Parent, Family & Community Briefing

Thursday 19th November 2026



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

This week has been another busy and positive one at school. We were pleased to welcome so many families to the Year 8 Parents' Evening on Wednesday. Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Working together helps us ensure our students achieve their full potential, and opportunities such as parents' evenings are invaluable in supporting their progress.

As many of you will be aware, we enacted a brief lockdown procedure last week. This was a purely precautionary measure following the presence of young individuals on site who were not registered students at the school. The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff remains our highest priority, and the decision was taken as a preventative measure rather than as a cause for concern. We would like to thank students and staff for their calm and responsible response.

Looking ahead to next week, all Year 10 students will be attending our Trust Careers Fair in Exeter. This is an excellent opportunity for them to explore future education, training and career pathways.

We also have our Year 9 Parents' Evening taking place on Wednesday 25th November. If you have not yet booked an appointment, please do so as soon as possible to ensure you can discuss your child's progress with their teachers.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, and we wish you a wonderful weekend

Email Communications

We have been alerted by some families that they are not receiving emails from us. Emails are an important tool for us to keep our families informed.

Please check your SPAM folder as they may be there. Please mark us as a safe sender to prevent this happening in the future. If you have no communications at all, please get in touch.

admin@hccdevon.org

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STEM Roadshow

Last week, students had the exciting opportunity to take part in a STEM Roadshow delivered in partnership with BAE Systems, the Royal Air Force (RAF) and the Royal Navy. The interactive session explored the fascinating science behind the materials we use every day and highlighted the vital role that science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) play in modern industry and defence.

Alongside the scientific content, students were introduced to the wide range of careers available within engineering and technology. Representatives from BAE Systems, the RAF and the Royal Navy shared insights into their own career journeys and explained the many pathways into STEM professions, including apprenticeships, vocational training and university routes. Students discovered that engineering careers are incredibly diverse, encompassing everything from aerospace and marine engineering to cybersecurity, software development and advanced manufacturing.

The roadshow was an inspiring experience that encouraged students to think about how the science they study today could lead to exciting opportunities in the future. We would like to thank BAE Systems, the RAF and the Royal Navy for providing such an engaging and informative event and for helping to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers and innovators.

Mrs Godwin
Head of Careers







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Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Lead the Way at HCC

This week, we have been incredibly proud of our Lead Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Brianna, Mia and Jorja, who have shown exceptional leadership by delivering assemblies to every year group as part of Anti-Bullying Week.

This year's theme, "Break the Silence," encourages us all to speak up about bullying, support those who may be struggling, and create a culture where everyone feels heard, valued and safe. Brianna, Mia and Jorja delivered this important message with confidence, compassion and maturity, encouraging students to reflect on the part they can play in making HCC a place where everyone feels a genuine sense of belonging.

One of the most powerful moments of the assemblies came when Brianna shared her passionate English essay, exploring the impact of social media and the unrealistic expectations that many women and girls face due to outdated attitudes held by some males. Brianna spoke eloquently about the pressures to look a certain way, act a certain way and strive for an impossible standard of perfection. Her moving plea for greater equality, respect and understanding left a lasting impression on students and staff alike, reminding us all of the importance of challenging stereotypes and celebrating people for who they are.

We could not be prouder of Brianna, Mia and Jorja. Their dedication, courage and commitment to improving inclusion and belonging at HCC have been truly inspiring. They have been fantastic role models and have worked tirelessly to ensure Anti-Bullying Week has a meaningful impact across our school community.

The ambassadors have also organised a number of events throughout the week, including Odd Socks Day on Monday, celebrating individuality and promoting the message that it is okay to be different.



Mrs Hallett
Designated Safeguarding Lead



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Anti Bullying Ambassadors Cake Sale

To round off the week, they will be hosting an Anti-Bullying Week Cake Sale on Friday. If you would like to support them, we would be delighted to receive donations of homemade cakes or bakes. Please ensure that a full list of ingredients is provided so that we can safely manage allergies.

Remember to bring some cash on Friday and treat yourself to a delicious cake. All cakes will be available for just 50p each.

A huge well done to our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for everything they have achieved this week. Their enthusiasm, compassion and determination to make HCC a welcoming and inclusive place for everyone is something we can all celebrate.



Attendance Update

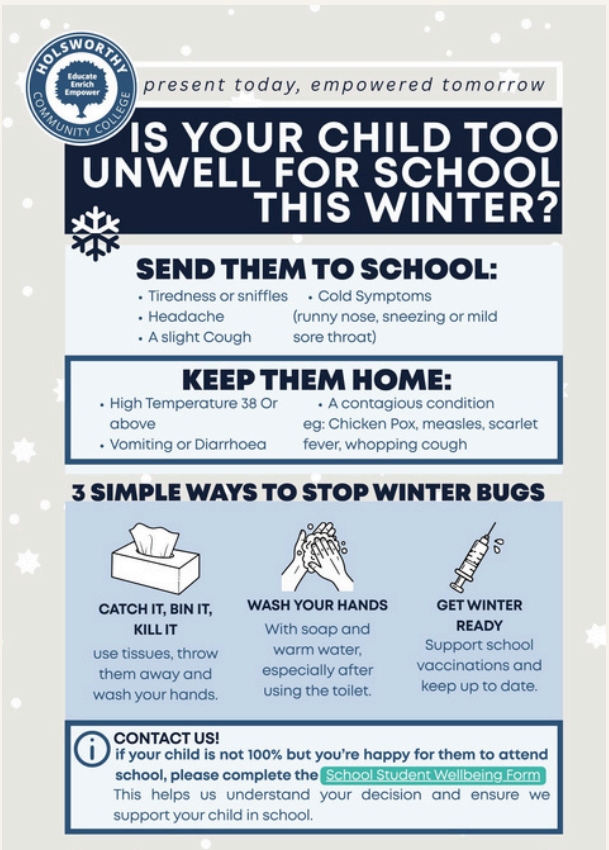
Over the coming weeks, families will receive an attendance update for their child. This will include both their overall attendance percentage and the number of school days missed.

Winter Illnesses

At this time of year, common winter illnesses become more frequent. We are asking families to help us to keep students learning. If your child has a mild illness and is well enough to attend school, we encourage them to do so. To help us provide appropriate support during the school day, please complete our **Student Wellness Form** This enables our staff to monitor their wellbeing and ensure they remain comfortable while continuing their learning, helping to minimise unnecessary absence from school.

Mr White
Assistant Principal





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Vacancies at HCC

We are currently recruiting for a number of roles and would love to hear from enthusiastic individuals who would like to join our thriving school community. Please share these opportunities with friends, family and colleagues who may be interested. Full details of our current vacancies can be found here.

- **HCC Teaching Assistant** - closing 25th November 2026
- **HCC Catering Manager** - closing 30th November 2026
- **Exam Invigilator** - closing 8th December 2026
- **Cover Supervisor** - closing 11th December 2026



Key Dates

- **Tuesday 24th November** - Year 10 Careers fair
- **Wednesday 25th November -** Year 9 parents evening
- **Wednesday 2nd December** - Non-Uniform Day (in aid of the Food Bank)
- **Wednesday 9th December** - Flu vaccination mop up session
- **Wednesday 9th December** - Year 11 parents evening
- **Tuesday 15th December** - HCC Winter Concert
- **Wednesday 16th December** - Christmas lunch
- **Thursday 17th December** - Year 7 Christmas Service
- Friday 18th December - Students finish at 1pm
- **Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January** - Christmas break
- **Monday 4th January** - Non pupil day
- **Tuesday 5th January** - All students return

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