The Helstonian

October 2026

HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAGAZINE



ISSUE 25

In this issue: Student of the Month • Sporting Achievements • D of E • GCSE Art • Activities Week 2026 • Careers • Praise Point Legends!

ASPIRATION • AMBITION • ACHIEVEMENT



LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the College

I am delighted to share with you our first edition of The Helstonian for this academic year. Inside you will find, as always, lots of photos and articles of students doing some amazing things. We've even included some items from the summer such as the brilliant adventure to Tanzania. It's another great edition, which I'm sure you'll enjoy. Well done and thank you to all the students who feature this month for their achievements and for taking up the opportunities we have on offer.

These last six weeks have been busy getting back into the routines of studying. Our Year 7s have settled in exceptionally well, our Year 10s have admirably stepped up to the challenge of GCSEs, and our Year 11s have shown fantastic dedication with an excellent attendance to their Period 5 revision sessions. Year 8s and 9s are taking on more responsibility as they get older, and our sixth formers are just simply wonderful! School isn't just about hard work in the classroom though - we have asked all students to consider attending an enrichment club or extra-curricular activity. And they have not disappointed! We have taken part in multiple sports tournaments and fixtures, our school production of The Odyssey is progressing well, and we've already run a trip to London, with students off to Berlin, Krakow and Morocco to follow!

We really think there is something for everyone. As an extra incentive this year, we have issued students in Years 7 to 9 with an enrichment passport that works a bit like a loyalty card. If they attend 8 enrichment sessions and fill up their card, they get 5 praise points and a treat!

As I'm sure you know, we love to 'praise the positive' so for another year we are running our School Streaks package giving students the chance to win a reward for achieving streaks for great attendance and behaviour. And on page 22 you'll see that we have some highflyers in terms of praise points with many students already smashing the Bronze Award milestone. It has certainly been a very positive start to the year, and I am full of confidence about the wonderful things I know our students will achieve over the coming months.

Good luck to our Year 10 and Year 11 students who have assessments or mock exams coming up after half-term!

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Yours

Alex Lingard

Headteacher

Helston Community College School Bus Survey

Does your child take a bus to school?

If so, please can you complete the following short survey survey.

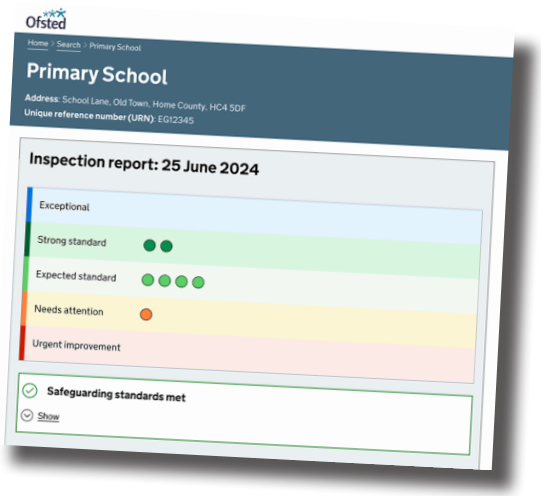
The results will support us in our discussions with the Local Authority around the distance, reliability and in some cases the cost of travel.

Please complete the survey for each child (Year 7 to 11) you have who attends HCC.

Helston Community College School Bus Survey – Fill in form

OFSTED

As you may be aware, OFSTED is due to inspect us at some point this academic year. OFSTED has recently introduced changes to its inspection framework following its national "Big Listen", which gathered feedback from schools, teachers, parents and educational organisations across the country.



To help families understand these changes and what school inspections involve, OFSTED has produced a short 3-minute video which explains the updated process in a clear and accessible way. You can watch it here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbl0FvY976g

While inspections can sometimes feel daunting, we see this as a wonderful opportunity to showcase everything that makes our school such a special place: our wonderful students, our dedicated staff, and the supportive community that we are all so proud to be part of. As always, as soon as we are notified of an inspection, we will let families know. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more about the inspection process and the recent changes, we encourage you to take a few minutes to watch the video.

Attendance

We talk about the importance of attendance a lot for the simple reason the difference it makes to students' success at school. Year after year we see the same outcomes - those students who have attendance of 95% or above outperform those who do not. Please do ensure your child attends as much as possible. If feeling a little under the weather, please do try to get them to school in the morning to give the day a go. 95% attendance equates to missing no more than 3 days of school each term, e.g. no more than 3 days missed between September and Christmas.



Enrichment Passport

Complete the card and get 5 praise points and a treat!

See pages 19-21 for the enrichment programme.

iPads and Styluses

The vast majority of students are excellent at remembering to charge their iPads every evening. Thank you for your support with this - please do continue to remind them! We would like to encourage all students to have a stylus, even if just a really basic one, to help them when writing on the iPads. We sell these for just 40p from our online shop or for cash in the library. Students in receipt of free school meals will have a stylus given to them as part of their equipment pack.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

16th	Break up for Half Term 3.15pm

NOVEMBER

2nd	All students return to College Year 10 Assessments begin
4th	Y7 Meet the Tutor - Online
9th	Year 11 Assessments (Mocks) begin
13th	All Students - Children in Need (Non-Uniform)
16th	Post 16 Assessments (Checkpoint) begin
27th	Year 10 Progress Reports

DECEMBER

1st	Post 16 Open Evening 6.00pm start
5th	Christmas Fayre 11am-4pm
8th	Year 10 Parent/Teacher Consultations 4.00pm start
9-11th	College Production
14th	Year 11 Progress Reports + Mock Results
15th	Year 11 – Post 16 Helston Community College Taster Day
15th	Year 12 Reading Day
16th	Carol Service
18th	Break up for Christmas 3.15pm

JANUARY

4-5th	Inset Days
6th	All students return to College
6th	Year 9 Assessments begin
11th	Year 11 Interviews begin
11th	Year 7 Assessments begin
14th	Year 11 Parent/Teacher Consultations 4.00pm start

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

Creative Arts

Year 9 did a fantastic couple of days with us in Creative Arts making some street art boards. For some of them, this will be the last piece of artwork they bring home from school - now there's poignant thought!

We think they look super-impressive en masse.

Thanks to the students for engaging in so positively with the project, and the Creative Arts teachers for great teamwork planning and running the event.



















RACE TO THE LINE

As a part of activities week 2026, the Design & Technology department at Helston Community College hosted the annual Race to the Line 2.0 Bio Race Challenge, with all of year 7.

The challenge required students to work in teams to design, develop & make a 'rocket' race car, powered by CO2 canisters.

The event was made possible by sponsorship funding acquired from Watson Marlow, through The Learning Partnership. A sincere thank you to the team for their support. We look forward to hosting the event again this year, with our latest cohort of year 7's.

Many thanks from all department staff, to the students & volunteers who made it one to remember.











Royal Navy Outreach Team pose challenges for Year 8 students

Students took part in a range of team building and problem solving challenges which were aimed at giving year 8 students the opportunity to develop their employability skills. Students needed to work together and think creatively to navigate activities such building tall, free standing towers; avoid hazards whilst blindfolded; and remove devices from 'dangerous areas'. The Royal Navy personnel also gave students insights into the range of careers and opportunities available to them through forces provision.









British Army Elite Skills Development Team enlighten Year 9 with Career Opportunities.

Year 9 students were treated to an Army Careers presentation which raised awareness of the wide range of roles and opportunities available to them through the British Army. This was followed by a series of field-based activities which challenged students physically and in a thought-provoking way. Students needed to find a way of transporting a ball at speed through guttering which had holes. In addition, they needed to reorganise puzzle pieces, transfer numbered items across three locations whilst not putting a higher value number on top of a lower number, and navigate spaces without touching the ground.









Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Success!

Congratulations to our Year 13 chemistry students who recently took part in the prestigious Cambridge Chemistry Challenge. We are delighted to celebrate their outstanding achievements.

Olivia, Andrew, Tom, Elsie, Pandora and Daisy were awarded Copper Awards, while Cameron and Daniela achieved the even higher distinction of Silver Awards.

The Cambridge Chemistry Challenge is designed to stretch and challenge students beyond the A Level specification. It tests their ability to apply chemical knowledge in unfamiliar contexts, think critically, and solve complex problems. Success in the competition requires not only a strong understanding of chemistry but also excellent analytical and problem-solving skills.

We are incredibly proud of all the students who participated and congratulate them on their hard work and achievement!





Julius Caesar - RSC

On Tuesday 29 September, the drama department took 26 students in years 10 and 11 to see 'Julius Caesar'; a Royal Shakespeare Company first encounters production, at Newquay Treviglas Academy.

It was an accessible, exciting production, set in a women's prison, starring Dame Harriet Walter as Brutus. The students' were thrilled that the action was so close to the audience, with the murder of Julius Caesar happening on the steps right next to where we were sitting! As always, the students were brilliant and represented the school fantastically. I would also like to thank Mrs Richardson, for her excellent organisation, as well as Mr Semmons and Mr Sparrow for driving us in very rainy, windy conditions!



International Music Seminar

The Music department were treated to a brilliant workshop by the String Quartet of the International Music Seminar. They gave a valuable insight to the composition techniques employed by various composers and A level music students were able to have a short composition of their own played by the world class string players. One of the players in the workshop was our very own violin teacher, Mr Tim Boulton and his students were no doubt inspired by the fabulous playing.

Tim Boulton has been awarded the 'Classic FM 2026 Visiting and Private Teacher of the Year' and was presented the award live on radio by Aled Jones....an amazing achievement!





SpiralUK

On Thursday 24 September, Students of Helston Community College were fortunate enough to return to celebrate National Manufacturing Day 2026 at local design, engineering & manufacturing company SpiralUK. They are a local company, operating from the Lizard peninsula for over 40 year. The company specialises in designing & manufacturing a range of staircases, from the purely functional through to the truly opulent. Our P16 Students spoke to staff from across all stages of the design & manufacturing process, from staff who had been with the company from the very beginning, to those at the start of their journey with SpiralUK as apprentices. This invaluable experience helps our students gain a first-hand insight into opportunities & career pathways, available in our community, of becoming engineers.











TANZANIA 2026 Adventure

On Saturday 18 July 2026, Mrs Phillips, Mrs Lynes and Mrs Groseley, along with 26 fabulous students from Years 10–12, departed Helston to begin our long journey to Tanzania in East Africa. We were setting off on what would be a 29-day adventure and, for many of the students, an experience completely unlike anything they had done before. Together we became Team Nyati, a group who would spend the next month travelling, living, working and experiencing Tanzania together. During our time away new friendships and memories were made that I am sure will stay with us for many years to come. So, you may be wondering, what did Team Nyati, a group from a little town in Cornwall, get up to in Tanzania?



The Journey

At the airport we met our Camps International Expedition Leader. After our flights we finally arrived at Kilimanjaro Airport. Stepping outside, we were immediately greeted by the hot Tanzanian air and in the near distance we could see Mount Kilimanjaro, our first glimpse of the incredible landscape that would be home for the next few weeks. Here we were greeted by Hassan (one of the in-country team) and all of our luggage was loaded onto the top of our coach before we headed towards our first camp at Mbokomu. It wasn't long before the roads became bumpy red mud tracks and there was plenty to see from the coach windows. Ladies walked along the roadside carrying varying items in buckets perfectly balanced on their heads, market stalls were piled with fruit and, perhaps slightly more surprisingly, we even spotted goats being transported on motorcycles! After a very long journey from Cornwall, we were finally in Tanzania and our adventure had begun.



Camp Mbokomu

Our first camp was at Mbokomu, a small community not far from Moshi, where the students soon got stuck into their first lot of project work at the local school, just a short walk from camp. One of the main projects was helping to create the foundations for a path between two of the classrooms. During the wet season the soil and ground can become very difficult to walk on, so having a proper pathway would make moving between the classrooms much easier. There was plenty of other work to be done and the students helped to plaster and sand back the render on the classrooms before painting them. As always, they worked incredibly hard, despite the heat and being faced with jobs that many of them had never attempted before. However, it wasn't all hard work. The students spent time playing football with the local children and there was plenty of dancing and singing. Despite differences in language and having travelled thousands of miles from Helston, it didn't take very long before everyone was joining in and having fun together. We also had the opportunity to plant banana trees and it soon became apparent just how important bananas are in Tanzania. More than 20 different varieties are believed to grow in the country, including bananas for cooking, sweet varieties and even types used to make local beer and wine. One of our days at Mbokomu was spent in the forest with a local tribe, where we had the opportunity to learn more about their culture and way of life.





They cooked us a traditional meal of beef and banana stew served with a chilli relish, which was absolutely delicious. Sitting in the forest sharing food that had been prepared for us was another opportunity for the students to experience Tanzanian life and culture first hand, and the beef and banana stew was definitely a hit with the group.

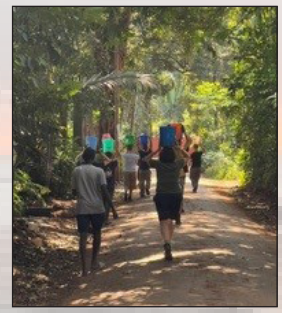
Uru Mashariki: Materuni Waterfall and Coffee Plantation

Before visiting the coffee plantation, we headed towards Materuni Waterfall in the



area of Uru Mashariki. There had been an unbelievable amount of rain and just getting to the beginning of the hike turned into an adventure of its own. Our minibuses were definitely not four-wheel drive and did not like the muddy roads! The minibuses frequently got stuck in the thick mud and on several occasions began rolling backwards, making the journey to the start of the trek one we certainly won't forget. Once safely out of the minibuses, the trek to the waterfall was absolutely beautiful, although certainly not easy! We walked through low-lying clouds along the edge of the mountain, overlooking tobacco, coffee and castor plants. The landscape was lush and green and we frequently spotted chameleons hiding amongst the trees. The enormous amount of rain had made the paths incredibly muddy and slippery and one person in particular looked like they had enjoyed a full mud bath by the end of the trek, after falling over more times than we could count! Eventually we reached the waterfall and, despite the mud, slips and challenging walk, the spectacular surroundings made





the journey completely worthwhile.

After visiting the waterfall, we continued to Materuni Coffee Plantation, where the students learnt about how coffee was traditionally prepared. Standing in a circle surrounded by banana crops and in the thick humid air, the students took it in turns to roast and grind the coffee beans. As each person took their turn, a group working at the coffee plantation played drums and chanted, with everyone joining in, creating an almost ritual-like atmosphere.

After all their hard work roasting and grinding the beans, the students then got to sample a cup of the freshly prepared coffee for themselves.



Camp Kidia, "The Rainy Camp"

Our next camp was Camp Kidia, situated in the foothills of Kilimanjaro. We had been



warned that because of its location further up the mountain, the weather could be cooler, particularly in the mornings and evenings. However, I don't think any of us were quite prepared for just how much rain we would see! Camp Kidia quickly became known amongst Team Nyati as "The Rainy Camp." Hand washing our clothes was one thing, but actually getting anything dry was proving to be a nightmare. In the evenings we enjoyed gathering around two small chimeneas to warm ourselves up whilst playing lots of games of increasingly damp cards! Kidia was also where we had our fair share of soup! With the rain continuing to fall and temperatures feeling much cooler, a bowl of soup became a very



familiar sight at mealtimes.

Here the students really got stuck into some important project work around soil erosion. The nearby school was situated on the mountain and during periods of heavy rain, large amounts of soil could be washed away, putting the school buildings at risk. Armed with picks, shovels and spades, the students worked hard digging and loading soil into sacks. These were then securely fastened and laid on the ground to help prevent more of the soil being washed away.

It was hard, physical work, made even more challenging by the wonderfully wet Kidia weather, but once again the students really got stuck in. We also visited another banana plantation, where the students helped to plant lots of new banana crops. This wasn't simply a case of digging a hole and putting the plant in the ground though. Each banana plant had to be given a name and blessed, which resulted in the students becoming rather attached to their newly planted banana trees! Of course, being a group of Cornish students in Tanzania, it wasn't long before one of the banana trees was proudly named St Piran. Hopefully St Piran and the rest of our unusually named banana plants are now happily growing on the side of a mountain in Tanzania!



Camp Ndarakwai

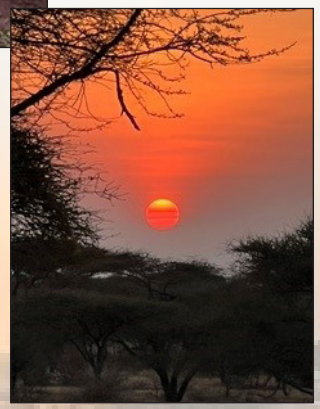
Next stop was Camp Ndarakwai, our wildlife camp situated within a game reserve, where we would spend two nights. Here we slept in small tents and, after all the rain at Kidia, the warm bucket showers felt like an absolute treat! Being in a game reserve also meant we were sharing our surroundings with lots of different wildlife. During the night a ranger guarded our camp whilst we slept, adding to the feeling that we really were camping in the African wilderness. Giraffes and zebras were seen in abundance, whilst blue monkeys and baboons freely roamed around the camp.



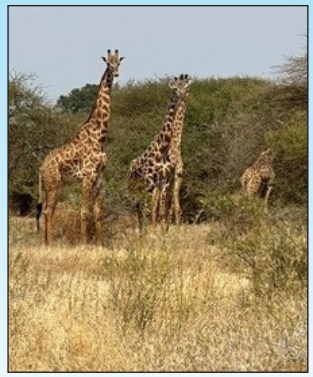


Before sunrise we were all awake, binoculars at the ready, eagerly waiting to see what wildlife we could spot as the sun began to come up. We then headed out on a walking safari, where we had the incredible experience of walking amongst giraffes and zebras. Seeing these animals from a vehicle would have been special enough, but being out there on foot amongst them was an experience we certainly won't forget. We also had the opportunity to try our hand at archery, as well as making our very own paper from elephant poo! Certainly not something you get to do every day at school! The heat at Ndarakwai was intense, which was quite a change after the rain and cooler evenings at Kidia. As the day came to an end though, we were treated to the most stunning sunsets, with the African sky changing colour across the game reserve. We also had the opportunity to visit a Maasai community, where we were greeted with traditional singing and dancing. Not to be outdone, we sang back to them using some of the Swahili we had been learning throughout the trip!





We were welcomed into one of their homes, made from mud and animal hide, and were shown around the community and the livestock they kept. It gave the students an opportunity to see and experience a very different way of life from our own. That evening, sitting around the campfire, one of our camp leaders, who had previously been a member of the Maasai community, spoke to us about their customs, traditions and way of life. Some of the subjects discussed were quite delicate and thought-provoking, but the students listened respectfully and asked some really interesting questions. With giraffes and zebras around us, baboons and blue monkeys roaming the camp and incredible sunsets at the end of the day, Ndarakwai was certainly a very special place to spend two nights.



Camp Shamba, Safari Time!

Our next stop was Camp Shamba, and this was the one we had all been waiting for. It was safari time! After weeks of project work, mud, rain, hand-washed clothes, damp cards, banana planting and lots of soup, the excitement amongst the group was high. We were up very early and boarded a convoy of Toyota Land Cruisers, binoculars and cameras at the ready, before travelling to Tarangire National Park for our day of safari. It wasn't long before the animals started to appear.





We saw elephants, warthogs, zebras, giraffes and mongoose, but perhaps one of the most exciting sightings was lions resting up in the trees. We were incredibly lucky to have elephants come right up close to our vehicles, giving us an amazing opportunity just to stop and watch these incredible animals. The huge baobab trees were amazing and dominated parts of the landscape, whilst throughout the day we spotted so many different species of birds. One that particularly stood out was the lilac-breasted roller, its luminous blue feathers looking absolutely beautiful in the Tanzanian sunshine. Lunchtime also brought plenty of monkey business, when our picnic was ambushed by some of our distant (and for some of us, perhaps less distant!) relatives. The monkeys were clearly well practised when it came to spotting an opportunity for an easy lunch and certainly kept us entertained whilst we attempted to eat ours. At the end of an incredible day, the students had the opportunity to do a little souvenir shopping, with Tanzanite jewellery proving particularly popular with the group. After a very early start and a day filled with lions, elephants, giraffes, zebras, beautiful birds and plenty of monkey business, we returned to camp with lots of photographs, souvenirs and memories of a truly unforgettable day at Tarangire National Park.



Camp Tanga: Fish Eagle Point

Our final camp was at Fish Eagle Point, near Tanga, set on the shores of the Indian Ocean, and the views were absolutely breath taking. The beautiful blue waters of the Indian Ocean stretched out in front of us, with tall mangroves hugging the coastline. After the mountains, mud, rain, project work and safari adventures of the previous weeks, arriving beside the Indian Ocean felt like another completely different side of Tanzania. Here the students once again got stuck into project work, helping to build desks for a local school. We also learnt more about plastic pollution and recycling, making colourful keyrings from recycled flip-flops that had been collected and given a new purpose. Another important project involved helping to build homes for the elders of the local village. We learnt how the houses were constructed, first creating a wooden skeleton structure before clay and mud was packed around it to form the walls. We were told that these homes have a lifespan of around ten years, so there is an ongoing need within the community to rebuild and replace them. The students were able to get involved with the construction, helping to build homes that would eventually be used by some of the elders in the village. There was also time to mix with students from other schools staying at the camp, with lots of games of volleyball. After nearly a month of travelling and working together, there still appeared to be plenty of energy left for a little friendly competition! Food was, of course, always an important part of the trip and one firm favourite with the students was chapatis. At Fish Eagle Point they got the opportunity to have a go at making their own, with varying levels of success! I also couldn't write about the food in Tanzania without mentioning mandazis, an African-style doughnut which became another firm favourite. These were a very welcome and comforting snack throughout our travels and certainly didn't hang around for very long when they appeared!



The Journey Home

And so, after 29 days, countless experiences, lots of laughter, hard work, mud, rain, sunshine, wildlife, chapatis, mandazis and memories, it was finally time to begin our long journey home. We spent our final night at Keys Hotel, where we had the opportunity to have one final meal together as Team Nyati and reflect on everything we had experienced and achieved before beginning the long journey back to Cornwall. It is difficult to put into words just how much we experienced during those 29 days. From working alongside local communities and schools, planting banana trees (including, of course, St Piran!), walking through clouds to waterfalls, drinking coffee we had roasted and ground ourselves, to seeing elephants just metres away from us on safari and looking out across the beautiful blue Indian Ocean. But perhaps what made this trip most special was the group of people we shared it with. To our 26 fabulous students, thank you for your fantastic company. You worked incredibly hard, embraced new experiences, coped with the challenges, respected the people and communities who welcomed us and, most importantly, laughed and had fun along the way. It was an absolute privilege to share this adventure with you. Who would have thought that Team Nyati, a group of students and staff from a little town in Cornwall, would travel thousands of miles across the world and find themselves planting banana trees on Tanzanian mountainsides, walking amongst giraffes and zebras, drinking coffee we had ground ourselves and watching the sun set over the African landscape?



Bronze DofE Assessed Expedition Success in Penwith

Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants recently completed their Bronze Assessed Expedition in the Penwith area, marking the culmination of months of preparation, training and perseverance.

Throughout the expedition, all teams worked exceptionally hard to overcome the challenges they faced. Students demonstrated excellent teamwork, resilience and problem-solving skills as they navigated their routes and worked together to complete the expedition successfully.

A particular highlight was the outstanding campcraft shown by all groups. Campsites were well organised, meals were prepared successfully, and students displayed a high level of independence and responsibility. Their behaviour throughout the expedition was exemplary and was a real credit to themselves, their families and the school.

We were also delighted to receive a visit from the Headteacher at camp. Students greatly appreciated the opportunity to speak with him, and his support and encouragement were warmly received by everyone involved.







I would also like to thank all the staff and volunteers who gave up their time to support our students during the expedition. Their commitment and encouragement were invaluable, and we are extremely grateful for their dedication to the DofE programme.

I am also proud to say that every student who took part has successfully completed their Bronze DofE Award. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects their hard work and commitment throughout the programme. I look forward to celebrating their success with students, parents and families at our upcoming Celebration Evening.

Congratulations to all our Bronze participants on completing both their Assessed Expedition and Bronze Award. You should be extremely proud of your achievement.



ART TRIP TO LONDON

GCSE and Post-16 Art students had a fantastic day exploring some of London's most celebrated cultural attractions. Highlights included the captivating Frida Kahlo exhibition at Tate Modern and a visit to the National Portrait Gallery, where students were especially fascinated by the iconic Tudor portraits. The day finished with a visit to the bustling Camden Market, where students enjoyed browsing the unique stalls and managed to find a few early Christmas bargains along the way.

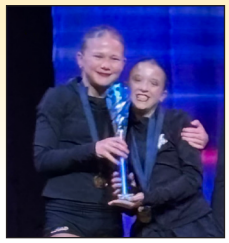












PULSE DANCE COMPETITION

Elsie B smashed the Pulse Dance Competition that was held on Sunday 11 October in Exeter. Her results were 1st in Commercial Duos and 3rd in Acro Solo. Elsie was also spotted in the dance workshop which was packed with dancers of all ages where she was also awarded a prize.

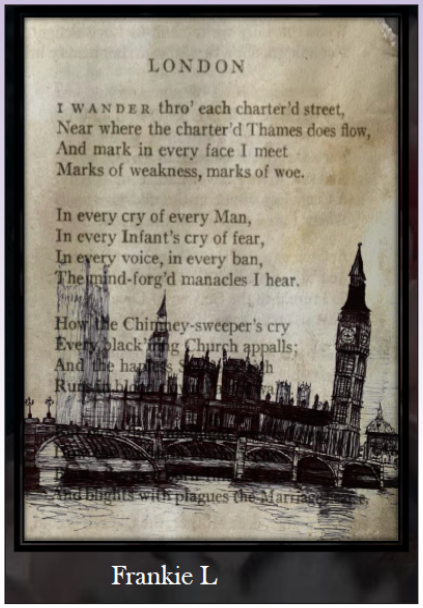
She works hard so to come away with these awards is amazing, but the most important thing is how well she has applied herself over the months and years and continues to improve, reflect and be passionate about it. She shows true resilience and an incredible work ethic.

Well Done Elsie!

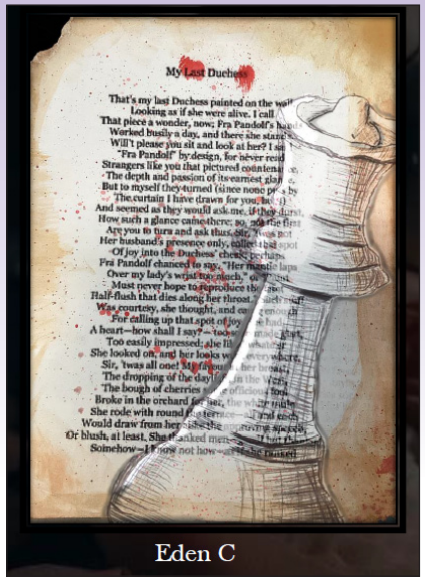


Year 10 GCSE - Art Power & Conflict

Students responded to the Poems in the GCSE English anthology whilst taking influence from the British artist Mark Powell. Mark Powell is known for creating detailed biro pen drawings on found materials such as old maps, letters, and documents.



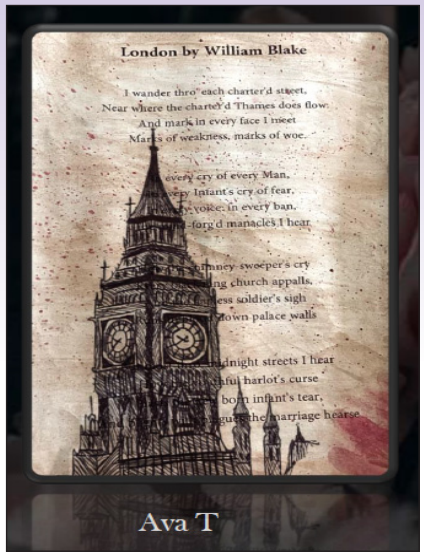
Frankie L



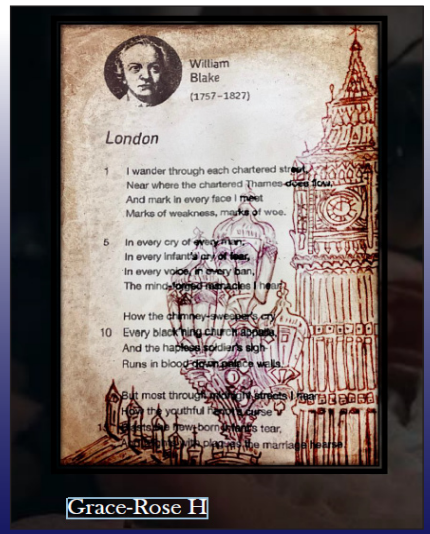
Eden C



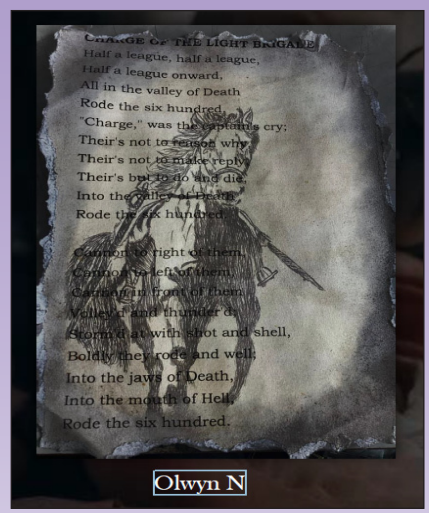
Rory J-S



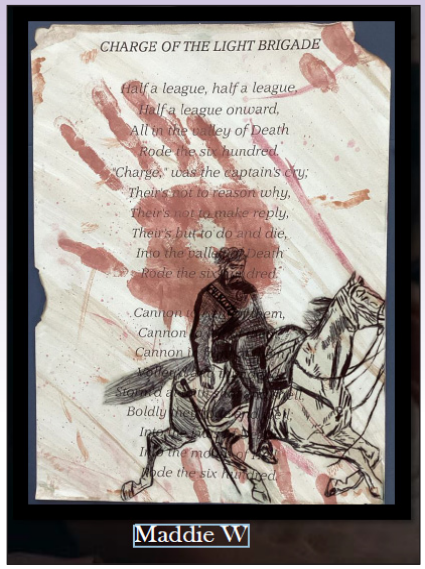
Ava T



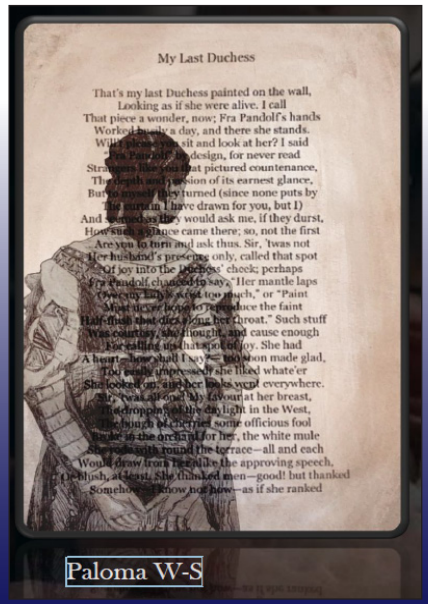
Grace-Rose H



Olwyn N



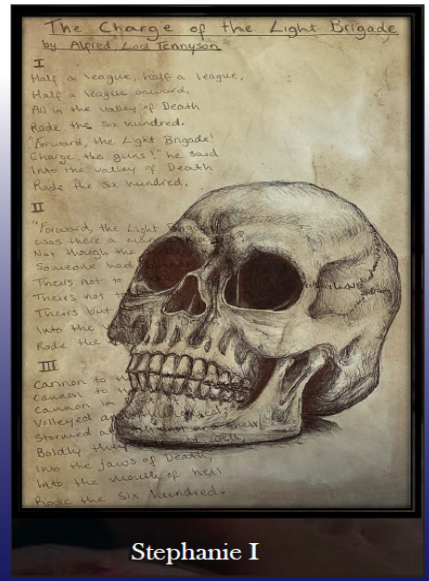
Maddie W



Paloma W-S



Rose S



Stephanie I

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Kicking up a Storm!

On 20th September, Sophia in 10B competed at the Newton Equestrian Horse Show with her pony, Storm. Sophia achieved 1st place in the Best Rider class and 2nd place in the Best Combination class. Storm even threw in a couple of bucks for good measure, but Sophia stayed firmly in the saddle and rode brilliantly throughout.

These excellent results secured Sophia and Storm a place in the Championship, which they then went on to win.

Sophia and Storm make a fantastic team. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement and well done to both of them!





Kian - World Champion!

Kian has had a busy few weeks!! He came away from the WKA/ KMA Welsh Open with 3 golds and 2 silvers, making him a 3x Welsh Champion. Just two weeks later, he travelled to Mülheim, Germany to compete at the World Championships. After some tough fights, he came away with an incredible 3 World Titles and finished in the Top 10 fighters of the day. A brilliant achievement and a result of all the hard work, dedication and commitment he's put in. Huge congratulations to Kian, and a massive thank you to everyone who has supported him along the way.







Netball Success

Excellent results playing against Pool Academy in Netball. Well done to all who got selected to represent the school.

@HELSTONCCSPORT

Year 9 students inspired by ex-professional Rugby players

In July, all of Helston's Year 9 students were given an insight into the lifestyle and expectations of professional sports players by ex-Fiji international Josh Matavesi, and his colleague from Cornwall College, Matt Shepherd. Both were able to provide extensive detail about what is required from a professional sports person and the demands on a coach. They shared detail on a variety of job roles within professional sport and gave the students some useful advice for how to progress towards achieving success in sport.







CORNWALL GIRLS WIN THE 2026 WESSEX SALVER



Congratulations to the Cornwall Girls team who brought their season to a close on Sunday 11 October, competing in the Wessex Salver at West Wilts Golf Club in Wiltshire.

Nellie H had an amazing weekend, finishing 6th in her division to contribute to the Cornwall girls winning the Wessex Salver beating - Wiltshire, Devon, Somerset and Dorset. She did really well after only playing for the first time in 6 weeks last week due to her being out with her toe surgery.

This year's competition saw teams of eight girls from Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire come together for the annual South West Inter-Counties event. The Wessex Salver is an 18-hole team Stableford competition, with each county fielding players across two handicap divisions: 10.0–18.0 and 18.1–36.0. The three best scores from each division count towards the overall team result.

Established to provide an opportunity for girls to experience inter-county golf without the pressure of matchplay, the Wessex Salver is a fantastic introduction to representing their county, particularly for girls with higher handicaps. It offers a wonderful opportunity to gain experience, build confidence and enjoy the excitement of being part of a county team.

This year was particularly special for Cornwall, with five girls making their county debuts at the event.

Cornwall won the event and was crowned SW Wessex Salver Champions for 2026 by 1 point with a total of 202 stableford points from their 6 counting scores, one point in front of hosts Wiltshire on 201. Dorset came in third place on 193.

https://www.cornwallgolf.org.uk/news.php?newsitem=1837

Building Skills: A Highly Successful Work Experience Week

Year 10 and Year 12 Students embarked on a week of work experience. The range of experiences made available to students was varied and diverse, each one enabling students to gain a valuable insight into what a typical career in a given industry may entail. The majority of students carried out placements in Helston and west Cornwall, and some students went out of county working for Adobe Systems in London, Paultons Park in Hampshire, DDGC Ltd in Essex, and MOD Boscombe Down in Wiltshire. Thank you to everyone that provided such enriching and memorable opportunities for our students.

Next year's work experience for Helston Year 10 and Year 12 students is scheduled for **19th-23rd July 2027**. If any local businesses or companies are willing to offer placements for our students please let us know.

More information about Work Experience is on the website HERE.





Year 9 Workplace Visits

As part of the government's encouragement for students to gain more work-related experiences Helston Community College is aiming to enable all Year 9 students to visit companies during this year. The aim will be to raise the profile for the opportunities that currently exist and give students a taste for what they could go on to explore in the future. If there are any businesses who are willing to offer a visit of around 90 minutes for up to 15 students then please do get in contact.

ASK THE EXPERTS

The first two Ask the Experts events have taken place in the opening weeks of term. Students with an interest in teaching were able to pose their questions and views to Vicky Sanderson, Head Teacher at Parc Eglos School and Executive Head Teacher at Sithney School. Paula Martin (Deputy Headteacher of Helston community College) provided tips and guidance about secondary teaching. This was clearly a popular session judging from the numbers of students present and many interesting questions posed to our guests.

In early October this was followed by Ask the Experts: Police. PC Dannii Collins (Neighbourhood Beat Manager) attended and confidently answered a wide variety of questions, particularly regarding the routes into becoming a Police Officer and some of the reasons why Dannii loves her job!

There will be further Ask the Experts events in the coming months including an opportunity to learn about careers routes into Journalism.

HELSTON POST 16: YOUR PATH TO SUCCESS

- New sixth form centre opens in summer 2027
- Direct bus routes to Helston
- Subsidised bus travel for all students
- Excellence pathways



OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 1st December 5-7pm

Contact: post16@helston.tpacademytrust.org

or apply via: www.helston.cornwall.sch.uk



LANGUAGES ROCK!

To celebrate European day of Languages, which is an international day designed to promote and encourage language learning on 26th September, the MFL department challenged Year 7 and Year 8 to a rock painting competition. The aim was to represent a language or country with a decorated pebble which could also include language phrases as well as images. We had some fantastic entries, and it was hard to choose an overall winner. We had a great variety of countries represented in students' designs.

In the end we chose 10 students to receive little prizes and these rocks are pictured in the photo below.
Please come and claim your prize from Mrs Martin after half term!





The overall winner of the competition was Sophie Watkins in 7C who painted the fantastic Deutschland rock, she is clearly a talented artist as well as having made a great start to learning Spanish! This is her winning entry.



Students have also been challenged to complete a 2 week Duolingo streak - they need to show a screenshot of their streak to their Spanish teacher to get entered into the draw - closing date is extended to Friday 6th November - what a great challenge this could be for half term if you haven't already done it! Students who come and show their screenshot will be registered to go into a prize draw.

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THE AUTUMN ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

EXPLORE | LEARN | GROW | ACHIEVE

Get involved, try something new!








Name	Day	Location	Time	Year Groups	Teacher
Science Club	Tuesday	Lab 12	A/S	KS3	Mrs Charlesworth
Girls Fitness	Thursday	Fitness Suite	A/S	KS4 and 5	Mrs Lealand
Girls Fitness	Wednesday	Fitness Suite	A/S	KS3	Mrs Cristea
Fashion and Textiles Design Club	Thursday (B)	DT2	Lunch	KS3 and 4	Mrs Ford
Lego Club	Monday	CO2	Lunch	KS3	Mr Burke
Space Club	Monday	Lab 1	A/S	KS3/KS4	Miss Long
Maker Space	Tuesday	DT1	A/S	KS3/KS4	Mr Jones
School Show	Mon-Thurs	A2/A29	A/S	KS3/KS4	Mrs Richardeon and Mrs Crawshaw
Pride Club	Tuesday	MA7	Lunch	KS3/KS4	Mx Cowen
Craft Club	Tuesday	A24	Lunch	KS3/KS4	Mrs Creaser
R.E and History Homework Drop in	Thursday	A23	Lunch	KS3/KS4	Mrs Creaser
Young Carers	Friday	L2	Lunch	Invite Only	Mrs Martin
Homework Club	Mon-Thurs	The Hub	A/S	KS3/KS4	Champions
Cosy Kitchen Club	Tuesday	FO2	A/S	Invite Only	Mrs Morgado
Book Club	Tuesday	A25	Lunch	KS3/KS4	Mr Williams
Props Club	Monday	B9	A/S	All Years	Mrs Wilder
Service Student Drop in	Tuesday	L3	Lunch	All Years	Mrs Wake
Sports Leader Club	Wednesday	P.E	A/S	8 and 9	Mr Studd

Your choices matter

NEW SKILLS | NEW FRIENDSHIPS | NEW EXPERIENCES | A BRIGHTER FUTURE

HCC
HELSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MUSIC PROGRAMME

PLAY | PERFORM | BELONG

Music builds confidence, creativity and community








DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	RM	INVITE	LEADER
MONDAY	College Choir	1.15 – 2.00	M1	Students in years 7-13 and any staff members welcome	Mr. and Mrs. Parker
	Guitar ensemble	1.15 – 2.00	M2	Invite only	Mr. Martin
	Percussion ensemble	4.00 – 5.00	M1	Invite only	Mr. Hamilton
TUESDAY	Jazz 2	1.15 – 2.00	M1	Invite only	Mr. King
	Concert Band	3.30 – 4.30	M1	Invite only	Mr. Greaves
WEDNESDAY	GCSE music coursework support	3.30 – 4.30	M3	Year 11 Music GCSE students	Mr. Parker
THURSDAY	Brass ensemble	1.15 – 2.00	M1	Invite only	Mr. King
	Helston School Jazz Orchestra	3.30 – 4.30	M1	Invite only	Mr. King
FRIDAY	Saxophone ensemble	1.15 – 2.00	M1	Invite only	Mrs. McDonagh
	Flute/ clarinet choir	3.30 – 4.30	M1	Invite only	Mrs. McDonagh
	GCSE music coursework support	3.30 – 4.30	M3	Yr 11 Music GCSE students	Mrs. Parker

DEVELOPING SKILLS | BUILDING CONFIDENCE | ACHIEVING TOGETHER | A BRIGHTER FUTURE

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SPORT PROGRAMME

Get involved, be your best!

BE ACTIVE | BUILD SKILLS | MAKE FRIENDS | ACHIEVE





AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Day	Club	Teacher
Monday	Year 7 Netball Club	Mrs Pryor
	Year 9 Netball Club	Miss Bragg
	Year 10 Rugby Club	Mr Hattam
Tuesday	Year 8 Netball Club	Mrs Palmer
	KS4 Netball Club	Miss Treloar
	Year 7-9 Rugby Club	Mr Richardson (Y7) Mr Hattam (Y8) Mr Woolcock (Y9)
Wednesday	Running Club	Mrs Weir
	KS4 Fitness Club	Mrs Lealand
Thursday	Year 7-10 Netball Fixtures	Miss Bragg Mrs Pryor Mrs Palmer
	Year 7-10 Rugby Fixtures	Mr Woolcock Mr Hattam Mr Richardson

LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Day	Club	Location	Teacher
Monday	Sports Lunchtime Club	Sports Hall	Mrs Pryor
Tuesday	Girls Multi-sports Club	Sports Hall	Miss Bragg
Wednesday	Year 8 Boys Multi-sports Club	Sports Hall	Mr Woolcock
Thursday	Year 7 Multi-sports Club	Sports Hall	Mr Richardson





DEVELOPING SKILLS | BUILDING CONFIDENCE | ACHIEVING TOGETHER | A HEALTHIER, HAPPIER YOU

Team HCC

Our Praise Point Legends

Year 7



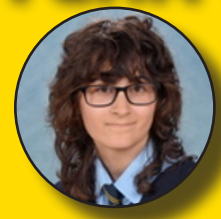
Jakob W-L	7B	73
Kitty R	7D	60
Jessa R	7E	59
Carson T	7C	59
Eva Y	7D	58
Xander C	7D	57
Eleanor J	7B	57
Annabelle M	7B	57
Olivia B	7A	54
Eloise S	7D	52

Year 8



Charlie B	8F	77
Ashwin A	8F	72
Matthew B	8F	70
Mollie C	8E	65
John S	8F	60
Hettie W	8D	59
Elsie B	8C	58
Freya W	8D	57
Elowen I	8D	54
George J	8D	54

Year 9



Ana-Maria C	9G	82
Elana-Brooke R	9D	67
Evie B	9C	65
Erin N	9D	64
Xander H	9B	62
Zachary R	9F	62
Alice G	9D	60
Harley T	9D	58
Alistair D	9B	57
Ava H-E	9D	54
Edward M	9E	54
Oscar S	9D	54

Year 10



Leonie T	10A	59
Amelia B	10F	54
Boo N	10A	54
Delilah W	10A	53
Winnie N	10G	50
Bradley W	10B	47
Corey J	10B	45
Casper P	10C	45
Toby B	10G	44
Daisy T	10F	44

Year 11



Jowan W	11C	48
Ashley M	11G	45
Finley W-H	11E	41
Alaska S	11F	39
Beautie S	11E	39
Frederick W	11E	38
Isabelle A	11F	37
Jake W	11F	37
Isabelle G	11D	35
Poppy F	11B	34
Ellie T	11G	34

Year 12



Tamsin M	12A	13
Daisy G	12D	12
Ashton L	12C	10
Lewis W	12D	10
Eli B	12D	9
Renae L	12B	9
Reuben R	12B	9
William R	12A	9
Cam H	12D	8
Isaac J	12D	8
Amelie M	12D	8
Ronan S	12A	8

Year 13



Chloe S	13A	12
Georgia R	13D	9
Alfie C	13B	8
Zenna W	13C	8
Oakley B	13A	7
Andrew D	13C	7
Tom D	13C	7
Meghan H	13C	7
Bub P	13C	6

Well Done!

(Praise Points as of 13/10/26)

Student of the Month

September - October

Year 7



Annie T

Annie has made a very positive start to Year 7 and has been nominated by Ms Williamson for being a kind and supportive friend. She was also nominated by Ms Crawshaw for her lovely work in English. She has perfect attendance and has already achieved loads of praise points. Well done Annie!

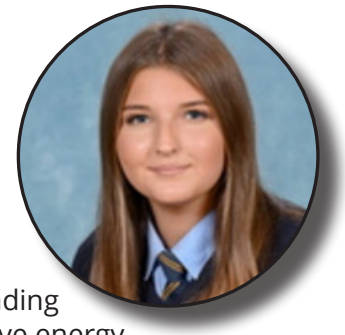
Year 8



John S

Incredibly, John has been nominated by four members of staff for being a brilliant team player, his great contributions in tutorial discussions, for being an amazing mathematician and for his all-round impressive attitude. Nominated by Mr Woolcock, Ms Ford, Ms Crawshaw and Mx Cowen.

Year 9



Alice G

What a start to Year 9 for Alice - nominated by Ms Doolin, Mr Olsen, Ms Ford and Mx Cowen for her amazing effort in lessons, her outstanding commitment to homework, her positive energy and her politeness and humour.

Year 10



Winnie N

Nominated by Mr Parekh and Ms Renyard for her excellent contributions, ideas and mature approach to her studies. Winnie has perfect attendance and has already achieved her Praise Point Bronze Award!

Year 11



Erin W

Erin has been nominated by Mr Lovelock for demonstrating a proper 'can do' attitude and determination when it comes to school. Erin is tackling Year 11 with amazing resilience and maturity.

Post 16



Leo A

Leo has quickly embodied the independent effort and practice expected at sixth form. He is polite, friendly and always willing to get involved, having already helping promote the sixth form. Nominated by Dr Ryan.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Nominations

YEAR 7

Emily A	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
George A	7	For always giving 100% effort during maths lessons.P Eastman
Coen B	7	Great effort in Computing. A Birkett
Lilian B	7	For always giving 100% effort during maths lessons.P Eastman
Amelia B	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Nina B	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Oakley B	7	Great effort in English. K Crawshaw
Olivia B	7	Consistently pushing herself to complete the hardest possible work in Maths, and to use fantastic oracy when answering questions. M Cowen
Eliza C	7	For a cracking start to Year 7 Maths and being a legend already! J Lovelock
Erin D	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Lowenna E	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Gracie F	7	You being such a polite and kind member of the class and school.
Luke G	7	For having such enthusiasm in Geography! F Hawksworth
Imogen G	7	Great effort in Computing. A Birkett
Jowan H	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Demelza H	7	So very kind and supportive to her peers - always positive and encouraging. Year 7 Team
Lexi H	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Emilia H	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Thomas H	7	Repeatedly showing outstanding effort in DT lessons! L Ford
Nico L	7	Showing great resilience and a positive attitude.
Isabella L	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Cailan M	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Eli M	7	A great start to science, always enthusiastic and engaged! K Watson
Theo M	7	For always being so helpful and kind in tutor time. S RIchardson
Evie M	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Tabitha M	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Joey N	7	Being super helpful in Computing. L Ford
Charie N	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Ella O	7	Excellent contributions to class discussion - always gives thoughtful and insightful suggestions. S Doolin
George O	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Elliott R	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Amber R	7	Being such and cheery person to any and all. L Ford
Jessa R	7	For excellent effort in Drama and for stepping into to take on an extra role in the Odyssey. S RIchardosn
Annabelle S	7	Always working hard and being so polite! L Ford
Logan S	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Kai S-R	7	Lovely work in English. K Crawshaw
Annabelle T	7	Excellent start to year 7 RE! Fab ideas and contributions to lessons! Well done! G Parekh
Dollie W	7	Always trying her best in Computing. L Ford
Timothy W	7	For performing with such confidence already and using great accents in Drama! S RIchardson
Cove W	7	For his amazing mental maths and excellent contributions to our Maths lessons. K Harrison

YEAR 8

Ashwin A	8	Making such a positive effort and start to Y8 in RE. A Olsen
Ashwin A	8	For always being willing to offer his help. P Eastman
Ashwin A	8	A great help and support for others consistently in tutorials. M Woolcock
Ewan A	8	An incredible mathematician, who never takes it for granted, hard working and kind always. M Cowen
Matthew B	8	Indefatigable academic energy. A Olsen
Ruby C	8	For delivering a fantastic speech at the Community Open Evening. E Hawkey
Isaac C	8	For making excellent contributions in Geography!F Hawksworth
Mollie C	8	For her positive attitude and contributions during maths lessons. P Eastman
Alice F	8	Quietly and consistently getting work done, checking for understanding, and always trying her best M Cowen
Thomas G	8	For delivering a fantastic speech at the Community Open Evening. E Hawkey
Nellie H	8	For her wonderful expressions in Drama! K Crawshaw
Elowen I	8	Hard work and supporting her team with the Mitre saw well. L Ford
Elowen I	8	Pushing to fully understand every piece of Maths that comes her way, giving it a go and learning from mistakes. M Cowen
Alfi K	8	Returning to school 'a changed man!' D Benny
Sophia M	8	Fantastic story writing! E Hawkey
Thomas S	8	For being a helpful hardworking and dedicated student.L Ford
Layla S	8	Great effort in Computing. A Birkett
Freya W	8	Always working hard with a super attitude, wanting to fully understand everything and give it a go before asking for help. M Cowen
George W	8	Dedication to the completion of his box and supporting the group with this work! L Ford

YEAR 9

Chloe B	9	Great resilience and effort in Science, well done Chloe! K Watson
Isabelle B	9	For consistent effort and determination in maths P Eastman
Jowan C	9	Working together to push themselves hard in Maths and always aiming for the hardest questions. M Cowen
Alistair D	9	Standing out with effort and intent in RE. A Olsen
Imogen H	9	For being an absolute legend in maths and working incredibly hard J Lovelock

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Nominations

YEAR 9

Imogen H	9	Outstanding engagment in PE lessons and extra-curricular clubs.	E Bragg
George H	9	Working diligently in DT and supporting his peers.	L Ford
Anna H	9	For smashing her first half term of Year 9 maths - you've been a pleasure to have in the classroom.	J Lovelock
Ava H-E	9	INCREDIBLE WORK IN DT!!!	L Ford
Xander H	9	For your excellent attitude and creative ideas in Drama.	K Crawshaw
Albert H	9	Working together to push themselves hard in Maths and always aiming for the hardest questions	M Cowen
Annabel H	9	Quietly and consistently getting work done, checking for understanding, and always trying her best	M Cowen
Pearl K	9	Fantastic design work in DT.	L Ford
Hugo L	9	Commitment and excellence in extracurricular and community sport	M Woolcock
Imogen M	9	Excellent leadership skills in PE and fixtures.	E Bragg
Ella M	9	For your creative ideas in Drama	K Crawshaw
Noel N	9	Giving great energy in RE this year.	A Olsen
Daniel P	9	For being a superstar and hitting the ground running at the start of Year 9 maths.	J Lovelock
Zachary R	9	Sharing exemplary work and answers.	A Olsen
Ethan R	9	Enthusiasm and hard work in core PE lessons.	M Woolcock
Ethan R	9	Contributing such amazing knowledge and stirring the RE pot.	A Olsen
Jasmine S	9	Outstanding engagement in PE lessons and extra-curricular clubs.	E Bragg
Ryan T	9	For always rising to the challenge of extension tasks.	P Eastman
Michael T	9	For making excellent contributions in Geography!	F Hawksworth

YEAR 10

Grace B	10	Excellent effort consistently in GCSE Drama.	K Crawshaw
Grace B	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Grace B	10	For consistent effort in Drama and some excellent homework.	S Richardson
Lilly B	10	Excellent effort and contribution in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Brooke B	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Miren B	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Anastasiia B	10	For her excellent verbal contributions to lessons.	P Eastman
Toby B	10	Coming back with an amazing positive attitude.	D Benny
Amelia B	10	Excellent effort consistently in GCSE Drama.	K Crawshaw
Leo B-R	10	Excellent contributions, ideas and effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Maddie C	10	Excellent effort consistently in GCSE Drama.	K Crawshaw
Matilda C	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Agnes C	10	Really positive start in Sport Science, consistently trying her hardest to achieve the highest mark in assignment 1.	E Bragg
Mayzie D	10	Putting forward answers and contributing to a positive class atmosphere.	A Olsen
Mayzie D	10	Excellent effort consistently in GCSE Drama.	K Crawshaw
Jenson D	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Olivia E	10	Fantastic curiosity and academic energy.	A Olsen
Starla E	10	For being highly conscientious in her work and having a really positive attitude to her learning.	F Hawksworth
Jorja F	10	Excellent effort consistently in GCSE Drama.	K Crawshaw
Jorja F	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Regan H	10	Massive strides in effort in RE.	A Olsen
Emily H	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Thomas H	10	Excellent effort consistently in GCSE Drama.	K Crawshaw
Ethan H	10	Starting RE in Y10 with real purpose.	A Olsen
Alice H-J	10	Consistent efforts to improve in Media Studies.	E Stevenson
Jack J	10	An amazing start to Year 10 Business. Over 4000 questions completed in Smart Revise with 94% accuracy. Wow!	N Burke
Millie J	10	Excellent contributions, ideas and effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Theia J	10	For always taking so much pride in her written work.	P Eastman
Joby J	10	Patience and Kindness.	L Ford
Joby J	10	Hardworking and mature approach in English lessons.	P Renyard
Corey J	10	For his quiet determination to succeed.	P Eastman
Cruz K	10	Excellent effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Katie K	10	Great effort in Science, well done Katie!	K Watson
Frankie L	10	Commitment and effort in lessons has been excellent - really impressive approach to GCSE content.	S Doolin
Aoiffe M	10	For learning all your lines for The Odyssey already!	S Richardson
Millie M	10	Excellent effort this year.	A Olsen
Sid M	10	Consistent efforts to improve in Media Studies.	E Stevenson
Lyla N	10	Incredible mike chair!	L Ford
Jude N	10	Excellent effort and commitment in Community Sport.	M Woolcock
Jude N	10	Model student and exemplary effort.	A Olsen
Millie N	10	For her politeness in always saying thank-you at the end of each lesson	P Eastman
Boo N	10	Incredible work rate, always pushing to get loads of practice with new concepts, perfect attitude to learning.	M Cowen
Luci O	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Casper P	10	Just totally on it this year.	A Olsen
Orla P	10	Great effort in GCSE Computing.	A Birkett
Pheobe R	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Phoebe R	10	Superb effort in all health and social care classes.	J Robertson
Betsey R	10	Excellent contributions, ideas and effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Grace R-H	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Layla S	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Layla S	10	Consistently hardworking in every English lesson.	P Renyard
Ellie S	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Jess S	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Evie S	10	For an amazing start to Year 10 and achieving an excellent result in your first assessment.	C O'Hare
Liam T	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Esmae T	10	Super start to Triple Physics - amazing effort to all tasks given to her. Great perseverance shown.	S Mullins
Adele T	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Adele T	10	For showing much more confidence in answering questions and performing in Drama, well done!	S Richardson
Joeli T	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Jago V	10	Dedication to his learning and progress!	L Ford
Daniel W	10	Really positive start in Sport Science, consistently trying his hardest to achieve the highest mark in assignment 1.	E Bragg

STUDENT OF THE MONTH Nominations

YEAR 10

Delilah W	10	For giving it her all at the start of GCSEs.	D Benny
Delilah W	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Bradley W	10	Consistently fantastic engagement, always pushing to understand concepts fully, great attitude to giving it a go, even when it's hard	M Cowen
Chloe W	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Nathan W	10	Always enthusiastic in Chemistry - a great start to the GCSE course, well done!	K Watson
Maddie W	10	Great effort in GCSE RE.	G Parekh
Iris Y	10	For always having a positive attitude in Maths and for scoring 100% on the first mini quiz.	P Eastman

YEAR 11

Dillon A	11	For being an absolute legend in maths and working incredibly hard.	J Lovelock
Emily B	11	Excellent focus in lessons and fantastic commitment to revision in preparation for mock exams.	S Doolin
Emily B	11	For your time and commitment in preparation for the college production.	S Richardson
Jacob C	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Ava C	11	For beginning the year with a fantastic effort to her learning, and for great contributions to class discussion.	F Hawksworth
John C	11	For always asking excellent questions to keep me on my toes!	P Eastman
Andrew C	11	Excellent progress in science, has really excelled since moving up to top set! Well done. :)	S Mullins
Imogen F	11	Consistently hard working in every lesson in preparation for mocks.	P Renyard
Poppy F	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Jen F	11	Excellent focus in lessons and fantastic commitment to revision in preparation for mock exams.	S Doolin
Elowenn F	11	Infallible attitude to learning, always pushing to understand everything and do the best work possible.	M Cowen
Isabelle G	11	Incredible pride in book work, always pushing to understand everything and do the best work possible.	M Cowen
Florence J	11	For being pro-active at seeking guidance in class and with Sparx homework tasks.	P Eastman
Jesse-James K	11	Incredibly positive and motivated approach to every English lesson and determination to improve and do well.	P Renyard
Jacob K	11	For his constant focus and determination in lessons.	P Eastman
Finley L	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Ashley M	11	For being such a positive member of our Business class and always working hard! Great job.	N Burke
Darcy M	11	For working meticulously to ensure she understands and develops new concepts well.	J Lovelock
Nick M	11	Mature approach to construction theory lessons.	L Ford
Lissa M	11	Consistently working hard in lessons towards Sport Science coursework.	M Woolcock
Isaac N	11	Great effort in GCSE Computing.	A Birkett

YEAR 11

Sophie O	11	For agreeing to take on an extra role in the production when you are so busy!	S RIchardson
Sophie O	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Merryn P	11	Excellent focus in lessons and fantastic commitment to revision in preparation for mock exams.	S Doolin
Jayden R	11	For being so much more involved and confident during improvisation work in Drama.	S RIchardson
Amos R	11	Mature approach to construction theory lessons	L Ford
Samara R	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Zennor S	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Beautie S	11	Superb effort in all health and social care classes.	J Robertson
Zack T	11	Excellent contribution to discussions in PSHE - well done!	E Bragg
Rory T	11	Mature approach to construction theory lessons.	L Ford
Ellie T	11	Making such a great start to Year 11, completing additional past papers in science to increase her grade.	S Mullins
Finley W-H	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw
Jake W	11	For ongoing huge commitment and enthusiasm for all things connected to Drama.	S RIchardson
Jake W	11	For a great effort with Drama coursework.	K Crawshaw

POST 16

Eli B	12	Excellent focus in A-level physics. Always asking extra questions at the end of each lesson.	S Mullins
Laila H	12	Superb effort in all Early childhood development classes.	J Robertson
Olly L	12	A great start to Unit 1 in sport.	K Treloar
Tamsin M	12	For all your time, help and ideas for The Odyssey and your choreography.	S RIchardson
Maisie M	12	Work presented very well in exam book with great attention to detail.	K Treloar
Marinour M	12	Excellent start to A-Level Philosophy and Ethics!	G Parekh
Edward Q-W	12	Excellent start to A-Level Philosophy and Ethics!	G Parekh
Sophie T	12	Excellent start to A-Level Philosophy and Ethics!	G Parekh
Heidi T	12	Superb effort in all health and social care classes.	J Robertson
Chloe A	13	Superb effort in all Early childhood development classes.	J Robertson
Daisy G	13	Superb effort in all health and social care classes.	J Robertson
George H	13	For volunteering to referee a year 9 National Cup game.	K Treloar
Oli J	13	For volunteering to referee a year 9 National Cup game.	K Treloar
Lucas S	13	Exceptional focus since returning to year 13. Lucas is putting in a great effort to all his subject, in and out of lessons. He is always polite and willing to volunteer in Post 16.	K Ryan
Chloe S	13	Continued effort to her studies at A level. Asking for extra past papers and will preserve will her equations.	S Mullins

Well Done!

Head of Year 7



I hope the start of term has treated you well and your children are excited to leave the house in the morning to travel to school with a big smile on their face ready for the day!

Well done to all the Year 7s for making such a big step of the transition to HCC and doing such a good job ready for their journey with us...and thanks to all the mums and dads who are undoubtedly being a massive support to ensure this happens.

Our first few assemblies have focused on kindness and the importance of belonging and what it means to be a Helstonian. Our next assembly will focus on the Leadership opportunities within the College so the Year 7s can make a bigger impact and play their part in the College Student Voice.

The Year 7 students have also had their library induction and a fantastic live sing-a-long assembly with Mrs Parker and Mr Parker (felt sorry for the guys in the front rows listening to me sing Queen!) to help preparations for the Year 7 Music evening. The Music team also introduced the Year 7s to all the Music clubs, bands, lessons and choirs on offer to the students.

The enrichment timetable has now been circulated so are up and running and sporting fixtures have started. Please encourage your sons and daughters to join a club at lunchtime or after school to make the most of the opportunities at HCC including the College Drama Production of 'The Odyssey'.

Just a reminder for all regarding the importance of routines to ensure the school runs as smoothly as possible so please check your sons and daughters' attendance, punctuality, uniform and equipment so they are ready for the day a head, looking their best and ready to learn.



Apologies that the Meet the Tutor event had to be cancelled at last minute due to technical issues. This has been rearranged for 4th November and will give you the opportunity to meet the tutor of your son/daughter and discuss how they have settled in to life at the College and answer any queries. I am proud of the first half-term working with Year 7 as they are settling in extremely well and demonstrating the Helston values, we hold so close.

Please contact me, Mrs Williamson or Mrs Harris via e-mail if you have any queries or would like to make an appointment and thank you, as always for your support.

Best wishes,

Terry Richardson - Head of Year 7 and Transition

Head of Year 8



As we reach the end of our first half-term, I have been incredibly proud to step into my new role as Head of Year 8 and to get to know such a fantastic year group. The last few weeks have been full of energy, enthusiasm and achievement, and Year 8 students have made an excellent start to the academic year.

From the very first day, students have demonstrated a positive attitude towards learning. Lessons have been purposeful, classrooms have been buzzing with thoughtful discussion, and many students have shown real determination to challenge themselves and achieve their personal best. It has been particularly pleasing to see students embracing new opportunities and taking pride in their work.

Beyond the classroom, Year 8 students have continued to make a significant contribution to school life. Whether representing the school in sporting fixtures, participating in clubs and enrichment activities, performing in music and drama events, or supporting charitable initiatives, our students have shown commitment, teamwork and resilience.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the term has been the way students have supported one another. Acts of kindness, respect and cooperation are evident every day, helping to create a year group that is welcoming, inclusive and ambitious. These qualities are just as important as academic success and help to make Year 8 such a positive community.

As we head into the next half-term, I encourage students to continue setting high standards for themselves, making the most of the opportunities available, and approaching each day with a positive mindset. There is much to look forward to in the months ahead, and I am excited to see what Year 8 can achieve.

Thank you to our students, staff and families for their support throughout this first half-term. It has been a wonderful start, and I look forward to celebrating many more successes as the year progresses.,

Warm regards,

Ellis Hawkey - Head of Year 8

*"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

Head of Year 9



The 2026 academic year has begun with great energy and enthusiasm, and as I reflect on the first half term with Year 9. I am incredibly proud of everything our students have achieved so far. Together, Year 9 have achieved over 5300 Praise Points already!

Our young people have embraced the opportunities of the new school year with maturity, determination and a strong sense of community. It has been particularly pleasing to see students demonstrating our values both inside and outside the classroom. I have received a number of very positive emails from teachers and support staff over the past few weeks.

A particular highlight this term has been the growing role of student leadership within our assemblies. Our student leaders will be taking an active role in planning and delivering key messages to their peers, and contributing to our overall student voice programme.

We have also celebrated some outstanding sporting successes. Our girls' netball teams have represented the College with tremendous passion, teamwork and determination, achieving excellent results while demonstrating exemplary sportsmanship throughout the season. Equally, our rugby players have enjoyed a fantastic start to the year, showcasing resilience, commitment and skill in both training and competitive fixtures. We are immensely proud of all students who have represented the College and I would like to thank both staff and families who continue to support their sporting journeys.

Throughout the term, assemblies have focused on themes including leadership, aspiration, respect and community. It has been wonderful to see students engaging thoughtfully with these important topics and reflecting on the role they can play in making our school an inclusive, ambitious and supportive environment for everyone.

As always, I would like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support. The partnership between home and school remains vital in ensuring that every young person is able to thrive and achieve their potential.

Should you require any support, or if there is anything I can help with, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

I hope you all enjoy a restful break, and I look forward to welcoming our students back for another exciting and successful half term.

Warm regards,
Jack Dudley - Head of Year 9

Head of Year 10



We have had a wonderful start to the Autumn term and Year 10 have been amazing. Coming back looking smart in their new white shirts, ready to take on the challenges of Key Stage 4. We have had a strong start on behaviour with very few removals from lessons and detentions indicating that the year group are taking the challenges seriously. If I had to be critical, across the year group attendance is a low. I cannot emphasise enough the importance of being in College and not missing lessons. I think parents would be surprised just how much has been covered over the first 7 weeks on the new courses. A lesson missed can have a real impact on understanding the concepts that are being taught. Content is high for GCSE's and every minute in lesson counts.

As students start their GCSE journey there is always a step up with homework. Students should have 50 minutes a week for core subjects and 30 minutes for option subjects. If students are struggling with completing the tasks, they should be encouraged to discuss this with their class teacher. To support them at home, creating a homework routine with a clear place to work away from distractions. Encouraging students to tackle tasks with some planning as to amount of work, commitments to clubs and family events can really make a difference and reduce stress and rushed deadlines. With that in mind the first assessment window opens for Year 10 after the half term. You have received an email with the details, dates and tips from the class teachers. The booklet, very similar to that your have received in the past gives the student topics which need revising. Going back to my previous comments, a good home study routine will make this period easier to manage.

Finally, we are in the process of starting the Year 10 leadership applications. Our theme for this year is preparation for being a Prefect. Please encourage your child to apply. They start the Prefect roles in May this year, ready to take over from the current Year 11 students who will be busy starting their GCSE exams. And no, they do not have to stand up and speak in assembly if they do not wish to do so. We have many strong speakers in the year group who will gladly take on those tasks. We need a range of skills and interests to create an all round effective Prefect team.

I hope you all have a very relaxed and hopefully dry half term.
Siobhan Barnes - Head of Year 10

Head of Year 11



As we begin our final Chapter – Year 11 - I have spoken a great deal about the idea of "lasts". For all of our Year 11's, this is the final year of secondary school and with that comes the lots of things which they have always done, but will not moving forward. Such as their last Sports Day, last Flora Day at HCC, the last Christmas events, the last prize draws and the last opportunities to represent the school in sporting fixtures and enrichment activities. These moments will come around quickly, so my message to students has been simple: make them count. Obviously, for those aspiring to join our very successful sixth form they will get to do these things for another two years. Alongside enjoying these memorable occasions, we have also discussed the importance of setting the Year 11 standard. This means being in school and on time every day, being fully engaged in every lesson and showing respect to themselves and others - establishing these habits now will undoubtedly reap rewards in the future.

A key part of this preparation has been the launch of our extended days programme. These sessions are vital in helping students build confidence, strengthen their subject knowledge and prepare effectively for the mock examinations when we return, and ultimately the GCSE examinations in the summer. I have been incredibly pleased with the way students have approached these sessions so far. Attendance, engagement and commitment have been excellent and it is encouraging to see so many students taking advantage of the support available to them. I am delighted to also hear how many students are going home to revise even more or work alongside tutors to further develop and secure they understanding in a range of subjects. Within the year group, our prefect team have donned their ties and have also been working hard behind the scenes, supporting younger students both in lessons and out and have helped play a vital supporting role in our Open Day. They continue to be excellent role models within the school community. Alongside this, our prom fundraising efforts are well underway. We recently held a fantastic "Sponge the Teacher" event which raised a considerable amount towards the prom. Thank you to everyone who took part and supported the event. There will be plenty more fundraising opportunities throughout the year, and we have an extra special event planned for nearer Christmas, so keep an eye out for further details.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege to be part of this year group's journey. Watching them grow from nervous new starters into mature, capable young adults has been a real source of pride. I am tremendously proud of everything they have achieved so far and the resilience and character they continue to show. I am thoroughly looking forward to ending this journey on a high and hope every student recognises that these next 7-8 months are some of the most special, memorable and important months of their education journey. Make the most of every opportunity, work hard, enjoy the moments that matter and finish Year 11 with no regrets.

Jamie Lovelock - 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***



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.