



HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Newsletter

May 2026



Ted
Wragg
TRUST



As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding term, it is a real joy to reflect on the extraordinary variety of experiences our students have embraced both inside and beyond the classroom. Our school community continues to flourish because of the enthusiasm, determination and spirit shown by our young people every day.

This term has been filled with opportunities that have challenged, inspired and enriched our students in so many different ways. From the determination and teamwork displayed during the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, to the insight and ambition sparked through our careers events, students have shown a willingness to step beyond their comfort zones and make the very most of every opportunity available to them.

We have seen students learning highly specialised and practical skills, from animal resuscitation workshops to planning sustainable housing developments, demonstrating just how broad and exciting learning can be. These experiences not only deepen knowledge, but help students discover new interests, talents and possible future pathways.

Our Year 9 trip to Paris was another highlight of the term. Beyond the excitement of visiting such an iconic city, students immersed themselves in new cultures, strengthened friendships and created lifelong memories together. Experiences such as these play an invaluable role in developing confidence, independence and a broader understanding of the world around us.

Alongside this, we have celebrated outstanding sporting successes and memorable musical performances. Whether representing the school on the sports field, performing on stage, or supporting one another behind the scenes, our students have demonstrated commitment, creativity and pride in all they do.

What shines through all of these achievements are the values that sit at the heart of our school community. Our students continue to show what it means to be **kind** in the way they support and encourage one another, **curious** in their willingness to explore new ideas and opportunities, and **resilient** when facing challenges and striving for success.

I would like to thank our staff for their dedication and energy in providing such a rich range of experiences, and our families for their continued support throughout the term. Most importantly, I congratulate our students for all they have achieved. They continue to make us immensely proud.

I hope everyone enjoys a restful and well-deserved break, and I look forward to all that the next half term will bring.

Mrs C Brothwood, Principal



Safeguarding Update



This half term our students have explored a wide range of topics in our safeguarding tutor time sessions and year group safeguarding assemblies. We have looked at how to recognise and respond appropriately to misinformation online, the dangers of vaping, what is gaslighting and how can it impact individuals, the risks of gambling and addiction and how to keep ourselves safe when out in the community. We ended the half term by looking at how to support our own wellbeing. During our sessions our students are always encouraged to seek support from school staff, parents/carers or trusted adults outside of school if they are worried about themselves or somebody else.

Our Young Carers group meets once each half term on a Wednesday lunchtime, offering extra support to students who help care for family members at home.

Our next session will take place on **Wednesday 3rd June** in **BL4**.

A large number of our students are accessing our very successful Thursday lunchtime Wellbeing Club with Mrs Kedward, our Mental Health Coach. The sessions are open to all students and provide a welcoming, supportive environment where students can access advice and support, enjoy a chat with others, take part in colouring activities, or play games with friends.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you all of our online reporting form where students can report safeguarding concerns, this can be found on the front page of our school website.

Over the holidays however please report any urgent safeguarding concerns directly to Children's Services via **The Front Door Service (MASH) 0345 155 1071** or to the Police directly.

Clara Rose, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Well-Being Lead



Honiton Carers need volunteers!

Volunteer with us and make a real difference.

By giving just a few hours of your time, you can support unpaid carers in the community while developing your own skills and experience.

Honiton Carers Support Group are looking for new volunteers to join our small team. We support unpaid carers in the community by providing a safe social space at weekly meetings. We're looking for volunteers who will help make teas and coffees, support craft activities and provide a welcoming atmosphere for our members.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, from 2-4pm at the Methodist Church, Honiton. We also host a social at The Kitchen, Coombe Garden Centre on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from 3pm and we're looking for volunteers to chat to group members and provide a listening ear.

We're looking for volunteers to join after school on a Wednesday, or during the school holidays. Volunteering is a great way to develop your CV, help your community and counts towards your Duke of Edinburgh award. If you would like to get involved and want to find out more, please contact Winnie at [Honiton Carers directly](mailto:winniekjaer@btinternet.com) winniekjaer@btinternet.com



TRIP TO PARIS

Over the May Bank holiday 65 Year 9 students travelled to Paris, it gave students the opportunity to experience French culture first-hand and create memories that will stay with them for years to come. From the moment they departed, students showed maturity, enthusiasm and a real willingness to embrace every opportunity presented to them.



Our value of **Kindness** was clear throughout the visit. Staff were incredibly proud of how supportive and respectful students were towards one another during the journey and while exploring the city.



Travelling as part of a large group can sometimes be challenging, especially after long hours of travel, but students consistently looked after each other, encouraged one another and showed excellent manners to staff, tour guides and members of the public.



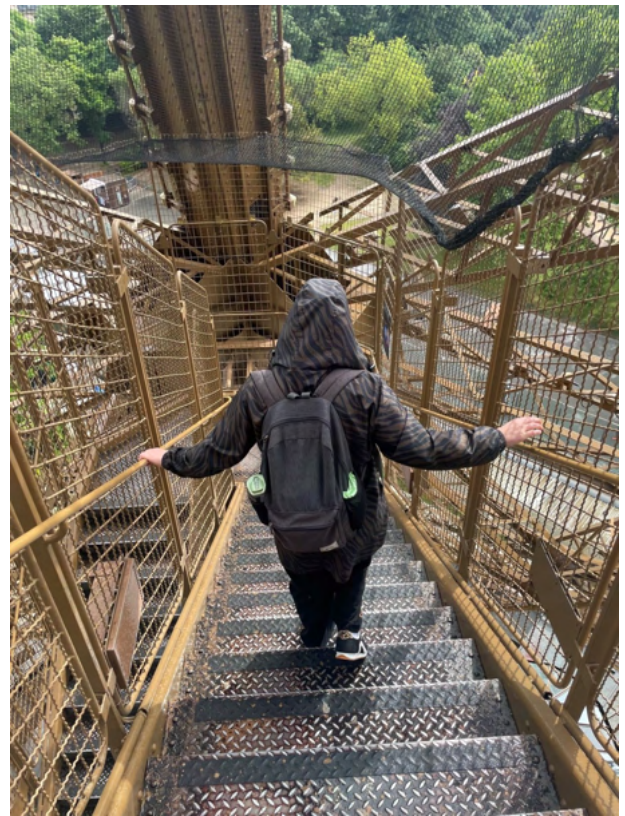
Students also showed great **Curiosity** during the trip. Many students made a real effort to practise speaking French and learn more about the language and culture of France. Whether ordering food, greeting locals or asking simple questions. They were also eager to learn about famous Parisian landmarks and the history behind them.

Some students even stepped outside of their comfort zones and tried traditional French foods, including snails! Their willingness to experience something new reflected the adventurous and open-minded attitude we encourage in all of our learners.



Perhaps most impressive of all was the **Resilience** shown by the entire group. Travelling through the night can be tiring and demanding, yet students remained positive and enthusiastic throughout the visit. Despite busy days packed with sightseeing and activities, they approached each challenge with determination and energy.

A particularly memorable moment was the climb up the Eiffel Tower. Every single student attempted the climb, making this the first Year Group to achieve this impressive milestone. It was fantastic to see students encouraging one another to keep going and celebrating together once they reached the top.



The Paris trip was a wonderful example of Year 9 students demonstrating the very best of our school values outside of the classroom.

We would like to thank all students for their outstanding conduct and positive attitude throughout the trip, as well as the staff who gave up their time to make the experience possible. I have been incredibly proud to hear of the resilience shown by the students who did not join us on the trip, they dealt with a change of timetable and class groups with kindness and resilience.

Well done Year 9!



EXPEDITION

DofE SILVER AWARD



The Year 10 Silver group successfully completed their three-day practice expedition as preparation for their assessed expedition in Dorset this June.



The group worked extremely well together and quickly recalled the skills developed during their Bronze expedition the previous year, including campcraft, cooking, and navigation. As with last year's expedition, they were blessed with fantastic weather and made excellent time, completing their route along sections of the East Devon Way and finishing on Sidmouth Seafont.



A huge congratulations to all participants, and sincere thanks to the staff who generously gave their time to make the expedition possible. We now look forward to seeing the group complete their assessed Dorset expedition in a few weeks' time.





The Year 9 Bronze students have recently completed their two-day Duke of Edinburgh expedition across sections of the East Devon Way, walking from Honiton College to Sidmouth seafront.



The group was divided into three teams, all of whom demonstrated great determination and resilience throughout the expedition. Despite the challenges of navigating unfamiliar routes, carrying full packs, and coping with changing weather conditions, the students worked exceptionally well together and supported one another at every stage of the journey.



The expedition provided an excellent opportunity for personal growth, helping students to develop independence, teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. All participants should feel incredibly proud of their achievements and the positive attitude they showed throughout the experience.





DEVON CRICKET FOUNDATION

The East Devon programme of schools cricket festivals and tournaments got underway on Tuesday 5 May at Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club with an exciting inter-schools U13 tournament.



The Chance to Compete competition, organised by the Devon Cricket Foundation, brought together 10 East Devon secondary school teams for an exciting afternoon of fast-paced softball cricket.

Congratulations to the U13 softball cricket team, who qualified for Devon Finals Day following a series of impressive performances. The team secured victories against Tiverton (134-70) and Uffculme (90-69), before narrowly losing to Exmouth (91-74).

Asher. M	Yr.8	George. T	Yr.8
Benjamin. N	Yr.8	Joe. D	Yr.7
Charlie. B	Yr.8	Noah. L	Yr.8
Edward. R	Yr.10	Samuel. F	Yr.8
Freddy. L	Yr.8		

Well done to all players involved for their effort and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. A huge thank you also goes to **Ed Rich**, a Year 10 Sports Leader, who umpired matches throughout the afternoon.

East Devon Athletics Trials (Exeter vs East Devon).

Congratulations to the Honiton Community College Athletics team, who travelled to Exeter Arena on Wednesday 6th May to compete against schools from across East Devon, aiming to secure qualification for the East Devon team set to compete against Exeter schools on Thursday 21st May.



The weather remained favourable throughout the day, helping to create excellent conditions for a highly successful competition.

Notable performances from:

- Noah L. - Junior Boys High Jump - New PB 1.43m
- Toby R. - 3rd Junior Boys High Jump (1.46m)
- Toby R. - 1st Junior Boys Triple Jump (9.45m)
- Wilson L. - 2nd Junior Boys Discus (21.12m)
- Ben S. - 3rd Junior Boys 300m (44.25s)
- Evie C. - 1st Junior Girls Javelin (14.30m)
- Chloe P. - 1st Intermediate Girls 1500m (5.54)



Special thanks to Year 10 Sports Leaders Aiden D, Austin P, Imi C.. and Tilly B. for helping on the field events.

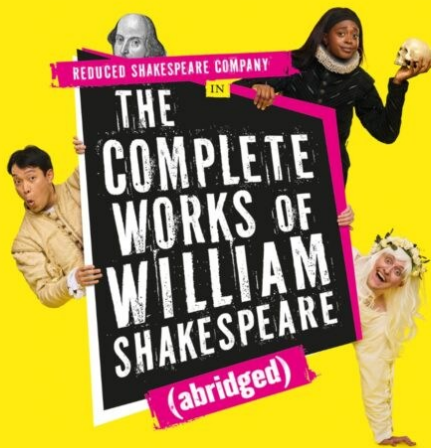


PROJECT RUGBY

We are fortunate to have Exeter Chiefs in school this term on Wednesdays as part of [Project Rugby](#). Rugby helps young people grow in confidence, find their voice, and realise their potential - on and off the pitch. Playing the game encourages children to be braver, more determined and resilient, while also supporting their health and wellbeing.

The award-winning programme, delivered in partnership with the RFU and Gallagher UK, introduces young people to rugby through fun, inclusive sessions led by professional coaches.

We are also delighted that the coaches have been running a girls' rugby club for us on Wednesday lunchtimes, with the support of Hope Rogers, an international player who plays for Exeter Chiefs Women in the Allianz Premier 15s.



On Saturday 16th May Miss Knight, Mrs Stace and Miss Buckland took a group of Year 7s to see The Reduced Shakespeare Company perform The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) at Tacchi-Morris Art Centre, Taunton. It was a hilarious, whirlwind tour of the Bard's plays and poems, the perfect way to consolidate last term's Introduction to Shakespeare work.

The year 7s behaved impeccably, laughing in all the right places and joining in very loudly with the audience participation parts. The theatre staff commented on their good behaviour and how nice it was to see so many students enjoying Shakespeare. A particular highlight was the final raucous performance of Hamlet (backwards). Thank you Year 7s for making this such an enjoyable trip.



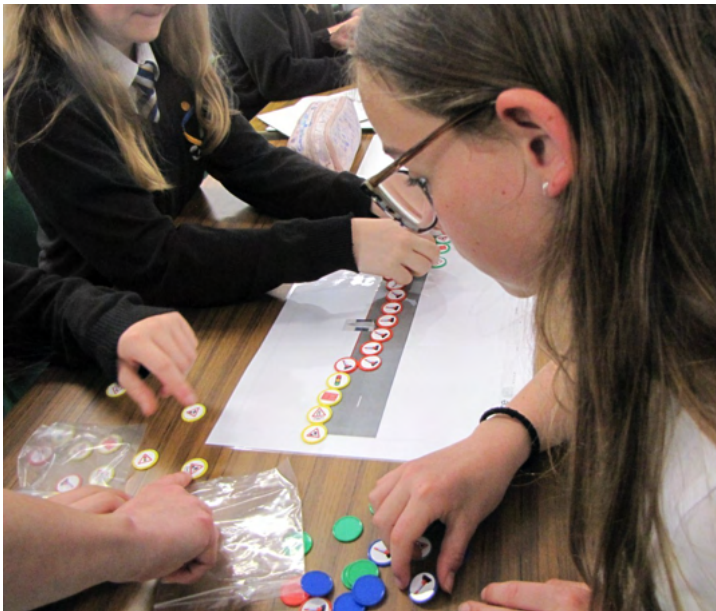
As Hamlet says, *The Play's the Thing!*



Work experience now starts from Year 7, giving students ongoing opportunities to connect learning with the workplace. Working with Core Highways has helped students see how Maths and calculations are essential in keeping our roads safe through traffic management systems.

Our Maths department partnered with Core Highways and Traffic Management Systems to help bring Maths to life and show students how it is used in future careers.

Year 7 students took part in a theory lesson calculating the correct distances for traffic signs, signals, and cones to meet health and safety guidelines, before putting their learning into practice by setting up a traffic management system in the playground. Core Highways provided the equipment, giving students a valuable real-life experience.





Careers Carousel

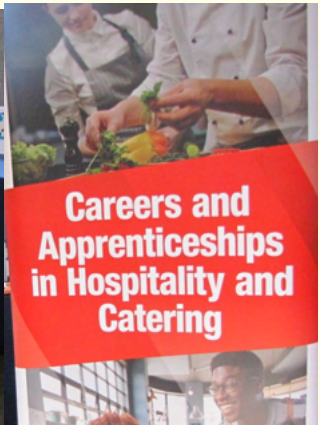
HCC successfully hosted its first Careers Carousel event, bringing together a diverse range of employers from multiple sectors to engage directly with students.

The event aimed to give Year 8 pupils meaningful exposure to the world of work while broadening their understanding of potential career pathways. Each student met with four different employers, gaining valuable insights into a variety of professions. Through interactive, hands-on activities, students also had the opportunity to develop key employability skills in a practical and engaging setting.



Employers from a wide range of industries—including business, healthcare, engineering, leisure, law, veterinary services, and public services—hosted interactive carousel stations for students. At each rotation, pupils took part in sector-specific tasks designed to reflect real-world job roles. These activities included problem-solving exercises, teamwork challenges, case studies, and practical demonstrations, giving students valuable insight into the skills and expectations associated with each profession.

The carousel format ensured that all pupils explored the various pathways available to reach their dream careers, including T-levels, apprenticeships, A-levels, and other routes.



Students were highly engaged throughout, demonstrating enthusiasm and thoughtful participation. The sessions sparked lively debates, inspired creative projects such as theme park designs, and even gave some students the opportunity to learn how to resuscitate a dog.



Following the Year 8 carousel, students in Years 9 to 11 had the opportunity to visit employer stands. Here, they asked questions, showed curiosity, and gained a deeper understanding of different roles and the pathways they could take to achieve their future career ambitions.





Our Year 10 iMedia students recently visited Exeter College's Institute of Technology.

They toured the incredible building, designed to revolutionise digital education in Devon. The building supports industry-led programs built to close regional skills gaps in STEM fields.



Our students had an incredible day at Exeter College! Huge thanks to their team for hosting us. Our group got hands-on experience building PCs, learned how to spec systems for different needs, and heard directly from senior lecturers about why IT skills are in such high demand. Everyone was truly impressed with the amazing top-tier facilities!

CreATE Music Department



Thank you from the CreATE Music Department
We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and carers who supported the Spring Term Concert and contributed generously towards the purchase of new bass strings for our bass guitars. We are delighted to report that all six bass guitars now have brand-new strings fitted and are sounding fantastic.

We would also like to thank the Devon Music Education Hub for the long-term loan of a set of 15 djembe drums, which are being used in music lessons across the school. They have already been put to excellent use in the Year 7 Traditions of the World Cycle 3 project.

Devon COUNTY SHOW

HCC musicians made a triumphant return after many years to the Devon County Show on Thursday, 21st May, delivering a spectacular 30-minute set on the Devon Music Education Hub stage!

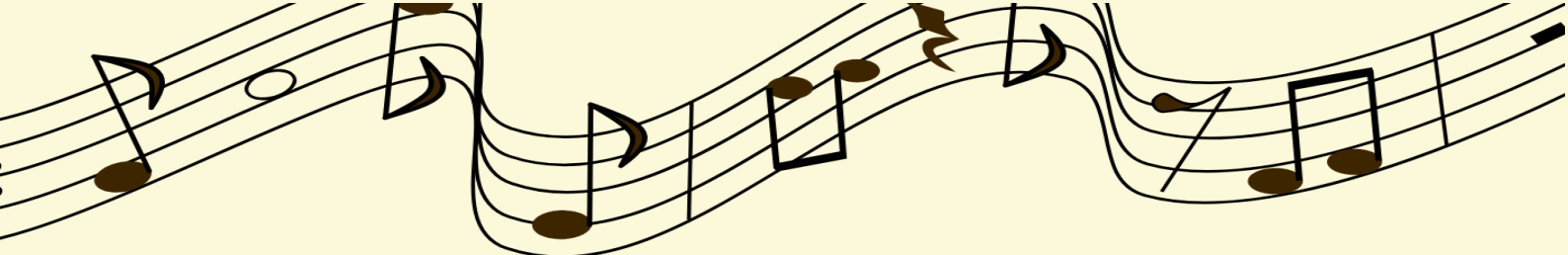




Over 50 talented students from the House Band, Singing Group, Taiko Group, Rock School, and Balalaika Ensemble showcased their musical brilliance before enjoying the rest of the day exploring the showground.

A huge well done to all the students involved and to Mr Turner, Mrs Creed, Mrs Ryan, Mr Meek, and Mr Boarder for supporting a fantastic day out!





Celebrating Musical Talent in Honiton this summer!

THE BEEHIVE PRESENTS

**HONITON
FUTURE
MUSICIANS**

THURSDAY 18 JUNE 6.30pm

'A MUSICAL EVENING SHOWCASING THE MUSICIANS OF
HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND PARTICIPATING
PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE HONITON AREA

Tickets: £7 Includes £1.50 booking fee
Box Office: 01404 384050

the beehive
HONITON

beehivehoniton.co.uk
Dowell Street, Honiton, EX14 1LZ
Kindly Sponsored by East Devon Music

Devon Music Education Hub
HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
EAST DEVON MUSIC

Please come and join us. Tickets are available from the Beehive box office at £7. Box office link:

<https://thebeehive.savoyssystems.co.uk/TheBeehive.dll/>

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Honiton Community College



CreATE Showcase

An invitation to celebrate the work and creative achievements of our students from across the year

Wednesday

3rd June

Drop in
any time between

4 & 6 pm

2026



An exhibition of Art, Design and Photography with open music rehearsal performances. Refreshments supplied by our Food & Nutrition students



Key Dates and Term Dates

SUMMER TERM 2026

- ◆ Monday 20 April 2026 - Start of Summer Half Term 1
- ◆ Monday 4 May 2026 - Bank Holiday Monday
- ◆ Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2026 - Half Term
- ◆ Monday 1 June 2026 - Start of Summer Half Term 2
- ◆ Friday 17 July 2026 - Last day of Term

AUTUMN TERM 2026

- ◆ Thursday 3 & Friday 4 September 2026 - Non-Student Days
- ◆ Monday 7 September 2026 - Start of Autumn Half Term 1 **YEAR 7 ONLY**
- ◆ Tuesday 8 September 2026 - Start of Autumn Half Term 1 **ALL YEAR GROUPS**
- ◆ Monday 26 October to Friday 6 November 2026 - Two-week Half Term
- ◆ Monday 9 November 2026 - Start of Autumn Half Term 2
- ◆ Monday 14 December 2026 - Non-Student Day
- ◆ Friday 18 December 2026 - Last day of Term

Polite request...



Please ensure that your son/daughter has everything they need for their full day at college, to help their day run smoothly. We are keen not to interrupt learning for messages and forgotten kit, and we are not always able to leave our work areas easily.

If students do need to leave college early for an appointment, please ensure they are aware of this at the beginning of the day and ensure they know to go to student reception to leave/ be collected. Please also notify the absence team in advance by emailing studentabsence@honiton.college

These small things make a big difference to our working day, so your support is very much appreciated. Thank you in advance.

Cuppa and Connect

Tuesday 23rd June

Join us between 9:15 and 11:15am for cuppa

Mrs Dupré SENCO will be present to answer any questions parents/carers may have.



We look forward to seeing you there!



 admin@honiton.college

 01404 42283