

# Principal's Post

Thursday 23 April 2026



Welcome back to another busy and positive fortnight at school, it has been a real pleasure to see everyone settled back into routines so quickly.

Our community continues to be shaped by our shared values of being **kind, curious and resilient**, and it's been lovely to see these lived out in so many small but meaningful ways across the school each day.

Year 11 are now firmly into their final preparations as GCSE exams draw ever closer. There is a calm sense of purpose developing, and we are incredibly proud of the focus, maturity and determination they are showing at such an important time.

We are also very much looking forward to the upcoming Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. These experiences are always a highlight, offering students the chance to challenge themselves, support one another and create lasting memories.

One of the real joys of the fortnight has been seeing our paired reading in tutor time, with Year 10 and Year 7 students coming together. There is something very special about watching older students encourage and guide their younger peers—it speaks volumes about the strength and kindness within our school community.

This evening, we are delighted to be welcoming Year 7 families for our Progress Evening. We look forward to sharing the fantastic start students have made and continuing to build those strong partnerships together.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, it makes such a difference.

*Mrs. C Brothwood, Principal*



Welcome back to the summer term. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break, and that students have returned feeling refreshed, motivated, and ready to make the most of their final term in Year 7.

Mr Forsyth will be away from school for a few weeks. During this time, his tutor group will be supported by members of the HCC staff team who already know the students well. We wish Mr Forsyth a smooth and speedy recovery.

I am very much looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the Year 7 progress evening this evening. Please do feel free to come and speak with me—I will be available throughout the event and happy to answer any questions you may have.

*Mrs. K Lynch, Head of Year 7*



It has been lovely to welcome Year 8 return after what I hope was a restful break for you all. As we head into the Summer Term, your final term as Year 8s, it is wonderful to see how much you have already grown and matured

throughout the year and I am sure this positive development will continue right through to the end of the academic year.

On Wednesday the 29th of April, Year 8 students have been given the wonderful opportunity to take part in a Careers Carousel event. They will be off timetable from periods 1-3 and they will have four 30 minutes sessions with employers from sectors of their choose.

There are a wide range of employers attending including representatives from the RAF and Navy, a law firm, the fitness industry and a veterinary practice to name a few. Students will submit their choices by the end of the week. We will aim to allocate as many students as possible to their preferred sectors; however, if a session is oversubscribed, they may need to select an alternative.

I am already looking forward to seeing the year group in action for this fantastic event.

*Mrs. C Kendall Head of Year 8*



### Welcome Back Year 9!

As we welcome back our Year 9 students after the Easter break, we are excited to look forward to some thrilling opportunities ahead.

Among these is the much-anticipated Paris Trip, which many of our students are going on, this promises to be an enriching experience, allowing students to immerse themselves in a vibrant culture while expanding their horizons. This trip not only enhances their educational journey but also fosters a sense of adventure and curiosity about the world around them.

In addition to the Paris Trip, we also have the commencement of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition. This prestigious programme encourages personal development through outdoor challenges and community service, instilling values of resilience and teamwork. We believe that these experiences will empower our students to grow into responsible and engaged citizens, ready to make a positive impact in their communities.

This week in Assembly we celebrated Earth Day, a significant occasion that underscores our commitment to environmental awareness and action. During our assembly, students learned about the importance of protecting our planet and the small changes they can implement in their daily lives. From reducing plastic use to conserving energy, these actions, though seemingly minor, can collectively lead to a substantial impact on our environment.

We encourage families to continue these conversations at home, discussing ways to be more environmentally conscious and participating in local initiatives. Together, we can foster a culture of sustainability that extends beyond the classroom and into our community. As we reflect on the significance of Earth Day, let us remember that every effort counts in the fight against climate change.

*Mrs. E Meek, Head of year 9*

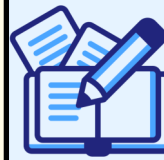


Following the Easter break, Year 11 are now in the final phase of preparation for their GCSE examinations. Students have access to a range of revision support, including the HCC *Getting Exam*

*Ready Teams* channel and the exam readiness booklet issued at the start of the spring term, both of which provide useful guidance and resources.

As the exam period approaches, it is important that students continue to revise consistently and make use of the support available. If any student is finding things challenging, we would strongly encourage them to reach out to their teachers or tutors so that we can provide help and guidance at this crucial stage.

*E Lindsay, Head of year 11*



## HOMWORK

Thank you for supporting students with their home learning, it is really appreciated. The vast majority of students are consistently completing homework and as such are making huge leaps in progress. We really believe that the tasks set will help our students to be successful as well as increase resilience.

To support students with their homework we have already been running a lunchtime help session in the library. We are also going to be running an extra study session after school where students can complete homework or other study tasks. If this would benefit your child please do encourage them to attend one or all of the sessions.

The sessions will take place each day after school from **Monday 27th April**, running from **3:05pm to 4:05pm** in the **Library**.

They are open to all students and would provide an excellent study opportunity for Year 11 students, particularly as they approach the final stages of their GCSE preparation.

## HCC EXAM TIMETABLE MAY- JUNE 2026

Week	Day	Exam	Paper type	Exam board	Start time	Exam run time
A	Wednesday 6th May	Turkish	Speaking	Edexcel	10:30	60mins
A	Wednesday 6th May	Arabic	Speaking	Edexcel	13:30	60mins
A	Thursday 7th May	Turkish	Listening & Reading	Edexcel	09:00	85 mins
A	Friday 8th May	Russian	Speaking	Edexcel	11:30	60mins
B	Monday 11th May	English literature	Paper 1	AQA	9:00	105 mins
B	Tuesday 12th May	Religious studies	Buddhism & Christianity	AQA	9:00	105 mins
		Combined science Combined science	Paper 1	Edexcel AQA	13:00	70 mins 75 mins
		Biology	Paper 1	Edexcel	13:00	105 mins
B	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Geography	The physical environment	Edexcel	9:00	105 mins
		Computer Studies	Computer systems	OCR	13:00	90 mins
B	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Mathematics	P1 - non-calc	Edexcel	9:00	90 mins
B	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	History	Medicine in Britain	Edexcel	9:00	80 mins
A	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Combined science Combined science	Paper 2	Edexcel AQA	9:00	70 mins 75 mins
		Chemistry	Paper 2	Edexcel	9:00	105 mins
A	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	English literature	Paper 2	AQA	9:00	135 mins
		Computer science	Algorithms	OCR	13:00	90 mins
A	Wednesday 20th May	Religious studies	Paper 2	AQA	13:00	105 mins
A	Thursday 21st May	English language	Paper 1	AQA	9:00	105 mins
A	Friday 22nd May	PE	Fitness and body systems	Edexcel	9:00	90 mins
		Turkish	Writing	Edexcel	9:00	80 mins
		Arabic	Listening & Reading	Edexcel	09:00	85 mins
B	Monday 1st June	PE	Health & Performance	Edexcel	9:00	75 mins
B	Tuesday 2nd June	Combined science Combined science	Paper 3	Edexcel AQA	9:00	70 mins 75 mins
		Physics	Paper 3	Edexcel	9:00	105 mins
		Statistics	Paper 1	AQA	13:00	105 mins

Week	Day	Exam	Paper type	Exam board	Start time	Exam run time
B	Tuesday 2nd June	Arabic	Writing	Edexcel	13:00	80 mins
		Russian	Reading & Listening	Edexcel	13:00	110 mins
B	Wednesday 3rd June	Mathematics	P2 - calc	Edexcel	9:00	90 mins
		Geography	The Human environment	Edexcel	13:00	90 mins
B	Thursday 4th June	History	American & Elizabethan	AQA	9:00	110 mins
B	Friday 5th June	English language	Paper 2	AQA	9:00	105 mins
		Music Listening	Listening & Appraising	OCR	13:00	90 mins
A	Monday 8th June	Combined science Combined science	Paper 4	Edexcel AQA	9:00	70 mins 75 mins
		Biology	Paper 4	Edexcel	09:00	105 mins
A	Tuesday 9th June	Spanish	Listening & Reading	AQA	09:00	Foundation - 80 mins Higher - 105 mins
		History	Weimar & Nazi Germany	Edexcel	13:00	85 mins
A	Wednesday 10th June	Mathematics	P3 - calc	Edexcel	9:00	90 mins
		Russian	Writing	Edexcel	13:00	85 mins
A	Thursday 11th June	Geography	Investigations	Edexcel	9:00	90 mins
		Food Technology	Food Prep & Nutrition	AQA	13:00	105 mins
A	Friday 12th June	Combined science Combined science	Paper 5	Edexcel AQA	9:00	70 mins 75 mins
		Chemistry	Paper 5	Edexcel	9:00	105 mins
		Statistics	Paper 2	AQA	13:00	105 mins
B	Monday 15th June	Combined science Combined science	Paper 6	Edexcel AQA	9:00	70 mins 75 mins
		Physics	Paper 6	Edexcel	9:00	105 mins
B	Tuesday 16th June	Spanish	Writing	AQA	09:00	75 mins

Honiton Community College exam rules follow strict [Joint Council for Qualifications \(JCQ\) guidelines](#). Key regulations include arriving at least 15 minutes early in full school uniform, strict silence upon entering the venue, and no bags allowed at desks. Candidates must have identification on their desks, and all phones/electronic devices must be turned off and left outside the exam room.

## WEEK B

**Monday 27th April**

- ◆ Bikeability until 1st May

**Wednesday 29th April**

- ◆ HCC Careers Carousel (8:30-16:00)

**Thursday 30th April**

- ◆ Devon Golf Tournament (selected students) @ Stover Golf Club (09:00-15:00)
- ◆ U15 Outdoor Summer Mixed Softball Cricket @ Exmouth Cricket Club (12:45-17:30)

## WEEK A

◆ **Monday 4th May**  
**BANK HOLIDAY**

**Tuesday 5th May**

- ◆ Honiton Learning Community : Quad Kids @ HCC Field (10:15-12:00)
- ◆ U13 Outdoor Summer Mixed Softball Cricket @ Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club (13:30-17:00)

**Wednesday 6th May**

- ◆ East Devon Athletics Trials (09:00-15:10)

**Saturday 7th May**

- ◆ The Reduced Shakespeare Company @ Tacchi-Morris Art Centre (18:30-22:15)

## HEALTH REMINDER

### Headlice

A gentle reminder that although head lice tend to be more common in pre-school and Primary School settings it is possible for older children and young people to also have head lice. Please occasionally check your child's hair for Head lice and treat as needed. For more information, click here:

[https://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk/media/diydakds/headlice\\_self-care\\_apc.pdf](https://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk/media/diydakds/headlice_self-care_apc.pdf)

### Immunisations

Thank you to our year 8s for being so cool and calm for their HPV immunisations, and thank you to parents/carers for preparing them so well.

The immunisation team will be running a mop up date next year. Anyone in Year 8 who has already completed a consent form and did not get the vaccine for any reason will automatically be put on our list to be seen in school, during this visit.

If you are unsure about whether or not your child has missed an immunisation at any point, please call the NHS immunisation team on **01392 342678**.

## Mini Whiteboards



Over the past few weeks, teachers have been developing, practising and improving their use of mini whiteboards in lessons to gather whole-class feedback. These are an effective way to check students' understanding of

new material. By asking a series of targeted questions linked directly to the content just covered, teachers can quickly see each student's response as they hold up their boards.

This immediate feedback allows teachers to identify what the class understands well and where further support is needed. As a result, they can make more informed decisions about next steps, whether this involves reteaching or moving on to independent practice.

With this in mind, a big thank you for ensuring all students have a mini whiteboard pen as part of their equipment, this makes a huge difference in the speed at which our check for understanding can happen and really allows us to maximise their progress in lessons.