HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Newsletter

October 2026







Ted Wragg TRUST

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter



As we reach the end of another busy half term, I am delighted to reflect on the many opportunities, achievements and moments of community spirit that have brought our HCC values of **Kindness, Curiosity and Resilience** to life.

From welcoming record numbers of families to our Open Evening, to raising over £350 at our Macmillan Coffee Morning, our community continues to show what makes HCC such a special place. Across the curriculum and beyond, students have embraced opportunities to bring their learning to life, develop new skills and broaden their horizons, from stepping into the world of the Bayeux Tapestry to exploring engineering, law and competitive sport.

We are also incredibly proud to celebrate the success of our girls' rugby team and Liz, our Exams Officer, whose achievements were recognised at the Ted Wragg Trust Awards. These are wonderful examples of the teamwork, determination and dedication that make such a difference to our school.

There is so much to celebrate in this edition, with many more stories showcasing our students' enthusiasm, ambition and achievements. Thank you to our staff, families and wider community for the part you play in making these opportunities possible.

I hope you enjoy reading about all that has been happening at HCC. I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Caroline Brothwood, ***Principal***

Supporting Attendance and Wellbeing



We understand that deciding whether your child is well enough to attend school can sometimes be difficult. In many cases, students are able to attend even with minor illnesses, ensuring they do not miss valuable learning opportunities.

We try our very best to make sure our learners stay in school but want you to **let us know via MCAS** if you have sent in your child when they don't feel 100%. Staff can then monitor them throughout the day and offer support. They will also call for them to be collected should they feel too unwell.

Lisa Kiely, **Vice Principal**

Should I keep my child off school?



What to do if your child is off sick:

REPORT THE ABSENCE

Contact the school as early as possible in the morning to notify us using the MCAS app.

KEEP THE SCHOOL UPDATED

Contact the school every day your child is off – even if it is the same illness.

Under the weather? Let us know!

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We try our very best to make sure our learners stay in school but want you to **let us know via MCAS** if you have sent in your child when they don't feel 100%. Staff can then monitor them throughout the day and offer support. They will also call for them to be collected should they feel too unwell.

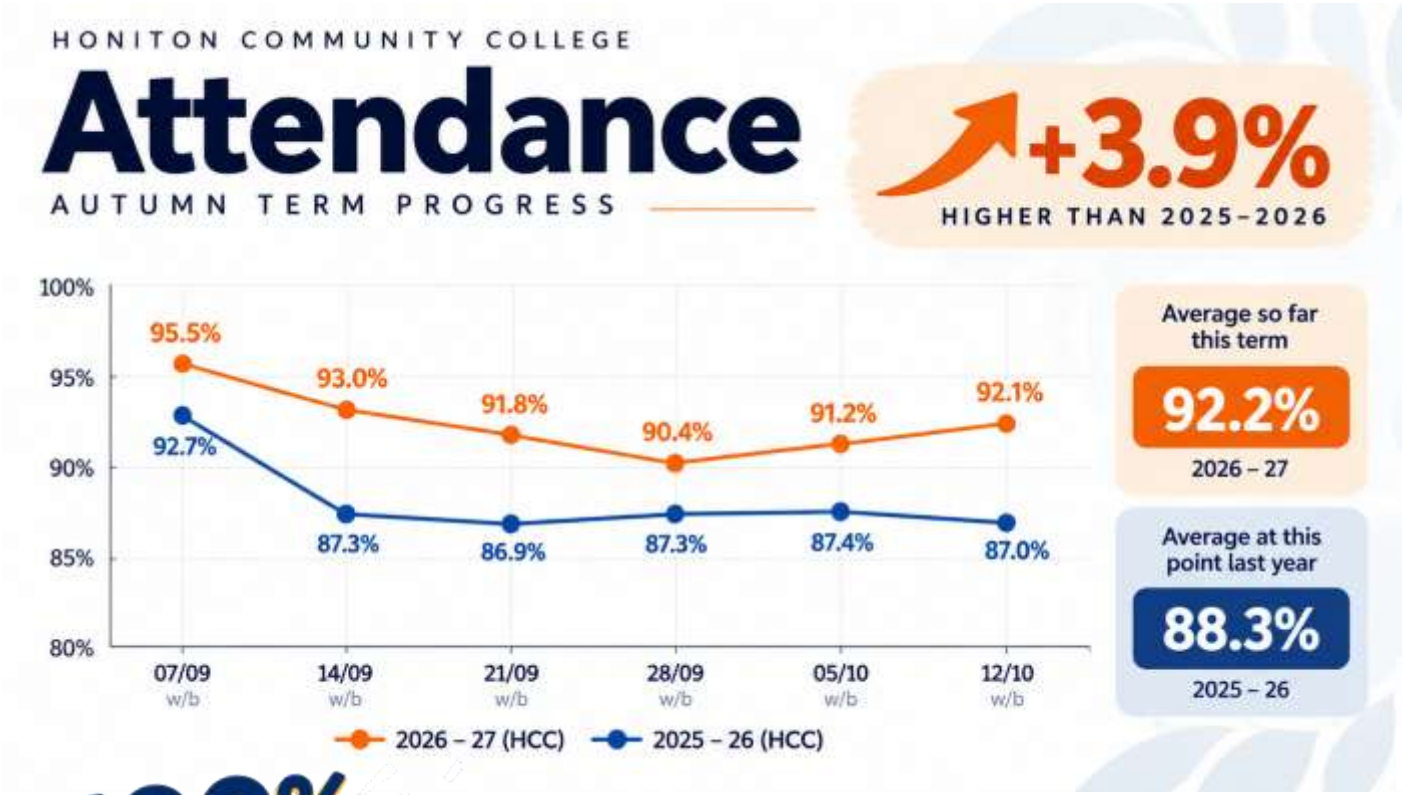
Ted Wragg TRUST

Attendance Update

At Honiton Community College, we know that regular attendance is one of the most important factors in a young person's success. Every lesson provides an opportunity to learn something new, build confidence, strengthen friendships and feel connected to our school community. When students attend school consistently, they are more likely to make strong academic progress, participate fully in school life and develop the skills and resilience they need for the future.

We also recognise that good attendance is a partnership between home and school. Our aim is not only to celebrate excellent attendance and improvements, but also to work closely with families when challenges arise. Whether through early communication, mentoring, targeted support or recognising students' efforts and achievements, we are committed to helping every student attend regularly and thrive.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child is in school, on time and ready to learn each day. Together, we can make sure every student benefits from every lesson, every opportunity and every day at Honiton Community College.





This term, we celebrated students who achieved 100% attendance throughout the 2025-2026 academic year. We are incredibly proud of every student who made the most of every learning opportunity by being in school each day. To recognise this outstanding achievement, each student received a special 100% Attendance Pin, and we celebrated together with hot chocolate and cake.

Their commitment, resilience and dedication to their education is truly commendable, and we look forward to celebrating even more attendance success this year

Safeguarding and Well-being update



This half term our students have been busy learning how to share any worries or concerns they may have with us or with trusted adults at home and in the community. They have also learnt how to access support from other agencies if needed. Safeguarding tutor topics have included what is safeguarding, who to speak to if you are worried about yourself or someone else and understanding and recognising different types of abuse.

Our Mental Health Coach, **Mrs Kedward**, is running a variety of group and individual sessions to help students better understand and support their mental health. She also runs a very successful drop-in club every Thursday lunchtime.
These sessions are open to all students and provide a safe and supportive space where they can access advice and support, have a chat, enjoy colouring activities, or play games with others.

In addition, **Mrs Kedward** is running a Year 8 after-school group on Tuesdays in partnership with the local organisation **Headlight**.
Our Young Carers Group meets once each half term during Wednesday lunchtime and provides additional support for students who help care for family members. Please let us know if your child would like to join the group.

Keeping Our Students Safe

The safety and wellbeing of our students remains a top priority. Please take a moment to remind your child about our **Online Safeguarding Reporting Form**, which allows students to report any worries or concerns quickly and confidentially. The form can be accessed from the **front page of the school website**.

During the School Holidays

While school is closed, any **urgent safeguarding concerns** should be reported directly to **Children's Services** via the **Front Door Service (MASH)**:
0345 155 1071
If there is an immediate risk of harm or an emergency, please contact the **Police** directly.
Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep all members of our school community safe and well.

Clara Rose
Designated Safeguarding Lead and Well-being Lead

A Fantastic HCC Open Evening!



Kind · Curious · Resilient



HCC welcomed a record number of prospective students and families to our Open Evening, creating a fantastic atmosphere across the school. Visitors enjoyed exploring classrooms, meeting staff and students, and discovering the many opportunities available at HCC.





Special thank you goes to our student helpers, who were outstanding ambassadors throughout the evening. Their confidence, kindness and enthusiasm shone through as they welcomed families and supported activities, truly reflecting our values of being **kind, curious** and **resilient.**











A brilliant team effort and a record-breaking evening!

Thank you to all staff and students who helped make the event such a success. It was a wonderful showcase of everything that makes HCC a great place to belong.

Macmillan Coffee Morning Raises Over £350



On Friday 25 September, Honiton Community College took part in the national Macmillan Coffee Morning event, bringing our community together to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

The event included a staff coffee morning, a cake competition and a student bake sale, with a wonderful selection of homemade treats generously donated by our school community. Thanks to everyone's support, we raised over £350 for this important cause.



Our staff cake competition attracted some fantastic entries, with the winning bake being a delicious gluten-free brownie made by Siân. Congratulations to Siân on a very worthy win!

We would also like to say a special thank you to our Year 9C volunteers, who gave up their lunchtime to help run the bake sale. Their enthusiasm, hard work and excellent sales skills helped make the event such a success.
A huge thank you to everyone who baked, donated, bought cakes or volunteered their time. Your generosity and support helped us raise a fantastic amount for Macmillan Cancer Support, and we are very grateful to everyone who contributed.

















Bringing History to Life: Year 7 Discover the Bayeux Tapestry

On Wednesday 14 October 2026, 30 Year 7 students took part in a nationwide interactive schools broadcast exploring the Bayeux Tapestry, marking the 960th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings.
In partnership with the British Library, English Heritage and Norwich Museum Service, the live session was hosted by TV presenter Emma-Louise Amanshia and experts from the British Museum.





Through live polls, Q&As and discussions about historical bias, students investigated how, when and why the tapestry, more accurately described as an embroidery, was created, and what it reveals about the events of 1066.

Students were amazed to discover that the embroidery features 626 people, 190 horses and 506 birds and other animals! They examined how soldiers from both sides of the conflict were depicted and questioned how accurately the scenes represented the events of the time.





It was an engaging and thought-provoking opportunity for our students to bring history to life, develop their critical thinking skills and explore how historical sources can shape our understanding of the past.

To round off the session, students designed their own shields, inspired by those featured in the Bayeux Tapestry, using symbols and colours to represent their individual personalities.



HCC SPORTS

Year 8 Football Team Off to a Flying Start

Hointon Community College 4 VS 1 Uffculme School

The Year 8 football team made an excellent start to the season with **away win against Uffculme School** on Wednesday 23rd September.

The team played with great energy, teamwork and skill throughout. Standout performances came from **Ed B** in defence, **Leo S** in midfield and **Freddie H** with his excellent link-up play.

Player of the Match was **Cassius W**, who scored twice and was a constant threat on the wing.
Goal scorers: Cassius W (2), Freddie H and Max T.
A fantastic team performance and a brilliant start to the football season.



Fantastic Team Performance for HCC Girls' Football

Hointon Community College 7 VS 3 Uffculme School

On Wednesday 30th September HCC's Year 7/8 girls' football team produced a fantastic performance in an exciting 9-a-side match at Uffculme. Special praise goes to **Lauren C** for her leadership, **Kara C** for a strong midfield display, and **Betsy M** for some excellent tackling. **Avalon P** was named Player of the Match for a superb defensive performance while playing a year above her age group.

Goals: Lauren C, Kara C, Sarah W, Jessie D, Alena H, plus two own goals.
Well done to all the girls on a brilliant team effort!

Year 7 Football Debut

Hointon Community College VS Uffculme School

Despite a tough result against Uffculme on 30 September, it was fantastic to see our Year 7 football team represent the College for the first time.
James P impressed with some excellent saves in goal, while **Oakley D** put in a strong midfield performance. **Player of the Match** was **Xavi S** for his determination, commitment, and outstanding tackling.
Well done to all involved on a great first outing for the team!



Hointon Community College 40 VS 12 Bishop Fox's School

On Wednesday 30 September, the Year 11 boys delivered a resounding victory in a match played in great spirit. The game featured moments of high skill, determined defending and some ferocious tackling. Every player contributed to an outstanding team performance.

A special mention goes to **George H**, who marked his debut with a superb try, and **Tyler H**, whose communication and leadership were exceptional throughout the match. **Austin P** was named **Player of the Match** for his excellent all-round performance.



Cup Success for the Year 9 Boys' Rugby

Hointon Community College 42 VS 17 Clyst Vale Community College

On the Thursday 1st October Year 9 boys secured a brilliant cup victory in a closely contested match. Captain Charlie B led the team superbly alongside Sam F, whose vital conversions proved crucial. The game remained tight until the closing stages, when HCC pulled away to seal an impressive win.

Special mentions go to Wilson L and Jack S for their powerful carries, Ed W for outstanding tackling, and Oscar C for a strong debut performance. Congratulations also to Freddy L, who was named Man of the Match.



Year 7 Cross-Country at Sidmouth

Well done to our Year 7 Cross-Country squad, who completed the challenging 1.4-mile course at Sidmouth College on 14 October.



There were some fantastic performances across the team, with **Sophia J finishing 12th overall** and **Xavi S finishing 15th overall** as our top female and male runners.

Other strong runs came from **Millie T (27th)**, **Daisy L (29th)**, **Oscar M (34th)** and **Tom P (35th)**.



A great introduction to competitive cross-country ahead of the **Bicton Competition on 13 November**.

Top Performers
Sophia J – 12th Overall (Top Female) Xavi S – 15th Overall (Top Male)

East Devon Multi-Skills Event



Bicton College

Honiton students travelled to Bicton College to take part in the East Devon Multi-Skills Event! The students showed fantastic curiosity and enthusiasm as they tackled a variety of challenges, demonstrating teamwork, resilience and determination along the way.

A special mention goes to **Millie M** for showing such kindness by checking in on her teammates and making sure they were supported throughout the events. What a wonderful example of teamwork and looking out for others! Well done to all our students for their positive attitudes and fantastic effort!





MULTI-SPORTS FESTIVAL SUCCESS



On **Tuesday 20th October**, HCC proudly hosted a **Multi-Sports Festival** for local schools. The event was an exciting and inclusive opportunity for students to take part in a variety of fun, engaging, and accessible physical activities within a supportive environment.

Nearly **100 students** from **Axe Valley, Sidmouth, Cullompton, Uffculme, and Honiton** participated in the festival, demonstrating enthusiasm, teamwork, and excellent sportsmanship throughout the day. Well done to all students involved for making the event such a success.

special thank you goes to our **Sports Leaders**, who were fantastic ambassadors for the College and outstanding role models for the younger students who attended.

Mr Taylor, Mr Forsyth and Miss Outram would like to thank everyone who helped make the day memorable and enjoyable for all.





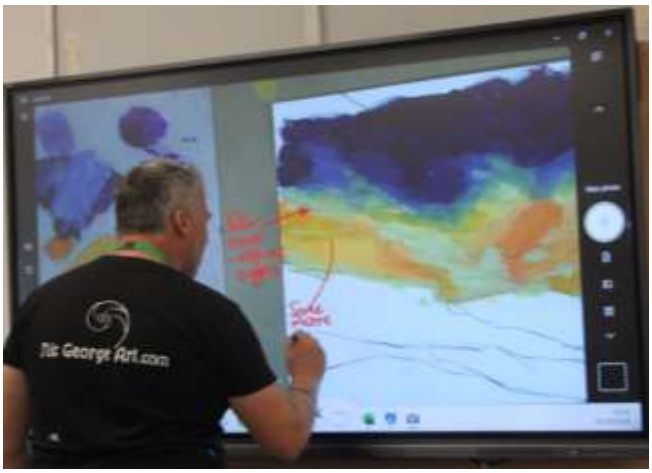
Thelma Hulbert Gallery

Year 10 GCSE students who have opted to study GCSE Fine Art were invited to attend an exciting art workshop in collaboration with the Thelma Hulbert Gallery.



Nic George is an excellent artist and tutor, and his practical painting workshop provided a fantastic opportunity for participants to develop key skills in using acrylic paint.

These skills will support students in the development of their own coursework portfolios throughout their GCSE course.



The students were incredibly focused and produced some wonderful landscape paintings inspired by the work of artist **Yasmin David**, whose exhibition is currently on display at the **Thelma Hulbert Gallery**. We were extremely impressed with the students' work and are excited to see their creativity continue to develop over the next two years..

Many thanks to **Nic George** and the **Thelma Hulbert Gallery** for supporting this event.







HCC Battle of the Bands



On Tuesday 20th October, HCC hosted its very first **Battle of the Bands** during lunchtime. Four bands took part, each performing one piece to showcase their musical skills and creativity. Our judges, Miss Kiely, Mrs Creed and Mrs Hague, were treated to a fantastic range of performances, making it a very difficult decision to choose the winner!
The winning band was **AMC**. Congratulations to Charlie, Myles, Archie and Harley on their inspiring performance! They were presented with the brand-new HCC Battle of the Bands Cup, which will have their band name engraved on it.

AMC will now work with Mr Turner over the coming months to prepare for the regional heat of **Devon Battle of the Bands** in February, where they will proudly represent the school.
A huge thank you to all the bands who took part. Every performance was fantastic, and it was inspiring to see so much talent and creativity on display. Thank you also to our judges for their time and support, and to our new Tech Crew, who set up the stage and ensured the event ran smoothly.



MAGISTRATES' ASSOCIATION

Magistrates in the Community: Bringing Justice to Life





Our GCSE Religious Studies students welcomed **Magistrates in the Community** for an insightful session on the English justice system.
A fascinating talk and mock trial helped bring classroom learning to life.

We discovered how criminal cases are dealt with in both magistrates' courts and Crown Courts. One particularly interesting fact was that around 95% of criminal cases are dealt with in magistrates' courts. We also learned about the importance of the principle that a defendant must be found guilty beyond reasonable doubt before being convicted.

The session also explored different types of punishment, including alternatives to prison sentences, such as curfews, electronic tagging and community service.

The highlight was a mock trial based on a real magistrates' court case, giving us a valuable insight into how the justice system works.

It was a valuable experience, and we all learned a great deal! **Jess, Tekka, Zoe and Beth (Year11 students)**

Supacat

Global Engineering Operations

An unforgettable engineering experience at SUPACAT!







Students gained valuable first-hand insight into the engineering industry, taking part in practical challenges spanning electrical and mechanical engineering while learning how cutting-edge vehicles are designed, tested and refined.

The highlight of the day was an exhilarating ride around the test track in high-mobility vehicles, showcasing the technology and innovation behind SUPACAT's work.

Thank you to SUPACAT for delivering such an engaging and inspiring experience.





Celebrating Success

at the Ted Wragg Awards 2026

Honouring two outstanding achievements and recognising excellence across our school community.

Our girls' rugby team won the Student Teamwork Award,



Recognising their outstanding achievements and the legacy they are creating for girls' rugby at HCC. The team represented our school with pride at the Roslyn Park Rugby Festival, competing against international teams and reaching the finals.

Their teamwork, determination and ambition are paving the way for future generations of girls at HCC.

Liz, our Exams Officer, received the Unsung Hero Award



Acknowledging her exceptional dedication to our students and school. Working tirelessly behind the scenes, Liz ensures examinations run smoothly, supporting students with kindness, precision and calm reassurance.

Her commitment helped ensure every student was present for their GCSEs, and her much-loved tradition of singing students into their exams is a wonderful example of the personal touch she brings to her role.

These awards recognise two inspiring contributions to our community. From opening doors through sport to providing exceptional support for students, both achievements embody our values of **Kindness, Curiosity and Resilience**.

CELEBRATING KINDNESS

Recognising students who make a positive difference every day

Across Year 7-10 this half term, our Character Values focus has been Kindness, and it has been wonderful to see our students demonstrating this value in so many different ways. Acts of kindness, both big and small, help to create a positive school culture where everyone feels valued, supported and included.

Throughout the half term, staff have been nominating students who have consistently shown kindness towards their peers, staff and the wider school community. From offering support to others and showing consideration, to making a positive difference through everyday actions, our students have embodied the values we seek to promote at Honiton Community College.

We are delighted to recognise these students and celebrate their contributions. A selection of nominated students have been awarded a Character Values Badge in recognition of their outstanding commitment to kindness. We are incredibly proud of all those who were nominated and thank them for helping to make our school a welcoming and supportive community for everyone.



Congratulations ON YOUR KINDNESS

Verity Clarke, year 7	Tallulah Barden, Year 8	Lily Luck, Year 10
Harmony House, Year 7	Charlotte White, Year 9	Lily Somers, Year 10
Betsy Marsh, Year 8	Amber Holding, Year 9	Thomas Wytcherley, Year 10

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." – Aesop, Greek Author

Celebrating our learners in 2026-2027

Following feedback from students throughout last year, we have developed a new approach to recognising and celebrating excellent attendance, positive behaviour and the choices students make each day.

One of the clearest messages from our students was that they wanted **more opportunities to enjoy trips, experiences and special events throughout the school year**. They also shared a wide range of exciting ideas and activities they would like us to explore.

We have listened to this feedback and are committed to creating more opportunities for students to be rewarded for their efforts. **Our aim is to offer every year group a different celebration or reward event each term**, recognising students who demonstrate positive behaviour and strong attendance.

Autumn Term 1 Celebrations



THORPE PARK FRIGHT NIGHT

This term, 60 students from Year 11 went to Thorpe Park Fright Night, providing the opportunity to anyone with attendance above 90% across the last academic year.



Year 7-8 HALLOWEEN DISCO

This week, students across Year 7-8 that have had the opportunity to sign up to a Halloween Disco full of spooky fun, games and music.

UPCOMING: HYDE PARK WINTER WONDERLAND

This week, we launch our Winter Wonderland trip for Year 10-11. Students that have had less that 2 days off school so far this term, along with no suspensions or IE visits can sign up for this trip taking place on **Saturday 12 December.**





Over the next few months and the rest of the academic year we will be running a mixture of free and low cost reward trips across all year groups.

Look out for further information next term.



Class Charts
What do the points mean?

At Honiton Community College, we use Class Charts to recognise and celebrate our students' positive behaviour, effort, kindness, resilience and contribution to our school community.

Points are awarded throughout the year by staff for a wide range of positive actions. As students reach key milestones, they receive awards to celebrate their achievements.

Points	Award	What it means
300	Bronze Award	A great start! This award recognises consistent positive behaviour and contribution to college life.
600	Silver Award	A fantastic achievement showing continued positive choices, effort and engagement.
800	Gold Award	This award celebrates a high level of positive behaviour, commitment to learning and supporting others.
1000	Platinum Award	An outstanding achievement, recognising sustained positive behaviour, effort and contribution across college life.
1500	Head of Year Commendation Award	This award recognises exceptional commitment and a consistently positive attitude. Students are personally commended by their Head of Year.
2000	Principal Commendation Award	A significant milestone! This award recognises outstanding behaviour, determination, leadership and a positive contribution to our school community. Students receive a personal commendation from the Principal.

Why do we use Class Charts points?

Recognise positive behaviour
We celebrate effort, kindness and the right choices.

Build confidence
Points help students see the impact of their positive actions.

Encourage our college values
They reflect kindness, curiosity, resilience and contribution.

Celebrate achievement
Milestone awards mark important progress.

Create opportunities
Points can also be used for rewards and special opportunities throughout the year.

Look out for the launch of our Rewards Shop next term along with our wider Rewards and Recognition Policy.

DID YOU KNOW?

WHAT IS A MULTI ACADEMY TRUST?

Ted Wragg TRUST

We are part of the Ted Wragg Trust, a family of schools working together to transform lives.

An Academy Trust is a **charitable organisation** that supports a group of schools to work together for the benefit of children and young people.

As a school we are part of the Ted Wragg Trust, dedicated to improving opportunities and outcomes for children and young people. We work together with other schools to deliver an excellent education for every child, close to home.

Being part of a Trust helps our school to **achieve more than we could alone**. Our students enjoy new opportunities alongside expert and specialist support. This includes unique opportunities such as the annual Innovation Competition, where students offer their innovative ideas to tackle big issues, and access to support from the in-house Speech and Language Team for those who need an extra helping hand.

There is **no one size fits all approach**. Every school that is part of the Trust is different and leaders, staff, governors and communities are trusted to shape what is right for their own pupils, families and community.

Find out more

To learn more about the Ted Wragg Trust and how they support our school, please visit:

www.tedwraggtrust.co.uk



KEY DATES & EVENTS

- Monday 26 October – Friday 6 November | Two-Week Half Term
- Monday 9 November | Start of Autumn Half Term 2
- Thursday 12 November | Year 11 Progress Evening
- Friday 13 November | Children in Need
- Monday 23 November – Friday 4 December | Year 11 Mocks
- Thursday 10 December | Year 11 Graduation Evening (2025–2026) Celebrating milestones, achievements, and looking back at a wonderful academic year!
- Monday 14 December | Non-Student Day
- Thursday 17 December | Carols at St Paul's Church
- Friday 18 December | Last Day of Term
- Monday 4 January 2027 | Start of Spring Half Term 1

2026 TED WRAGG TRUST

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

CHOCOLATE & HOBBYCRAFT VOUCHERS TO BE WON

WINNING DESIGNS MADE INTO THE OFFICIAL TRUST CHRISTMAS CARD

Entries welcome from all ages across our Primary and Secondary schools. Contact your Head of Art or teacher today! **(Miss Robinson)**

- **Submission Deadline:** Monday 9th November
- **Winners Announced:** Week commencing 30th November

There is no maximum size, however artwork should be no smaller than A5 as it needs to be photographed.

Artwork will be judged by a panel of artists.



WHAT'S NEW IN YOUR SCHOOL RESTAURANT?

AUTUMN 2026

Our new menu lands after half term, with fresh dishes, familiar favourites and new flavours to try!



STAR DISH

SWEET CHILLI CHICKEN KOFTA

WITH LEMON & HERB ROASTED POTATOES, SEASONAL VEG OR SALAD

We've listened to student feedback to bring more variety and exciting flavours to our menu. We're also making progress towards the proposed School Food Standards, with more fibre and less fat, sugar and salt. As we continue to develop our food offer in line with the new standards, we'll share further updates on our plans and what they mean for your school restaurant.

4 WAYS TO ENJOY LUNCH!

From freshly prepared meals to high-street favourites, there's something for everyone.

MAIN MEAL + DESSERT — COLD 4 ITEM MEAL DEAL — HOT / COLD DELI ITEMS — STREETVIBES (TUES - THURS)

Free School Meals? All 4 options have choices within the FSM allowance + much more. Eat in or take away!

NEW TO THE MENU!

YOU SAID, WE LISTENED

We trialled new dishes with some schools and have exciting additions to the menu! Look out for new desserts including:

- **Waffleberry Pudding**
- **Biscoff Swirl Cake**



COMING SOON...

SWEET HEAT

Hot Honey specials are landing alongside the new menu throughout November! Look out for **Hot Honey Wings**, **Grilled Cheese & Jalapeño Panini**, **Corn Ribs** and **Rainbow Slaw**.

KEEP TELLING US WHAT YOU THINK!

Your feedback helps us keep improving the food offer. Tell us what you're loving, what you'd like to see more of and where we can do better at **hello@impactfood.co.uk**.