



HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Newsletter

May 2025





As we reach the end of another vibrant half term, I'm delighted to reflect on the many achievements and moments that have made the past few weeks so special. It's been a busy and rewarding time, full of opportunities that truly reflect our school values: **kindness, curiosity, and resilience**.

From inspiring workshops with visiting artists to every Year 7 student having the chance to explore their musical talents through brass sessions, there has been creativity and enthusiasm at every turn. We've also welcomed Year 5 students into our kitchens, where they 'cooked up a storm'—a fantastic opportunity to share our passion for learning beyond the classroom.

our students continue to make us proud, none more so than those who took on the **Ten Tors challenge**, showing extraordinary resilience and teamwork across Dartmoor's demanding terrain. Meanwhile, 76 of our Year 9 students spent their bank holiday weekend soaking up the culture and sights of Paris—an unforgettable experience that will no doubt stay with them for years to come.

We've also said a fond farewell to our Post-16 students as they prepare for their next steps. Their celebration—complete with a BBQ and their own Eurovision competition—was a fitting send-off for a cohort that has given so much to our school community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Mrs C Brothwood, Principal

Safeguarding Update



This half term in our safeguarding assemblies we have focused our attention on racism, harmful sexual behaviour and bullying. In our sessions we discuss who to speak to if you are worried about yourself or someone else and how to access support from school and from other external agencies should it be needed.

Next term we are looking forward to welcoming the Links team, Ysmart and the Youth Offending Team into our year nine personal development lessons to support with our learning on the dangers of drugs and alcohol use and how to spot signs of exploitation.

Please do make contact with us if you require any Early Help support and our Early Help and Team Around the Family Co-ordinator Darya Stramentov will be happy to meet with you and discuss support for your family.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that if you are concerned about a child or young person's welfare during the holidays, please contact Childrens Services Front Door Service (MASH) via their online form or on 0345 155 1071 or contact The Police directly.

Clara Rose, Designated Safeguarding Lead.



A Magnifique Adventure: Paris 2025



76 of our Year 9 students set off on an unforgettable residential trip to Paris this May Bank Holiday, and what a weekend it turned out to be! From cultural icons to culinary firsts and a touch of unexpected weather drama and spontaneous karaoke, the experience was packed with memorable moments.



Saturday: Our first day began with spectacular views from the top of the Eiffel Tower, followed by a relaxing cruise along the River Seine. Spirits were high as we took in Paris's most famous landmarks from the water. Luckily we had already returned to the coach when the weather turned dramatically, with an enormous hail storm hitting the streets of Paris!



We rounded off the day with a visit to a local French supermarket to stock up on snacks and souvenirs.

Honiton Community College



Sunday: Culture was the theme of the day, starting with a trip to the world-famous Louvre Museum, where many students were thrilled to see the Mona Lisa in person.

We then took a scenic stroll up a traffic-free Champs Élysées before heading to Montmartre, passing the iconic Moulin Rouge along the way, for more sight-seeing and souvenir shopping.



Monday: A day of pure magic awaited us at Disneyland Paris. With thrilling rides, impressive animations and animatronics, special effects and non-stop fun, it was a perfect way to celebrate the final full day of the trip.

At the end of the night, the Disney magic reached a real crescendo with a spectacular finale of music, projections, drones and pyrotechnics that truly brought the magic to life; simply breath-taking!

A huge thank you goes to all the staff and students for making this such a successful and enjoyable residential. Paris 2025, c'était fantastique!

The evening brought a refreshing swim and the chance to be adventurous with many students trying snails...with very mixed opinions! The evening closed with a lively disco and a friendly game of football.



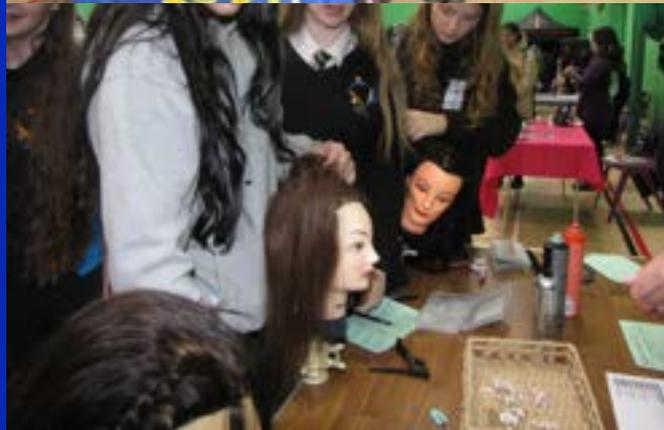


Careers Fair

On Wednesday 30th April we hosted our annual HCC Careers Fair where we invited in a range of employers including The Royal Marines, Puffins Nursery, Crealy Theme Park & Resort, Exeter College Hair Academy, The Harbour Hotel Group and many more.



All of our students in years 7 - 13 had the opportunity throughout the day to engage with the employers, ask lots of questions and consider their next steps.



We were really happy with the feedback from employers expressing how engaged our students were. This opportunity gave our students lots of food for thought and some even walked away with a free pen and tote bag!



A huge thank you to all of the employers who attended and made this a successful event.



Brass and Funk Project

As part of the Cycle 3 'Brass and Funk' project, all students in Year 7 have been given the opportunity to learn the Cornet. Even Mr Turner (Head of Create) has learnt how to play prior to the project launch and together they have been mastering five notes from C to G on the Cornet and learning how to play a range of pieces on Charanga, an online music learning platform which the school uses.



All students have persevered and shown real resilience in learning how to play the five notes. Mr Turner has been really pleased with progress and how the students have been improving their reading of music notation at the same time!

This week, Brass taster sessions have started with Gail Denning, our peripatetic piano and brass teacher. These group sessions were offered to any Year 7's who wanted to learn even more about the Cornet.



Mr Turner successfully applied for funding from the Devon Music Hub to support these free taster sessions and is hoping now that a few Year 7's would like to continue and take up the Cornet.

A big thank you to the Devon Music Hub for supporting the funding and the hire of the 15 Cornets. Without this, the project would not have been possible.



Visiting Artist in collaboration with the Honiton Town Council/ The Beehive and THG

We recently welcomed visiting Artist George Barron and Anna Aroussi from The Thelma Hulbert Gallery to HCC for a full day art workshop. The workshop was a great opportunity for Year 10 Fine Art GCSE students to experience a range of printing processes.

The students were challenged to create a personal response connected to the Honiton area, producing artwork that reflects its strong sense of community. It was also a great honor to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress during the workshop. As passionate advocates for the arts, they have played a key role in securing funding for this project.



Project Title: Street Art & Printmaking: Typography and Place

This project explores the intersection of street art and printmaking, with a focus on typography and its relationship to place. Spanning the 20th and 21st centuries, it investigates how artists use typographic forms in public and communal contexts, from large-scale murals to grassroots printmaking initiatives.

By examining both historical and contemporary practices, the project highlights how creative expression shapes, and is shaped by, shared urban environments. Emphasis is placed on projects that celebrate accessibility, community engagement, and the power of words and design in public space.



The fabulous work produced by the students on the day will be featured in a display outside The Beehive, helping to make the public space more welcoming for residents.

We're excited for the final reveal later this year!



Well Done to our HCC Athletics Team!



Honiton Community College Athletics team travelled to Exeter Arena on Wednesday 7th May to compete against East Devon Schools; hoping to qualify for the East Devon team that would compete against Exeter Schools on Thursday 22nd May. The weather stayed fairly kind and allowed for an excellent competition.

- Will Bond** – 3rd Junior Boys 80m Hurdles (16.82)
- Ed Newcombe** – 3rd Intermediate Boys Triple Jump (10.81m)
- Josh Buckley** – 1st Junior Boys Long Jump (5.08m)
- Darcey Lane** – 4th Junior Girls 200m (30.3)
- Chloe Phare** – 3rd Junior Girls 1500m (5.58.11)
- Chloe Hutsby** – 2nd Intermediate Girls 100m (13.53)
- Holly Rich** – 1st Intermediate Girls Shot (8.41m)
- Mya Podbery** – 3rd Intermediate Girls Javelin (16.80m)
- Mya Podbery** – 3rd Intermediate Girls High Jump (1.35m)





U13 Cricket Team Victory in East Devon Schools Cricket



Well done to all involved and thank you to Beth H for umpiring.

On Wednesday, 21 May, the U13 Cricket team faced Exmouth in the East Devon Schools Cricket Cup and came away with a brilliant win.

Due to the rain we relocated indoors and played an adjusted indoor format. Honiton batted first and scored 59 in their 12 overs.

Josh H top scoring with 18, backed up by Luke A with 15. Exmouth needed 60 to win. Ben S opened the bowling and took a wicket with his first ball, followed by two further wickets in the first over!

Exmouth were eventually bowled out for 37. Chloe D finished with 4-16 off 2 overs, Ben S 3-6 off 3 overs.

The East Devon Super 8 Athletics competition.

15 year 7s travelled to Kings School to compete in the East Devon Super 8 Athletics competition.

With Super 8 rules being slightly different to standard athletics in that all students must compete in a track, field and relay event, Honiton showed fantastic curiosity and resilience to give it their all even in events which may not be their preferred.

Big congratulations go to Ella M for winning the 100 Metres, Noah L for Winning both the High Jump and the 75 metre hurdles, Harry C for a strong 3rd place finish in the 200 Metres and Wilson Lapping for 3rd place in Javelin. Special mentions also go to Alex H, Amelie H and Coen C who were fantastic stepping in on the day due to injuries and illness.

We look forward to seeing these students compete again in East Devon Championships and the College Sports day on Friday 20th July.



The PE Department would greatly appreciate any donations of spare or outgrown PE kit. These are especially helpful for younger students who may forget theirs or don't yet have one.



If you're able to donate, please drop your kit off at the PE office.

Thank for your support!

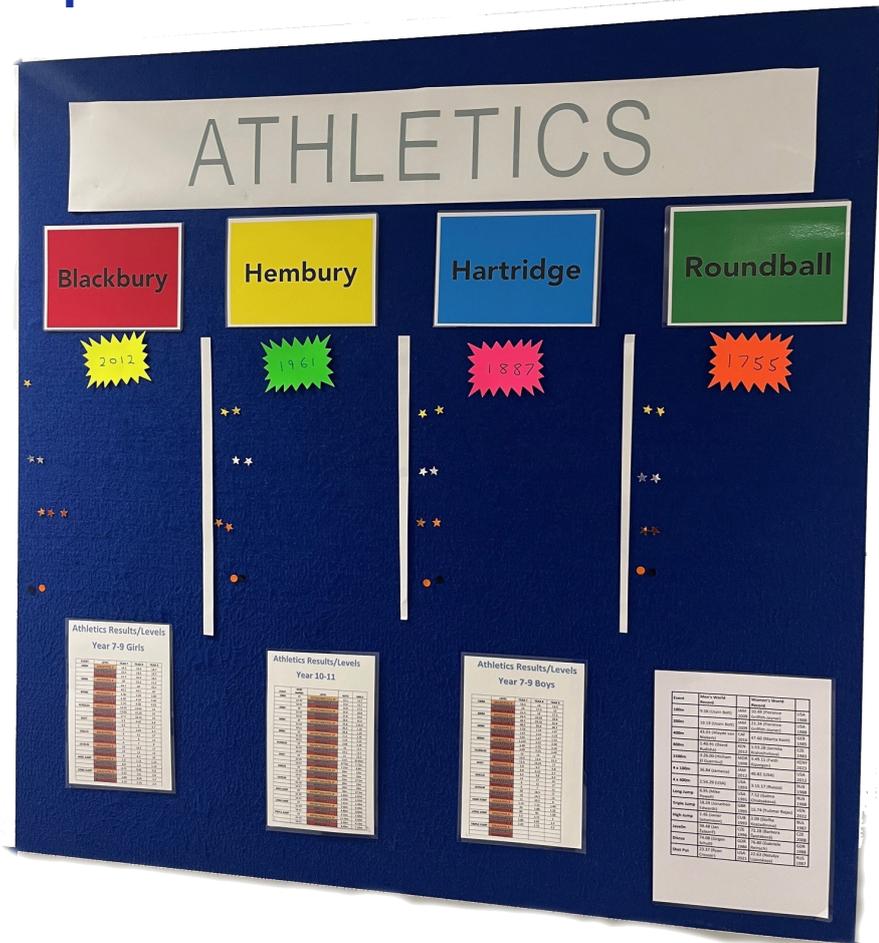


House Competition update - Core PE Athletics

During the first half of the Summer Term, students have been Athletics in Core PE lessons and have been earning stars for their House (Bronze, Silver, Gold and participation).

Students have been adding their stars to the Athletics notice board outside the PE Office.

The winning House will be announced at Sports Day on Friday 20th June, via tutor teams and celebration assemblies.



Current standings with a week to go:

1st Blackbury 2012 pts

2nd Hembury 1961 pts

3rd Hartridge 1887 pts

4th Roundball 1755 pts

Active Devon Neon Celebration Run



On Tuesday, 20th May, 13 enthusiastic girls accompanied by Mrs Salter travelled to Okehampton College to take part in the **Active Devon Neon Celebration Run** (2km/5km). This celebrating and inspiring event was designed to bring together girls from across the county who have completed the Couch to 2km/5km programme and to celebrate their fantastic achievements.

Since Easter, the girls have been committed to their training, attending a lunchtime running club regularly and recording additional runs and walks in their own time. Their dedication truly paid off, with every participant completing at least 5km on the day!

In addition to the run, the students enjoyed a variety of fun and active sessions, including archery and cricket, making the day both memorable and rewarding.

A huge well done to all the girls for their hard work, determination, and vibrant team spirit!
#DSG @schoolgamesdevon

Honiton Community College



A huge well done to all participants for their incredible effort and achievement, plus many thanks to the dedicated staff and volunteers whose hard work made it all possible."

Our two 35-mile teams have come such a long starting from not being able to navigate at all to becoming completely self-sufficient on the moor. That's real growth!



So proud of our Ten Tors teams!



This is one of the most demanding yet rewarding events, and it takes true grit, determination, and teamwork to succeed. A total of 2,400 teenagers participated, divided into 400 teams of six



Oliver

What can we say? Oliver joined the Aude Sapere Expedition 55-mile team and absolutely *smashed it!* They covered an incredible distance, and still made it back in time for lunch.

A huge shoutout to the whole team for their determination, stamina, and spirit!"

Hannah in ISCA 45-mile team stepped out of her comfort zone, teamed up with people she didn't even know, and ended up forming strong new friendships.



Hannah



Congratulations to all that took part in the Junior Maths Challenge



Thank you all for taking part

The UK Mathematics Trust run this national competition each year to test students' problem-solving abilities. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think. The problems in the Junior Maths Challenge are designed to stretch beyond the curriculum and it is a real achievement to be awarded with bronze, silver or gold certificates for their fantastic performance.

Out of thousands of students across the country, only the top scores receive these awards. If you were given bronze that means you are the top 50%, silver for the top 25%, and gold is only the top 16.6%. For year 7s, there will be the chance to participate again next year. For year 8, there will be other challenges to take part in instead.

Special congratulations to;

Selina - Gold certificate and best in school!

Rowan - Silver certificate and best in year.

Silver certificates: Jessica Buss, Henry Bruce, Samuel Roberts, Samuel Hair and Sebastian Randall.

Bronze certificates: Oliver Burdge, Edward Brooker, Darcey Lane, Benjamin Smith, Toby Reene, Kahlan Rickson, Ethan Brown, Amelia Sobol, Daniel Gregory, Thomas Wytcherley, Heath, Charlie, Harry Cockram, Kiela Sluman and Alexander Hall.



Year 5 Students from Littletown Primary Cook Up a Storm!

We were delighted to welcome Year 5 pupils from Littletown Primary School to our CREATE department this week as part of their project on seasonal produce.

The class have been learning about where our food comes from and the importance of eating fresh, locally sourced ingredients. During their visit, they rolled up their sleeves and got creative in the kitchen—producing a delicious **vegetable soup** using a range of colourful, seasonal vegetables.

The students were an absolute credit to their school. From start to finish, they showed real enthusiasm and teamwork, and were already demonstrating our **college values** of being **kind, curious, and resilient**. Whether they were chopping carrots or stirring the pot, their excitement and engagement were fantastic to see.

A huge well done to all involved—we hope to see you back in our kitchen again soon!



A Night of Gothic Theatre and Thunderstorms

It was a dark and stormy night—quite literally—when the Year 13 A-Level Drama students ventured out to the Northcott Theatre for a spine-chilling performance of *Dracula*. Adapted by Nick Lane from Bram Stoker's classic Gothic novel, the production brought the dark tale to life in thrilling new ways.



Performed by the talented Blackeyed Theatre company, the show featured a haunting soundscape, striking performances, and inventive stage design that left the audience captivated—and occasionally jumping in their seats. It was a valuable experience for students to see a core A-Level text reimaged for a contemporary audience, deepening their understanding of how classic literature continues to resonate today.

In a perfect ending befitting the Gothic atmosphere, the rain poured down as we left the theatre—adding one last eerie touch to an unforgettable evening of drama.



Year 13 Good luck BBQ and Rounders



To celebrate and support our Year 13 students as they head into their final college exams, the team hosted a special BBQ followed by the much-loved tradition, the Staff vs Students Rounders Match!

Thank you to Chris Meek who cooked some lovely food for us whilst we competed on the field for the winners trophy.

I think the students took pity on the staff with our aged limbs and we ended up with mixed staff/student teams but it was Mr Collins's team that narrowly won with

some superb rounders being scored and some excellent catches.



The evening was topped off with some delicious cake and nostalgic photos of the students 7 years ago. Some lovely memory chatter and laughter amongst the students reminiscing about how much they have changed.

A lovely way to relax before the upcoming exams!

Thank you to all the team who helped with the prep and clearing up..... and for joining in the running!



It's no secret that Harry Kent LOVES Eurovision, so once again this year he ran a sweepstake where staff and Year 13 students brought in a bag of food in exchange for being assigned a country in the competition.

It was such a great commentary at the draw that some of us even found ourselves watching it on Saturday. Mrs Becky Buss eventually emerging as the winner with Austria. Apart from this great result, we also now have a generous amount of food to donate to our local Community Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who took part!

Community News

G.R.O.W

Guiding Relationships with Optimism and Wonder

Does your young person struggle with school attendance?

Join us for a series of sessions focused on supporting children and young people through:

- Managing anxiety
- Understanding sensory needs
- Navigating demand avoidance

This group also offers a supportive space to share experiences and connect with others facing similar challenges. Each session builds on the last, so we encourage you to attend them all. These sessions are all suitable for parents of neurodivergent children.



Tuesday 3rd June - 8th July
9.30 - 12.30

Honiton Community College

School Ln, Honiton, EX14 1QT

Sign up here: forms.office.com/e/7dgha54fp

For more information, contact: careesteam@gmail.com



GROW is a supportive community for parents and carers of children or young people who are finding it hard to attend school regularly.

Whether your child manages to get there but mornings are a daily struggle, or they're currently unable to attend at all — you're not alone. This group is here to offer understanding, connection, and practical support.

Join us for a relaxed, welcoming space where we can explore some of the reasons behind school difficulties together. We'll share ideas, offer support, and simply connect — all over a cup of tea, some biscuits, and a friendly face.

GROW is co-run by Cara from the Esteem Team (<https://www.esteemteam.co.uk/>) Sarah from ECI (<https://www.eci.org.uk/projects/family-resource>).

- Please contact them directly if you have any questions

Grow

FAMILY MINDS PARTNER
PARENTAL MINDS UK



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion in Honiton is organising a fantastic 5km Fun Run on Armed Forces Day, which will be held on Saturday, 28th June 2025. This event is particularly special as it celebrates the 80th Anniversary of both VE and VJ Day.

If you are interested in entering a team, no matter the number, please click on the link below to register:

<https://www.fullonsport.com/event/honiton-5km-family-fun-run/>





YOUNG ARTS CLUB

Tuesdays Afterschool

4.30PM-5.45PM

exeter **phoenix**

GROUND FLOOR ART STUDIO



STARTING ON THE 6TH MAY 2025

A creative space for those aged between 10-13,
alongside 2 Community Art Practitioners.

For more information please email
info@youthartsandhealth.org



exeter **phoenix**

Northbrook
community trust

**YOUTH
ARTS &
HEALTH
TRUST**



What's on the first week of the Summer Half Term 2

Week B

Monday 2 June

Start of Summer Half Term 2

Tuesday 3 June

Year 9 Rounders Competition @ Uffculme (13:00-16:00)

Wednesday 4 June

Girls' Cricket Leadership Workshop with Devon Cricket @ HCC (09:00-15.05)
U12 East Devon Boys/mixed softball cricket @ Budleigh Salterton CC (12:30-18:00)

Friday 6 June

Silver DofE Practise Event. (times to be confirm)

SUMMER 2025

START OF**TERM**

Tuesday 22
April

MAY BANK**HOLIDAY**

Monday 5 May

MAY**HALF TERM**

Monday 26 May
– Friday 30 May

END OF**TERM**

Friday 18
July

AUTUMN TERM 2025

START OF**TERM**

Wednesday 3
September

OCTOBER**HALF TERM**

Monday 27 October
– Friday 7 November

NON PUPIL**DAY**

Monday 8
December

END OF**TERM**

Friday 19
December

YEAR 7 START ON WEDNESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2025

**ALL OTHER YEAR GROUPS START ON
THURSDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

SPRING TERM 2026

START OF**TERM**

Monday 5
January

FEBRUARY**HALF TERM**

Monday 16 February
– Friday 20 February

NON PUPIL**DAY**

Monday 23
March

END OF**TERM**

Thursday 2
April

SUMMER TERM 2026

START OF**TERM**

Monday 20
April

MAY BANK**HOLIDAY**

Monday 4 May

MAY**HALF TERM**

Monday 25 May
– Friday 29 May

END OF**TERM**

Friday 17
July