# NEWSLETTER

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Half Term Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Year 6 Transition Evening Wednesday 21st June

Year 10 Parents Evening Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

TCC Fashion Show Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June - **This event is sold out.** 

#### 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



## ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23

SUMMER TERM

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July

### Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term has certainly flown by, not least with the number of bank holidays we have enjoyed over the last four weeks or so.

There has been a lot to cram in during the shorter working weeks and the College has been a hive of activity.

Earlier this term our Year 10 students completed their mock exams. This not only provided an opportunity to gain an understanding of where the children were at academically, but it also helped familiarise them with the exams process and the formal setting in which exams are sat. Immediately following the mock exams, we transitioned into the GCSE and A Level exams for Year's 11 and 13, which will be ongoing until the end of June. It is important these students take some time to relax and enjoy themselves over the half term break, whilst balancing the demands of revising and preparing for their exams.

Following on from the above, last week our Year 11 started their Study Leave and it was a pleasure to join them in their leaver's assembly which celebrated their educational journey at Torpoint Community College. With photographs and video clips, awards and prizes presented and farewell speeches from the Head of Year, tutors and me, it was a pleasure to see the joy and excitement amongst the students as they start to look towards the next chapter in their lives and exciting futures ahead. A similar event is planned for Year 13 which will be held on Friday 26th May. We wish all students the very best for whatever they choose to do next, and we look forward to welcoming back a high proportion of our Year 11 students in September who will be continuing their journey with us in the Sixth Form.







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Last week I also had the pleasure of attending the Ten Tors Celebration Evening. A detailed documented video journey of the whole training process was given, as well as the event itself, and the evening provided an opportunity to celebrate the courage, strength, resilience and teamwork of all those who participated in the training for this year's event. I am aware Ten Tors is a highly regarded badge of honour in this region and beyond, and many students are already planning on taking part in Ten Tors 2024.

The evening also provided an opportunity to recognise the support and commitment of the volunteers and parents, who give so much of their personal time in all aspects of the training and preparation. Mrs Porter, the College's Ten Tors lead, also deserves a special mention as she has been supporting and helping students undertake Ten Tors training for almost half of its entire existence, with this year being her 30<sup>th</sup> year of volunteering. We were very pleased that June's contribution of 30 years' service was recognised by the Army, as she joined a very elite club of approximately 40 individuals who have ever achieved such a milestone. In recognition of 30 years of this she was awarded the Ten Tors Diamond Award. Furthermore, Mr Richard Hall, a very well-established volunteer, received a platinum award for 40 years of service to supporting the challenge.

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May, Ms Rowe arranged a trip for over 40 students to watch the women's FA Cup Final at Wembley. The early start had no effect on their excitement and anticipation of the trip, they thoroughly enjoyed the match between Chelsea and Manchester United and returned late on the Sunday night after a very long journey. The students had a fantastic time, they behaved impeccably, and I would like to thank Ms Rowe and the team of staff who organised and supported this amazing opportunity for our students.

Looking forward to the second half of this term, a reminder that we move to a single break and single lunch time timetable from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June. I wish all students a safe, relaxing and enjoyable half term break and I look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jeremy Plumb Headteacher









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### TCC at Wembley!

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 45 excited TCC students met at 6.15am to head off and watch the Vitality Women's FA Cup Final between Manchester United and Chelsea. There was a slight panic that we were going to have to leave without Mr O'Driscoll, but thankfully he arrived in the nick of time!

The students were in high spirits on the journey to Wembley, singing and sharing birthday cheer with Lauren. Many of the students had never been to Wembley before so they were beaming with excitement as we made the long journey up to London. We stopped off for some breakfast in Taunton at around 8.30am, before getting back on the road again. Colin and Jack, our drivers, kept us entertained providing jokes, identifying landmarks, and cheering over the microphone as we pulled into Reading services for a lunch stop. We finally arrived at the bus park in Wembley at 1.30pm which gave us plenty of time to navigate our way to our seats to watch the teams warm-up.

We had an exciting match ahead of us with Manchester United scoring within 24 seconds, but unfortunately it was ruled out for offside. Chelsea in the end were the champions with a 1-0 victory over the current WSL leaders Manchester United. We headed back to the coach to start our long journey home. Thankfully, we arrived safely back at TCC around midnight and everyone albeit tired, went home. A big thank you to all the parents for dropping off and collecting all the children so promptly allowing us to all get home safely.

Each and every one of the students was a real credit to the TCC community, their parents/guardians, but most importantly themselves. Their behaviour was impeccable, they were on time to all meeting points, and they looked out for each other on the day too. They conducted themselves excellently moving around the stadium, in the service stations and generally throughout the day. They were a real pleasure to take on the trip.

Thank you to all the staff who helped make the day run so smoothly!











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#### **Mayor Choosing 2023**

Torpoint Town Council's Annual Meeting and Mayor Choosing Ceremony was held on Thursday 18th May in the Council Hall, Torpoint. Master of Ceremonies Town Crier David Green, under the direction of the Town Clerk, announced the proceedings.

The retiring Town Mayor Councillor Rachel Evans BEM reviewed her year of office, which included thank you presentations. The retiring Deputy Town Mayor Councillor Gary Davis was elected to serve as Town Mayor for the civic year 2023/24. He signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office in front of honoured guests, Councillors and residents of the town.

Honoured guests, included: Plymouth Lord Mayor Councillor Sue Dann and Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Chris Penberthy; Sheryll Murray – MP; Mayor of Saltash Councillor Richard Bickford and Mayoress Sarah Bickford, Mayor of Looe Councillor Tony Smith and Consort; Cornwall Councillor Kate Ewert; Freeman of Torpoint Mike Pearn MBE and Chair of Millbrook Parish Council Councillor Nicky Roberts and Joshua Roberts. Councillor Davis introduced Mrs Victoria Davis as Mayoress and Master George Davis as the Town Mayor's Deputy Consort.

Councillor Julie Martin was elected to serve as Deputy Town Mayor and introduced Andy Martin as her Consort. Rev. Michael Woodall will serve as the Mayor's Chaplain and Harry Sprague was chosen to continue to serve as the Mayor's Cadet. The Town Mayor and former Town Mayor toasted each other raising their glasses and drinking a toast to the "Town of Torpoint."

Photography Credit: Jarrad Hulm Photography South West





















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Activities above available during May half term at Plymouth Life Centre.

#### **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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# **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 of I am worried about my child's attendance?

Tuto

Head of year / Assistant Head of year

College Attendance Officer

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

<90% <50%
Persistent Absentee 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%	Risk of underachievement.  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 <b>persistent absentee</b> , Parents/ Carers will be invited to meet with staff.  If a student's attendance continues to be a concern, at this stage, the college will seek advice from the Education
<90%	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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# SAFEGUARDING YOU worries@torpoint.comwall.sch.uk

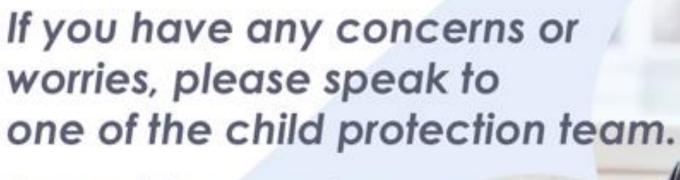
Our main priority is that students feel safe and happy.

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



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



