



# Year 8 Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

FEB 2015

Wow! This half term has just flown by and we have crammed so many wonderful things into such a short space of time. It amazes me that we are already halfway through the academic year. I have seen

our sporting stars shine, our outstanding College production and some amazing work in many of the lessons. The creativity of these students is becoming so apparent and I am looking forward

to seeing them progress even further in the next few years. Thank you again for your ongoing support in helping us provide the best opportunities we can for the Year Group.

## Pupil Info

You should have received a letter from the College explaining how you can log online and view your child's current level of progress. As well as actions that they need to work on, in order to be where we would expect them to be, you will also find strategies that the classroom teachers will put in place to offer that support. Please sit down with your child and discuss this with them. I very much believe that students need to be aware of where they are in order to plan their next steps. If you have any specific concerns please contact the classroom teacher, or myself at the College and we can discuss it further.

## Uniform

Year 8 are, in my opinion, leading the way with exemplary uniform and most of our students wear their uniform with pride and look dapper every day. However, there are a few students who continue to push these boundaries, even though uniforms are very much part of school life and the adult working world. If you are unsure of our uniform policy please visit our website. Skinny trousers, short skirts and trainers are not acceptable and children will be provided with alternative clothing. We do have available our new 22" length skirt. Please contact the College and we will point you in the right direction if you wish to purchase one.

## Helston Community College production - The Snow Queen

For all of you who were able to join me at the production of Snow Queen, you will probably agree that it was beautiful, haunting and, at times, amusing play. The students performed magically as did some of staff. The orchestra sounded delightful and the singers added a musical touch which most of us will remember for a very long time. It was a proud moment to see all the Year 8 students who I know so well, being transformed into sprites, cats, snowmen and goblins. There was one outstanding performance for me in the Year 8 crew, and that was the Goblin King, Matt Railton. What a star! Big thanks to the staff, students, backstage crew for a wonderful evening. In particular, I would like to mention Loveday Ayto, Lauren Williams, Jensen Hatcher, Isabella Donovan, Saffron Tremayne, Niamiah Jack, Myfawny Haslam, Mia Hatcher and Sadie Bloor. Musically, Freya Tatham and Lucy Treloar. The Year 8 students shined brightly, and I am really looking forward to seeing them in further productions.

**Siobhan Barnes**

**Assistant Head of Progress – Year 8**

## Year 8 E-Safety Campaign

The Year 8 students took part in an E-safety assembly and tutor workshop, highlighting the dangers of using some of the popular online social networking sites. As parents, you are no doubt aware of the dangers on the internet and the Share Aware site gives practical advice on how to keep your child safe when they are using the internet. The site has some funny videos aimed at young people and contains a survey of perceived dangers, and how they can protect themselves against them.

The following link will take you to the site, please take the time to discuss the issues with your child.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware)



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## Sporting achievements

Year 8 are really shining this term with their sporting achievements. Our boys football team beat Falmouth School 5-0 just before visiting Truro School and annihilating their side 6-2! This is a huge achievement for us as we have previously had quite a poor track record with this particular fixture. I am super proud of the boys, and the coaches and their effort and hard work is paying off. Our girls Hockey team have also been successful already this term, coming 4<sup>th</sup> in a county competition. Well done Ladies!

## Free School Meals

Did you know that we can claim extra funding (£935) for every student claiming Free School Meals. We spend the money in a number of ways to help disadvantaged students, e.g. one to one English & Maths tuition, specialist agency support, plus a variety of extra-curricular & enrichment activities. If you are in receipt of any of the following state benefits then you are probably eligible:

- Income Support
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190

It's easy to register for Free School Meals. Just go to the Cornwall Council website – [www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk) - and click on Education and Learning; then click onto Apply for Free School Meals; and finally complete and submit the form. If you do not have access to the internet at home, then please contact the College North Site Reception on 01326 572685, who will be able to provide you with a paper copy.

## Upcoming events

The next half term brings about some exciting opportunities for the students. We have our Science Week beginning Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, which involves some engaging and dynamic demonstrations and lectures. Please do bring the family along and join us. Tickets are available from North Site Reception.

In addition to this, we will also be launching the Year 8 Mini Options. Students will be able to narrow down their subject choices in preparation for the new GCSE's and will be choosing Design Technology and Creative Arts subjects for next year. We will be supporting the students all the way through the process, and we will of course keep you informed closer to the time.

 Helston Community College   
**SCIENCE WEEK**  
**Evening Lectures**

**Mind and Brain in the 21st Century**  
Monday 2nd March at 6.00pm  
North Site Hall  
Tickets £2



**Fire and Ice**  
Wednesday 4th March  
at 5.30pm in the  
North Site Hall  
Tickets £1.00



**A Journey Through  
Time and Space**  
Friday 6th March 5.30pm  
North Site Hall  
Tickets £1.00



Tickets available from North Site Reception - 01326 572685

To close, I wish you and the students a wonderful and relaxing half term and I look forward to what the next half term brings.

Best wishes  
Mrs L Allsey  
Head of Progress – Year 8