



**TORPOINT**  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

"INSPIRING  
OPTIMISTIC LEARNERS"

# NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Half Term 1 – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January -  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Year 11 Parents Evening - Thursday 3rd  
February (Virtual)

College Mufti Day – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February.  
Organised by the Student Council for Team  
Seas project. Wear blue for £1.

## ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

SPRING TERM 4<sup>th</sup> January – 8<sup>th</sup> April

### HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

The Spring Term is now well underway with lots of activities taking place, in addition to 'business as normal' in the classroom. The cold, dry and sunny days have been very welcome and given everyone a boost following weeks of wet and windy weather over the festive period.

Firstly, I would like to say congratulations to all the students who participated in the schools' cross country running last week. There were some excellent performances and the students were a credit to the College. There was also an excellent Ten Tors training day that took place on Dartmoor on Sunday. The team welcomed unusually good weather conditions, and it is great to see so many students participating. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who commit their own time to support our Ten Tors training.

This week our Year 8 football team won an excellent away game against Poltair 5-0, and Year 9 played in a hard-fought away game against Bude winning it 3-2. Well done to all those who played.

### 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](mailto:enquiries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk)

Thank you





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Last Thursday we had our Post 16 Parents' Evening which was held virtually, rather than in person, and I would like to thank all those who participated. The take-up of this event was lower than we anticipated, so I would be grateful if you could feed back to your child's tutor or Head of Sixth Form, Mr Golding, how we could improve or change the Parents' Evening arrangements to increase the take-up rate. Our next Parents' Evening is on 3<sup>rd</sup> February for Year 11.

A reminder that the Year 9 Options forms are due in by this Friday; interviews with Year 9 students will then be arranged shortly after. As shared in my last message, this is an important process to ensure appropriate and well-informed choices are made for Key Stage 4. Interviews to discuss Post 16 options are also ongoing with our Year 11 students. Should you have any queries or concerns in respect of the Year 9 or 11 Options process, please contact Mrs Bell.

I am conscious there has been a great deal of COVID-19 information in my previous messages, so this week I will try and keep it to a minimum! On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January the Department for Education advised that it was no longer routinely recommending the wearing of face coverings in classrooms, and from today (27<sup>th</sup> January) it is no longer routinely recommending face coverings for staff, visitors and students in communal areas. The College's control measures are kept under constant review and are updated to reflect the situation locally. I have advised both staff and students that they may continue to wear face coverings in classrooms, communal areas and crowded spaces if they feel it is appropriate to do so. COVID-19 cases remain high in Cornwall and I believe the risk of transmission in schools also remains high currently.

Finally, the College's Leadership Team met with members from the Student Council on Monday and welcomed a very constructive conversation covering a range of different matters. It was a pleasure to talk to the eight representatives from Years 7 to 11 who presented themselves very well.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeremy Plumb  
Headteacher



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## Sports News – Cross Country Championships 2022

This amazing group of students took part in the Cornwall Schools Cross Country Championships 2022 on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January in Truro. Below are the places they achieved in their age category races. What an amazing job they all did!

A massive thank you to all of the parents and carers who transported and cheered on their children. A special mention to Caroline Bloxham who was race director for TCC.

Holly 12th,  
Rueben 14th  
Josh 5th  
Jack 11th  
Oliver 21st  
Charlie 39th  
Mikey 46th

Holly, Rueben, Josh and Jack all got letters as they finished in the top 20 in their races. We wait with fingers crossed to see if they are selected to represent Cornwall for the South West Schools Championships. These will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at Sheldon School, Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Here are the Year 8 boys' team:



Good luck to all of these runners who are also competing at an Arena event this week at Sir James Smith School in Camelford.



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### Year 8 Football News:

I'm very pleased and proud to say that, considering it was their first match together due to no games being possible last year due to the pandemic, the Year 8 team performed brilliantly. Goals from Harry (2), Jack, Riley and Max ensured a comprehensive 5-0 victory!

They now wait and see who they are paired with in the next round!! Please congratulate them all. Man of the Match was Joshua for his all action display in centre midfield.

Mr Evans



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# Mufti Day

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February

## Wear BLUE

# £1



## #TEAMSEAS™

helping to keep our oceans clean

Mufti day organised by our  
Torpoint Community College Student Council.



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## Ten Tors Training – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022

It was kit check time on Saturday for students training for the Ten Tors Challenge. As well as checking their personal kit there was an opportunity to learn and practice putting up tents and how to cook using a Trangia. The students were issued with team equipment ready for the walk the next day.



## Ten Tors Training – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022

Students training for the Ten Tors Challenge headed north on Sunday to complete their training walk, which is well and truly underway. They started at the Y junction near Okehampton Army Camp and completed a circular route near the military ring road. The weather conditions were once again ideal with good visibility, although the temperature was low. Well done to all the students who took part - they should be proud of their effort and attitude during the training.

Thank you to all the adult volunteers who support the students and who are looking forward to this Sunday's walk, once again on north Dartmoor.





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## 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.



## YEAR 11 PARENT'S EVENING

### *Year 11 Parents/Carers*

Please book your parent's evening appointments through **schoolcloud**.

 **schoolcloud**

visit: <https://torpoint.schoolcloud.co.uk>

Thursday 3rd February 2022

**3:30-6:30pm**





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## Reading Strategies

### Are you a reluctant reader, weak reader, or dyslexic?

Do you find yourself staring at the pages of an open book just to appear like you're reading?



Do you find yourself reading the same sentence over and over again but you still don't know what you have read?



Do you find reading challenging?



Do you find reading stressful?



Do the words blur?

Wolfe and Kover (1987) conducted a study of the effects of a laser light on reading. They found that the experimental group showed a significant improvement in reading speed compared to the control group. Significant improvement for the experimental group was noted for time needed to locate words on a printed page, timed reading scores, length of



There are many alternative ways to access reading. In this section of the Newsletter we'll explore some of these to help you get on track with your reading journey.



**Answered YES to any of these? Keep reading!**

Speak to Mrs Hodgetts in the Library if you are struggling to find a book that is suitable. We have lots of books to choose from but if there is something we don't have it can be ordered in. You can speak to Mrs Hodgetts during your AR lesson, in the mornings before Tutor time or when school finishes.



Ask a parent or adult to read with you - take it in turns to read a page each and pause regularly to have a chat about what has happened.



Vary your reading and expose yourself to as many different text types as possible. Try magazines, reviews, news articles, blogs such as Teen Vogue, fiction books, interviews, non-fiction books, poetry, jokes etc.



If you find that the text is regularly blurring it may be that you need an eye test or would benefit from trialling a colour overlay.



Try an audiobook. You could even listen to the book whilst following along with the text.



Don't try to read for hours - just 20 minutes a day will really boost your confidence

Sometimes, it's ok to have a break.





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## February 2022 Half-term Activities @ YMCA Torpoint, Antony Rd

# YMCA

### Stay & Play Soft Play & Bouncy Castles

**Monday 21st Feb**  
10am-12pm (Under 7's ONLY)  
Parents/Carers must stay and supervise children  
**Only £3 per child**



### Bouncy Castles & Fun Games

**Monday 21st Feb**  
1pm-3pm (8-11 year olds)  
**£10 per child**



### Karl Curtis Football Coaching Camp

**Tuesday 22nd Feb**  
10am-12pm (4-7 years olds)  
1pm-3pm (8-11 year olds)  
**£10 per child**



### Karl Curtis Football Coaching (FUTSAL Camp)

**Wednesday 23rd Feb**  
10am-12pm (12-13 year olds)  
1pm-3pm (14-16 year olds)  
**£10 per child**



### Junior NETBALL Camp

**Thursday 24th Feb**  
10am-12pm (8-11 year olds)  
**£10 per child**



To book call 01752 815172 | [ymcaplymouth.org.uk/torpoint](http://ymcaplymouth.org.uk/torpoint)



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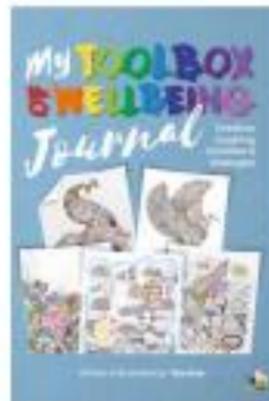
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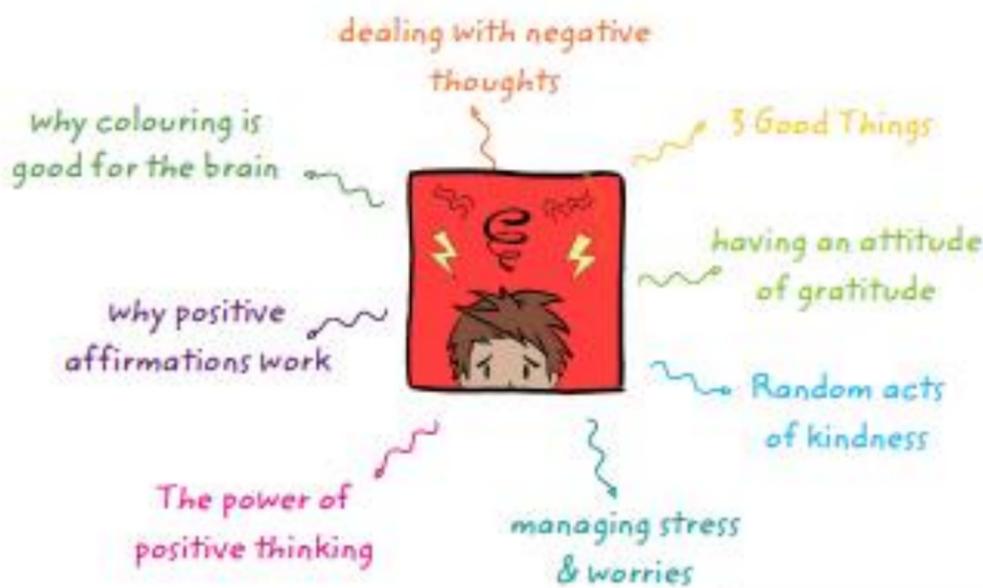


# EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

**FREE** online workshop  
for 10 - 16yr olds in Cornwall  
**Journaling & Wellbeing**  
02 Feb 2022: 4.00 - 5.00pm  
with Dr Tina Rae, author of the  
brilliant... 



Journaling can improve our mental health & wellbeing.  
Join the online session & find out how!



**START NOW**  
[www.startnowcornwall.org.uk](http://www.startnowcornwall.org.uk)

*Best wishes,  
Miss Pine*