



TORPOINT
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

"INSPIRING
OPTIMISTIC LEARNERS"

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 12th November 2022

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

SPRING TERM 4th January – 8th April



UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Half Term 1 – Tuesday 4th January -
Friday 18th February 2022

Post 16 Parents Evening - Thursday 20th
January (Virtual)

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable festive break and Happy New Year for 2022!

Firstly, I would like to thank you for your support with the staggered start to this term. A significant number of students completed lateral flow tests at our on-site facility and I am pleased to report there were only two positive results. We will see how the situation develops over the next few weeks, and we will of course adapt and respond to whatever comes our way. However, it is fantastic to see all students now back in College and focused on their studies.

The government's guidance on Covid testing and isolation periods has been moving apace, and with so much information being cascaded out it is often difficult to keep track of what guidance applies. With effect from 11th January, if an individual is without Covid symptoms there is no longer a requirement to complete a PCR test to confirm a positive lateral flow test. However, they must still get a PCR test if they have one of the three main Covid symptoms. There remains a requirement to still self-isolate for up to 10 days, but they can end quarantine if they receive two negative lateral flow test results, 24 hours apart, on days six and seven.

Please notify the College as soon as possible if your child tests positive for Covid, and if your child is returning to school within the 10 day isolation period having tested negative on days six and seven. Can I also remind you of the importance for your child to continue testing twice-weekly to help mitigate the risk of Covid transmission in the College.

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





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This week we have released our Year 9 Virtual Options Evening 2022 film which can be found on our Facebook page and the College website. This is an important part of the Options process for our Year 9 students and will be followed by individual student interviews with Mrs Bell to ensure appropriate and well-informed subject choices are made for Key Stage 4. If you have any queries regarding the Options process, please contact Mrs Bell.

On Monday and Wednesday of this week Brook visited the College to deliver a talk on drugs awareness, and relationships and sex education, to our Year 9 and 11 students respectively. They will be returning to the College next week to talk to Year 10. There have also been exams taking place this week which have gone well to date, and there have been no interruptions due to Covid.

The College's backlog maintenance works programme for 2021/22 is now in its final stages of completion. A new gas main should start to be laid from Monday next week, which may cause some disruption on the main drive, so parents and students should be extra vigilant if they are walking on and off site using this route. Towards the end of January the new gas boiler in our South Wing Boiler House should be connected, and at the beginning of February the new heating system (including six air-sourced heat pumps) should be fully operational.

One of the control measures the College has in place to mitigate the risk of Covid transmission is good ventilation in all areas. I am pleased to report that we are a little ahead of the game when it comes to mechanical ventilation systems, as last year we had these systems installed in all our Science laboratories and Prep Rooms. We also have CO2 monitors strategically located around the site so staff are made aware of any ventilation concerns and can act on it where necessary and possible. What this means, for areas without mechanical ventilations systems, is how we manage the opening and closing of doors and windows in rooms; some areas are better ventilated than others. Action taken by staff will be balanced with the thermal comfort for occupants of rooms and ensuring an appropriate room temperature is maintained for effective teaching and learning. It has been relatively mild so far this winter, but if the weather does turn cooler your child may need an extra layer of clothing to ensure they remain warm and comfortable when in the classroom.

Finally, I would like to say thank you again for your ongoing support. I'm sure there will be some challenging times ahead as we react and respond to the ongoing pandemic, but I will do my best to keep you informed and updated as necessary.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeremy Plumb
Headteacher



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YEAR 9



VIRTUAL OPTIONS EVENING
TUESDAY 11TH JANUARY 2022
find it on the College Facebook page.



Year 9 Options News

All of our Year 9 students have had their final Options Form to complete and return by January 28th 2022.

The Virtual Options Evening presentation is now available on our website and our College Face Book page. This contains information about all the GCSE subjects available.

If you have any further questions relating to the Options 2022-24 please contact me on bell.L@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk.

Miss Bell

Attendance reminder

At Torpoint Community College we believe that the greater the attendance, the greater the achievement. We aim for an environment which enables and encourages all members of the community. For our students to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and be at College, on time, every day.

If your child is absent please contact the College as soon as possible on the first day of absence, and on each subsequent day of absence. If it is a planned absence, please complete an Absence Request Form. Please note that the law does not grant parents/carers an automatic right to take their children out of school during term time. Parents/carers can commit an offence if they fail to ensure regular and punctual attendance of their child at the school which the child is registered, unless the absence has been authorised by the school.

If your request for absence is refused and you still take your child out of school on holiday in term time then we will refer the matter to Cornwall Council and they may decide to issue a Penalty Notice. Penalty Notices for absences of 6 days or more are £60 per parent per child.



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EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Christmas and New Year have come and gone, and we find ourselves back at work/school. January can be a dreary month at the best of times, with Blue Monday, dubbed the most depressing day of the year, just around the corner (18th January). With so much uncertainty floating around, our wellbeing can take a hit. But there are things we can do to improve our wellbeing.

Here are 3 tips for looking after your wellbeing in January:

1. Start with small resolutions

It's tempting to overhaul all your bad habits at the start of a new year, but this can set you up for failure. We need to be kinder to ourselves, so if you want to make any changes, start with something small.

2. Take a moment to refocus

Re-focus and breathe, stop, be and reset. Over the past 2 years a lot has changed and there's been a lot of uncertainty which can lead to stress. Perhaps think about what is really important to you.

3. Get outside

Even if it is raining, getting outdoors can help keep us physically and mentally well.

*Best wishes,
Miss Pine*



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EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Carbon Neutral Cornwall Youth Ambassador Network

The CNC Youth Ambassador Network aims to give young people of all ages the opportunity to:

- Share their ideas with other young people and be supported to take actions going forward
- Get involved in regional, national, and international campaigns
- Discuss and learn about issues that matter to them including green careers
- Give young people the opportunity to talk and be listened to by decision makers in the council and wider
- Be recognised for their time, ideas and efforts.

For more information, please visit <https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/carbon-neutral-cornwall-youth-ambassador-network> or contact CarbonNeutral.Education@cornwall.gov.uk

*Best wishes,
Miss Pine*