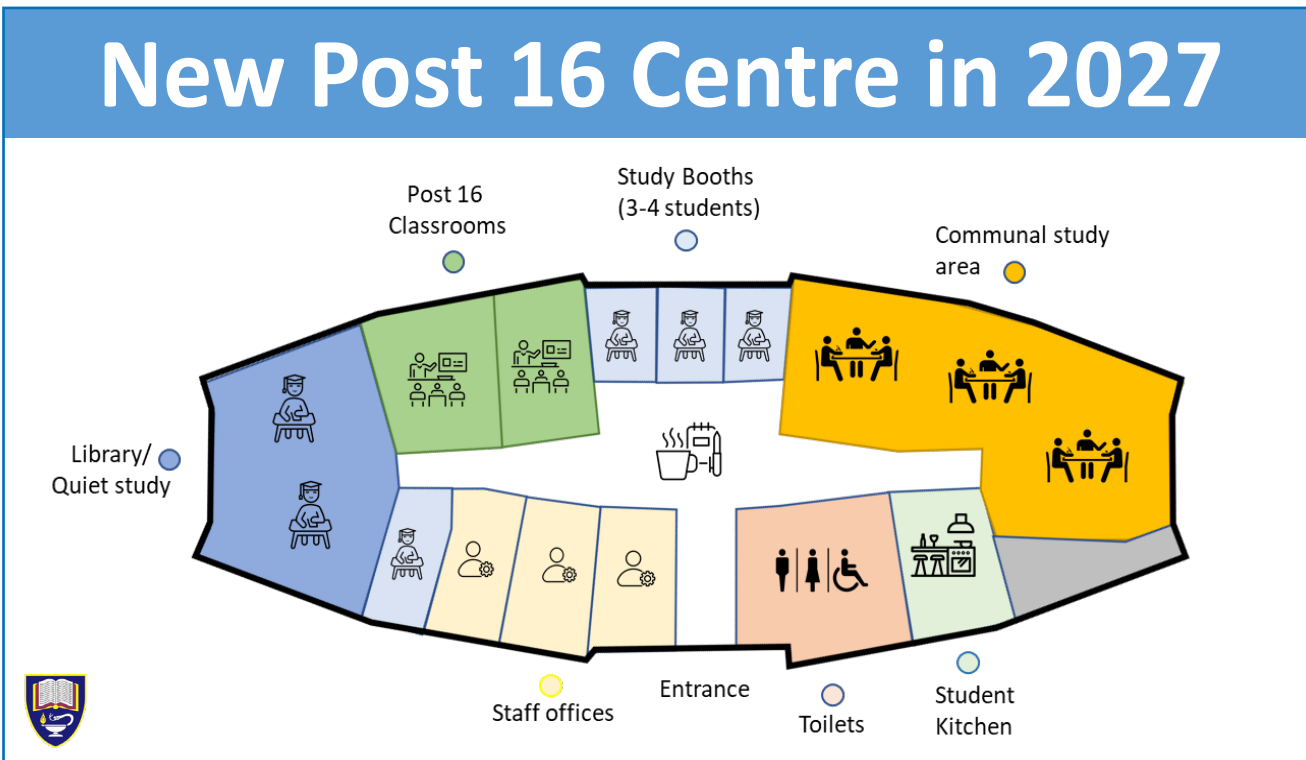
MAY	
22nd	Break-up for Half Term, 3.15pm
JUNE	
1st	Back to College, 8.45am
8th	Year 7 and Year 9 Assessments start
15th	Year 10 and Year 12 Mock Exams start
22nd	Year 8 Assessments start
24th	Year 13 Leavers Day and Celebration Evening
24th	Contingency Day for GCSE and A-Level Exams
25th	Year 13 Summer Ball
25th	Year 11 Celebration Day
29th	Summer Fair
JULY	
2nd-3rd	Year 6 Super Transition (selected students)
3rd	Years 7 and 9 Progress Report
3rd	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Assessment (Starts on)
3rd	Year 11 Ball
6th	Year 6 SEN Transition
7-8th	Year 6 Transition for all students
14th	Sports Day
15th	Reserve Sports Day
15th	Gold Duke of Edinburgh Assessment (Starts on)
15th	Celebration Evening (Years 7-11)
17th	Years 8, 10 and 12 Progress Report
20-24th	Years 7, 8 and 9 Activities Week
20-24th	Year 10 and Year 12 Work Experience
24th	Break-up for Summer, 3.15pm

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

BREAKING NEWS - NEW POST 16 CENTRE FOR 2027!

To give you an idea of what our new Post 16 Centre will look like, we have created a simple mock-up of the design.

The new facility will house more students and will have dedicated Post 16 classrooms as well as small study booths, its own library, a common room and a fully kitted out kitchen. We are incredibly excited about this development and can't wait to get our current Year 11 and 12 students into it as soon as possible. The work will start later this year with opening expected in early 2027.



NEW BENCHES COURTESY OF OUR PTFA

A MASSIVE thank you to our wonderful Parent Teacher and Friends Association for all the incredible fundraising they have been doing over the last 2 years. Recently, they have bought for us 5 new, high quality and long-lasting picnic benches to increase the outdoor seating for students on North Site.

The benches are already being well-used!





Helston Community College PTFA

presents

BINGO NIGHT

Join us for Bingo Night!

Wednesday 10th June

Doors open 6.00pm, eyes down 6.30pm
HCC North Site Hall

Dabbers at the ready!

£10 a book

Childrens Games • Cash Prizes* • Raffle
• Refreshments!

All monies raised in aid of the PTFA.

*Please note that cash prizes can only be claimed by an adult

REWARDS!REWARDS!REWARDS!

Praise Point Statistics

We love giving out Praise Points and so far this year, we have awarded over 130,000 of them! This works out at around 100 per student on average. We have issued 9 times more Praise Points (green) than Behaviour Points (red), with the most Praise Points being awarded for students' engagement with their work. Nearly 300 students have achieved their Gold Award (150 Praise Points), 90 have achieved their Platinum Award (200 Praise Points) and 8 remarkable students have managed to get to 300 and achieve their Diamond Award. The average ratio of Praise Points to Behaviour Points is 91% with well over half the students achieving 99% or 100%! Class Charts is available to all parents via the Class Charts app so you can track to see how your child is getting on. We can see from the log-in statistics that 75% of parents are logging in at least once every month.

Students of the Week and Month

We also continue to give out Student of the Week certificates for each subject and, of course, every month we publish the nominations for Student of the Month and announce the winners in this magazine (see pages 18-20).

Prize Draws

At the end of every term, we hold two prize draws - one for all the students who have been awarded a Kindness Golden Ticket (for random acts of kindness) and one for all the students who have completed the positive side of their consequence card. This year, 600 more cards have been handed in compared to this time last year!

School Streaks

And if all of that wasn't enough, we are coming to the end of the first year of our two-year trial of School Streaks, giving students the opportunity to win a reward for achieving a certain number of streaks each half-term. Streaks are awarded for 5 consecutive days of attendance and no behaviour points.

SCHOOL STREAKS

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



BUSINESS OF EDEN

On the 2nd of April 2026 students studying on the Level 3 Extended Certificate in Travel and Tourism had the opportunity to visit the Eden Project for a private talk and tour looking at the "Business of Eden". The day was spent gathering information ahead of their upcoming Year 13 unit on Visitor Attractions. A great day had by all!



RSC CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

Huge congratulations to Daniela, Elsie, Olivia, and Andrew on achieving a Bronze Award in the RSC Chemistry Olympiad! This demanding competition pushes students to think creatively, tackle complex problems, and apply their chemical knowledge to unfamiliar, real world situations. Achieving this award is a remarkable success, especially given that the students prepared independently during the very early stages of their A Level Chemistry studies. An outstanding accomplishment that reflects their dedication, curiosity, and enthusiasm for chemistry!



Science XP Stars - Spring 2 2026

Congratulations to the following Science XP Stars who gained the highest XP points on Sparx Science over the Spring 2 term.

Year 7

1st	Isla P	5620 XP
2nd	Olivia H	3820 XP
3rd	Millie A	3814 XP

Year 8

1st	Elsie G	17,640 XP
2nd	Mollie J	6955 XP
3rd	Lacie P	4730 XP

Year 9

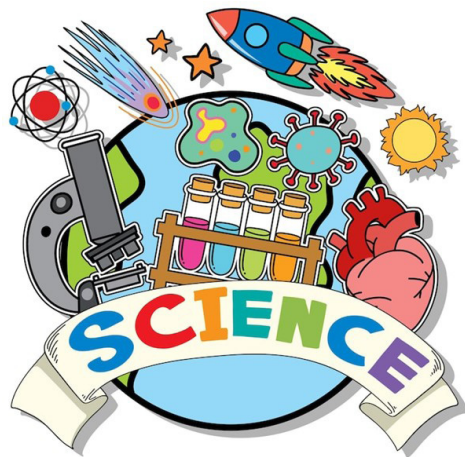
1st	Kaiden E	4875 XP
2nd	Callum P	4640 XP
3rd	Grace B	4503 XP

Year 10

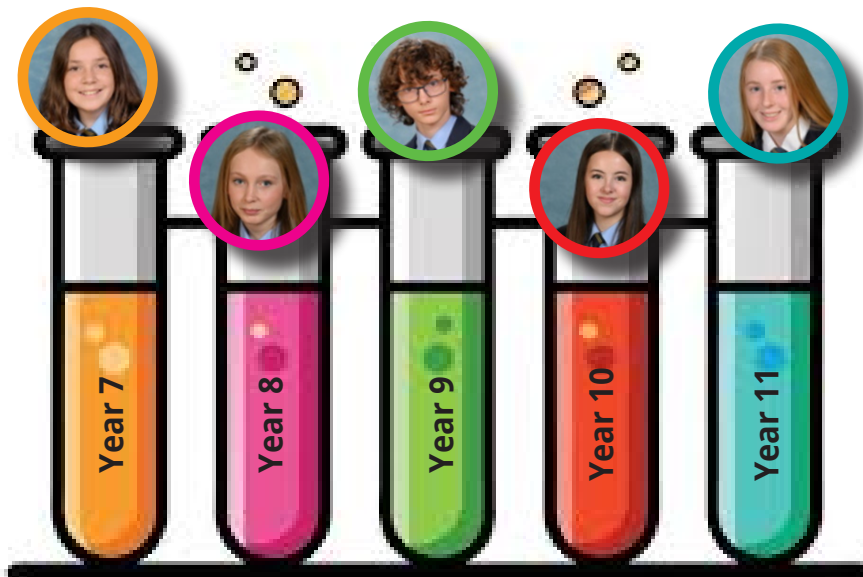
1st	Emma K	3560 XP
2nd	Jacob L	3530 XP
3rd	Lyla P	3373 XP

Year 11

1st	Daisy G	6868 XP
2nd	Henry P	6800 XP
3rd	Merryn B	4810 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.



POLURRIAN HOTEL BACKS HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S TANZANIA EXPEDITION



The Polurrian Hotel in Mullion is proud to announce its support for Helston Community College's upcoming Tanzania expedition, taking place this July. The month-long volunteering expedition will give 26 students, aged between 14 and 16, the opportunity to take part in community-based projects in rural Tanzania while gaining valuable cultural experience.

This marks the Hotel's continued support of the College, having provided a significant donation towards the College's overseas expedition to Peru in July 2024. The partnership reflects the Polurrian Hotel's ongoing commitment to championing young people and community-led initiatives.

Grant Callaghan, General Manager at the Polurrian Hotel, says: "We are delighted to continue our partnership with Helston Community College and this inspiring Tanzania expedition. Having supported the College's Peru trip two years ago, it is fantastic to be involved once again in a project that gives students the opportunity to make a meaningful difference, develop new skills and broaden their horizons. Helping young people and community initiatives is something we are incredibly proud of."

We are grateful for the Polurrian Hotel's continued support. Its contribution has helped make these life-changing expeditions possible, giving students the chance to contribute to important community projects while developing confidence, independence, and a wider understanding of the world. Partnerships like this play a vital role in helping us to offer experiences that build resilience and a global perspective.

Flora Day



Friday 8th May 2026



HELSTONIAN NEWS - FLORA DAY



HELSTONIAN NEWS - FLORA DAY



Bank of England represented at Helston Community College!

An ambassador from Bank of England met with a group of Year 8 and Year 9 maths students recently. The students were treated to a presentation and Q&A session linked with the role of the bank in our economy, the monetary system in the UK, and finding out about careers linked to finance within the bank. Helston was one of only four Cornish Schools to have been represented by the Bank during this recent tour. The presenter, Iain Ramsay, was very complimentary about the engagement of the students and their thoughtful, challenging questions.



Ask the Experts: Aviation

At the start of the summer term Chloe Taylor and Rich Thorpe from Ascent Flight Training presented to students regarding Aviation careers. This was one of the best attended sessions so far with students information regarding Observer and Navigator training, as well as learning about the wide range of other roles that are associated with the training school. Rich and Chloe gave Helston students an indication as to how a typical day would look for them and shared many positives about their jobs and working for Ascent, including the use of gym facilities at Culdrose, and the opportunity to be volunteer passengers on flights into Europe. The length of training and the salary potential was provided to our students, which helped to inspire students present to give them ideas for the future.



Ask the Experts: Agriculture

Ian Hampton from Skern Skills attended school to speak to interested students in Years 9 & 10 about careers linked with agriculture. Ian presented his career journey from his time at school, the various roles he has experienced to how he has established himself as an apprenticeship lecturer and mentor. Ian shared the value of working hard at school and how someone's personality and drive to do well can make a big impression in this industry. He listed the wide variety of roles and destinations that his previous students have gone on to achieve. This session was definitely rewarding for all students involved who gained insights into the levels of apprenticeships and the perks of following the apprenticeship route towards employment.



FUTURE CAREERS EVENT DATES:

Thursday 4 June - MineCycle

MineCycle will present about Mining engineering and sustainability with Year 9 students.

Monday 8 June - Ask the Experts event.

This is likely to involve either the Fire Service or Police. A chance for students to learn more about entry qualifications, and earning potential within the Public Services

Monday 6 July - Ask the Experts: Marketing.

The marketing team from the Polurrian hotel will share insights into this sector.

Work Experience - 20th - 24th July 2026


Students in Year 10 and Year 12 will be engaging in one week work experience placements in July. This will be an excellent opportunity for them to gain first hand experience in a sector which interests them and will help to gain more skills and awareness of workplaces.

There are some students still in need of a placement for that week. If you are part of a business that may wish to help with hosting a student please get in touch with me.


Martin Woolcock - Careers Lead

MWoolcock@helston.tpacademytrust.org





Ask the Experts 9: Fire Service



An event for students interested in learning more about careers in the Fire Service. Richard Coode from Helston Fire Station will be attending to share his knowledge and experience. 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 8th June 2026


1.45pm – 2.15pm

Post 16 Building

Open to students in Years 9 - 13

Careers linked with Fire Service could include the following options:

Wholetime/Part time
Firefighter, Fire Investigator,
Community Safety Educator,
Fire Control Operator





We have had an exciting half term in the library with a delivery of new books; there are lots more graphic novels as well as some excellent fiction titles to entice readers and non-readers! Beatrice the library duck has been visiting year 7 tutor groups as winners of the most borrowed books.



Post16 students and staff have been enjoying their monthly reading challenge; we have seen a huge variety of titles!



Remember we have ePlatform (available on all iPads) where students can access audio and eBooks for free throughout term-time as well as the holidays. Please see the Mrs. Ford or Mrs Rogers if you require any assistance with this. New titles are available every month.

Please help us win £1,000 to buy more books for our school library!

Nominate us now and you could win a £100 gift card to spend on new books. Your library needs you!

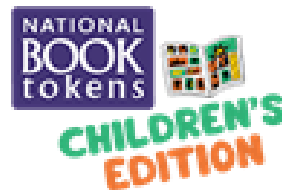
Nominate your Helston Community College to win new books. As our friends at the charity Read for Good® will tell you, it's well established that reading for pleasure leads to significantly better outcomes for children. But reading for fun is in decline,* and many school libraries are underfunded and outdated.

It's time to #rebuildthelibrary.

We're giving five schools the chance to **win £1,000 in National Book Tokens** and fill their shelves with new and inspiring books. Nominate Helston Community College and if yours is one of the five winning entries, you'll also **win a £100 National Book Token** to spend in your favourite bookshop.

Plus: to celebrate the 2026 National Year of Reading, we're giving away even more prizes. Each week until 24th June, we'll pick a flash winner to receive a **£100 National Book Token for their school, and £25 for themselves!**

Enter here: [Win £1,000 / €1,000 for your school's library! | National Book Tokens](#)



Lunchtime board games have been popular as ever with Chess coming out as a top favourite.

Happy Reading!
Mrs Rogers and Mrs Ford



Y11 Summer Ball Clothing Event

On Friday 24 April, we hosted a fantastic clothing event to help Year 11 students prepare for their upcoming Summer Ball - without breaking the bank. The event brought together students, parents, and local organisations for an afternoon of fashion, fun, and fundraising in support of Cornwall Hospice. Organised in collaboration with Falmouth University and Cornwall Hospice, the event offered a wide range of stylish options, including dresses, suits, ties, shoes, and accessories. With all items priced at a maximum of just £20, students were able to find affordable outfits while contributing to a meaningful charity.

The day began with students browsing the collection during lunchtime, giving them a sneak peek at what was on offer. From 3:15pm onwards, parents were invited to join, creating a lively and supportive atmosphere as families shopped together. Students were also welcome to bring outfits they had already purchased and enhance them with accessories or receive expert styling advice from fashion students attending from Falmouth University.

One of the highlights of the event was the presence of Falmouth University representatives, who set up engaging stands for students to visit. Whether or not students were making a purchase, they could drop by to learn more about fashion courses, creative careers, and university life. This added an extra dimension to the event, inspiring students to think about their futures while preparing for the present.

Refreshments were provided, making the afternoon even more enjoyable and encouraging visitors to take their time exploring all the stalls. The combination of affordable fashion, professional styling support, and a welcoming social environment made the event a great success.

Overall, the clothing event was a wonderful opportunity for students to get ready for their Summer Ball in a cost-effective and sustainable way, while also supporting a local charity. A big thank you goes to everyone involved in organising and running the event - it truly made a difference.

We look forward to seeing Year 11 shine at their Summer Ball!



TESCO BLUE TOKENS

The SEN Hub is now enjoying the new sensory aids thanks to the generosity of the Tesco Blue token scheme and the people of Helston. We have been able to make our HUB cosy and a safe space to enjoy whilst the student regulate to return to learning.





HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE




Wanted!

Donations of
Pre-loved Prom Clothing

If you have any dresses, suits, shoes etc
you would like to donate, please drop
them in to either of the
College Receptions.

Many thanks!

Devon and Cornwall Food Action

To book, please contact Debbie on 07880 835331

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

- July 4th
- September 19th
- October 24th (tbc)
- December 5th



DO YOU HAVE A CHILD AGED 8-17 WHO IS STRUGGLING WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH?

Anxiety, depression, self-harm and other mental health struggles are on the rise in children, particularly following the Covid-19 Pandemic.

As parents, we can be left feeling overwhelmed and helpless, not knowing where to turn for help.

THIS GROUP AIMS TO SUPPORT YOU TO:

- ✓ Meet other parents who understand your situation for mutual support.
- ✓ Learn strategies to help you support your child, with no judgement!
- ✓ Help you to prioritise your own well-being as a parent.

WHEN? Find out more at our **Information Session** for parents at 1pm on Tues 2nd or 7pm on Wed 3rd June 2026.

WHERE? We're holding it on Zoom and you'll get the link when you register for our Information Session below.

To attend register at www.calendly.com/ymhf/information-session-zoom

For more information contact:
Joel Sutton (YMHF) on 0300 302 0285
or email joel@youthmentalhealthfoundation.org

Helston Mayor Choosing Ceremony

We were so proud of Emily, Aaron, Olivia and Matthew for their exemplary behaviour while representing the school at the Helston Mayor Choosing Ceremony.

We met some lovely members of the Helston community, including a brief encounter with Mayor Boase herself, and felt honoured to be part of such a significant event in the Helston calendar.



DIGITAL YOUTH CLUB
CORNWALL COUNCIL
Ages 13-19
Monday, Thursday & Friday • 18:30 - 21:00
On Discord
Scan to Join Discord
Join our server & start chatting!
Funded by UK Government
SIGN UP FOR FREE: spaceyouthservices.org



SILENT DISCO

THE BASEMENT

SAT 30 MAY
 FAMILY 4.30-5.30pm £6
 TEENS 6-7.30pm FREE

OPEN DAY

Everyone's Welcome

THE BASEMENT

FREE PIZZA for sharing your ideas!

DROP IN:
 Graffiti 11am-1pm
 HN Dance Collective 11am-12pm
 Stop Animation 12-4pm
 Live DJs 1-3pm
 Coach Frank Scooters 1-2.30pm
 Build a Band performance 1-2pm
 Join and Jam Session 2-3pm
 Graffiti 2-4pm
 Coach Frank Skateboards 3-4pm

BOOK NOW:
 Family Silent Disco 4.30-5.30pm
 FREE Teens Silent Disco 6-7.30pm

THE BASEMENT
 Helston Gateway
 The Parade
 TR13 3ET

SAT 30 MAY
 11am-4pm

TRIALS. TRAVEL. TROUBLE.

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG?

THE ODYSSEY

AN EPIC GREEK COMEDY!

MONSTERS! GODS! MAGIC! OH MY!

BIG CHARACTERS. BIGGER JOURNEY. EVEN BIGGER LAUGHS!

AUDITIONS!

DATE:
 Y10 WED 17TH JUNE LUNCHTIME
 Y7 & 8 MON 22ND JUNE
 Y9, 11 & P16 TUES 23RD JUNE

TIME:
 3.15PM - 4.45PM

WHERE:
 DRAMA STUDIO A2

COME FOR THE ROLE. STAY FOR THE ADVENTURE!
 ALL WELCOME. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED.
 JUST BRING YOUR ENERGY (AND SANDALS).

May Half term

THE BASEMENT

Sunday 24
 Cirk Hes - drop in circus skills workshop 2-4pm

Tuesday 26
 'Stop Framing' Helston Stop Animation course for teens 6-8pm -Fully Booked

Wednesday 27
 HN Dance Collective
 Flash Mob Frenzy 10am - 2pm
 Normal classes from 4.45pm

Thursday 28
 Manga Drawing Workshop with Keith Sparrow 1-3pm - SOLD OUT

Coach Frank Drop-in Skate Workshop 6-7pm

Friday 29
 Zine Making - What 'are your' Three Words with Karen Howse 1-3.30pm

Roll The Dice - 13+ Games Night 6.30-10pm

Saturday 30
 OPEN DAY - Everyone is welcome, FREE family activities 11am - 4pm

Family Silent Disco Tickets £5.00 4.30-5.30pm

Teens Silent Disco - FREE -Reserve your slot now to avoid disappointment 6-7.30pm

Sunday 31
 Electric Rock Collective - A 10 week course creating a big band for a big performance 12-4pm

TO BOOK VISIT www.lovehelston.co.uk/the-basement

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS



COUNTY CHAMPIONS!!

Huge congratulations to the brilliant U13 Ravens Blues Girls team - and their coaches Dean Bray, Ben Bowden and Martin Adams - who beat Falmouth Peregrines recently with a brilliant performance - winning 5-1 to become the U13 County Champions!

The girls dominated the first half, finding themselves 1-0 up after only a few minutes, Falmouth equalised but the girls regained the lead immediately after to lead 2-1 at half time.

After an even start to the second half, the girls scored the crucial third goal from a corner with 10 minutes left before adding two more great goals.

Goals came from Olivia C, Olivia W (hattrick) and Bella B.

Coaches Player of the Match (POTM) was Florence B with a dominant display in midfield!

Cornwall FA POTM went to captain Immy M who was full of class up front - showing quality from start to finish!

Well done to everyone involved!!



U14 Culdrose Ravens Blues

(consisting of year 8 and 9) won their League title in a top of the table last match of the season away to Tregorrick. Needing a win to go above Tregorrick the girls put in their best ever display - winning 4-2 on the day with goals from Amelia V (x2), Amy C and Lacie P. Amelia was also picked by as Player of the Match who played the best her Coach has seen and brought up her 30th goal of the season (23 league and cup goals). Special mention to Imogen H who played through the pain barrier with a horribly bruised toe.

Congratulations to them all. All 16 players attend Helston with all

LONDON MARATHON SUCCESS!!

Huge congratulations to Martin Woolcock, PE teacher, who completed the LONDON MARATHON on Sunday in a staggering 3hrs 37mins! Such an amazing achievement.

Martin took part in the marathon to raise money for Alzheimer's Society, a charity that means a huge amount to him and his family, raising over £4,500!!!

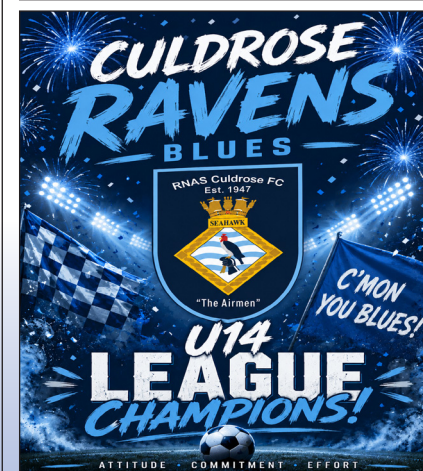
Martin said, 'The London Marathon was a wonderful experience, I really enjoyed it. Throughout the course there were thousands of people lining the route supporting and cheering on the runners. I had my name on my shirt which helped me gain support from the crowd- this is something I really appreciated, particularly in the final few miles when I felt very tired. Thank you so much to everyone who has donated to this cause and offered kind words of encouragement and support.'

Martin's fundraising page is still open here if you would like to donate:

www.justgiving.com/page/martin-woolcock...



but one at the match. The squad will be invited to a Presentation Day hosted by Cornwall FA in the summer.



U15s Cricket Tournament

Huge congratulations to our U15s cricket team who finished an incredible 4th in the county tournament last week! A brilliant achievement and a fantastic effort from everyone involved.

Cricket club runs every Tuesday after school with Miss Bragg — all abilities welcome!



If you have had any sporting successes that you would like to share with us, please email your articles to:

enquiries@helston.tpacademytrust.org



ESSA Athletics Competition – Carn Brea

A huge well done to all of our athletes who represented the school at the ESSA Athletics Competition at Carn Brea recently. Your effort, determination, and team spirit were outstanding throughout the event. Final team standings:

- Junior Boys – 11th
- Senior Boys – 9th
- Junior Girls – 13th
- Senior Girls – 9th

We are incredibly proud of everyone who competed and supported each other across the two days. Interested in participating in the next competition? Come along to Athletics club on Monday's after school!





SUMMER TERM After School Clubs 2026

We've got something for everyone with Athletics, Cricket, Softball and Rounders on offer.

Please note that Thursdays will be either training or a fixture.

Dates are displayed on the PE notice board, and you'll be informed if you are selected to play. Get involved and give it a go! See you all soon

MON	ATHLETICS CLUB (Y7-10) With Mrs Pryor, Mrs Palmer, Mr Woolcock & Mr Hattam
TUE	GIRLS CRICKET CLUB (Y7-10) With Miss Bragg
WED	BOYS SOFTBALL CLUB (Y7-10) With Mr Hattam
THU	ROUNDERS CLUB / FIXTURE (Y7-10) With Mrs Palmer, Miss Bragg & Mrs Pryor
FRI	BOYS CRICKET CLUB (Y7-10) With Mr Woolcock & Mr Hattam
SAT	KS4 FITNESS CLUB With Mrs Lealand

Rounders Results vs Richard Lander School

- Year 7 battled hard but narrowly lost 12.5 – 10.5
- Year 8 secured a strong win, 14 – 10.5
- Year 9 put in a great performance but lost a close game 14 – 12
- Well done to all players for their effort and teamwork Rounders Club is on this Thursday for training - all welcome!



Praise Points



Leaderboard

Year 7



Reuben W	7E	373
Elowen I	7D	311
Charlie B	7F	302
Ashwin A	7F	286
Matthew B	7F	263
Lottie C	7G	261
Nellie H	7D	258
Mollie C	7E	257
Kerenza E	7F	254
Hettie W	7D	254

Year 8



Jessica B	8E	417
Harley T	8D	363
Ana-Maria C	8G	266
Olivia C	8D	256
Elana-Brooke R	8D	249
Maisie B	8E	244
Blake L	8B	236
Edward M	8E	234
Alice G	8D	225
Ethan R	8H	223

Year 9



Archie R	9B	329
Aaron I	9F	306
Amelia B	9F	293
Isobel P	9E	277
Tori K	9C	274
Noah H	9B	258
Theo C	9C	249
Jude N	9D	248
Daniel W	9B	245
Winnie N	9G	242

Year 10



Jacob C	10C	251
Tyler W	10E	251
Frederick W	10E	222
Lissa M	10C	217
Finley W-H	10E	215
Sophie O	10B	206
Cayden A	10C	205
Elowenn F	10C	202
Jen F	10H	196
Lily R	10H	191

Year 11



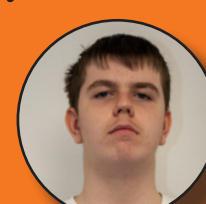
Lewis W	11E	238
David S	11A	235
Hugh K	11D	233
Alex M	11G	219
Thomas H	11D	213
Maisy M	11B	213
Lucy A	11H	208
Jay H	11D	200
Isaac A	11D	199
Gabbi R	11D	199

Year 12



Summer R	12A	43
Elias B	12A	42
Andrew D	12C	38
Finley S	12C	38
Emma S	12A	36
Maya C	12B	31
Zenna W	12C	27
Alfie C	12B	25
Chloe S	12E	25
Jacob C	12C	23

Year 13



Jacob S	13A	34
Tom M	13C	22
Alistair S	13D	21
Kieran S	13C	20
Emily P	13A	19
Samuel T	13A	19
Lucas F	13C	17
Lilly P	13A	16
William B	13A	15
Emma T	13A	15
Rhys W	13D	15


Well Done!

(Praise Points as of 14/05/26)

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

April - May

Year 7

Charlie B

Nominated by Ms Cox, Charlie shows consistent focus and engagement in lessons. He has now achieved over 300 Praise Points gaining his Diamond Award (one of only 8 students in the College). What an amazing year he's having!



Year 8

Olivia C

Nominated by Ms Bragg for her consistent engagement in PE lessons and commitment to extra-curricular activities, Olivia has shined throughout Year 8. She has a great attendance, a very high number of Praise Points and an excellent attitude to learning.



Year 9

Archie R

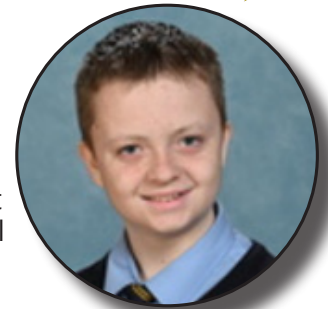
Known for always working hard, it is no surprise that Archie is top of the Praise Point leaderboard in Year 9, already achieving his Diamond Award. His attitude to learning is an example to everyone. Nominated by Ms Ford.



Year 10

Jacob C

Nominated by both of our drama teachers, Jacob has shown consistent hard work in lessons and after school for his devised exam piece. He has accumulated a very impressive number of Praise Points, has a perfect behaviour record and an excellent attendance.



Year 11

Amelie M

Amelie has shown motivation and perseverance throughout her time at Helston. She is a model student who is on track to achieve great things! Amelie was nominated by Ms Richardson and Ms Crawshaw.



Post 16

Ellie R-M

Nominated by Ms Howe, for her consistently helpful and positive attitude in Post 16 and for being a great friend to her peers.



Well Done

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Nominations

YEAR 7

Zac R 7 Lovely, consistent work in Drama. S. Richardson
 Mollie C 7 Confident and creative work in Drama. S. Richardson
 Flynn M 7 Perceptive ideas and confident performing skills in Drama. S. Richardson

Harry P 7 For his can-do attitude in Spanish. S. Barnes
 Jacob T 7 For super effort in Spanish lessons this year. S. Barnes
 Reuben W 7 Absolutely amazing effort and progress in Spanish lessons this year. You consistently work hard and are a delight to teach! L. Wake

Luca F 7 For being a hard working superstar! L. Ford
 Linnea D 7 Outstanding performances in the athletics championships! H Palmer

Oakley F 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Sienna L 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Nellie P 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Olivia E 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Nura P 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Sophia S 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Amy S 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Vincent V-H 7 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh

YEAR 7

Ryan T 8 Excellent imaginative ideas in Drama and comedy acting! S. Richardson

Alistair D 8 Great focus in Drama and super devising work. S. Richardson
 Matthew M 8 Great focus in Drama and super devising work. S. Richardson
 James M 8 Great focus in Drama and super devising work. S. Richardson
 Olli S 8 Great focus in Drama and super devising work. S. Richardson
 Bodhi V-D 8 Great focus in Drama and super devising work. S. Richardson
 Alfie D 8 Fantastic planning in Drama and consistent motivation and enthusiasm. S. Richardson

Alice G 8 Creativity and motivation in Drama lessons. S. Richardson
 Elana-Brooke R 8 Confidence and original ideas in Drama and great comedy! S. Richardson

Erin N 8 Creative and original ideas in Drama. S. Richardson
 Harrison T 8 Beautiful script reading of 'Skellig' in Drama. S. Richardson
 Isobel S 8 For excellent effort in all tasks in Spanish. S. Barnes
 Annabel H 8 For settling in so well into Spanish lessons and always doing your best. S. Barnes

YEAR 8

Evie O 8 For super effort in Spanish lessons this year. S. Barnes
 Lily S-P 8 Continued effort in Spanish lessons, maintaining excellent focus and always going above and beyond in writing tasks! L. Wake

Elana-Brooke R 8 Always enthusiastic, keen and giving 100% in Spanish lessons. You should be really proud of yourself! L. Wake

Skye W 8 Well done for being so hard-working and conscientious in every single lesson. Your focus is amazing and you are making so much progress! L. Wake

Jesse W 8 Well done for consistently maintaining focus, presenting your work beautifully and always giving 100% in lessons. L. Wake

Erin B 8 Consistently working hard in DT and Food lessons. L. Ford
 George F 8 Enthusiasm and effort. L. Ford

Louie H 8 For being a great youth sport trust leader to our new sports club! H Palmer

Freya M 8 For her consistent engagement in PE lessons and commitment to extra-curricular activities. E Bragg

Jessica B 8 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Leah C 8 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh
 Anna H 8 Great contributions to RE lessons. G Parekh

YEAR 8

YEAR 8

YEAR 8

YEAR 9

Callum O-H 8 Fantastic engagement in his Science lessons. L Davies
 Ella M 8 For showing excellent effort in drama. K. Crawshaw
 Ava H-E 8 For showing excellent effort in drama. K. Crawshaw
 Felix G 8 For showing excellent effort in drama. K. Crawshaw
 Joshua H 8 For showing excellent effort in drama. K. Crawshaw
 Isobel P 9 Showing up every day and working so hard in intervention. D. Benny
 P. Martin

Eden C 9 Consistently great in History. S. Richardson
 Polly R 9 Motivated and creative approach to all Drama tasks. S. Richardson

Maddie C 9 Motivated and creative approach to all Drama tasks. S. Richardson

Thomas H 9 Thank you for the energy and enthusiasm you give to every drama lesson. S. Richardson

Amelia B 9 For always being happy to contribute in Spanish lessons. You've had a good year - well done! S. Barnes
 Harry E 9 For super effort in Spanish lessons this year. S. Barnes
 Grace B 9 A consistently high level of effort throughout the year ensuring excellent progress. L. Ford

Oliver M 9 Perseverance with difficult questions. L. Ford
 Eloise T 9 For being a great youth sport trust leader to our new sports club! H Palmer

Olivia T 9 For being a great youth sport trust leader to our new sports club! H Palmer

Lily S 9 For being a great youth sport trust leader to our new sports club! H Palmer

Jesse H 9 His positivity, determination and commitment in PE & Sport M Woolcock

Aaron I 9 His positivity, determination and commitment in PE & Sport M Woolcock
 Max F 9 Max maintains excellent focus and effort in class. R Cox
 Grace B 9 For showing excellent effort in Drama. K. Crawshaw
 Jorja F 9 For showing excellent effort in Drama. K. Crawshaw

Mia B 9 Fantastic engagement in her Science lessons. L Davies
 Maddie W 9 Fantastic effort in her Science lessons. L Davies
 Finley L 10 Fantastic focus and commitment in Computer Science. A. Birkett

Neve C 10 Has produced outstanding work in Sport Science to achieve the highest grade this year. K. Treloar

Louis M 10 Taking a mature approach to completing his Sport Science coursework and is always very polite in lessons. K. Treloar

Caitlin W 10 For consistently working hard to make the best notes you can in your book in preparation for your PSA! J. Robertson

Emily B 10 Consistent hard work in lessons and after school for devised exam piece. S. Richardson

Sophie O 10 Consistent hard work in lessons and after school for devised exam piece. S. Richardson

Finley W-H 10 Consistent hard work in lessons and after school for devised exam piece. S. Richardson

Poppy F 10 Consistent hard work in lessons and after school for devised exam piece. S. Richardson

Samara R 10 Consistent hard work in lessons and after school for devised exam piece. S. Richardson
 Jake W 10 Consistent hard work in lessons and after school for devised exam piece. S. Richardson
 Isaac N 10 For your effort in Spanish lessons this year. S. Barnes

YEAR 9

YEAR 9

YEAR 10

YEAR 10

YEAR 10

YEAR 10

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Nominations

POST 16 YEAR 11 YEAR 10 YEAR 10 YEAR 10

Austin M	10	Effort and contribution to GCSE History class discussions.	K. Trevithick
Jacob S	10	Effort and contribution to GCSE History class discussions.	K. Trevithick
Bella H	10	Consistently working hard for her GCSE RE revision	A Olsen
Nick M	10	Being outstanding always with effort, manners, work quality and engagement.	L.Ford
Cayden A	10	Great effort in RE leading up to the RE GCSE exams.	G Parekh
Darcy F	10	Great effort in RE leading up to the RE GCSE exams.	G Parekh
Emma K	10	Unbelievable effort and progress made in GCSE RE through hard work and practice of past paper questions	G Parekh
Grace F	10	Grace demonstrates excellent concentration and a positive attitude in lessons.	R Cox
Poppy F	10	For showing excellent effort in Drama.	K.Crawshaw
Finley W-H	10	For showing excellent effort in Drama.	K.Crawshaw
Sophie O	10	For showing excellent effort in Drama.	K.Crawshaw
Emily B	10	For showing excellent effort in Drama.	K.Crawshaw
Rue B	10	Always engaged in his Biology lessons.	L Davies
James W	10	100% effort in every Biology lesson.	L Davies
Eva Hendy	11	Even though she is dealing with complex medical issues she is 'smashing it' in school. She never complains about anything and just an absolute delight.	S. Wood
Joe C	11	For overcoming huge challenges and coming into school to take his GCSE's.	S. Garty
Rosie C	11	For making so many revision cards to prepare yourself well for your exam!	J. Robertson
Jess A	11	Motivation and perseverance with Drama practice questions.	S. Richardson
Aulay M	11	Motivation and perseverance with Drama practice questions.	S. Richardson
Lewis W	11	Turning up for every single History coaching session available.	K. Trevithick
Charlotte H	11	Turning up for every single History coaching session available.	K. Trevithick
Kateryna K	11	Turning up for every single History coaching session available.	K. Trevithick
Oliver W	11	Focusing on how to improve his responses in every lesson showing focus and commitment.	E. Creaser
Dylan H-P	11	Stepping up and pushing himself.	L.Ford
Rueben R	11	For his consistent effort, motivation and development in Sport Science.	E Bragg
Harry P	11	For his consistent effort, motivation and development in Sport Science.	E Bragg
Athena H	11	For coping so well in her GCSE exams.	S Garty
Joseph F	11	Joseph shows commitment and sustained focus during revision lessons.	R Cox
Anya E	11	Anya shows excellent focus and engagement in revision lessons.	R Cox
Amelie M	11	For showing great focus and resilience in the run up to her Drama exams.	K.Crawshaw
Jess A	11	For showing great focus and resilience in the run up to her Drama exams.	K.Crawshaw
Elias B	12	Consistent effort, motivation and development for A Level Drama exam piece.	S. Richardson
Summer R	12	Consistent effort, motivation and development for A Level Drama exam piece.	S. Richardson
Emma S	12	Consistent effort, motivation and development for A Level Drama exam piece.	S. Richardson

Finley S	12	Consistent effort, motivation and development for A Level Drama exam piece.	S. Richardson
Lucas S	12	Effort with his Engineering coursework and really applying himself in his depth of thinking.	L. Ford
Sebastian R	12	For his in-depth understanding & focus in Geology.	K Ryan
Daniela H	12	For topping the year 12 Uplearn Biology performance tables.	K Ryan
Jacob T	12	For topping the year 12 Uplearn Chemistry performance tables.	K Ryan
Maxwell K	12	For topping the year 12 Uplearn Physics performance tables.	K Ryan
Ella S	12	Always working hard, showing commitment to her sport lessons and producing high quality work.	K Treloar
Sennen O'B	12	Always working hard, showing commitment to her sport lessons and producing high quality work.	K Treloar
Liam A	12	Always working hard, showing commitment to her sport lessons and producing high quality work.	K Treloar
Harley E	12	For always attending tutor time.	K Treloar
Grace G	12	Grace shows patience and resilience while consistently producing high-quality coursework in Medical Science.	R Cox
Maya C	12	Always willing to help out in a mature supportive way.	J Howe
Chloe D	13	For topping the year 13 Uplearn Biology performance tables	K Ryan
Imogen S	13	For her positivity and enthusiasm for all aspects of Post 16	K Ryan
Jack W	13	Excellent, inquisitive and thoughtful Philosophy student!	G Parekh
Lucy H	13	Showing excellent attitude to learning towards the last sport unit and always bringing happiness to lessons.	K Treloar
Lucy W	13	Always attending lessons, producing excellent sport coursework and going above and beyond by supporting y8 PE!	K Treloar
Lilly P	13	Producing excellent sport coursework and going above and beyond by supporting y8 PE!	K Treloar
Reuben G	13	For completing a sport unit before its actual deadline!	K Treloar
Lillie P	13	Lillie has shown focus and resilience in the weeks leading up to her Medical Science exams.	R Cox

Well Done

Head of Year 7

Dear all,

Well, what a way to welcome the summer! I hope you all had a great Flora Day and made the most of such a special day for our community. It is always a highlight walking with the students and seeing them do such a fantastic job in representing the College, their families, themselves and the town itself. Whatever you did I hope that you had lovely time together with family and friends.

There were lots of happy and excited faces as you can see!



Year 7s are continuing to excel throughout the school behaviour system with their PERKS (Proud, Engaged, Ready, Kind and Safe), so well done to all those students who have been making a real effort in racking up those praise points to achieve their awards and completing their positive consequence cards. I'm sure we will all keep working together to be successful.

Well done to all students maintaining their excellent attendance or who are showing an improvement...keep it going! Students will be rewarded if they have completed their 5-week streak for 100% attendance. As a Year group we are aiming to have over a 95% attendance throughout the year so every day counts. Thank you for all your support with the basics including organising uniform, ensuring the children are on time for school and they have all their equipment including a charged Ipad. Every little bit of support will be a great help to ensure we all have a successful day.

As we head into the summer, we have plenty to look forward to with Sports Day, Celebration Evening, Year 6 Transition and activities week all to come.

Let's hope the weather plays its part and we can look forward to an exciting summer term.

Best wishes,

Terry Richardson - Head of Year 7 and Transition



Head of Year 8

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly positive and successful year for our Year 8 students. With another short but busy half term, we have certainly packed a lot in.

Students have continued to develop both academically and personally, showing increasing independence, resilience, and maturity. I have been particularly impressed with their approach to assessments this year, with more coming soon as we move into the final stretch after half term. Students have been putting in significant effort and as always, it is so lovely to see so many of them engaged in their learning. It has also been fantastic to see so many students recognised through 'Student of the Week' awards and positive feedback from staff across the college, highlighting their engagement and positive attitudes to learning.

A particular highlight this year has been the continued success of the JET Programme. This has been a wonderful opportunity for many of our students, helping them to build confidence, develop new friendships, and strengthen their ability to work collaboratively as part of a team. The growth we have seen in students involved in the programme has been excellent, and it is something we are incredibly proud of as a year group. It was wonderful to see them have a graduation ceremony in North Site Hall.

One of the standout moments of the term was, of course, Flora Day in Helston. It was a fantastic occasion, and I was incredibly proud of how our students represented both themselves and the college. They looked incredibly smart and conducted themselves with maturity, enthusiasm, and respect throughout the day. It was a real celebration of community spirit, and our students played their part brilliantly.

As we look ahead, there is still much to be excited about, including upcoming events and opportunities for students to continue to challenge themselves and make lasting memories with their peers. I am very much looking forward to continuing to support this year group as they move into Year 9, where we will build further on the strong foundations they have established. There will be so many exciting moments for the students and of course, the big one, KS4 Options.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support this year. If you have any questions, concerns, or feel that your child needs additional support at any point, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Working together is key to ensuring every student continues to thrive.

Warm regards,

Jack Dudley - Head of Year 8



Head of Year 9

As we approach the final half term of Year 9, it is hard to believe how quickly this year has passed. Time seems to be moving even faster as we head towards the end of the academic year. Firstly, I would like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring that students arrive looking smart and in line with the College's uniform policy. Your reminders about removing jewellery, hoodies, and nail varnish are greatly appreciated and make a real difference. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work the year group has put into improving their attendance. Thank you to all parents and carers who have encouraged their children to attend College, particularly when they have found it challenging. Please be assured that we will always do our best to support them here. If you feel we can help in any way, do not hesitate to get in contact.



The final assessment window for Year 9 will take place from **8th June to 19th June**. This is a valuable opportunity for students to begin developing good study habits in preparation for Key Stage 4 and, ultimately, GCSE exams.

To support your child, we kindly ask that you:

- Provide a quiet space for them to revise
- Allow them a place to keep their materials organised and easily accessible
- Encourage regular revision routines
- Support good time management
- Limit distractions, such as mobile phones, during study time

Students will receive a booklet outlining:

- Assessment dates
- Suggested revision techniques
- Useful websites to support their learning

Revision activities will vary by subject. Helpful resources include revision cards, highlighters, and coloured pens to organise key information. For subjects that require factual recall or vocabulary learning, a simple but effective strategy is to ask your child to explain what they have learned. If they can do this confidently without support, they are well prepared. In tutor sessions, we will be focusing on revision cards, memory techniques, and effective note-making strategies. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students the very best of luck in their assessments.

Finally, thank you for a wonderful **Flora Day**. The students were fantastic—well behaved, patient despite the delay at the start, and a credit to the College. They looked amazing in white with their Lily of the Valley, and it was clear how proud they were to be part of such a special tradition. For me, the highlight is always looking across the Bowling Green and seeing the entire year group together an unforgettable moment that reminds us just how special the day truly is.

We have a busy half term ahead, and I am sure it will pass quickly. Thank you again for your continued support. I hope you enjoy the May break, and I look forward to welcoming the students back for the final half term of Year 9.

Warm regards,

Siobhan Barnes - Head of Year 9

Head of Year 10

Over what has felt like a relatively short half term, I have continued to be incredibly impressed by the positivity and motivation shown by our Year 10 students. Despite the disjointed nature of recent weeks, with bank holidays, examinations and celebrations breaking up the usual routine, students have continued to work hard, support one another and approach each day with maturity and enthusiasm.



One of the absolute highlights of this half term was our Flora Day celebrations. I could not have been prouder of the students who represented the college throughout the day. Their conduct, energy and commitment to such an important local tradition truly reflected the values of HCC. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces throughout the day and I especially appreciated the countless smiles, waves and enthusiastic "JLOs" I received while dancing the Midday Dance! The atmosphere created by our students was exceptional and it was wonderful to see everyone embracing the occasion with such pride and enjoyment.

As we now look ahead to the final half term of the year, there is certainly plenty to look forward to as summer approaches. One particularly important milestone will be Work Experience, which is a pivotal part of the Key Stage 4 journey. This opportunity allows students to gain valuable insight into the world of work and helps to begin thinking carefully about their future aspirations. We also have our much-anticipated Sports Day on the horizon. For Year 10, this will be their final Sports Day at HCC and I am hopeful they are ready to set their sights on one final athletic challenge! Whether competing, supporting friends or simply enjoying the day together, Sports Day always creates fantastic memories and celebrates the spirit of teamwork and participation that makes our year group so special.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all students and families who attended our Exam Success Evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you there, engaging positively with the information and support available. We hope the evening proved informative and helpful as we begin to look ahead towards the important challenges and opportunities at the end of this academic year and into Year 11. On that note, a huge congratulations to the year group for smashing their very first official GCSE examination in Religious Education. Staff were incredibly impressed not only with how well students prepared beforehand, but also with the mature and respectful way they conducted themselves throughout the day. This was an incredibly important experience ahead of next year's GCSE examinations and students should feel proud of how they approached this significant milestone. When we return after half term, attention will quickly turn towards the mock exams, beginning the week commencing June 15th. All revision materials will be shared and explored during tutor time and lesson time to ensure students feel fully supported and prepared. We encourage all students to begin developing positive revision habits now, as the work they put in over the coming weeks and months will make a real difference moving forward.

As we head into the final stretch of the academic year, I leave Year 10 with this reminder:

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out."

What you choose to do now truly matters, and I know Year 10 will continue to rise to every challenge ahead.

Jamie Lovelock - Head of Year 10

Head of Year 11

Although short, this half-term has been a busy one for our Year 11 students. They have shown tremendous dedication, resilience and maturity as they prepared for, and began, their GCSE examinations.



The weeks leading up to exams were filled with focused revision sessions, intervention classes and independent study, and it has been fantastic to see so many students approaching this important period with such determination and commitment.

The start of the GCSE season is always a significant milestone, and I have been incredibly proud of the calm and positive attitude shown by our students. They have conducted themselves with maturity and supported one another throughout what can be a challenging time. Their hard work and perseverance have been evident every day, and I know that effort will continue to serve them well over the coming weeks.

Alongside the demands of revision and examinations, it was also wonderful to celebrate Flora Day together. It was a real honour to walk alongside our Year 11 students and see them take part in such an important local tradition with pride, enthusiasm and respect. The day was a fantastic reminder of the strong sense of community and spirit within the year group, and the students represented both themselves and the school exceptionally well.

As examinations continue, I would like to wish all Year 11 students the very best of luck for their remaining papers. Keep believing in yourselves, continue to stay focused with your revision, and remember that every bit of effort counts. We are all incredibly proud of what you have achieved so far and look forward to seeing you continue to rise to the challenge in the weeks ahead.

Ellis Hawkey - Head of Year 11

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](#)



*"Pupils are **kind, respectful and polite** towards each other. Pupils **behave well** in lessons and around the school. Leaders and staff have embedded **effective routines** to support pupils' behaviour."*

- Ofsted 2022

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.

