



Year 9 Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

MARCH 2015

Welcome again everyone to our Year 9 half termly update. I am glad to see the sun has come out and spring is well on its way!

Year 9 options

Thank you to all students and parents for your swift response on returning options forms. Mr Jenkins and myself are currently working on everyone's options forms and doing our best to ensure the vast majority of students have their preferred options or reserve choices. We will be in touch shortly to discuss finalising the Year 9 option choices.

Exam Week

Well done to all the students who behaved so well throughout their exams and gave the exams their best shot. I am looking forward to seeing the first results soon. After initial worries about having exams in the Sports Hall everyone managed to adapt and make the most of the opportunity to see how public examinations are prepared and organised at Helston Community College, ready for the future. As you can see from the photographs taken as the students waited for their first exam, the feelings in the year group ranged from excitement to apprehension and from happiness to lethargy!



Sporting Fixtures

A good week for sporting fixtures last week where the Year 9 girls came 3rd in the County hockey finals. Well done girls. After two draws against Richard Lander and Penryn School, the football team got back to winning ways with a 3-1 victory over Redruth School which included a show-stopping celebration from one of the goal scorers Dom Marshall. Keep the positive run going boys! Well done to the Year 9 Cross Country team which helped win the Annual Coose Trannack Race and a special mention to Todd Sawyer who represented the College at the National Cross Country Championships in Birmingham.

HW diary

As you will know Plannerlive has now been replaced by HW diary (hwdiary.com) to monitor homework. I hope you find this platform continually useful for monitoring homework in conjunction with the student planner. If you have any queries regarding homework or any other issue please e-mail the college or write in your son/daughter's planner. We are still running HWK clubs Monday - Thursday and more students are committing to this option rather than leaving homework until the last minute or waiting for me or Miss Murray to tell them to attend. This is a positive habit which will be important for all students to develop as independent learners as the students approach their GCSE option subjects and expectations raise.



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PSHE/ assemblies

PSHE day this week was organised by Mr McDonald and was run by the SAFE project focusing on positive relationship advice and the dangers of abuse. I hope the message was clearly addressed to all. Assemblies this term have included the themes of the week of self-help and self-responsibility. In assembly we have again looked at the remarkable story of Nick Vujicic - if you would like to see how this man helps himself his life story is truly amazing.

Flora Day

It is now time for us to look forward to Flora Day and the Year 9s should have submitted their forms for dancing into reception last week. Let's hope we can have another glorious, memorable day for the College and the Community on May 8th.

Uniform reminder - from the Head Teacher

We would like to remind parents of the Uniform Policy. With the coming of the better weather, if your daughter chooses to wear a skirt it MUST be of knee length i.e. 22". If you therefore need to replace your child's skirt, you can purchase these via the college. Please contact Mrs Graham. Blazers and ties should continue to be worn throughout the summer – these of course can be removed in classrooms at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

Final reminder

Uniform standards continue to be monitored and on the whole Year 9s are looking very smart. If your son/daughter has been warned about a uniform item please could you help address the issue asap. Please also remind your son/daughter to ensure they arrive at school by 8.40. We appreciate there are sometimes complications with travel arrangements but there are also students who live very close to the school that continually arrive late to college, and if this is the case they will be sanctioned accordingly.

Within the last two weeks we have had the College photos taken; you could clearly tell which day it was as an extra special effort was made by all concerned! We have also had two Charity days co-ordinated by Miss Murray which have included year 9s enjoying eating cake and playing in a basketball tournament to raise money for Red Nose Day and Jeans for Genes Day.

Have a great Easter break and I look forward to seeing you all in summer term,

Best wishes,

Mr T Richardson

(Head of Progress, Year 9)