



TORPOINT
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

"INSPIRING
OPTIMISTIC LEARNERS"

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 11th May 2023



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 17th - Year 11's last day before
study leave

May 26th - Year 13's last day before
study leave

Half Term Monday 29th May –
Friday 2nd June 2023

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23

SUMMER TERM

Tuesday 18th April – Monday 24th July

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoyed the long weekend of King Charles III coronation celebrations. The coronation itself on Saturday was a marvel to watch, not least the way in which all aspects of the day were so fastidiously planned and executed. The College held coronation assemblies for students last week and had coronation themed food in the dining hall to get into the spirit of the occasion.

Last week we saw a number of students complete the Ten Tors Challenge 2023. Congratulations and well done to all those who took part in either a 35 or 45 mile team; you should be very proud. Participation in this event would not be possible without the adult volunteers who give so much of their personal time to support all aspects of the training and preparation, the parents who transport their children to and from the various locations, and to Mrs Porter who is the College's lead for Ten Tors. She has done an incredible job in organising and coordinating all aspects of the Ten Tors training. In recognition of 30 years of dedication and contribution to leading and supporting Ten Tors she was awarded the Ten Tors Diamond Award at Okehampton Army training camp. This is a fantastic achievement for someone who has both completed the Ten Tors Challenge herself and provided hundreds of children with the same opportunity. Thank you to Mrs Porter and all those who helped support the event this year. There is a Ten Tors presentation evening planned for Wednesday 17th May to celebrate the students' achievements.

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 our Year 10 students have completed their internal examinations. This leads into the GCSE and A level written examinations that start next week for our Year 11 and 13 students respectively. A reminder the Year 11 Study Leave starts on Wednesday 17th May (after their examination and the celebration assembly) and Year 13 start their study leave on Friday 26th May. Good luck to all students sitting their examinations over the coming weeks.

It's hard to believe there are just over two weeks left of this half term. The College is busy planning to revert to a single break and lunch time timetable akin to what was in place pre-COVID. With slightly extended break and lunch times, it is hoped this will give students increased opportunities to participate in extra-curricular enrichment activities. The new timetable will be introduced from Monday 5th June.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jeremy Plumb
Headteacher

Wellbeing Week Trips



Friday 7th July

-Cost- £20 per student

-Payment- To be made by
Friday 2nd June 2023 via ParentPay
and this can be made in instalments.

Year 7 Trip- Paignton Zoo

Year 8 Trip- Camel Creek

Year 9 Trip- Woodlands





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Ten Tors 2023

Well done to all the students who took part in the Ten Tors Challenge 2023. After months of training there were four teams on the start line early on the Saturday morning. The College had three teams completing 35 miles and one team on a 45 mile route. On Sunday all of the teams were greeted at the finish line with an enthusiastic welcome from family and friends, as well as from the loyal group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to train them.

Mrs Porter who leads the training was awarded The Ten Tors Diamond Award for her 30 years contribution to Ten Tors.

The College is immensely proud of the achievements of all the Ten Tors participants. A presentation evening is planned for Wednesday 17th May at 6pm in the College Sixth form.

Congratulations to Mrs Porter for all of her hard work and commitment to the Ten Tors challenge over the past 30 years!





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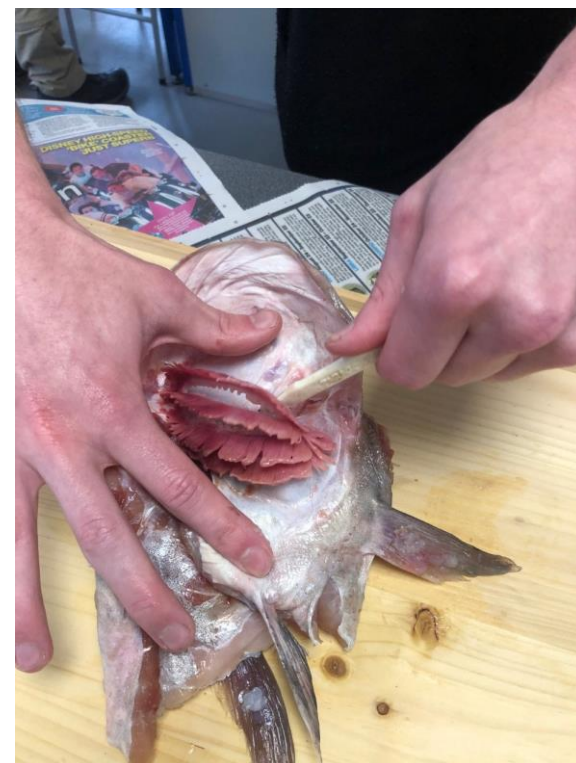
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Year 12 Biology News!

Year 12 A Level Biology students have been getting up close and personal with Fish recently!

As part of their current unit of study, Exchange in Animals, students have been comparing the similarities and differences in the mammalian and fish exchange systems. Last week, students performed a dissection of the fish exchange system. The students worked skilfully to dissect the 'operculum' and 'gill arches' and were able to identify the different regions of the gills and apply their knowledge of the structure of each part and relate it to function.

Well done Year 12 Biologists!





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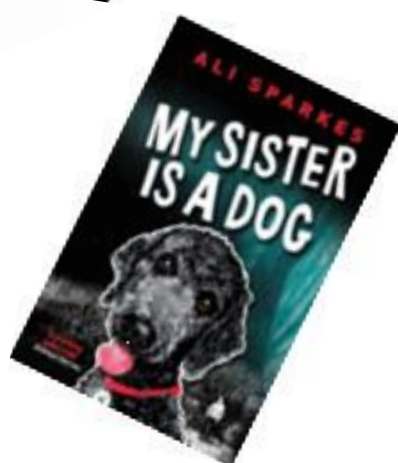
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Ali Sparkes Visit

Before the Easter holidays, Torpoint Community College were delighted to welcome author Ali Sparkes to the College to deliver presentations to the whole of Year 7 and 8 and work with selected students from Year 9 in a workshop.

All of the students who attended the sessions thoroughly enjoyed Ali's humour, advice and enthusiasm. Over 50 students then joined her in the Library at lunchtime to chat and get books signed.

It was a great end to a busy term, and we hope that Ali will be able to join us again soon to inspire our students to read, write their own stories and never give up on their dreams.





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TCC Coronation Celebrations!

These delicious treats were made to mark the coronation of HRH King Charles III.

There was a fine selection available including coronation quiche, coronation chicken sandwiches, coronation chicken pasta pots and decorated jellies and cakes.

Many thanks to our Catering Team for making them all.





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FASHION GOES POP!

FASHION SHOW

2023

29th JUNE

7:30pm

ADULTS: £6 CONS: £5

Tickets available from reception

Showcasing fashion, dance
and music!





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SIXTH FORM

SUMMER PARTY 2023

FOR YEAR 12 & 13

TORPOINT FOOTBALL CLUB
FRIDAY 23RD JUNE

7:30-11PM

£18 per ticket

INCLUDES BUFFET, DISCO
& DRINK ON ARRIVAL.

COME AND SAY FAREWELL TO
MR GOLDING!

Tickets available on ParentPay.



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Attendance Policy Summary

We have 3 basic expectations of all students:

- ✓ Attend school regularly
- ✓ Attend school punctually
- ✓ Attend school prepared for learning

What is the role of Parents/Carers in maintaining good attendance?

Make sure their child attends every day on time

Call or email the school to report their child's absence before 8.45am (absence@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk)

Where possible make appointments for your child outside of the school day

Contact the school if they have any concerns about their child which will impact on their attendance

To support the college's attendance policy and to actively promote and encourage good attendance.

For any term time absence to complete an Absence Request Form— the headteacher will only authorise absence in 'exceptional circumstances'

What does good attendance look like?

>97%

Students are actively encouraged to aim for attendance of 97% or above.

As a college we aim to support all students and will tailor our provision to meet student needs where there are additional factors which are a barrier to attendance

Who are the key staff I should contact if I am worried about my child's attendance?

Tutor

Head of year / Assistant Head of year

College Attendance Officer

The designated senior leader responsible for attendance: howard.j@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

<90%

Persistent Absentee

<50%

Severe Absentee

Attendance	Attendance Actions
99-100%	Learning maximized. Students will receive reward certificates in termly assemblies
97-98.9%	Very few learning opportunities missed. Students will receive reward certificates in termly assemblies. Tutors will speak with student around absence and any support needed.
93-96.9%	<u>Risk of underachievement.</u> The College will write to all parents and inform them when attendance drops below 93%. HOY will look at data and identify any patterns of absence or causes for concern. Previous academic years attendance data will also be consulted.
90-92.9%	If attendance continues to fall the college may request medical evidence. Where students are a cause for concern and are at risk of becoming a persistent absentee , Parents/ Carers will be invited to meet with staff.
<90%	If a student's attendance continues to be a concern, at this stage, the college will seek advice from the Education Welfare Officer on legal procedures which may include penalty notices or court proceedings. Personal Attendance Plans will be used to support students whose attendance is a continued cause for concern.

Safeguarding: Children may be at risk of harm if they do not attend college regularly.

Safeguarding the interests of each child is everyone's responsibility



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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.

“ Just because it's Christmas, it doesn't mean caring for your mental health has to be put on hold. ”

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EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



**Mental Health
Awareness Week**



It's that time of year again!

Mental Health Awareness Week is right around the corner, returning on **15-21 May to get the nation talking about this year's theme, anxiety.**

It's a week of reflection, sharing, support, and fun. And there are lots of ways to get your school community involved.

20% of adolescents may experience a mental health problem in any given year, and 50% of mental health problems are established by age 14. It's never been more important to give young people the tools to look after their wellbeing, and feel secure in getting support.

If you would like a copy of the Mental Health Foundation's Anxiety booklet please email wellbeing@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

The booklet is full of top tips, resources and signposting to support services.

To celebrate Mental Health awareness week please keep an eye out round school for the scavenger hunt and bingo!

Anxiety is something we can all experience from time-to-time. There are lots of reasons why we get this feeling. It can be connected to a job, school, a relationship, social situations, how we feel about ourselves, or a change in our life.

- 1.Focus on your breathing
- 2.Get moving
- 3.Keep a diary
- 4.Challenge your thoughts
- 5.Get support
- 6.Spend time in nature
- 7.Connect people & talk about how you feel
- 8.Try to get some quality rest
- 9.Try to eat healthily

*Best wishes
Miss Pine*



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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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