

Callington Community College Newsletter

Assistant Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

One of the many reasons I love working at Callington Community College is our core belief that 'Everything is Possible'. Throughout my career I have seen proof of this through the incredible achievements of the countless young people who come through our doors. Children and young people never cease to amaze and inspire me with their creativity, tenacity and determination. Even when faced with challenges and potential barriers to their learning, our students show resilience and work tirelessly to achieve their goals. As staff, we are lucky enough to have the opportunity to learn from them every day, and I am lucky enough to work with colleagues who see it as their duty to create the conditions needed for all of our students to thrive.

A recent change in my role in College means that I now work with our SEND Department to ensure that we can continue to remove barriers to learning and respond to the diverse needs of our students. In the short time that I have been working with the brilliant SEND Team, I have been astounded by their collective knowledge, expertise and passion. From Forest School and Lego Therapy, to the day-to-day adjustments teachers make to the curriculum to ensure that it is aspirational and accessible, our student-centred approach means that everyone can benefit from the inclusive and kind community that we are so proud to be a part of.

As a College, we are currently focussed on developing our understanding of Autism to make sure that we are better able to include all of our neurodivergent learners in every aspect of College life. There is a wide range of need in all of our classrooms, both diagnosed and undiagnosed, and with some waiting lists stretching out over a number of months or even years, it makes sense for us to provide strategies and support our students pre-emptively and collectively. As a staff-body we have been engaged in learning about specific aspects of autism in relation to accessible teaching and learning; whilst our students have had assemblies and a tutor time focus on understanding and celebrating neurodiversity and neurodivergence. If you would like to find out more about Autism, visit the National Autistic Society website by clicking HERE.

Over the last few weeks we have had a lot to celebrate in terms of our inclusive extra-curricular offer to students including the Movement to Music Festival, The ArtLab Project and The Urban Playground - each of these opportunities is aimed at building confidence and self-esteem in our students. We are also very much looking forward to taking part in the Athletics and Cricket events at Cornwall School Inclusion Games this summer - you will have to read the next newsletter to find out how we get on!

The continued growth of our inclusive approach to learning and College life has led to some wonderful feedback from parents/carers and students. I would like to finish with a heart-felt thank you for taking the time to share these successes with us. Knowing that your child 'feels seen and understood' or that they have 'grown in confidence and talk about school with a smile' reinforces our drive and commitment to ensuring that our College celebrates diversity at every level.

Mrs Michelle Inger Assistant Principal



Key Dates

- Thursday 25 May: Y7 Parents' Evening
- Monday 15 May: Y11 & Y13 Exams begin
- Tuesday16 May: Parent Forum Meeting
- Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June: Half Term
- Thursday 22 June: Y11 Prom

Sixth Form Key Dates

- Friday 26 May: Y13 Masquerade Leavers Ball
- Thursday 29 June: Farewell Prize Giving Evening
- Tuesday 4 to Friday 7 July: Y11 Sixth Form Induction
- Monday 17 to Friday 21 July: Y12 Work Experience

Exeter Maths School

Students in 10X1 and 9X1 were recently involved in workshops with Exeter Maths School.

Year 10 started their session with an interactive talk on where maths will take you, showing the power of a maths degree not only on employability but also on salary. Here students learnt the variety of jobs that use a maths degree, with a focus on the less obvious careers.

Students then looked at making connections within mathematics by problem solving; focusing on iteration and fractals, such as the Von Koch curve, and were able to calculate their own terms of a fractal sequence, all whilst linking this to fractals in nature.

Later in the session students looked at the types of

numbers; including imaginary and complex, from the Argand diagram. Students were able to show the complex numbers on a plane and were even able to add, subtract and multiply them! A skill that isn't taught until Further A Level Maths.

Year 9 students were faced with the Seven Bridges of Königsberg, a historically notable problem in mathematics. As they started the problem you could see their determination to be the first to solve it, but as time passed you saw their frustration grow. Is it possible to cross all seven bridges using each bridge only once?

The students were then introduced to graph theory, a concept developed by Leonhard Euler in 1736. Looking at whether graphs were traceable, semitraceable or non traceable, students were able to make conjectures and ultimately say whether the Seven Bridges of Königsberg had a solution. I will not spoil it for you.

Students finished by being introduced to the concept of networks and how companies will use Graph Theory to solve logistical problems like finding the most efficient route for a delivery van, or how to map the London Underground.

A really positive hour demonstrating how Mathematics can be utilised outside of the classroom.





Ten Tors Success!

After a few months of very early mornings and rigorous training, our Ten Tors team with absolute grit and determination, successfully completed the 35 mile hike last weekend. They have achieved so much.

They had a tough route, with some steeper climbs on the second day, but they finished as a whole team, coming in at 13.40 on the

Sunday, 6th in their route group.

Lots of smiles and a few tears. Tears of elation and joy, plus relief I think as some of them had pushed through with whopping great blisters, swollen sprained ankles and general aches and pains that you expect to get when you walk on difficult terrain for hours at a time! This just shows how resilient and brilliant they all are!! Thankfully the weather was reasonably stable.

A big thanks to Helen Blackburn, our Team Manager (Arena) for training them, pushing them and believing in them. Also, a big thanks to a fabulous supportive group of parents too.



Bobby Easton-Evans, Daisy Swain, Molly Rogers - Team Leader, Robyn Clavey - Deputy, Olivia Holland, Robert Carmichael

FOOD HYGIENE RATING

VERY GOOD

I would just like to mention Theo McCaffrey Y10 who was selected as the reserve. He was with the team right up until the start, did all of the route planning with them, camped and ate with them preevent, with his rucksack all ready to go. He showed a lot of commitment and I wish him all the best with the event next year.

Jo Layton

Kitchen Superstars!

Our school kitchens recently had an Environmental Health Inspection, and passed with flying colours! An Environmental Health Inspection is a bit like an Ofsted report, but for a kitchen. An inspector turns up without any warning and checks that we are cooking and serving food which is safe to serve. They check that we have all the correct procedures in place, for example:

- C.O.S.H.H. (Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health)
- Allergens
- Food Safety
- The School Food Standards
- Risk Assessments
- Training

The grading is 1 to 5. Mrs Walker and our kitchen staff achieved a grade 5 - the highest possible grade. Every member of the public can find out what grading is given to any food establishment via the E.H.O website so we are delighted that we can celebrate the

to any food establishment via the E.H.O website so we are delighted that we can celebrate the fantastic work that our kitchen team do every single day to keep our young people well-fed and our school canteen clean and tidy. Congratulations!

Movement to Music Festival

On Friday 28 April we welcomed 20 children from Callington Primary School to our Movement to Music Festival.

We have had a number of sports events with our primary schools this year, but this was our first festival with a dance theme, and something we were keen to do to appeal to children with an interest in more aesthetic, non-competitive activities.

The festival was led by exstudent and trainee teacher, Lillie Fentiman. As a dance specialist, Lillie was able to lead an immersive and engaging session that enthralled the young children.



Our own Year 10 and 11 Sports Leaders supported the event brilliantly, encouraging and praising the dancers, joining in with them and helping them with their choreography. The Ocean theme led to some wonderful, wavy, twirly routines that conveyed a real sense of water and sea life.

All of the students involved, both the primary children and our Leaders, were an absolute pleasure to work with and we are hoping to hold another dance event very soon.



Miss C Mitchell

Community Events



Parent Forum Meeting

The next Parent Forum meeting is on Tuesday 16 May at 6.00 pm at the College.

New members welcome!

For any enquiries, please email parentforum@callingtoncc.net





