

Parent, Family & Community Briefing

Friday 18th September 2026



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust
...everyone in our Trust.



Welcome to this week's parent, family and community briefing!

We have had a very positive second week of the new term, with students settling well into their routines, meeting new teachers and continuing to uphold our high expectations. It has been pleasing to see so many students making a strong start to the year.

At HCC, success comes from getting the basics right every day. This means arriving at school on time and in the correct uniform, getting to lessons promptly and working hard, showing kindness and respect to others, and enjoying social times responsibly. When students consistently meet these expectations, they put themselves in the best position to thrive both academically and personally.

On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome Jay's AIM into school to train all of our new Year 7 students in the life-saving skills of CPR and defibrillator use. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop knowledge and confidence that could one day make a real difference.

On Wednesday evening, we also welcomed families to our Meet the Tutor Evening. It was wonderful to see so many new and familiar faces engaging with our school community. Our tutors greatly appreciated the opportunity to meet the families of their tutees and begin building the strong relationships that play such an important role in supporting student success. The information stands in the Purple Circle were also well attended, with staff on hand to answer questions and provide guidance. We would, of course, welcome any feedback from families on how we can continue to improve events such as these.

We have also made a positive start to implementing our new expectations around mobile phones and personal devices. If students bring a mobile phone, smart device or headphones into school, these must remain secured in their Yondr pouch throughout the school day. Yesterday, we carried out a spot check, and any students found not meeting this expectation received the appropriate sanction. Sanctions for device misuse will escalate swiftly, as this policy is a vital part of creating a focused learning environment. We appreciate the support of families in helping us establish these routines and expectations.

As always, if you have any questions about this or any other aspect of school life, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

admin@hccdevon.org

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YEAR 5 & 6

OPEN EVENING

**THURSDAY
24th
SEPTEMBER
2026
4PM - 6:30PM**

PRINCIPAL'S PRESENTATION
4:15PM AND 5:45PM

HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
VICTORIA HILL
HOLSWORTHY, EX22 6JD
ADMIN@HCCDEVON.ORG
01409 253430

COULD YOU HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LOCAL CHILDREN? BECOME A LOCAL GOVERNOR!



*We can't wait
to meet you!*



Why join us?

- As a governor, you will:
 - Champion local children to help ensure they receive the best education and opportunities.
 - Give back to your community, making a real, lasting impact.
 - Bring your experience and perspective to support and challenge school leaders.
 - Develop new skills in leadership, governance, and strategic thinking – with full training provided.

What's involved?

- The role will require approximately 15 hours per year
- Attend three meetings a year (term time only) for 2 hours each.
- Spend a couple of hours each term in your local school
- Read papers and contribute to discussions that shape school improvement (1 hr per meeting).
- Training sessions to build your confidence and knowledge of schools and education.

Skills needed:

- A passion for education and community.
- Commitment to fairness and opportunity for all.
- Ability to listen, ask questions, and work as part of a team.

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Want to find out more?

Contact Melissa Trudgill in the governance team:

mtrudgill@dmatschools.org.uk



SPORTS COUNCIL

HAVE YOUR SAY!

**BE PART OF
SOMETHING
SPECIAL**

We are looking for enthusiastic and motivated pupils to join the School Sports Council. Meet once every half term to discuss all things sport related and help shape the future of sport at our school.

CLUBS

Help develop and improve our sports clubs.

FIXTURES

Share ideas and feedback on fixtures and competitions.

INTERHOUSE ACTIVITIES

Help plan and organise interhouse sports events and competitions.

BREAKTIMES

Share views on breaktime activities and opportunities for all.

STUDENT VOICE

Make sure your views and ideas are heard.

EQUIPMENT

Help ensure we have the right equipment for all sports and activities.

**YOUR VOICE.
YOUR IDEAS.
YOUR SCHOOL.**

INTERESTED?

Please see Miss Goldsworthy in the PE Department to register your interest.

HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
EDUCATE • ENRICH • EMPOWER

SPORTS LEADERS

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**GET INVOLVED.
SUPPORT.
LEAD.**

We are looking for enthusiastic and reliable students to become Sports Leaders and help support the running of extra curricular sports activities at breaktimes and after school.

GAIN LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS

MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN YOUR SCHOOL

HELP CREATE FUN, ACTIVE AND INCLUSIVE SESSIONS

**BETTER BREAKTIMES
AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

Please see Miss Goldsworthy in the PE Department to register your interest.

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Ruben Takes on the Trek for Heroes Challenge

A huge congratulations to year 9 student Ruben, who recently completed the 15-mile Trek for Heroes challenge across Dartmoor in support of the Help for Heroes charity.

Ruben took part as a member of a small walking group in support of their neighbour, Marc, a Naval veteran. Together, the group has so far raised an incredible £3,192 to help provide support for veterans and their families.

This achievement is even more impressive given the demanding nature of the Dartmoor trek, which required determination, resilience and teamwork throughout the day.

The challenge also provided excellent preparation for his ambition to take part in the Ten Tors Challenge with the Devon Army Cadets next year.

Well done, Ruben, on this fantastic achievement and for making such a positive contribution to an important charity. We wish you every success with your future adventures!

Mrs Bloxham
Tutor



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Attendance Update

At Holsworthy Community College, we believe that excellent attendance is the foundation of success. Every day in school provides valuable opportunities for learning, personal growth, friendship and achievement. This year, we are strengthening our collective commitment to ensuring attendance remains at the heart of everything we do. By working together, students, families and staff can create the habits that lead to long-term success, resilience and aspiration. We ask all parents and carers to support us in making school attendance a priority, ensuring every young person benefits from the opportunities available to them. Present today, empowered tomorrow.

High Attendance means not missing more than 2 days per term = 96%+

- Students with high attendance make better progress in school
- Students with high attendance are able to maintain close friendships
- Students with high attendance get more rewards than other pupils
- Students with high attendance are happier in school

Here is some data on what the impact of missing school can have on the progress of your child.

If your child misses...	That equals at least...	Which is the same as around....	And over 13 years of education that's...	Or at least...
1 day a fortnight	78 lessons per year	4 whole school weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 whole years	1014 lessons
1 day a week	156 lessons per year	8 whole school weeks per year	Over 2.5 whole years	2028 lessons
2 days a week	312 lessons per year	16 whole school weeks per year	Over 5 whole years	4056 lessons
3 days a week	468 lessons per year	23 whole school weeks per year	Nearly 8 whole years	6084 lessons

- We want all students to achieve a minimum attendance of 96% because of the following impact on academic achievement:

Attendance in Year 10 & Year 11 of 95%+	Attendance in Year 10 & Year 11 of between 90% and 95%	Attendance in Year 10 & Year 11 of less than 90%
Percentage of students achieving five grades at 9-4 (inc. English and Maths) 82%	Percentage of students achieving five grades at 9-4 (inc. English and Maths) 59%	Percentage of students achieving five grades at 9-4 (inc. English and Maths) 38%
Percentage of students achieving five grades at 9-5 (inc. English and Maths) 78%	Percentage of students achieving five grades at 9-5 (inc. English and Maths) 30%	Percentage of students achieving five grades at 9-5 (inc. English and Maths) 3%
Average GCSE grade achieved 6	Average GCSE grade achieved 4	Average GCSE grade achieved 3



Mr White
Assistant Principal

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Year 11 Post-16 Pathways Assemblies

This week, our year 11 students attended an informative assembly delivered by Steve Johns from Budehaven Sixth Form. The assembly marked the beginning of a series of presentations designed to support students as they begin considering their post-16 education and training options.

Over the coming weeks, students will have the opportunity to hear from a range of local providers, helping them gain a broader understanding of the courses, qualifications, and career pathways available after GCSEs. Planned visits also include presentations from:

- North Devon College
- Duchy College
- Exeter College
- Callywith College

These assemblies will provide valuable insights into different educational environments and study programmes, enabling students to make informed decisions about their future pathways. We encourage students to engage fully with each presentation, ask questions, and consider the opportunities available to them as they begin planning for the next stage of their education.

When applying for their chosen college, it is important for students to remember that they can make as many applications as they want. They are not committing to attending that college by making an application, so if they are unsure, they should apply anyway!

We are grateful to all of our visiting providers for supporting our students during this important period of decision-making and look forward to welcoming the remaining colleges and sixth forms over the coming weeks.

Please keep an eye out for announcements on Classcharts for upcoming open events, and consider signing up to the mailing list of the college your child is most interested in attending to receive the most up to date information about events and application deadlines.



Mrs Godwin
Head of Careers



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Jay's Aim Visit to School

On Wednesday, we were fortunate to host a day of workshops delivered by the local charity, Jay's Aim. Our trainer, Kirsty, spoke about the work of the organisation and its commitment to equipping young people with lifesaving skills, enabling them to provide emergency first aid should they ever find themselves in a position to do so.

During the workshops, students learned how to administer CPR and use a defibrillator. Our Year 7 students not only shone through their excellent conduct, respect, and attentiveness, but also through their enthusiasm and commitment to learning these vital lifesaving skills.

We are incredibly proud of their engagement throughout the day.

Well done, Year 7!

Mrs Sweeney
Curriculum Lead



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COULD BUDE HAVE AN INDOOR SKATEPARK?

WE'RE EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INDOOR ACTION SPORTS FACILITY IN BUDE OR THE SURROUNDING AREA.

- ✓ Would you use it?
- ✓ What should it include?
- ✓ How far would you travel?
- ✓ What would you pay?

YOUR OPINION COULD HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE.

♥ **EVERYONE'S VIEW MATTERS.**

HAVE YOUR SAY!
SCAN THE QR CODE TO COMPLETE OUR 3-5 MINUTE SURVEY

OR VISIT:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FAIpQLSuh9GZL9F38NvW4byvq13183uCh_ChaSpaGz2WCM/viewform

THIS IS A COMMUNITY RESEARCH PROJECT AND DOES NOT MEAN AN INDOOR FACILITY HAS YET BEEN CONFIRMED.

What's On At HOLSWORTHY LIBRARY September 2026

Summer Book Quest ends this month. Call in to finish before the 19th - deadline extended because of closure w/c 7th Sep!

Please note that the library will be closed from the 7th-11th September. This is so that we can install OpenPlus which will allow for extended opening hours in the near future.

- **Bounce & Rhyme**, Thursday 3rd, 17th & 24th - 2:15pm-2:45pm. Songs and stories for children 0-4 years old.
- **Devon Family Hub Drop In Advice Session**, Thursday 3rd - 2pm-4pm. Free family advice & guidance to anyone with a child aged 0-19 (up to 25 with SEND). Call 0800 5385458 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm for advice & guidance if you can't make the sessions.
- Speak to a **Healthwatch Devon** champion for support and guidance on local health and social care and to share your experiences with them, Monday 14th - 2pm-4pm.
- **Gardening Cuppa and Chat**, Wednesday 16th - 2pm-3pm. A monthly meeting to talk all things gardening. Everyone welcome.
- **Sew Together**, Monday 21st - 3:30pm-4:30pm. Bring your own hand sewing project (or knitting etc). An informal and supportive group rather than a class or lesson!
- Learn Devon - **Thinking About Self-Employment** session, Thursday 24th, - 10am-12pm. Limited spaces, book directly with Learn Devon (online, by email or phone)
- **Lloyds Bank Community Banking**, every other Monday 2-4. By appointment only - call 02077143681 to book direct with Lloyds.
- **Self Service Baby Weigh**, Every Thursday - 1pm-4pm.
- **Lego and games** for children. Every Saturday - 10am-12pm

01409 253514 holsworthy.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk
Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092.
To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk



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TORBAY COUNCIL

Key Dates

- **Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd September** - Year 7 residential
- **Thursday 24th September** - Year 5 and 6 open evening
- **Tuesday 6th October** - Year 8 safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Tuesday 13th October** - Year 10 safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Tuesday 20th October** - Year 9 safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Wednesday 21st October** - Seasonal flu vaccinations
- **Friday 23rd October** - Non pupil day
- **Monday 26th October to Friday 27th October** - half term

HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

THE HIDDEN BATTLE WITH ALLERGIES



www.anaphylaxis.org.uk

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