

HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



December 2024

NEWSLETTER



Isabella runner up winner of The Ted Wragg Christmas card competition





As the festive season approaches, it is my pleasure to reflect on the incredible term we've shared as a school community. Christmas is a time of joy, togetherness, and gratitude, and I am reminded daily of the warmth and belonging that make Honiton Community College such a special place to learn and grow.

This term, we have much to celebrate. Our students have embraced opportunities to live out our school values of kindness, curiosity, and resilience in so many ways. From the Post-16 students' fantastic fundraising efforts to the Ten Tors expedition training, their commitment and determination have been inspiring. We've also seen curiosity flourish through the enthusiasm of those in the Christmas Craft Club, the creativity of our House Band, and the excitement building for the current Ski Trip. Our students' sporting endeavours continue to show their resilience, teamwork, and school spirit—whether in training or competition.

These activities, along with many others highlighted in this newsletter, showcase the vibrant and supportive community we have here at Honiton Community College. As we celebrate this festive season, let us take pride in these shared experiences and achievements while looking forward to the opportunities that await in the new year.

On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a joyful, peaceful Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs. Caroline Brothwood. Principal

Safeguarding Update

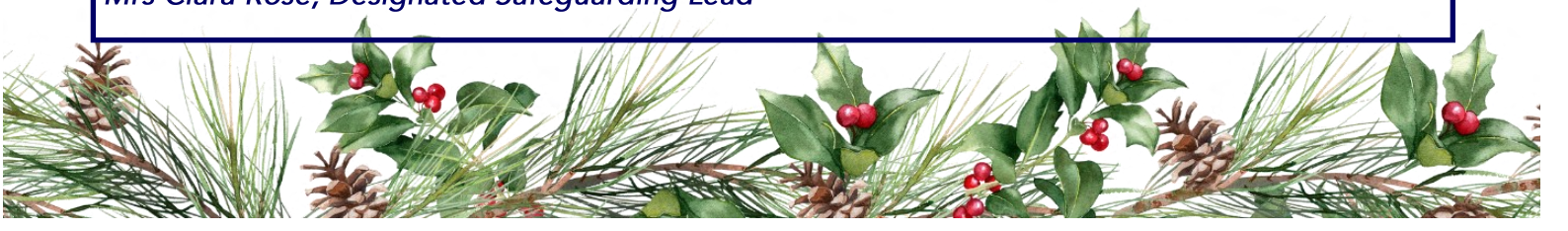


This half term our safeguarding topics have included who to speak to if you are worried about yourself or someone else, the impacts of bullying, what is child on child abuse, what is physical assault, how to access mental health support and other agencies offering help and support to young people. This week we watched a new video by Kooth who are offering online support to young people during the Christmas Holidays. We have also continued to look at how to keep ourselves safe out in the community, at home and online.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind you all of our online reporting form where students can report safeguarding concerns and also discrimination of any form, this can be found on our website.

Over the holiday period please report any urgent concerns directly to The Police or via The Childrens' Front Door Service (MASH) 0345 155 1071.

Mrs Clara Rose, Designated Safeguarding Lead





Attendance Project

We are partnering with Parental Minds to offer a range of support to children and families with low attendance. In January we have a number of exciting projects running which include a year 10 and 11 group focusing on managing worry and anxiety, an arts project, forest school activities and parental support.

If you or your child are interested please sign up using the QR code on the flyer or please email clara.rose@honiton.college

We're getting involved with The Attendance Wellbeing Project

Family Minds Partnership is a group of organisations who are working alongside each other to better improve mental health support for children, young people and their families across Devon.



They will be offering a menu of support for children / young people who are struggling to attend school, and their families. The support will be tailored to the individual, and can include 1:1 student support, online and/or in-person groupwork, and support for parents and caregivers. The aim is to improve the student's wellbeing and support them to engage with education.

This support is brought to you by Heads Up, Youth Arts & Health Trust, Exeter Community Initiatives Family Resource, The Esteem Team, YMCA, and Parental Minds CIC.



FAMILY MINDS PARTNERSHIP

familyminds.org.uk
hello@parentalminds.org.uk



Q&A

Each half term, the Post-16 students interview a member of the HCC staff team. This half term they were delighted to speak with well-known Roy Huxley who is a part of the Premises Team.



Background Career & History

Originally from Liverpool, Roy relocated to Devon in 1976 and raised his family of 3 boys here in Honiton. He worked for many years as a Frame Builder at Switchgear and has worked at the college since 2003 in the Premises Team and is one of the most valued members of the team, knowing everything there is to know about the College!

Q. What is your favourite thing about being at Honiton Community College?

A. I enjoy helping the staff that I work with and seeing the students do well. It's always nice when you know you have helped someone out in their busy day to make their life a little easier or just getting the many footballs down from the roof that the students have accidentally kicked up there!

Q. What is your proudest achievement to date?

A. Being a dad and grandad is a great achievement and having them live close by is enjoyable as I get to see them often and share my love of football!

Q. Outside of work, what are your main hobbies and interests?

A. Football, music and books.

I support Liverpool of course and its always great if I can get tickets to go back up. I also take my grandchildren to watch Exeter City play and when I first moved here, I was a great side-line supporter of Honiton Town FC.

My music tastes range from Kate Bush, Eric Clapton, Andrea Bocelli and of course the Beatles.

Q. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?

A. I think it would still be Honiton. Having lived here for nearly 50 years I can't think of a better place to live.

Q. What is your favourite animal and why?

A. Boxer Dogs! I don't have them anymore but there are great pets to have – really friendly and easy natured.

Q. If you had to be stuck in a lift with someone – who would it be and why?

A. There would be plenty of football players I would love to spend time talking to, although I think it would have to be Peter Kay as he would keep me laughing.

Q. Name 3 words that describe you?

A. Kind, Positive and Helpful (this was voted by his colleagues)



TEN TORS
2025

Building Resilience and Teamwork Skills

9th-11th May

The Ten Tors group went out onto a very foggy Dartmoor, challenging fitness, teamwork and communication skills. Braving the elements of Dartmoor's terrain the students did brilliantly walking 20km, demonstrating that their newly learnt compass skills were up to scratch. Compass skill is a talent in itself, the group should be greatly admired on their determination and ability to work as a team.





OPPONENTS: King's School RESULT: 14 -11 Win!!!!

Superb performance by the U14 netball team. Their commitment over the last two years with regularly attending netball practice, playing netball for Honiton Netball Team and this commitment has paid off.

A closely fought game going end to end but with strong defence and accurate shooting they won the game. Well done girls.



My name is Rebecca, and I am a student-athlete here at Honiton Community College in the Post-16. I had been around netball a great deal when I was younger, and at 14, I joined my very first ladies' netball team, and my love for the sport continued to grow from there. At the age of 15, I joined U16s Regional, and then moved onto Southwest Regional at 16.

Through hard work and love for the sport, I am grateful to now be a part of the England Netball Performance Pathway, with a London Pulse PDP (Player Development Programme), and am looking to make it into an U19s Academy next year. I also am part of the local mixed netball club and mixed nationals, of which I am a big fan as it opens netball up to males too!

As someone who has grown up around netball, I am an advocate of local leagues and still love to play in the Honiton League on Monday nights! Here, people who have never played before are able to fall in love with not only the sport, but the community and supportive atmosphere, as I did. Netball can bring you friends and memories no matter who or where you are. Therefore, no matter whether you're an athletic individual, or not sporty at all, male or female, I recommend netball to everyone.

East Devon Multi Sports Event

Students travelled to King's School to participate in the East Devon Multi Sports event. All embodied our key values of curious and resilient as they had to complete numerous difficult challenges and tasks whilst trying new activities which they all showed great enthusiasm and engagement.



Students were also praised for their kind nature helping one another when students were struggling. A massive thanks to our student leaders who lead on activities on short notice and showing our kindness value by aiding students achieve their personal best.

Performers: Ella, Lola, Rita, Kayden, Max, George, Aiden, Liam,
Leaders: Kieran, Josh, Hallie, Thea



BBC

Children in Need

Huge thank you to everyone who helped and donated for Children In Need.



As a college and with everyone's generosity we raised over £650 which will make a huge difference to the children and families that need it most.



The Post 16 students and staff paid to take on the challenge of racing for a leader board position playing Mario Kart, which added to the amazing grand total.

Well done Dr Murch who was crowned the champion.





Congratulations to all athletes who participated in the East Devon Cross-Country Competition at Bicton College on Wednesday 13th November.



- Year 7 Boys:
Sam Hair 13th
- Intermediate Boys:
Tom Lane 14th, Josh Lane 15th
- Junior Girls:
Chloe Phare 7th,
Imi Clarke 16th

Students who finished in the top 16 in their age category qualify for the Exeter V East Devon round at Blundells on Thursday 28th November.

Well done to all who raced and represented the College.



**East Devon Cross Country Championships
Thursday 28th November**

Six students competed at the Exeter and East Devon Cross Country Championships. All competitors had qualified following the East Devon round on 13th November.



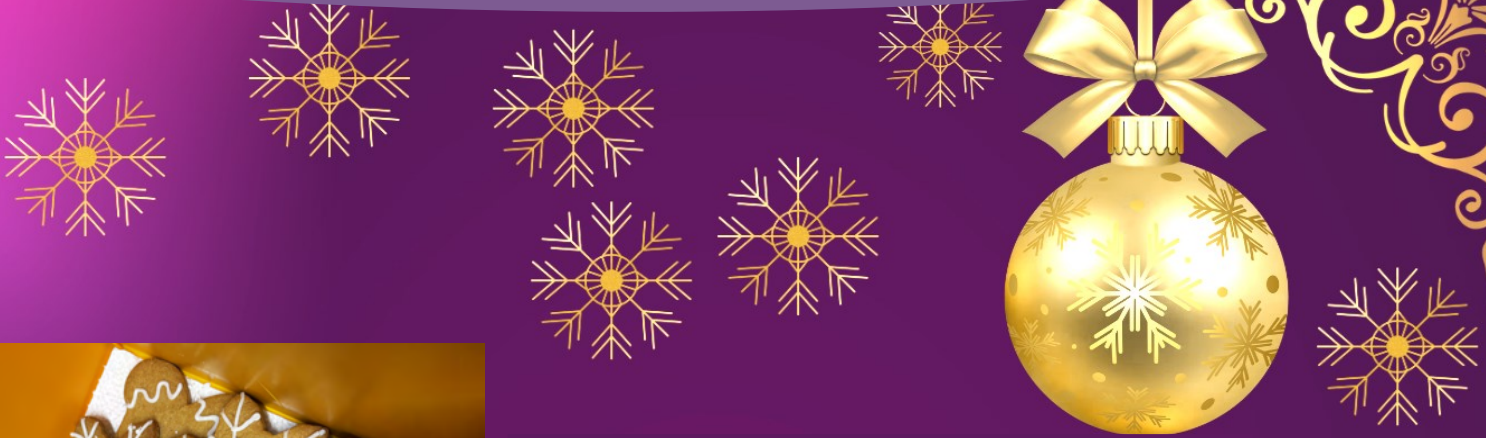
Sam in the Year 7 boys ran a great race placing 24th. Josie, Imi and Chloe all competed in the Junior Girls, Josie was one of the youngest in the group being only Year 8.

Imi placed a commendable 28th and Chloe placing 8th. In the Inter Boys, Tom and Josh were 22nd and 24th.

Chloe has now qualified for the next round – Devon Championships.



Congratulations and well done to all who ran on a very cold and muddy course.



Keeping to tradition the Post-16 students started off the festive season with some seasonal goodies to eat; an amazing quiz written by Rebecca and Hannah, a screening of the film 'Elf' and of course the decoration of the Christmas Tree of memories – past present and future!

Well done to the winning quiz team with the staff team coming a close second



These students really are amazing combining their mental wellbeing with the enormous amount of study they are required to complete in this their last year of formal education.
Well done all !



KS4 Ted Wragg Cup (Football)

Date :14th November Result: 3rd Place



Brilliant display from the Key Stage 4 girls finishing 3rd place out of 8 schools.

Special mentions to go **Reese** for outstanding goalkeeping, **Holly** for a determined defensive display and **Isabella** for another great captains performance.

Player of the tournament would go to **Layla** once again, showing fantastic skill and technique to contribute to 8 goals within the tournament.

What was equally as impressive was the rendition of Party in the USA by **Miley Cyrus** on the bus back !



East Devon Boccia Competition

Date: 26th November

Result: 3rd & 4th Place

Boccia is a game of precision, skill, and tactics - get your ball as close to a white target ball as possible. Boccia is played by people of all ages and disabilities.

The HCC team travelled to Bicton College to participate in the East Devon Boccia Championship.

All students showed great skill and ability in a very competitive tournament with high paced quality end to end Boccia all around.

Special mentions go to **Kayden** and **Zachary** for some great team work, communication and kindness. However, the player of the tournament would go to **Rocco**. In his debut competition **Rocco** showed brilliant technique which shows real promise for the future.

HCC SPORTS Pickleball Championships

We have been fortunate to have **Ray Puttick** running the LED Pickleball Club for our students during this Autumn term. Students have enjoyed trying this new sport with a hard fought competition on their final session

Girls

#1	Chloe	27
#2	Maisey	24
#3	Isabella	23
#4	Charlotte	21

Boys

#1	Wilson	31
#2	Alex	28
#3	Ben	27

Most improved play. **Boys:** Alex **Girls:** Charlotte



The Ted Wragg Christmas Card Competition is an annual event for primary and secondary students in the Ted Wragg Trust to design a festive card. The winning entries are featured on the Trust's official Christmas card, and digital designs are turned into a virtual singing card.

A huge congratulation to **Isabella** Year 11 who was a runner up.

<https://x.com/i/status/1864935305708708202>

◆ Copy video address for virtual singing card



Mistletoe Mavericks:18 Points, Jingle Ballers:11 Points, Winterwonderlanders:11 Points, Tinsel Town:9 Points



Christmas football continued at HCC with Year 10s Christmas Cup. Slightly smaller numbers allowed the Jingle Ballers and the Mistletoe Mavericks to face off in a head to head game for the Christmas tree trophy. In the first half the Jingle ballers took a strong lead going 4-0 up with goals from Ollie, Ed and Marcus. Mistletoe clawed back into it with goals from Josh G, Josh L and Thomas to bring the game almost level with the Jingle Ballers leading 5-4 at half time. Second half Luke turned on the class for Jingle Ballers with some outrageous goals and skills alongside Noah and Ollie contributing.

Mistletoe staged a late comeback but couldn't level the deficit with great goals from Josh G, Josh L, Laith and Owen. Special mentions go to Thomas for the greatest Christmas hat (Please see photo for proof) Noah for winning the cross bar challenge at half time and Beau for relentless Christmas cheer. Player of the match would go to Luke for his festive footwork and sublime seasonal strikes. Well done all!



Result: Jingle Ballers 11- 8 Mistletoe Mavericks

Well done all!



Year 7 and 8 girls kicked off the inaugural HCC Christmas Cup with lots of students showing great Christmas spirit and festive football skills to put on a cracker (Pun intended) of a tournament. Students were split into 4 teams Mistletoe Mavericks, Jingle Ballers, Winter Wonderlanders and Tinsel Town where they displayed great kindness, resilience and effort with lots of great football.

Special mentions would go to **Matilda** for scoring 4 goals, **Sophia** for an incredible net busting free kick and **Rosie** for great tackling and skill.

player of the tournament would go to **Amelia**. Despite **Amelia's** team not winning she was relentless outfield constantly pressuring opposition teams and in goal was fearless making some unbelievable saves.

WinterWonderlanders:18 Points, Mistletoe Mavericks:15 Points, Jingle Ballers:9 Points, Tinsel Town:9 Points



Christmas Football continued at HCC with year 8's HCC Christmas Cup. Students were split into 4 teams. Mistletoe Mavericks, Jingle Ballers, Winterwonderlanders and Tinsel Town and competed in a small sided fast paced tournament. All showed great skill and ability and displayed enthralling festive football.

Special mentions would go to **Zach** for a 6 goal haul in the competition, **Edward** for fancy footwork and technique and **Jaxon** for inspirational goalkeeping.

Player of the tournament would go to **Ben** . **Ben** showed class and style as he helped his team lift the Golden tree (On par with the champions league).

Well done all to all the Christmas Teams!



Congratulations



On Saturday 15 December Harvey Blackmore in Year 11, played for the Exeter Chiefs U16s PDG North (Devon) VS Bath U16s PDG East at Sherborne School.

A win for the Chiefs 49-0, dominating the game from the start. Bath were strong and put up a fight but couldn't hold back the Chiefs attack or penetrate their defence.



Archie Long in Year 10 who has been selected for the U15 Devon rugby squad after 2 trials.



Poppy Gryman in Year 11 joined Axminster Gymnastics club only 4 months ago, and has been regularly representing them, across the Southwest at gym display events has just been awarded star Gymnastic

Well done Poppy!

- Families if you would like your child's achievements celebrated in our Newsletter please email us with a write-up and photo. Thank you
admin@honiton.college



ART & CRAFT ART CLUB



There was such a lovely atmosphere in our after school art club this month, with students from all different year groups coming together to create and have fun.

In the sessions, students had the opportunity to create Christmas cards for their loved ones, using techniques additional to ones used in class, working alongside Yr10 & 11 who were creating final outcomes for their projects. It was really lovely spending time together and sharing a passion for the Arts.

In the New Year, we will be running pottery workshops after school on Wednesdays. If your child is interested in signing up for this, please ask them to speak to Miss Robinson or Mrs Creed, or email them directly: Katie.Robinson@honiton.college and denize.creed@honiton.college Spaces are limited so please ask them to get in touch as soon as possible.



SKI TRIP LA THUILE



First Day on the slopes



We are so pleased to have been able to offer this enrichment opportunity this year, and the students (and staff) have reported great successes on the slopes so far! They have kept us updated via Facebook, so if you haven't had a chance, please like and follow to see our content: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Honiton-Community-College-100063791655693/>

After a 24 hour journey through France, Switzerland and Italy, they arrived tired but excited. They have enjoyed daily lessons, a wander around Courmayour and some fantastic development of skiing skills as the week has progressed, with 3 of 4 groups progressing well up the mountains. Chair lifts continue to present a challenge for some, but many laughs along the way.

Safe travels back everyone. We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year after a well-earned break!



H C C MUSIC CLUBS

House Band
Every Monday

Songwriting
Every Thursday

Taiko Drumming
Every Friday



**Music clubs are open to anyone & held in MU2
at lunch time**



SPRING TERM 2025

Monday 6 January 2025 – Start of Spring Half Term 1

Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025– Half Term

Monday 24 February 2025– Start of Spring Half Term 2

Monday 24 March 2025 – Non Student Day

Friday 4 April 2025 – Last day of Term

SUMMER TERM 2025

Monday 21 April 2025 – Bank Holiday Monday

Tuesday 22 April 2025 – Start of Summer Half Term 1

Monday 5 May 2025 – Bank Holiday Monday

Monday 26 to Friday 30 May 2025 – Half Term

Monday 2 June 2025 – Start of Summer Half Term 2

Friday 18 July 2025 – Last day of Term

You can visit our website: <https://honitoncommunitycollege.co.uk/> for all term dates and the school day

Progress Evenings

Year 11 16th January 2025

Year 9 30th January 2025

Post-16 13th March 2025

Year 7 24th April 2025

+ Year 9 Options Evening 3rd March 2025

Parent Engagement Groups

3rd January 2025

20th March 2025

8th May 2025