



## Dates for the Diary

### Week B

Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Photos (am)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Trip: Yr11 Geography Field-work @ Bristol
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Trip: Yr11 Geography Field-work @ Bristol
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Trip: Yr11 Creative Arts Research @ V&A London



## Calm Atmosphere and Positive Start

We hope that all our students are feeling settled after their first week. We have had lots of feedback from staff and students about how safe and purposeful the College has felt, something even as adults, we would all welcome for our working or learning environments.

We do understand that the expectations may feel different to that of Primary Schools for example, and we would welcome you to visit and see for yourselves how we work, learn and move around our site. **Please contact [nicola.turner@honiton.college](mailto:nicola.turner@honiton.college) if you would like a tour.**



## Year 7 Photos with Tempest

This Tuesday, all our year 7s will be having their individual photos taken. We work with Tempest each year so that we have an up to date photo of our new starters. You will also have the opportunity to purchase them directly via their website; more information will follow. Please ensure your students continue to keep up their high standards of presentation each day. They have all looked very smart so far and are a real credit to the College.



## Our Values: Kind, Curious and Resilient

Last year, we reviewed and re-wrote our Vision and Values for the College, in consultation with students, parents/carers, staff and Governors. The overwhelming choices for our three core values were **Kindness, Curiosity and Resilience**.

We will continue to promote these values across all that we do, and this week our focus has been on Kindness. The students enjoyed earning kindness tokens for kind deeds and words in their social areas this week. All tokens earned went towards building points for their new houses, something we were very excited to launch this week. We will have more focus weeks throughout the year and our values will also be promoted in our house breakfasts starting on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

We will continue to share updates on this new initiative.



## Independent Study and Knowledge Organisers

Please click on this link to watch a video that has already been shared with your child about the roll-out of homework and use of their knowledge organisers: [KOs and Independent Study.mp4](#)

We hope you find this useful. If you have any further questions about anything in the video, please email us at [admin@honiton.college](mailto:admin@honiton.college) with the subject line as follows: *student name – year group – HW/Study query. Thank you.*



## Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in education settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance for the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and close spaces affected. We do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas. However, we are currently working with the Ted Wragg Trust to actively check whether RAAC has been used in the construction of any part of our buildings. If RAAC is identified, we will let you know straight away. The change in guidance is precautionary in nature, and only affects education premises where the presence of RAAC has been confirmed.

If we ever needed to put contingency plans in place for any reason, we would prioritise the continuation of education and ensure that any impact on students is kept to an absolute minimum. Rest assured that the safety of students and staff is of paramount importance to all concerned.



## Post-16 Welcome BBQ

The Post-16 Centre came alive again at the start of term as we welcomed the new Year 12 students. Great to see so many students return to continue their education with us and the Year 13s gave them a warm welcome with an after college BBQ and a friendly game of rounders. I'm sure the Year 12s will win the next time but it was great to see the year groups getting to know each other away from the classrooms. A great start to the year!



## Social Media



We have been made aware of some inaccurate reports being posted online by a few people within the community. As ever, if there is anything you are concerned about, please contact the school directly. If you wish to arrange a tour during the school day to reassure yourself that your child is in a calm and supportive environment, please contact us to arrange a visit by emailing [nicola.turner@honiton.college](mailto:nicola.turner@honiton.college) Thank you.