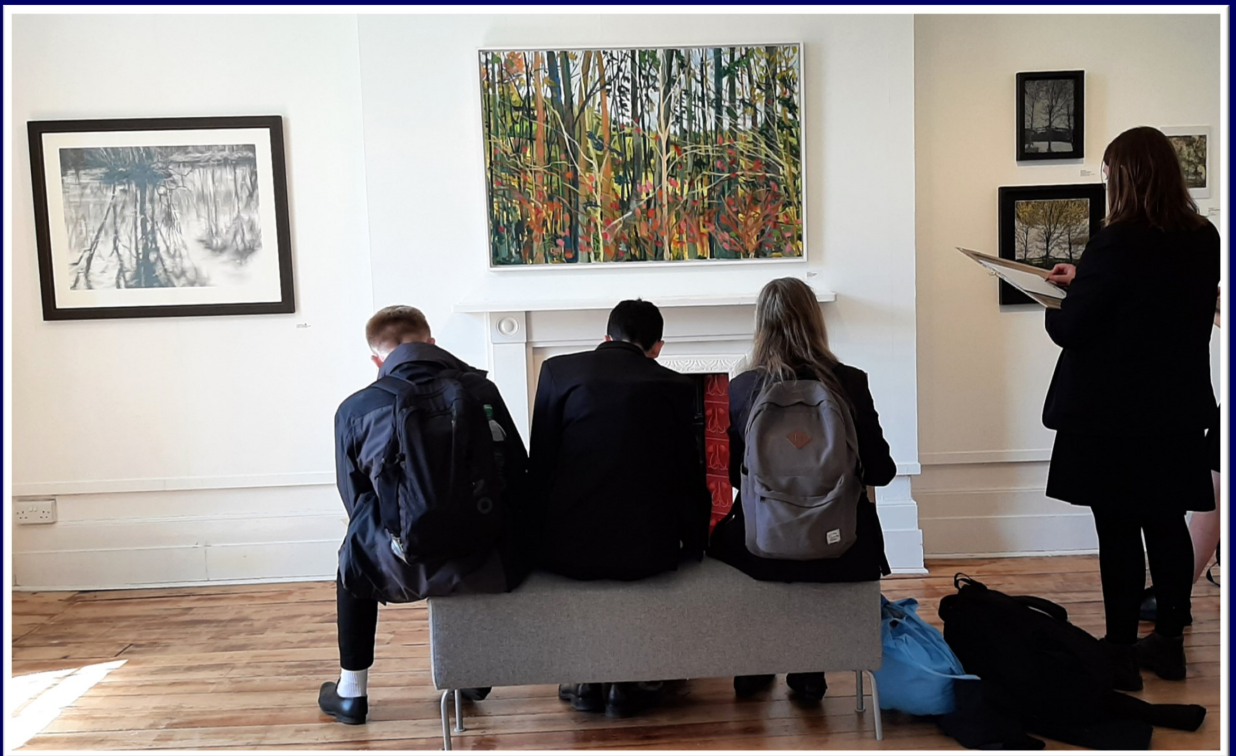




HONITON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

June 2023

INSIDE LOOK





As we enter the final half-term of the academic year, a number of exciting developments will unfold for our students.

Our Post-16 students in year 13 have employment and university applications submitted for the summer and beyond, as they continue to work through their remaining examinations. As the Year 11 exams conclude in the coming weeks, Year 10 students will become the oldest students outside of Post-16. They will be supported by the launch of the Boost Academic Intervention program and a weeklong work experience placement, both starting in the final weeks of this half term. Our youngest students will also be engaging in Transition Week where they will be leaving their primary schools to prepare for their September start in the College. They will be meeting their tutors, experiencing taster lessons, and familiarising themselves with the classrooms and the processes of the College.

Cumulatively, this half term is a time of significant change within the college. We will be supporting Year 11 with their transition to Post-16, saying goodbye to Year 13, welcoming Year 7, and supporting the other students with the transition to September. These changes present significant opportunities for our students, who have opted for more academically rigorous subjects at Key Stage 4, more ambitious university placements, and more Year 7 students opting to come to Honiton Community College than ever before.

In the background, our teachers and support staff are working hard to make these experiences as positive as possible. We also have further uplifts to the curriculum for September, with teachers continuing to develop the booklet driven curriculum, and GCSE resources. I am incredibly proud to have seen the students in the College grow and develop over the course of the past year. The work that is going into supporting students next year fills me with excitement and confidence that our students will continue to achieve great things next year.

Alex Kirkbride, Principal



The whole of the governing body at Honiton Community College would like to wish all our students taking exams this summer the very best of luck. They and the staff have worked extremely hard to make sure they are in the best possible position to succeed.

We are welcoming two new governors to the board - Lynsey Lawrence who has a wealth of experience as a Primary Governor, and Chris Harvey who has many years experience both in corporate governance and as a governor at an independent school. We are looking forward to their contributions and help in making Honiton Community College the best school it can be.

We are now in the final stages of completing our move to join the Ted Wragg Trust and are looking forward to them helping us grow in the coming years. Rest assured that after the move is complete, we will still retain our special Honiton ethos. My inbox is always open to anyone that wishes to ask questions or get involved with school governance.

I hope everyone enjoyed the half-term break,

Chris Meek, Chair of Governors

CMeekGovernor@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk



Half-term Safeguarding update

As we reach the end of a busy half-term I write to you to update you on Safeguarding within Honiton Community College. This half-term's safeguarding assembly topics have covered mental health week, managing anxiety, self-harm, supporting friends, early help support, the impacts of using

homophobic language and keeping ourselves safe in the community and online. Each week we discuss where to access support and ways to report any concerns. Our students are becoming very good at talking to staff about any worries they have.

My team and I are continuing to work very closely with a range of local agencies who support our students and offer them specialist help and guidance when needed. We are lucky to have such dedicated professionals working with our students.

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. I hope you all had a restful half-term holiday.

Clara Rose, Designated Safeguarding Lead.



Rewards

Last half-term I was delighted to award another large number of certificates to students who have received the most praise points and the fewest expectation points in their year groups.

Students have been able to choose which rewards they would like to receive.



Poppy the dog remains very popular and still has a long waiting list, with not enough hours in the day to see everyone as quickly as she would like to! Archery and pancake making have been thoroughly enjoyed, whilst many students opted to skip the lunch queue for a week again.

Natalie Hunt, Pastoral Lead

Summer uniform



Now that the weather is warming up, we would like to share some uniform adjustments that will be accommodated for after half term to help students manage in the hot weather. All students will be allowed to wear **black** shorts in the style as shown if they wish. They must be tailored and knee-length.

To ensure there is no confusion over type or length of new shorts, please can parents and carers keep the labels on initially and ask students to get them checked for Suitability at student reception.



This will allow you to get a refund if for any reason the College considers them unsuitable. This is just a precaution given that this is the first year of rolling out this adjustment.

We would also like to confirm that sun hats and sunglasses are permitted to be worn outside to ensure students are safe in the sun. Sunglasses should be worn on the eyes and not the head, please. You may wish to provide a glasses case to avoid breakages in bags. Examples of shorts are shown in the picture and can be found unbranded in most supermarkets or clothing outlets stocking school uniform.

If you have any questions, please ask by emailing admin@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk



With the end of the school year approaching, so is the date for this year's show! Honiton Community College will be proudly presenting 'Hood In The Wood' from **Thursday 13th- Saturday 15th July**. This is an original, comedic play by local playwright Rachael Swain, based on the legends of Robin Hood, and will be brought to life by a dedicated cast and crew of students from Year 7 to Year 11.

Due to Covid and therefore an absence of college productions in the past couple years, many talented and hard-working aspiring actors and actresses will be making their big debut with this show! It can be daunting working with some older and more experienced cast and crew who have been part of Shakespeare productions or shows like the Addams Family with Honiton Community Theatre Company, but the atmosphere has been very welcoming, and has provided amazing opportunities to set an example, and learn from each other.



Unfortunately, though there has been wonderful growth and passion, there has also been a lot of change - at least half our current cast have changed roles recently, and have had to relearn lines, choreography, and blocking - making rehearsals extra challenging. In spite of all this, the remaining cast have shown real resilience, continued enthusiasm, and have powered on against all odds, as the show must go on! So please do reserve the dates on the evenings of **13th-15th July** as tickets will be going on sale soon!





Year 10 Art and DT Students Have Recently Visited The Thelma Hulbert Gallery



Year 10 Fine Art and 3D Art and Design students visited the THG to look at the 'Paradise Found' exhibition which marks the launch of THG's new East Devon-wide engagement programme 'Create Our Space' funded by Arts Council England.

There is information about HCC's partnership with the gallery and the 'Create our Space' project which is provision for East Devon's young people and led by young people.



The students had the chance to use the artwork as inspiration for their own charcoal drawings.

Following on from the visit to the gallery. Maxine Foster, one of the exhibiting artists at the gallery, delivered printing workshops with the students back at HCC.

This is just the first of many artist visits which will be joining us through the partnership from Exeter University and will be working with students throughout the project.

If any HCC students would like to get involved with workshops at the gallery or join the Youth Network, you can visit the gallery or speak to Mrs Dupré in college.





TUNNOCK'S

The Year 10s have been focusing on presentation skills and completed the Tunnock's Teacake Challenge where they had three ingredients: one Tunnock's chocolate Teacake, fruit and sugar to create a masterpiece and work on their presentation skills, as shown on their teacakes .

This requires students to think and use good presentation skills plus how to use different techniques to upskill their dishes and produce them in a creative way which looks impressive and appetising.

One of the aspects the students will need to be able to demonstrate in their GCSE next year.

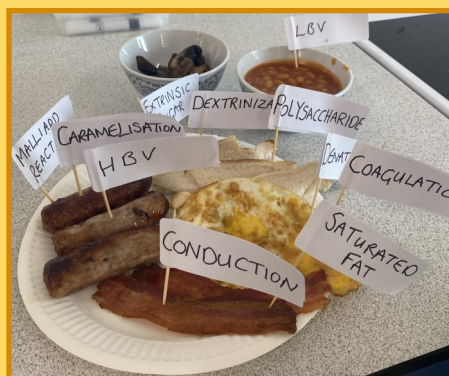


Pre-exam Breakfast

The Year 11s have created a full English breakfast to set them up for the day ahead of their exams and also to demonstrate food science in their cooking as a way of revising key words and processes and demonstrating skills.



The students were able to cook their breakfast, plate it up and then identify the key words and processes happening in the food before enjoying their breakfast





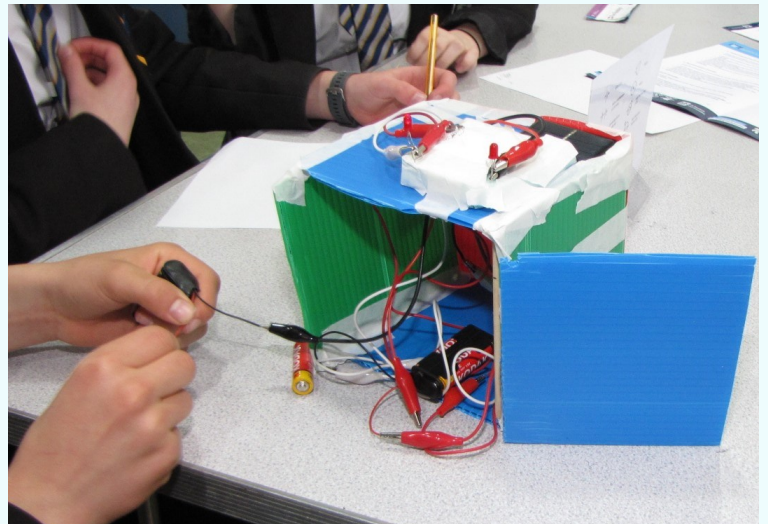
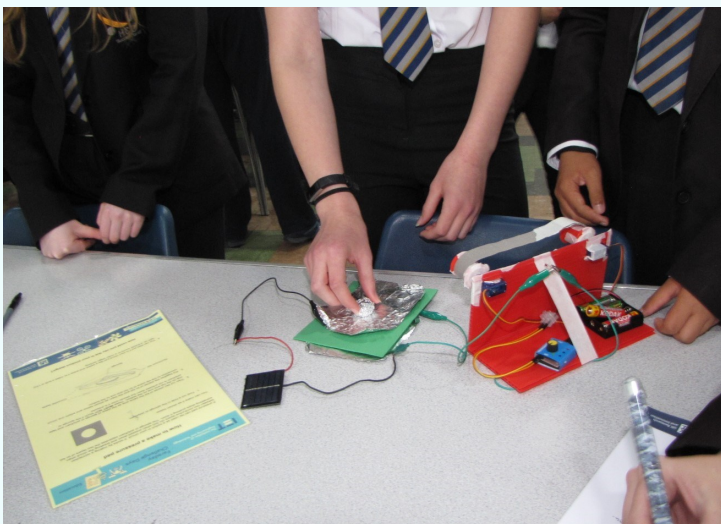
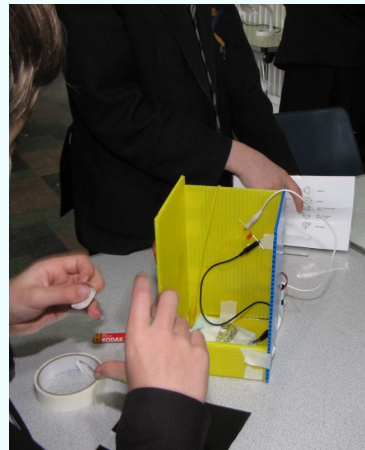
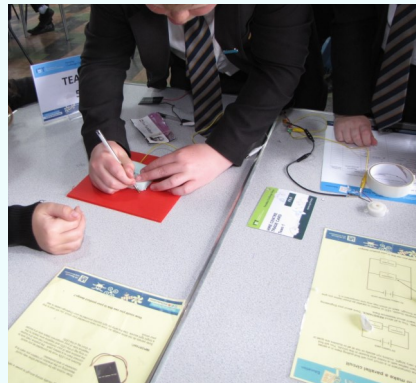
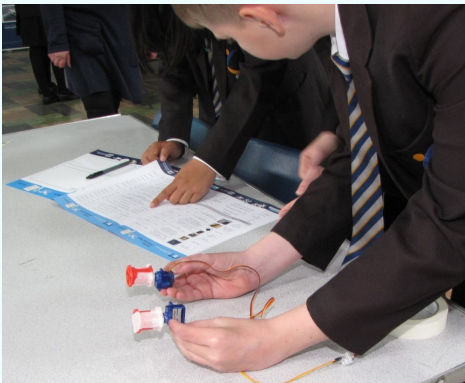
IET The Institution of Engineering and Technology

On Thursday 11th May, 36 Year 8 students took part in the Faraday Challenge Day. This was a free event organised and sponsored by The Institute of Engineering and Technology and UK Research and Innovation

The students were put into teams of 6 and were given a challenge related to drones. They had to design a prototype, make it and then present their ideas to the judge. During the day the students learnt to problem solve, work as a team and use technical skills such as connecting multiple circuits.



They also had a budget to balance. It was a fun way to learn about how engineers design new products and had a real world application.



Congratulations! The winning team were Team 5 (Sol Petty, Alfie Lloyd, Ellouise Outram, Scarlett Shepherd, Lily Ives and Oliver Doble). They won £10 vouchers and a small trophy.



Congratulations

35-Mile Team & 45-Mile Team

On Friday 28th after months of training the teams arrived at Okehampton ready for the Ten Tors Challenge 2023. There was lots of excitement as they went around the engagement village, met other teams and took part in many activities. Thorough planning took place ensuring everyone knew the route and we looked at the finer details of the best routes to take, river crossings, and where to camp.



After a good dinner and hearty breakfast the teams headed for the start line. There were mixed emotions, from excitement and anticipation to fear of fog and worry about the unknown! As Mallory said, "The greatest danger is not to take the adventure" teams had certainly jumped in to this adventure with great enthusiasm.



After the Army's Ten Tors prayer, which reminded them of how far they have come and whatever they take from the challenge they will have grown as individuals, the cannons sounded and 2400 pupils headed onto the moor in thick fog-within minutes they had vanished!



We are really proud of the HCC teams who started, and completed, the Ten Tors challenge over the weekend. The 35-mile team who are only Year 9 showed courage and resilience and with foggy conditions and little visibility on the moor. They navigated their way through a gruelling 35-miles. There were tears of relief and joy when they crossed the line to be greeted by parents/carers and staff.



Meanwhile the 45-mile team walked until midnight to get through the no wild-camping zone only to get up again 4 hours later to continue the challenge! They pushed on quickly to cover the distance.



Written by Charlie Hurford Year 10 student who completed 35-mile in 2022 and 45-mile Ten Tors 2023

Want to test your ability? Ten Tors. 2 days of walking on Dartmoor. In your team. Assessing your strengths. You are in a team of six traversing the tricky terrain of Dartmoor. The preparation is key though.

During the first training walks I thought "the event is ages away, why do we have to do so much?" However, the reason is clear to see. Ten Tors is not all about you. It is about your team. You all have to do everything for each other. Everyone's Ten Tors experience is different.

The things that I have been through, thoughts I have thought, things I did, help I offered and most importantly, pride I gained from all is deeply entwined in the 368 square miles of Dartmoor. Trust me though, Ten Tors is not all about walking. You get to go out for a weekend and have a laugh with a team who you will never forget.

One thing you have to believe me for is that you can do it. As the Ten Tors prayer says, *"Grant that, by meeting each challenge and difficulty with honest endeavour and unselfish courage they may find a spirit of determination and true comradeship"*. You learn to always find the optimism in the most dismal situations. However, your body can do the walking.

As a Tor checker said to me "The battle is all in your head, the walking is just the arena it takes place in." You will struggle, but you will pull through it. Yes, you might get blisters and sore legs.

So! "Pain is temporary, glory is forever." Want to test your ability? Ten Tors.



HCC showed its true community spirit on the Sunday when you looked around to see who was supporting our teams; family members, friends, support staff, governors and Mr Kirkbride. All had come up to congratulate and cheer the teams through the finish! This was much appreciated by all those who took part.

Celebrations



The TEN TOR teams received their certificates at a celebration evening

45-Mile Team



35-Mile Team



Celebration Breakfast



We had a celebration breakfast on the morning of Friday 19th May to celebrate students who have consistently gone above and beyond in their learning, behaviour and attendance.

This is a half termly event and students can be nominated by their teachers at any point, so any student who has not attended this time could well be on the list for next time.





During May over 30 students from Year 7 enjoyed completing their Bikeability training in the College.



Bikeability cycle training equips students with vital life skills. Pupils not only learn to cycle, they gain independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing.



The students were exemplary and applied themselves extremely well to the challenges they faced.





Well done to the Honiton Community College Athletics team who travelled to Exeter Arena on Thursday 4th May to compete against East Devon Schools' hoping to qualify for the East Devon team to compete against Exeter Schools on Thursday 18th May. The weather stayed fairly kind and allowed for an excellent competition.



Notable performances from:

H Terry, 1st Junior Boys 800m (2.25.75) **J Lane**, 4th Junior Boys Javelin (22.80m) **H Blackmore**, 2nd Junior Boys Shot (9.85m)

A Empson, 4th Inter Girls 200m (31.88) **C Maynard**, 3rd Inter Girls 800m (2.49.20) and 1st Triple Jump (9.00m).

T Whitworth, 2nd Inter Girls High Jump (1.40m) **M Elliott**, 1st Inter Girls Shot (9.23m).

G Pemberton, 2nd Inter Boys 1500m (4.29.45) **B Matthews**, 1st Inter Boys Triple Jump (12.00m).

H Read, 4th Inter Boys Triple Jump (10.47m)

Special thanks to Year 10 Sports Leaders: C Beer, J Vernon, T Smith, I Corp-Hill, T Waldron-Key, T Whitrow for helping on the field events.



Huge Congratulations to all the Players

The Year 10 girls had a great afternoon on Monday 15th May at Uffculme for the East Devon under 15 rounders tournament. They played consistently well in all six games, tactically gaining half rounders where they could, at times taking risks to gain whole rounders.

On the fielding side they stopped many players at 1st base and made a large number of catches. Some brilliant play led to them finishing 1st (joint first with Colyton but won on rounders scored)

After welcoming Devon Cricket into college in the Autumn term to deliver a cricket scheme of work, the Year 8 girls team enjoyed their first outdoor tournament of the summer. The girls made a flying start with a convincing win against King's School. They competed well in all matches, narrowly losing some by a wicket or two! We progressed out of the group stage after finishing second in the group plus some strong performances in the subsequent rounds with excellent batting and fielding on display,

Well done girls!

Players player (as voted for by fellow teammates) – Mya Podbery



DEVON CRICKET



Neon Colour Run

After completing a couch to 5km running programme in school, Year 7 students had the exciting opportunity to participate in a non-competitive 5km colour run in Okehampton on Tuesday 23rd May.

Upon arrival, students were given t-shirts which they were able to decorate as brightly as they could. They then completed the 5km run showing great passion, determination and teamwork. The students also enjoyed a variety of sporting activities on offer at the event.

A great day out and a true celebration of achievement!



Students involved: Abigail Barrett, Natasha Carrison, Lucy Taylor, A-J Key, Imogen Matthews, Lydia Pyke, Beth Reed, Katie Selway





Careers Fest



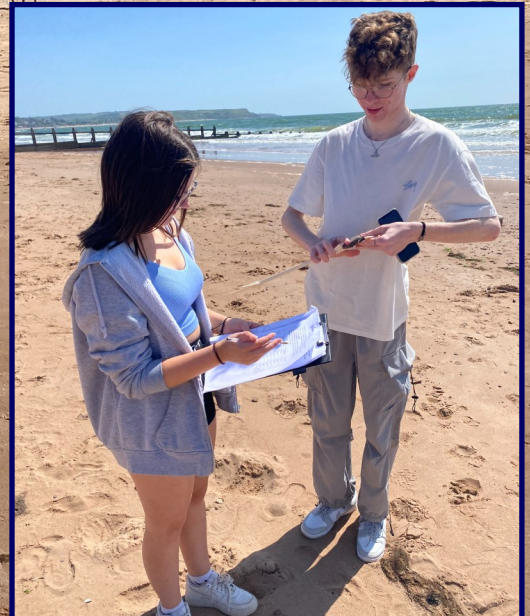
On Thursday 20th April, a group of Year 10 students attended a Careers Fest at Bicton College. During the day they experienced a taster session of two courses that are available to study ranging from Agriculture and Animal Management to Plant Operations and Military and Protective Services.

It was a really insightful day and all of the students engaged well. It was great for our students to get an opportunity to see a variety of courses and learn more about what the College offers. This will support our students and potentially open new doors for some.

Dawlish Warren Field Trip

Year 10 geographers went to Dawlish Warren on a field study trip between 24th– 26th May. The students were collecting primary data for their coastal investigations which they will be using to prepare for their paper 3 GCSE exam. We were very lucky with the weather and all our students did a fantastic job despite some moans about how far they had to walk along the beach!

We look forward to taking our next GCSE cohort back again next year!





Alumni students



This time of year always brings good news of our Alumni students in their success at University and also when a few visit Buckingham Palace to receive their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Well done to everyone! – All of us HCC are very proud of everything you achieved here at HCC and now in your chosen pathways since leaving us.



Jake Matthews having completed his BSc (Hons) in Mathematics at the University of Exeter is now studying for his Masters degree in Advanced Aeronautical Engineering at Imperial College London and due to finish this September.

Whilst Jake was with us at HCC he completed his Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards and has written a few words about his experience : *“The Duke of Edinburgh awards were a great personal challenge and one that I will be forever proud of. Both the physical and skills sections, covered by extracurricular hobbies that I already did, so it simply required me to log what I was doing; whilst the volunteering was a great opportunity to develop my people skills and give something back to my local community. The expeditions were the highlight for me, since they were the most challenging part of each level of the award, and whilst completing them I saw some of the amazing countryside that our country has to offer.”*

Amberina Askew has completed her second year as an undergraduate at Bristol University West of England reading Forensic Science. Amberina quotes *“ Completing the Duke of Edinburgh Awards gave me many opportunities that I would have*

experienced and has really given me confidence and made me the person I am today. I have met some amazing people along the way and developed many transferable skills that will certainly help me in my future. Receiving my award at the Palace and meeting many famous people was a memorable way to celebrate”



Kiera Bonetta is now reading History at Southampton University, she loved the experience at Buckingham Palace. *“Gold DofE was an amazing opportunity to challenge myself and create experiences that will stay with me forever. The residential was definitely a highlight-one of the girls I met there is still one of my closest friends to this day! I am very grateful to have had the chance to do it, and would encourage anybody else to as well.”*



Emma Nuttall who is now reading Business and Law at UWE, Bristol.

Cerys Phillips who is also at UWE , Bristol completing her Adult Nursing Degree

Both recipients of their Gold Duke Of Edinburgh Award at Buckingham Palace.



Becky Hunt has just received the news she has awarded PhD funding through Sussex University to research a language change process in Cameroon Pidgin English and Nigerian Pidgin English having left HCC Post-16 with her A-levels 4 years ago. She completed her Undergraduate degree and Masters in Language and Linguistics at Sussex University.

Becky said it was a very competitive process but having worked tirelessly on her proposal she was absolutely delighted to continue her studies to the next level.

Sport is an integral part of Post-16 studies at HCC which is enjoyed by both the competitive students and students who are just looking after their own mental wellbeing. Mr Taylor hosts an hour's session each week and with the sun shining it has been a great time for rounders. An excellent addition each week to our 16-19 Study Programme.



Well done to Finlay Ferris and Tom Burroughs (Year 12) and Joshua Lane (Year 8) who recently represented HCC in a Devon Schools Golf Competition playing at the Crediton Golf Course. A great day for all and thank you to Mr Forsyth for accompanying the students for the day.



A Good Luck Breakfast



This is always a reflective time of the year as we prepare to say goodbye to our Year 13s after 7 successful years of being at HCC. A good luck breakfast was recently prepared and cooked for them inside the Post-16 Centre by the Tutor Team as they started their final leg of the journey with their exams.

A few moments shared with them of how we survived this time many years ago during the pandemic, not a typical 7-year journey however we have every confidence of their success with the hard work and resilience they are demonstrating.

Results Day is **Thursday 17th August** with many of students preparing for their next step to Universities across the country. Exciting times

Year 11 Transition Event

We are looking forward to welcoming the Year 11s to Post-16 for their transition event on **Tuesday 27th June** and **Wednesday 28th June**. This will allow students to be introduced to the skills required for their success in the next stage of their education, sampling the lessons that they wish to study. Plus we have some fun events planned as well as a **barbecue** – weather permitting.

INHALE
Confidence

EXHALE
doubt

Step Up to Post-16
Transition Programme

Students have been given a card with a QR code to access signing up for the event. There will also be an Information Evening for Year 11 Parents and Carers on the **Tuesday 27th June** starting at 6pm so you can also find out about the supportive and very successful 16 - 19 programme we offer at HCC.

It's great to have some of our students back within the HCC Community working alongside our students



Ryan Salter who completed his A-levels last year joined us for a week last half-term as part of his professional placement unit as he reading Computing and Education Studies at Worcester University.



Ryan has been brilliant, supporting and encouraging the students who attended the Forest School.

Honiton Community College

School Lane • Honiton • Devon • EX14 1QT

T: 01404 42283 E: admin@honitoncollege.devon.sch.uk

www.honitoncommunitycollege.co.uk