



TORPOINT
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

Inspiring Optimistic Learners

NEWSLETTER



13th February 2015 Issue 15

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Full praise goes to the Sixth Form students who along with back and front stage crews presented a very appreciate audience with an evening of live music at their 'Live Lounge Performance'. The quality was superb and the cabaret style seating only added to the atmosphere. Well done.

Well done also to the MFL team and our Chinese Language Assistant, Ms Zhang, for the equally superb Little Chinese New Year (Xiao Nian) celebrations and Year 8 student workshops. The students brought good luck to the College in the form of a huge and very noisy dragon! The whole College was also treated to a tasty Chinese menu by the Canteen Team which proved hugely positive with students and staff alike.

Well done also goes to the Year 10 students who took part in a debate filmed by BBC for Spotlight and Radio Cornwall about e-cigarettes.

Great news

Over the last two weeks all teachers at the College have been involved in another round of lesson observations with many teachers looking at each other's lessons and the teaching and learning of students. The intention is to evaluate our practice, to form a view of the quality of teaching and learning across the College and to identify excellence as well as areas for further development and training. As "school led" and "self improving" we are committed to honing our practice even further.

I am pleased to be able to feedback that well over 90% of all the lessons seen in this round were deemed good or better with many outstanding examples. Working together, I am certain we can develop even further.

Parent and Carer views

To that end, feedback from students (student voice) and parents is really important to us. We gather the views of students and parents via a variety of ways: regularly collecting evaluations at Academic Review Days, Parents' Evenings, in questionnaires and surveys. The findings then help to inform our next steps. Parents feedback, for example, identified that some aspects of homework could be improved. We have introduced "Show my Homework" so that parents and carers can always see what homework a student has got to complete as this is collated online. Early feedback is really positive and a more detailed evaluation report will be published after half term.

Mrs Hazeldine

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2nd March – Careers Week

3rd March – Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening

**23rd & 24th March – Academic Review Day
(23rd March – evening only)**

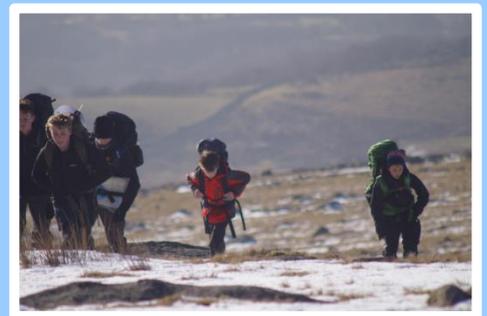
Academic Year 2014/15 Term Dates

Spring Term 5th January – 27th March
(Half term 16th-20th February)

Summer Term 13th April – 17th July
(Half term 25th-29th May)

Snow & Sun for Ten Tors Training

There was still plenty of snow on Dartmoor to distract the students training for Ten Tors last Sunday. The students are now carrying fully loaded rucksacks and under remote supervision, which took its toll with regards timings. The walk had to be cut short but they seemed to enjoy the chance to walk and 'play' in the snow. The next walk is on Sunday 8th March with a full kit check on the Thursday before.



Would you like to receive the College's newsletter by e-mail?

If so, please send your e-mail address to tccmarketing@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk with a subject heading 'Newsletter'. We would also welcome your feedback on the format / content of this newsletter and ways in which we could improve it.

BITESIZE LANGUAGES

The two Year 11 GCSE French groups took part in research on Wednesday 4th February for a local media company called ONE Two Four. The company are redesigning the films for the French section of BBC Bitesize. Our students were asked to watch the new films and give specific feedback. Some of the students were interviewed individually about their thoughts and ideas for improvement. All students took it seriously and gave informative feedback to One Two Four.

The staff enjoyed the films too!



TORPOINT COMMUNITY WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP!

30 students from the College took part in First Aid training at HMS Raleigh and a kit packing presentation by Cotswold Outdoors at the Torpoint Town Council on Saturday 7th February 2015 as part of their mandatory training for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and Ten Tors. The College passed on a **HUGE** thank you to HMS Raleigh, Torpoint Town Council and Cotswold Outdoor for giving their time freely to assist with this vital part of the student's training. The day was a great success with the experience something the students will always remember and it will stand them in good stead for their future. Thank you also to all the students who took part for being so well behaved and a great credit to themselves and the College. **We are extremely proud of them!!**

The Royal Navy staff involved from HMS Raleigh, and Cotswold Outdoors, commented that they had also enjoyed the day and that it was good to meet and be involved with the local community. Mrs Lynn Trotter, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Manager said "The involvement from HMS Raleigh and the Torpoint Town Council shows how well the Torpoint Community work in partnership together and I am sure this will continue to grow".

The students were split into two groups and undertook training on how to treat burns, carrying out CPR and placing the casualty in the recovery position. Great fun was had on how to put on bandages and arrest any bleeding, how to spot and treat hyperthermia and heat exhaustion and how to look after your feet. At the end of the training students had fake wounds applied which looked extremely realistic and gory! The students loved it (and the staff!!).

All the students who took part received a certificate to document the first aid training they had received.

In the afternoon students were taken to Torpoint Town Council Hall, which the College was kindly given use of by the Torpoint Mayor, Councillor Mike Pearn, where Cotswold Outdoors gave a presentation on what kit to take on expeditions and how to best pack your rucksack. Torpoint Community College Sixth Former, Tom Hicks, who has successfully completed his Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award and is now doing his Gold and has taken part in Ten Tors, was also there to assist, as he works at Cotswold on a Saturday - it was great to see, especially as no doubt Tom's outdoor training and pursuits at Torpoint Community College helped to secure his part-time employment!!



UDance

Daisy Lancaster danced on the top of the Torpoint Ferry as part of a promotion for an event called UDance. The dance style was contemporary – they had to use the music (relating to the ferry e.g. waves etc) to create a performance.

UDance is a programme which seeks to increase the number of youth dance performances and support those who organise them, whilst raising awareness of the wonderful events that take place right across the country. The framework aims to provide dance performance opportunities for every child and young person in England.

Sleeping Beauty

Ellyn Watt has just taken part in the pantomime Sleeping Beauty at the Torpoint Council Chambers. She was dancing in the company. Well done Ellyn!



Poetry By Heart

Year 12 student, Beth Lancaster, has recently taken part in the county heats of the UK Poetry By Heart competition at Truro Community Library. She was up against 7 other schools in Cornwall and the standard was incredibly high. Beth was a credit to the college, reciting with fantastic flow and form three poems – her pre-1914 poem 'Lucifer in Starlight' by George Meredith, a post 1914 poem by Denise Riley, 'A Misremembered Lyric' and a World War One poem, 'In Memorium' by Michael Longley. This final poem of the three was an outstanding recitation - emotive and spellbinding.

Rachel Bertram, an English teacher at the College, said 'I couldn't have been more proud! Beth battled for 1st place with a student from Treviglas School, narrowly losing out and coming Runner-up. The competition was a huge success and a fantastic evening for all the students taking part. Our sincere congratulations go out to Beth, for all her hard work and commitment throughout the competition. She was certainly unlucky not to be going forward to take part in the Regional heats at Cambridge University in March.'



Chinese New Year

Year 8 students have been taking part in activities to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

The students made red envelopes as part of the Chinese New Year celebrations. In China, children receive red envelopes with gifts of money from relatives if they have been good!

During our celebrations the students received a little gift (not money!) in their own envelopes on Thursday 12th February, when they had completed their cultural based tasks.



Harry Potter Day

Students at TCC joined in with the first ever global Harry Potter event when they took part in various activities in the library.

The event was run by Mrs Hext and Miss Bale, who are huge Harry Potter fans, as part of their English lesson.

Students completed word puzzles, quizzes and invented spells and new flavours for Bertie Botts Every Flavour Beans.

They also took part in some role play deciding what alternative uses witches and wizards would use our every day objects for.

The library was then open at lunch time for all other students to take part in quizzes and word games.

Great fun was had by all!

