



# Year 11 Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2015

## Mock Examinations Follow-up

It is a few weeks since the students took on the challenges of the Mock Examination week. I was very proud of the way that most students clearly prepared hard for this through thorough revision programmes and how the students supported each other leading up to the week. It was quite a stressful time for some individuals but a valuable experience for all.



Last week the results sheets were issued in the Gym, following an assembly with Mrs Bryant. It was a challenging occasion for some individuals and a dry run for the formal results day on **26<sup>th</sup> August 2016**. There was lots of celebration and excitement as

people received a variety of results; many of which were very promising. It was also a wake-up call for those who have not taken full advantage of College and Homework opportunities and who need to up their game.



There will be further Mock Examinations for all Year 11 students in English Language and Mathematics in January, as well as an extra exam day for some students to take the opportunity to practise revision and exam technique.

## Parents Teachers Consultation Evening

The next Parents Evening will take place on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January**, between **4.00pm and 7.00pm**. Letter and booking sheets will be issued early in January. This is an important evening where parents and students will be able to discuss strategies for the run up to the GCSE examinations in May and June.

## Post 16 Taster Day

Year 11 students recently enjoyed a Post 16 Taster Day where they were able to experience a range of KS5 lessons across the wide subject range available within Post 16. The feedback from this was very positive as students were able to dress informally and were able to enjoy the style of teaching and learning in smaller groups with specialist staff. The Post 16 centre was busy at lunchtime as students had the opportunity to talk to the Post 16 team and advisers from local universities.



## End of term festivities

Well done to all the tutor groups for their work in making the Common Room more festive. 11F and Mr Eastman won the Paper Chain Challenge



## **Helston On-line Student Tracking (HOST)**

Letters have been sent out this week with log-in details for the new Parent Portal, where it will be possible to see recent attainment data and teacher advice on areas for individual students to improve upon. If there are any problems with that, please contact us in College.

## **e-Safety**

All schools have a duty of care to take the necessary steps to ensure the safety and welfare of all their students. At Helston Community College we have the latest methods and procedures in place for detecting unsafe behaviour online, in accordance with the latest government guidance and legislation. An important part of this initiative is the use of software which monitors the use of college computers.

### **Computer monitoring**

We now use specialist e-Safety monitoring software provided by Future Digital. This is currently installed and monitoring is ongoing. The software gives students the freedom to use the internet and computer programs responsibly, whilst capturing misuse and unacceptable behaviour.

### **How it works**

The software detects potentially inappropriate content as soon as it appears on screen or is typed in by the user. A screen capture is taken of every incident detailing the time and date of capture, machine name, user name and reason for capture. A weekly headline summary is produced from the system detailing captures of particular interest to alert the person monitoring the system. These particular violations will be investigated and dealt with in accordance with our Acceptable Use Policy, Behaviour Policy, e-Safety, Anti-Bullying, Safeguarding and any other relevant college policies.

### **What it prevents**

We are alerted to students using threatening behaviour or accessing inappropriate websites for example. It also gives an early warning of potentially harmful situations, like predator grooming. The captured evidence helps staff choose the best course of action, from support for victims of bullying, or protecting a vulnerable child, to confronting a student who is acting inappropriately. The monitoring software also provides a powerful incentive for students to use all technology and devices safely and concentrate in lessons. Learning good habits at college prepares children for a continued safe digital future.

If you have any queries about this system please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Mr Jenkins  
Deputy Headteacher

## **Post 16 Coursing Discussions**

All Year 11 students will be invited to attend a coursing interview to discuss their Post 16 options in the first two weeks of the new term. Letters with dates and times of individual appointments will be given to students on **Monday 4th January**. These discussions offer the opportunity to discuss suitable courses and subject combinations. Further details will be provided in the letter. If you have any questions regarding Post 16 studies, please do contact me at College.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas,  
Mrs Laban

## **Newsletter Feedback**

Many thanks to those parents and students who have fed back on the contents of the half-termly newsletter. Hopefully the content continues to reflect comments received. If you have any other feedback or content requests, please contact me in College on [mquilter@helston.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:mquilter@helston.cornwall.sch.uk)

In closing I would like to wish everyone a peaceful Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Mark Quilter



Self Help Self Responsibility Equity Equality Democracy Solidarity  
Social Responsibility Honesty Openness Caring for Others

