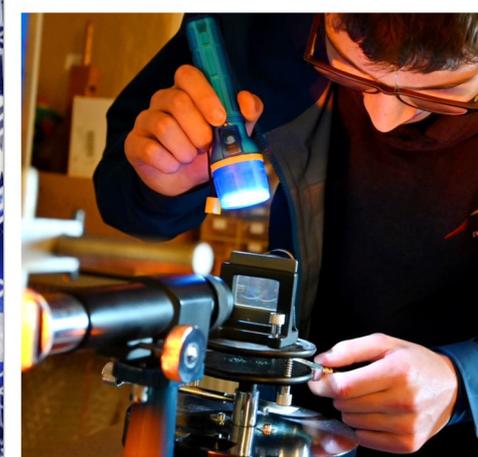


# HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

December 2022

# INSIDELOOK





As we reach the end of term, I would just like to share my sincere thanks for all the achievements and hard work of our students, staff and families over the last three months. I have met and spoken with many of you since I joined Honiton Community College and I have been impressed and proud of how everyone has pulled together to make necessary changes, to achieve progress. My thanks to everyone who has welcomed me, shared feedback and supported our college improvement journey.

My Principal's update letter goes into detail about these recent changes and the direction we are taking into 2023. With so much achieved in our first term, I would now just like to wish you and your family a healthy and restful winter break. I also extend my thoughts to those who will find Christmas difficult or lonely and point out some sources of support, detailed on pages 12-13

We look forward to welcoming each and every one of our students back to College on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Look after yourselves and each other.  
Best wishes, Alex Kirkbride, **Principal**



This term has been incredibly busy at HCC, for staff and governors alike. We've welcomed our new Principal, Alex Kirkbride, and seen a large number of changes designed to improve behaviour and the curriculum across the College. We've also hosted Ofsted and a large number of other visitors, keen to see what we are doing.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Amy Dytor and Philippa Gurney, two of our staff ambassadors that have completed their 4-year terms liaising with the governing body. We are incredibly grateful for the insight and experience they have both brought to the board during their tenure. We are very fortunate to have Nathan Riggs (Network Manager) as one of our staff ambassadors and we continue to aim to strengthen our links to staff further. Also joining us as an appointed governor is Oliver Buss, he brings a wealth of practical experience to our resources committee. We also need to thank Rob Robson, who leaves the College after many years of service. Rob has been at the very heart of the College, driving improvements in behaviour and our pastoral systems and will be missed. The governing body wish him every success in his future endeavours.

We are always looking for new governors and if you think you may be interested, please do get in touch, either to me or our governance professional, Sarah Matthews.  
[SMatthews@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:SMatthews@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk)

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, or, if you allow me a bit of my native Cornish, *Nadelek Lowen ha Bledhen Nowydh Da!*

Chris Meek, **Chair of Governors**



## Sewing Club



The students have worked really hard this term and produced some good quality sewing.



Year 8 Student



Year 8 Student



Year 7 Lily Roth



Year 9 Student



Year 9 Student



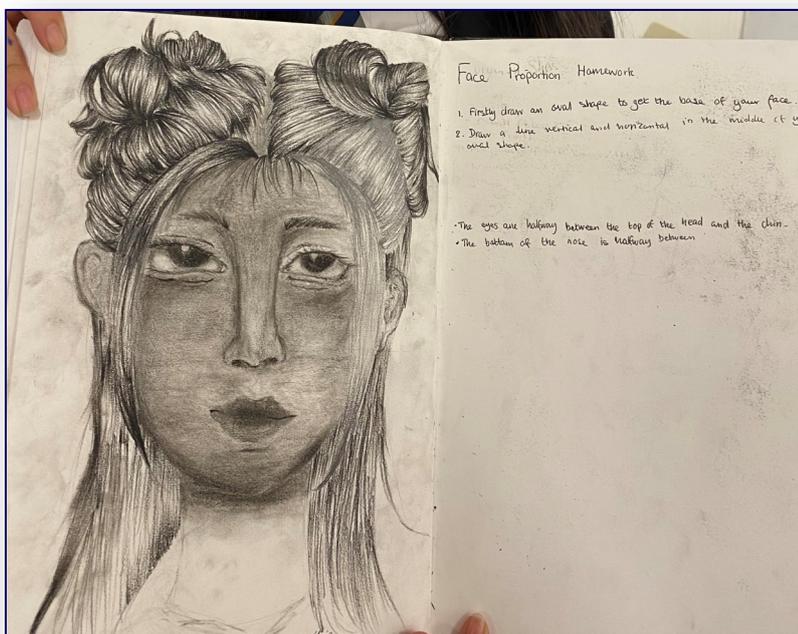
Year 7 Evie Western



After school Art club have been experimenting with acrylic paints



Year 7 Student painted this lovely cup cake



Here is a fabulous piece of art homework created, Year 8 student



## Food and Nutrition Department



The Food and Nutrition department hosted an afternoon tea and information session for all Year 11 students who were interested in finding out about the new Post-16 course.

The department will be offering a new qualification from September. The **Level 3 Diploma in Food Science and Nutrition** is an exciting qualification that allows students to gain a wealth of knowledge about the food and nutrition industry.

Students will have the opportunity to learn about the relationship between the human body and food as well as advanced practical skills for cooking and preparing food.



**Year 8 students held a cake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support selling delicious cakes and bakes they made. They raised £42.33 and sold out in a record 10 minutes! Well done to Millie, Katelyn, Faith and Scarlett for all their effort!**



## LISTENING TO STUDENTS

Another very constructive event with the students having the opportunity to express openly and honestly with staff members and, whilst completing the student survey, the students enjoyed pizza and chips which went down well!





## Massive Congratulations to all athletes who participated in the East Devon and Exeter Cross-Country Competitions



George Pemberton



Fin Offer-Hoar



Ben Howard

### Cross-Country Competition at Bicton College on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November.

**Year 7 Boys:** George Hair 14<sup>th</sup>, Josh Buckley 17<sup>th</sup>

**Junior Boys:** Hamish Terry 10<sup>th</sup>, Tom Lane 13<sup>th</sup>

**Year 7 Girls:** Imogen Matthews 4<sup>th</sup>, Chloe Phare 9<sup>th</sup>

**Junior Girls:** Isabella Ferrante 11<sup>th</sup>

**Intermediate Girls:** Freya Podbery 8<sup>th</sup>, Lizzie Lanning 14<sup>th</sup>, Tia Whitrow 16<sup>th</sup>

Students who finished in the top 16 in their age category qualify for the Exeter V East Devon round at Blundell's at the end of November.



Isabella Ferrante



Josh Buckley



George Pemberton

Cross-Country Competition at Blundell's on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November . It was torrential rain and incredibly muddy, slipping and sliding with sideways rain. They all ran well with a few of them qualifying for the next round. Fantastic achievements in tough conditions.

**Year 7 Boys:** George Hair 24<sup>th</sup>, Josh Buckley 26<sup>th</sup>

**Junior Boys:** Hamish Terry 15<sup>th</sup>

**Intermediate Boys:** George Pemberton 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Year 7 Girls:** Imogen Matthews 8<sup>th</sup>, Chloe Phare 12<sup>th</sup>

**Junior Girls:** Isabella Ferrante 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Intermediate Girls:** Freya Podbery 20<sup>th</sup>, Lizzie Lanning 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tia Whitrow 24<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations also go to **George Pemberton** who ran at the Liverpool Cross country championship on the 26<sup>th</sup> November and came a very commendable 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Well done to all who raced and represented the College.**



## TEN TORS 2023

28<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> April



Trig points



Watern Tor

After 6 weeks of classroom training the Ten Tors teams finally got out for a local walk to assess their skills on 19<sup>th</sup> November. A 22km walk across Woodbury Common, East Budleigh Common and the coast path to Sidmouth tested their fitness and enabled them to practice their navigation skills looking for trig points before going to Dartmoor .

*(Trig points are typically concrete pillars and were erected by the Ordnance Survey . The process of placing trig points on top of prominent hills and mountains began in 1935 to assist in the accurate retriangulation of Great Britain).*



35-mile team on Wild Tor



Wild Tor



Mrs Jeffries on the Logan Stone - demonstrating the rocking!

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** 21 students went to Dartmoor for their first Dartmoor training. With temperatures sub-zero but clear skies it was a perfect introduction to Dartmoor. The 45-mile team showed their skills by marching across the moor testing their fitness and navigation skills covering approximately 18km. The 35-mile teams were able to practice their navigation skills and work together showing the start of some great teams. Covering 16km and taking in some high points such as Watern Tor and Wild Tor. We were able to talk about safety of river crossings with examples of safe crossing points and look at key navigational tools working on map work, bearings, pacing and timings. The teams also found a logan stone and navigated their way to standing stones and stone circles.

**We look forward to our next training walks starting again in the New Year.**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**Event Date: Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

### U13 Badminton Tournament Results



On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November, teams from Honiton competed against Uffculme and Colyton to see who would go through to the finals at King's School.

Well done to both the girls and boys team who will be going to Kings later in the year for the final.

Some excellent badminton was displayed by all players.



## Huge Congratulations!

A number of our female students perform acrobatic gymnastics at Honiton Gymnastics Club. This term several of the girls competed in the South West Championships achieving some fantastic results.

The students are extremely dedicated to their sport and train 3-4 times a week for a total of 11 hours or more. Unlike many other sports they are only able to compete 3-4 times a year, therefore there is always a big build up to any competition. This term at the south West Championships the girls did their Gymnastics Club and Honiton Community College proud by coming away with a number of medals. The girls compete in pairs or trios at different grades against some of the most talented gymnastics in the South West.



NAME	GRADE	PLACE
Hallie Bennett	5	2nd
Maicey Bennett	5	1st
Ella Yaxley-Doble	3	6th
Chloe Hutsby	3	4th
Imogen Clarke	2	1st
Chloe Lawrence	3	1st
Emily Lawrence	11-16	1st
Freya Gary	Youth	4th

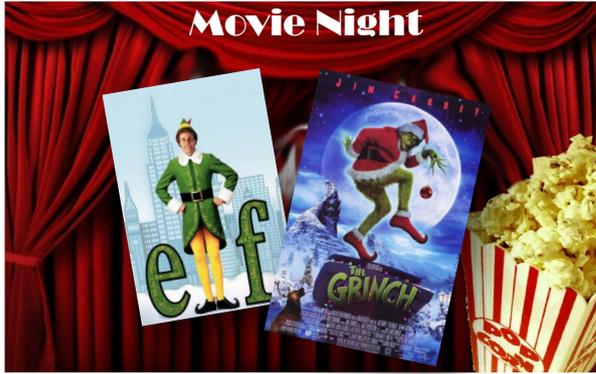
# SCIENCE



The Year 8s spent an hour on the 12<sup>th</sup> December making prosthetic hands with help from the Smallpeice Trust who are an educational charity that inspires young people to pursue careers in science and engineering through events and online workshops.



Most students enjoyed the online activity but we decided we needed more time to complete our hands properly. The students showed great resilience with making the hands in such a short time. Well done to everyone involved!



The Post-16 students enjoyed a bit of team building and festive fun by having an all night Christmas Movie night as well as decorating the Centre to become the best Santa's grotto ever!

They also decorated their own Tutor Tree with 13 ATA being judged the winner. Apparently the tree on the left of the photo was based on Mr Taylor himself.....

After some favourite festive films being watched throughout the night including "Home Alone", "ELF", "Nativity and the Grinch" and "Not Die Hard as it's NOT a Christmas Movie"! , the students attended all lessons the next day but I suspect a there were few tired heads that night.

A great event organised by the Student Union that really made us all feel Christmasy and thank you to Mr Riggs, Mrs Shorter , Mr Robson and Mrs Hunt who joined me as staff for the event.



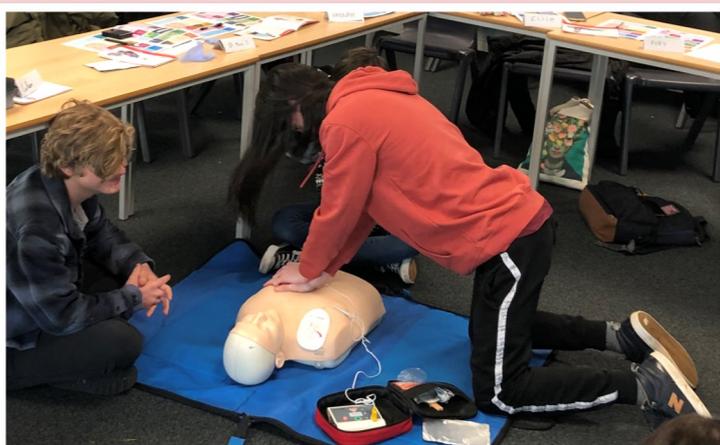
## FIRST AID TRAINING



Twelve of our Post-16 students recently completed their Emergency First Aid at Work Training and successfully passed their assessment.



The students did amazingly well with a full days training and concentration to then pass the course. This course is offered to all of our Post-16 students periodically throughout their time with us as part of their Personal Development Programme.





POST  
16



**As part of the Careers Programme, Year 11 students recently took part in a Post-16 Skills event.**

Students either went to Exeter College to look at vocational and apprenticeship opportunities and the skills they will develop, whilst the others were based in the Post-16 Centre experiencing a range of subjects of their choice and having some independence.



Ms Jones, Mr Robson, Mrs Meek and Mr Lane were delighted to share the Exeter College experience with the students who remained engaged throughout the day and took away with them plenty to think about their next steps.

Students who remained at the College were equally as focussed and it was lovely to get to know them more as they enter the last few months of Year 11 and I look forward to welcoming some back in September for Year 12. A great day of choices, new subjects, opportunities and information for all.

Selena Burroughs ,  
**Assistant Principal - Director of Post-16**





## Philosophy & Religious Studies Conference 2022



Wednesday 14th December, 32 Year 10 and Year 11 GCSE Religious Studies students attended The Philosophy and Religious Studies Conference at Exeter University. Topics included, 'Covid – what on earth was God doing?', Military Ethics and the Ukrainian War and Philosophy and Social Media. Exeter University was a very gracious host and the students thoroughly enjoyed experiencing dynamic lectures, academic discussion, and debate. It was lovely to see HCC students fully involved and interacting in this academic arena.

### Student feedback from the day was very positive:

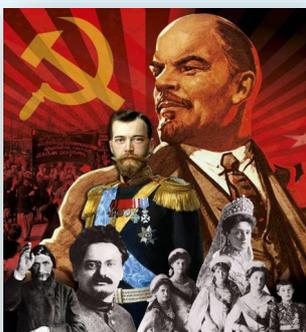


*"I loved today! It was extremely interesting, and I've learnt so much. The lecturers were extremely knowledgeable and spoke so well, sharing their opinions as well as explaining other beliefs in detail. I've made many pages of notes and have more information on what I believe in. The staff were so nice, and the food provided was delicious. I loved the experience and wish we had had more time so I could have gone to all the lectures! I would recommend this to anyone."*

**Lauren, Year 10**

*"I found the trip to Exeter University informative, interesting, and fun. It really showed me what university is like."*

**Michael, Year 11**



### University A-Level Online History Seminar

Our Post-16 History Students have just attended an online days with some keynote speakers from Royal Holloway, Oxford, Southampton and Birkbeck University covering a range of subjects from The Collapse of the Romanov Dynasty; Revolution, Civil War and the Rise of Communism and Stalin's Revolution from Above: Hopes, Fears, Tragedy. All of these lectures complement the curriculum being studied and something we encourage for many of our other subjects. There were not many advantages to COVID education but remote access to Higher Education has become a lot more accessible to our learners with some great outcomes.



## Parent/Carer Engagement Group



The newly set up parent and carer engagement group had their first meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> November. **Natalie Hunt (Pastoral Support Lead)** and **Alex Kirkbride (Principal)** introduced themselves to the group and then lead a discussion and received feedback from parents/carers around the topic of College Improvement, Vision and Values.

Jessie Hay (director of finance) and Chris Meek (Chair of Governors) were also present and able to answer questions from parents around these topics and other matters that arose.

### DATES OF NEXT ENGAGEMENT GROUP

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023 6 -7pm

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 6 -7pm

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023 6 -7pm

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 6 -7pm

If you would like to be part of this group please email [Nhunt@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:Nhunt@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk) as there are some spaces available.



A new, early intervention service to support young people's mental health is coming to Honiton College ready for 2023. We work closely with the College to provide catered support to young people who are experiencing common mental health difficulties such as symptoms of anxieties and low mood as well as emotional wellbeing and lifestyle management.

We work with the whole College, which means we will be offering workshops, training and resources to families as well as young people and their teachers. Young people can engage in this support either 1:1 with one of our practitioners, in targeted groups exploring a specific common mental health challenge, or through our universal offers of classroom workshops and assemblies.

If you believe your young person could benefit from support from one of our Educational Mental Health Practitioners, please talk to one of their teachers or the pastoral team within the College who can also provide you with more information about the support we can offer.

We very much look forward to working with, and supporting the community at Honiton College!

## Honiton Community College Term Dates 2023

### SPRING TERM 2023

Wednesday 4 January 2023 – Start of Spring Half Term 1

Friday 10 February – Final day of Spring Term 1

Monday 13 to Friday 17 February 2023 – Half Term

Monday 20 February – Start of Spring Half Term 2

Friday 31 March 2023 – Last Day of Spring Term

### SUMMER TERM 2023

Monday 17 April 2023 – Start of Summer Half Term 1

Monday 1 May 2023 – Bank Holiday

Monday 8 May 2023 Extra Bank Holiday

Friday 26 May 2023 – Final Day of Summer Half Term 1

Monday 29 May to 02 June 2023 – Half Term

Monday 26 June 2023 – Non-Student Day

Friday 21 July 2023 – Last Day of Term



## Community work and support for those experiencing financial hardship



Over the past few months we have been working closely with the local council and numerous local charities to provide a response to the impact of the rising cost of living. We are very aware of the significant impact on many families of inflation on food and general expenditure, coupled with utility costs, rising interest rates and household income which are not increasing at a rate to match outgoings. We run a regular 'Swap Shop' in the Drama Hall at the College and this event is now regularly attended by over 200 local people who are able to pick up items of clothing for free. Clothes are donated by the wider community, along with toys and school uniform. These events are now also supported by the attendance of the local Citizens Advice, Food Bank, Food Save and the local Energy Advice Service.

Honiton Community College is now a trusted referrer for the East Devon County Council Financial Resilience team, which enables us to refer families who are facing financial difficulty for additional support. Similarly, if our families approach EDDC for help they will refer them back to us for assistance with school uniform, trips and curriculum costs.

We secured additional funds to assist with financial hardship from a couple of local charities and have been able to offer support with uniform, equipment and cost of meals. We have refurbished the top floor of our ROSLA building and hope to open this soon to provide a warm space for students both before College and afterwards as a homework study space. Morrisons supermarket have pledged to help with providing food to allow additional free breakfast options for those who need it, in addition to the free porridge already available every morning for all students.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers that we are here to support in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to email [hardship@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:hardship@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk) if you are struggling with meeting costs, especially if related to College needs.



## HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Winter 2023



Citizens Advice in East Devon have vouchers to assist with utility costs if your household has a key meter, smart meter that is a 'pay as you go' meter or top up on a prepayment app. They are keen to support low income families and those of pension age. They have partnership agencies which may refer clients in (with their permission). They also welcome self-referrals. The fund is going to close on 30th March 2023.

If you use a pre-payment approach to your utility bills please complete the form in this [link](#). It will take about 10 minutes to complete, and you could access approx. £100 in vouchers to help with utility costs over Christmas.

## Warm Spaces in Honiton from January 2023

Enjoy a hot drink, a friendly chat and some warmth whilst turning the heating down at home:

**Monday:** 10am-4pm at **Dunning Court Community Centre**, Dunning Court, Honiton

**Tuesday:** 1pm-5pm at **The Beehive**, Dowell Street, Honiton

**Thursday:** 1pm-5pm at **The CUB** (Community Use Building), School Lane, Honiton

**Friday:** 10am-12pm at the **Family Church**, High Street, Honiton

From now onwards: **The Library** on New Street is open as follows for Warm Spaces

(Free Wi-Fi available) **Monday and Friday:** 9am-6pm, **Tuesday and Wednesday:** 9am-5pm

**Saturday:** 9am-1pm



## Honiton Foodsave

REDUCE FOOD POVERTY - REDUCE FOOD WASTE

**Food save will be open over the Christmas period. Collection or delivery from Honiton Family Church on the High Street. Check out their website for further details: <https://foodsave.org.uk/honiton/>**

### Opening Times for Christmas 2022

Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Open	20:00 - 21:00
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Open	20:00 - 21:00
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Open - Collection Only	19:00 - 20:00
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> December	Open - Collection Only	20:00 - 21:00
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> December	Open	20:00 - 21:00
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> December	Open	20:00 - 21:00
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> December	Open - Collection Only	19:00 - 20:00
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> January	Open - Collection Only	16:00 - 17:00
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Open	20:00 - 21:00
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Back to normal opening hours	



## FOOD BANK

Email: [foodbank@thecomcommunitychurch.co.uk](mailto:foodbank@thecomcommunitychurch.co.uk)

Phone: 07907232076

Website: <https://www.thecomcommunitychurch.co.uk/foodbank/>

Opening Times: Tuesday 12:30 – 15:00, Friday 12:30 – 15:00

If you are struggling to buy food and you live in Honiton or one of the surrounding villages, Honiton Food Bank can provide non-perishable food items. You will need to contact one either the College or one of the Food Bank's other partner agencies to get a referral or food bank voucher:

**Honiton Children's Centre** (01404 540820) **MIND** (01404 42343) **St Paul's Church** (01404 440035)

**Honiton Town Council Officers** (01404 42957) **East Devon District Council** (01404 575616 or 08001513441)

**Job Centre** (03456043719) **East Devon Citizens Advice** (01395 265070)