



TORPOINT
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

“INSPIRING
OPTIMISTIC LEARNERS”

NEWSLETTER

Monday 19TH OCTOBER 2020



UPCOMING EVENTS

Half term break-

October 26th- 30th

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021

HALF TERM: OCT- 26TH-30TH

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Thank you to our wonderful students, our impressive staff, our parents and community for all their support as we come to end of this first half term. There's no doubt this has been a challenging period, but everyone has embraced the 'new normal' and quickly adapted to the new way we are having to work as we continue to deal with the ongoing pandemic.

We very nearly reached the October half term break without a member of the College testing positive for coronavirus which, based on the current situation, I believe is quite impressive. However, you will be aware we received notification last weekend that a Year 11 student tested positive for coronavirus. We of course wish them well. Advice and guidance were sought through the DfE helpline and an NHS health official and subsequently a small number of students are now having to self-isolate. Letters were sent out to all parents on Saturday regarding this matter. Can I please remind you to keep your child at home should they display any of the Covid-19 symptoms, obtain a test and notify the College as soon as possible of the outcome – positive or negative. A remote learning provision is in place for all students who are having to self-isolate.

It was a pleasure to see the College in a sea of yellow on Friday 9th October as staff and students came together to raise awareness of all our "health and wellbeing" with a specific focus on supporting young people's mental health. Our muffin day was led and managed by Miss Pine in support of #HelloYellow and the College has raised over £600.

On the following Saturday it was World Mental Health Day and to continue our focus on health and wellbeing we are implementing a 15 minute "mobile free" period during the Year 7 comfort break. This is to encourage our students to spend time communicating with their peers and supporting each other, and reducing screen time.

BANNER ARTWORK CREDIT: SAOWALAK JANSONGKROH



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I would like to congratulate Noah Alvarez in Year 9 who recently appeared on national television with staff and students from Furlanesend Primary School. Noah was key to the development of an environmental accessory for a very well known charity event. Further details on this can be found in this week's newsletter.

Can I please draw your attention to a film we have just produced for Year 5 and 6 students. “Welcome to Torpoint Community College” has been produced for students and their families that will be coming to the College in the next couple of years. It provides a taste of what it will be like to be a Year 7 student at a secondary school, our College values and introduces a number of our staff. You can view this film via the College's website or Facebook page.

The Department for Education has announced that GCSE and A level examinations will go ahead next summer but will start three weeks later. The examinations will start on 7th June and end on 2nd July 2021 for most subjects; however, one GCSE English and Maths paper will be scheduled before the summer half term break to give students affected by Covid the best chance of being able to sit at least one paper in these two qualifications, and A level qualifications which typically have low entry numbers will be scheduled at this time too. The A level examination results day will now be on Tuesday 24th August and GCSE results on Friday 27th August.

You will be aware from the media that cases of Covid-19 are increasing nationally and areas of the UK have been forced into lockdowns. As a contingency plan the College has developed a very detailed and effective remote learning provision. This is currently providing resources for students having to self-isolate.

The “new normal” is beginning to feel more like the “normal” and our students and staff have worked very hard this half term, not only in terms of teaching and learning but also following the Covid-19 rules and regulations to ensure the safety of all. The students and staff are shattered and more than ever deserve a relaxing half term break. Please take the time to relax over the half term and keep safe.

With my best wishes,

Jeremy Plumb

Headteacher



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REMOTE LEARNING

Dear parents

Thank you for all your support since September – it has been a pleasure seeing our students back in College. We are delighted with how smoothly the return has been so far, but also mindful of the fact that there will be occasions in the coming months when students have to self-isolate and learn from home. We have robust plans in place to ensure that in this case remote education is immediately accessible.

Please find attached a poster that is designed to help students access immediate remote education if they are self-isolating but their peers are in College. It explains two platforms:

1. The remote education portal:
<https://sites.google.com/view/tccremoteeducationportal/home> this platform is designed to direct students to web based lessons that are linked to the sequence of our curriculum. All students can go onto the portal and navigate through the links to find an appropriate video lesson to complete without waiting for their teacher to contact them.
2. Microsoft Teams. All students have been added to year group classes called “Self-isolating students”. Teachers are currently in the process of uploading the learning materials that will be used in class in the coming weeks. This means that students can login to Teams (using their College email/ password) and find the exact work that their peers are completing in College. Again, they will be able to do this without direction from their teacher.

If students need advice and guidance to help them navigate the portal or Teams provision, they simply need to email their class teacher who will be happy to help. However, they will be teaching their classes so will respond as soon as is practicably possible.

We have a list of students who have told us that they do not have internet access so that we can send home printed materials. Students do not need to complete work if they are unwell.

At the moment, work is only available for some of the subjects on the platforms detailed above. Other subjects will continue to set work for students who are self-isolating on Show My Homework. Our aim is to have all subjects online by half term.



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STUDY CAFÉ



TCC STUDENTS!

Need somewhere to study?

Need a space to revise in?

Why not drop into our study café on
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS.

COMPUTER ACCESS

FREE TEA, COFFEE
& BISCUITS

ACCESS TO
REVISION GUIDES
& SUPPORT MATERIALS

EVERY
WEDNESDAY
ROOM 17
3:30-5:30pm



PARENTS AND CARERS NOTICE

If you have an enquiry or need to see a member of staff in person, please book an appointment in advance.

Please do not enter the reception area unless you have booked an appointment.

Otherwise you can use our enquiries email
enquiries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Thank you



Homework club:

Mr Watkins will run Homework Club after school from 3.20 to 4.30.

Week 1 - Year 7 on Tuesday and Year 9 on Thursday.

Week 2 - Year 8 on Tuesday and Year 10 on Thursday.

Students will need to wait outside main reception (inside if wet weather) and Mr Watkins will take them into room 1.

Therefore students will have access to a Homework Club once a fortnight. (Year 11 have study café weekly on a Wednesday).

Careers Information

Want to find out more about University? Please follow the Discover University Facebook page organised by Exeter University.

This is recommended for Year 9 students upwards plus parents/carers and teachers.

The [Discover University Facebook page](#) was created in the summer of 2020 and features regular posts from the University to include pre-recorded videos on a wide range of topics, live events and competitions. This page has become one of the primary routes through which we have been able to communicate directly with prospective students throughout lockdown and will continue to be a valuable source of information for followers.





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Plastic Free Red Nose

Noah Alvarez Year 9

Year 9

A huge well done to our Y9 student Noah Alvarez who has been instrumental in the campaign to replace the red plastic noses for the charity Comic Relief with a plant based alternative.

He had the idea some time ago when he was a pupil at Foulanesend. Noah was fed up with the fact that so many noses are sold each year and raise money for great causes but are not kind to the planet, being plastic.

Like many of our students, Noah is very keen and proactive in his quest to reduce plastic waste.

His idea finally became a reality and even though he is no longer at his Primary school he went back to be interviewed and filmed for this special news item.

Well done Noah, we are very proud of your achievement here at TCC!

ITV News Report 6.10.20

Comic Relief has created its first ever plastic-free Red Nose after “a bit of a tactical nudging by some passionate kids”. The charity is launching a plant-based nose for 2021 made from bagasse, a natural by-product of sugarcane, created after 18 months of testing and research into sustainable alternatives.

Comic Relief had been hard working on an alternative when, in early 2019, schoolchildren from Foulanesend Community Primary School in Cornwall began making their own sustainable noses out of household goods- while still donating the cost of the plastic nose to the charity. They subsequently received press attention and the backing of Sir David Attenborough.

Nine-year old Lauren, a pupil at the school said: “Here at school, and in our local community we are very passionate about reducing our use of plastic, so it’s a really good feeling knowing that what we’ve done has encouraged Comic Relief to create a plastic-free nose.

“We were all so excited when we heard the news, it’s something each and every one of us will always remember and be very proud of.”

Film director and Comic Relief co-founder Richard Curtis, 63, praised the children for their campaign.

He said “We had been working on it beforehand but I do think we are at an interesting time, especially with the climate debate, where the energy is coming from the young.

“This is the whole purpose- that you have got a younger generation who is pushing harder and making you even more aware”.

He said he has been worrying about what Comic Relief was doing to help the environment, but realised a lot of their projects related back to it in some way.

“Lots of projects in Africa try to move people from jobs that lead to deforestation, into jobs where women don’t have to earn money just by selling trees. Also, people who are adapting to the problems of climate change”, he said.





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EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

#HelloYellow

Muffi Day

9th October

£620 raised!



THANK YOU FOR HOLDING A

#HelloYellow

DAY AT YOUR SCHOOL

You helped show young people they're not alone with their mental health.



A huge thank you for everyone who supported last week's HelloYellow muffi day and raise awareness of Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Seeing so many students and staff in yellow was lovely, to show our whole community we are all here to support one another.

Together we have raised an amazing £620!

Our muffi day has acted as a catalyst to continue the conversation about Mental Health and Wellbeing this academic year. I hope that we can maintain this momentum and develop the new and excited ideas that our students and staff have to support and look after ourselves and one another.

Please feel free to get in touch via
worries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

*Best wishes
Miss Pine*