



**TORPOINT
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**

*"INSPIRING
OPTIMISTIC LEARNERS"*

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 13th October 2022

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23

AUTUMN TERM 5th September – 16th December



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 13th October - Year 9 Parents' Evening

Half Term – Monday 24th to Friday 28th October

Wednesday 2nd November – Virtual Tutor Support Evening

Thursday 17th November – Post 16 Open Evening

Thursday 15th December - Christmas Party Pieces

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has certainly flown by with the October half term break nearly upon us. This week we look forward to our Year 9 Parents' Evening. These events are particularly important as they provide an opportunity for teachers to discuss with you how your child is doing both academically and in College generally, and how we can work together to best support them in the future.

This week there have been assemblies for all year groups on mental health and wellbeing. We also had a mufti day on Monday, which was World Mental Health Day, for 'HelloYellow'. Staff and students dressed in a sea of yellow to show young people that how they feel matters, and to help us create a future where all young people get the mental health support they need and when they need it.

Last week Ofqual published details on the arrangements for examination gradings for 2023. They have confirmed that they will return to the pre-pandemic grading as the next step in getting back to normal, but they will give the 2023 cohort some protection against any impact of the COVID-19 disruption. They are expecting

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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the overall results in 2023 to be much closer to pre-pandemic years than results since 2020. What this means is that results in 2023 will be lower than in 2022. For those students re-sitting GCSE English or Maths in November, exam boards will align the November 2022 grading with the standards from Summer 2022.

We saw the return of Geography field trips last week with groups visiting both Plymouth and Looe. This is an important part of the Geography curriculum and a valuable experience for our students.

Finally, on behalf of all members of the College, I would like to offer my sincerest thanks to Mr Colin Parton who stood down as Chair of Governors last month after more than ten years of service in this role. Mr Parton committed a huge amount of his personal time in supporting both me and the College throughout this period, and helping, advising and challenging (where necessary) on a myriad of areas. I am delighted Mr Parton is continuing to serve on the Board of Governors as the Vice Chair. I am pleased to welcome Mrs Lynne Nobes as the College's new Chair of Governors and I very much look forward to working with Lynne in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jeremy Plumb
Headteacher



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Sports Fixture News

East Cornwall Schools Tournament – 28th September 2022

Year 9 Girls Football

On Wednesday 28th September, 8 talented Year 9 footballers travelled to Callington Community College to play in the East Cornwall Schools Tournament. This was the first time that most of these girls had represented the College and they certainly were a credit to the school. We played 5 games against schools in East Cornwall and for our first run out as a team, held our way very well.

All students played a part in the team, and a special mention to April, Melissa, Olivia and Eppie who all took a turn in goal, making some brilliant saves to keep Torpoint in the running. Alisa was our star defender of the day causing mayhem at the back, preventing the other schools from scoring more goals. Saskia was brilliant in the middle of the pitch, using her skill and experience to command the team. Keira was a reliable midfielder and made several key passes throughout the game. The girls in goal also had crucial parts to play outfield with Eppie and April also commanding within the defence, and Melissa making some key runs down the wing. Olivia was an all rounder playing in many positions to help the team out. Overall, a good match and a positive first run out for the Year 9 girls.

If anyone is interested in joining girls football, all training takes place after school on the front field. Don't worry if you don't have shin pads or boots, as we have spare an borrow!

Years 7 and 8: Mondays

Years 9-11: Wednesdays

Any questions, please come and speak to Miss Rowe.



Year 8 Netball

There were also 15 talented Year 8 girls who travelled to Callington to play netball in the East Cornwall Schools Tournament. This was especially momentous for Year 8, as it was the first opportunity they as a year group have had for netball fixtures. For most, it was the first time they have represented the College and they were a true credit to the school! We were fortunate enough to take two teams and were up against 5 other schools within the tournament.

Although the girls were divided into two teams, they sought to ensure Torpoint was on top and encouraged one and other throughout. They should all be proud of themselves for being so supportive, respectful and playing well as a team. This was commended upon by another school. Across the two teams and five matches played, only one game was lost- only by a single point! Overall, a fantastic start to the tournament for Year 8 netball.

If anyone is interested in joining Year 8 netball, please come along to training after school on Tuesdays. All abilities are welcome. Please speak to Miss Pearson for any queries.



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Year 7 Netball

Finally, the College sent a team of 7 talented Year 7 girls to compete in the same tournament. This was the first netball event of the year and the girls were competing against 5 other schools.

And what a start to the tournament it was! Penny as captain, delegated the team's positions, allowing for smooth transitions between each half. Evie, as centre commanded the flow of the game and worked with Daisy, Ruby, Poppy and Ellie to dominate the attacking thirds, working effortlessly together to get the ball to the shooting third. Our star defenders Elsa, Siri and Penny continued to prevent the ball from reaching the opposition's shooting third and made some lovely interceptions and several key passes throughout the game - the team won over every centre pass. This allowed multiple shots to be scored by Daisy, Ellie and Ruby and led the team to win 12-0 in the first match and 10-0 in the second game. Torpoint Year 7 netball team undefeated!

Unbelievable results for the first round of the tournament and on top of this, the girls were a true credit to the school. Not only for their performance but for their amazing sportsmanship. They should all be so proud! Please congratulate the girls if you see them.

If anyone is interested in joining Year 7 netball, please come along to training after-school on Wednesdays. All abilities are welcome. Please speak to Miss Pearson for further information.





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Wellbeing news!

We are delighted to welcome Next Steps South West (NSSW) university outreach back to TCC to deliver sessions to students showing them how to use the CareerPilot website – a fantastic website that allows students to research their options at 14+, 16+ and 18+.

Along with Unifrog, both websites allow students to research a wide range of careers and next steps. Students in each Year 9 and 10 wellbeing class will have a session with NSSW over this term, and Year 11 classes will have a session from NSSW all about their next steps and level 3 qualifications.

Year 11 students have had an assembly all about the courses on offer from Cornwall College, and in particular Duchy College. This assembly highlighted the types of courses and apprenticeships that students can study at Duchy after Year 11 or Year 13. Year 11 students can sign up for taster sessions at Duchy College that will take place in the October half term – please see the Cornwall College Duchy College website for further information.



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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Devon & Cornwall Police – Passive Drugs Dog visit

On 10th October the College was happy to welcome a visit from 'Sky'. Sky is a lovely friendly Labrador with an incredible nose. Devon and Cornwall police take Sky into schools, festivals and events where she can put her amazing nose into action. Drugs dogs are usually gun dogs such as German short-haired pointers, labradors and spaniels. Proactive drugs dogs are used to search premises, vehicles and areas for drugs and to let their handlers know when drugs have been found. Passive drugs dogs screen the air around individuals, and are often used at concerts and outside night clubs. As well as detecting drugs, they act as a visible deterrent. Sky has been trained to alert for any form of drugs and she is part of the Devon and Cornwall Initiative aimed at keeping drugs out of schools. On the day Sky was accompanied by police officers and she happily sniffed all of our Year 10 and 11 students and their teachers. We were very pleased that as a result no drugs were found. Keeping schools a safe and drug free place for children is an important part of Sky's work.



DEVON & CORNWALL
CONSTABULARY

Christmas Party Pieces – Thursday 15th December 2022

Rehearsals are well underway for this year's Christmas Party Pieces event and we have many exciting acts lined up including students, teachers and friends of TCC ready to take part. It is not too late to join in with any of the groups rehearsing below. See Mr Entwistle in SSC for a letter asap! **Rehearsals are after school from 3.30-4.30pm**

Tuesday – Year 7 Singing 'Sparkle and Shine'

Thursday – All Years Party Pieces Singers

Friday – Party Pieces band practise.

Our Wednesday dance group are also working hard on their routines - well done to all students involved for their commitment and energy so far, it should be a great event. Watch this space for ticket information after half term! Miss Bell



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TCC Students Wow Authors at North Cornwall Book Festival

On Friday 23rd September, 14 students in years 8 and 9 travelled to St Endellion to attend the North Cornwall Book Festival. Aside from being surrounded by books, students participated in writing workshops by famous authors including YA authors Liz Kessler and Emily Barr and poet Matt Windle.

During each workshop, students were prompted to produce pieces of creative writing using methods taught by the authors, which resulted in some fantastic pieces of writing being produced across the cohort. The authors themselves listened to and read the work created by students, and our group from TCC got some high praise for their pieces. Some samples of students' work have been included on the next page. Well done, all!

Thanks go out from us to the organisers of the North Cornwall Book Festival for allowing us to attend the event.

- Mrs Hodgkinson, Teacher of English.



Students making notes during Matt Windle's poetry workshop



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Arthur, Year 9 – Work inspired by Liz Kessler's workshop

I marched through yet another ruined village, destroyed by a battle to protect Mother Russia itself. Our glorious comrade Stalin had ordered the ultimate sacrifice. Not one step back. But it had all been for nothing, bodies of once people, men, women, children. Tanks left wrecked by the road either out of food or fuel; their crews abandoned them to run from the oncoming war machine. Never stopping, never leaving, never sleeping. I cried for my country, I cried for my people and most of all I cry for my family.

Jack, Year 9 – Work inspired by Liz Kessler's workshop

The bright red sun of the Japanese flag ascended into the cold air on Nanking. Screams erupted from the running Chinese, almost causing the deafening guns to cease. The soldiers marches into a shell-shocked house with a merciless lust for blood, not hesitating to slaughter the innocent people. To them, they were not people, just roadblocks in the way of their glorious Japanese empire. Bombs exploded as the population fled out their ruined city, unlucky victims mowed down by unrelentless machine guns and obliterated by Japanese bombs and shells. The sky darkened from the bombs, almost as if it was a storm, only the thunder was replaced with gunshots. The river began to turn red from the blood of the people and the ground erupted like a volcano; a volcano of bombs.

Levvy, Year 9 – Work inspired by poet Matt Windle's workshop

I Wanna

Hear poetry that soars like a bird
Type chapters that leave you hooked on every word
Sing songs with a mood higher than a tree
Spit bars with musical harmony
Paint panels on canvases or on paper
Create comics whether it comes now or later
Fill pages that come together to form a book
Hear poetry that leaves me and the whole world shook



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SAFEGUARDING YOU

worries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Our main priority is that students feel safe and happy.

Email any worries to the above email address OR leave a note in our

worry box.

You can find it outside the library.

Dr Plumb



If you have any concerns or worries, please speak to one of the child protection team.

Or speak to a member of staff you trust and feel comfortable with.



Mrs Lear



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