



# Year 7 Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 2015

## Welcome

Firstly, I would like to welcome you all to Year 7. The Year 7s have made an amazing start at Helston Community College and have settled in really well. Every half term you will receive a Newsletter written by myself. The aim is to inform you about up-coming events, information you may need to know and to celebrate the Year 7's achievements. These will be based around our College's Co-operative values, so you can get a feel for the values we focus on within tutorials and the wider ethos of our College.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break.

Mrs Janine Nelson, Head of Progress for Year 7

## Upcoming events

It was brilliant to see so many of you at our Humanities Parent Information Evening; thanks to all of you that attended. I will be hosting another Parent Information Evening on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November** for the core subjects: Maths, English and Science. Letters will be sent out after half term via your child so please look out for these in your child's bag.

## Openness: Friday. drop – in

If you have any questions or issues, please pop into the Friday drop-in. This is based in my office on South site after school until 4:30pm. If you would like to arrange a later appointment please ring Mrs Trimble (01326 575015) to arrange a convenient time, or to arrange an alternative day if Friday is not suitable. Alternatively, you can email me at: [jnelson@helston.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:jnelson@helston.cornwall.sch.uk)

## Self Help: Organisation and Homework

Adapting to life at secondary school can be quite a challenge for a number of students, especially with organisation and homework. There is a homework club in D32 after school on Monday – Thursday until 4:30pm. If students attend this or any of our enrichment activities after school and live outside Helston, the school minibus can drop them home. To do this students need to sign in at the library anytime during the day and they then meet the bus at 4:30pm by the North site canteen.

Students should now all have their Homework Diary passwords so they can log into our College Homework Diary website: <http://www.helston.cornwall.sch.uk/>. They then need to click on the 'Students Tab' (at the top) and click on to 'Useful Weblinks'. At the bottom of the list you will find 'HWDiary.com/HCC', which will take you to the website. Once they have logged in students should then be able to see the homework set for their class. In addition, students should be recording their homework in their planners.

## Self Help - Top tips:

- Check your timetable the night before.
- Wake up early! So you are not in a rush and more likely to forget something!
- Have your uniform / PE Kit ready before you go to bed.
- Have a calendar or make a calendar to help you remember key things.
- Complete homework the night it is set, so it is fresh in your mind



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## Dyslexia Awareness Competition



Congratulations to Year 7 student Emily, on winning the Dyslexia Awareness Poetry competition.

### **Making Sense of Dyslexia**

Difficulty always comes in different forms but every difficulty comes with a way to make it better.

You're never alone.

Some dyslexics struggle through life but with people picking them up again they will always get there.

Learning all the possibilities with a little bit of help.

Every problem has a solution, they just need to be found.

X - trying all ways of helping dyslexic and inspire many to build an amazing, dyslexia friendly environment.

Inside all dyslexics minds there are phenomenal ideas, they are just trapped and they need something to set them free.

Anyone can achieve great things no matter what holds them back.

By Emily 7C

## Anniversary Celebrations



### **Helston Day Nursery**

**25 Years**

### **Anniversary Celebrations**

**Saturday 14th November**

**Open House - 10.00am - 12.00pm**

previous children and families  
welcome - coffee and cakes

### **Evening Celebration**

**7.30pm - 11.30pm**

in the main North Site Hall at Helston  
Community College, for past and previous parents

**Tickets £5** available from Helston Day Nursery  
(01326) 575010 and Helston Community College  
Reception (01326)572685

- Pasties - Music by Elementary Penguins
- Bring your own alcohol

**Tickets need to be purchased  
by Monday 2nd November**

## Caring for others: Fundraising for Syrian Refugees

This term Mrs Bryant challenged the Year 7s to come up with some fundraising ideas to raise money for the Syrian Refugees. Students took part in a ballot in line with our Democracy Co-operative value, and they chose the following events; The Year 7 Bake off with a Halloween theme (this will take place on Thursday 22 October), a fun run which will take place in November, and guess the number of sweets in the jar which again will take place in November. The College Council representatives from each tutor group are helping to organise these events. Thank you for your support with these fundraising events; they really help to teach our students about social responsibility and caring for others. The current topic about the Syrian refugees helps to engage students in issues in the wider world and current affairs and to recognise the part we all play individually and collectively within the world.

## CV points achievements

As you are aware, students can achieve points in each of the Co-operative values in their lessons and in their actions around and outside the college. These points can be redeemed in the CV shop. I want to celebrate the amazing start the Year 7s have had by sharing with you the top 5 students who have been awarded the most CV points this half term:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Ted Perry 84 points
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jo Brunner 79 points
- 3<sup>rd</sup> James Whear 79 points
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grace Benney 78 points
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dylan Power 78 points

Well done!

## Honesty: Learning Journals

Along with recording homework, Learning Journals are also used for a number of other issues, including recording behaviour issues. On page 11 of the Learning Journals you will find the 'behaviour log'. Teachers should record any detentions issued to students on the grid, and also misdemeanours. Misdemeanours will be issued (within lessons) if students fail to bring the correct equipment to the lesson, forget their exercise book or fail to hand in their homework. During tutorials misdemeanours will be issued if they arrive in incorrect uniform or fail to get their Journal signed by their parent or career. If a student receives three misdemeanours in a term they will receive a lunchtime Sanction (detention). Misdemeanours will be removed termly. As a parent please can you sign your child's planner weekly and use this to make your child's tutor aware of any issues.



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## Student of the Month

At the end of each month all teachers will give a student of the month award to 1 boy and 1 girl in their class. This should be based on those students who have demonstrated the Co-operative values in lessons, completing homework to a high standard, behaving appropriately, had good attendance, showing effort in lessons and working co-operatively. The winners will receive a certificate which will be awarded in assembly and a CV point.

Each month I will give the girl and the boy with the most nominations my Student of the Month Award and they will be awarded with an additional 5 CV points for Self-Responsibility. The students that have received the Head of Progress Student of the Month are:

Danielle Hutchins 7F with 4 nominations and James Whear 7F and James Salter 7C for both receiving 3 nominations. Well Done!!!

## Message from Mrs Bryant

We are still awaiting further news of the building from the government. At the moment, we have been told that they hope to provide us with an update by the end of the calendar year. I have written to the Secretary of State and have spoken to Derek Thomas MP pressing our cause. I am also discussing the matter with John Pollard (Cornwall Council) asking him to pursue the matter with Government. As soon as we hear anything further, we will let you know.

Donna Bryant, Head Teacher, Helston Community College

## Access to Pupilinfo

We are in the process of redesigning Pupilinfo, the online Parent Portal, where students, parents and carers can access subject targets and grades. We aim to get the new system up and running during November so it will be ready when teachers enter their first set of subject specific feedback comments in December. This feedback process will happen once per term in order to provide students with timely advice and guidance throughout the year, to help them make progress. We will issue new usernames and passwords in the next half term to enable parents and carers to

access this part of the College website.

Targets and grades for students in Year 7 are based on our new Key Stage 3 Assessment system; there is a booklet available on the College website which explains the language used and the ideas that underpin this new grading system. To find out more please go to the 'Parents' section of the website where the 'KS3 assessment Booklet' can be found under 'Useful Downloads'. We will also provide information about the College's new Key Stage 3 assessment system at the forthcoming Year 7 Parent Information Evening in November.

If at any stage you require a paper copy of any of the online information please contact the College Reception.

## Enrichment payments

Thank you to all those parents who have paid the £5 termly fee for participation in our enrichment programme. If you have not yet paid, please could we give you a gentle reminder to pay as soon as possible, via your ParentPay Account. If you do not have an account, please contact our Accounts team on 01326 575028, who will be able to set this up or make alternative arrangements if necessary. Please note that the charge is per student, but your child can participate in as many clubs as they wish for that £5 charge.

Thanks Lois Horne, Business Manger



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

