

Celebrations of Summer Term 1

As we reach the end of this very short half term, I'm very proud reflecting on everything our students have achieved. The term has been absolutely packed with learning and extra-curricular achievements.

From the fantastic ski trip in Austria to the Science trip and their participation in PE fixtures, our students have excelled. In this newsletter, we share their achievements in and out of class.

Thank you to our staff, who work tirelessly to create an engaging and supportive environment. And, of course, thank you to you for your continued support.

I hope you have a brilliant bank holiday weekend and May half term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2 June.

Mr C Rice, Principal

Key Dates for Next Term.

- 2 June – First day of term.
- 2 June – Lorraine Lee Parent Workshop.
- 10 June – Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening.
- 20 June – Sports Day.
- 26 & 27 June – School of Rock Production.
- 30 June – Year 9 GCSE English Information Evening.
- 30 June – 4 July – Year 10 Work Experience
- 3 July – Prom.
- 8 July – Year 6 Parents Transition Information Evening.
- 9 July – Vaccination session.
- 15 July – Cluster Concert.
- 16 July – Summer Concert.
- 18 July – Last day of term for students.

Inset Days 2025–2026

We thought it would be useful for you to know that the inset days for 2025 – 2026 are:

- Wednesday 3 September 2025
- Friday 14 November 2025
- Friday 30 January 2026
- Friday 13 February 2026
- Wednesday 22 July 2026



HENRY CORT

take to the

SLOPES



A group of students and staff went on a fantastic trip to Zell am See in Austria for a week of skiing the slopes in the Easter half term. For many of the group it was their first time skiing and they all did amazingly well. There were a few tumbles but students and staff remained in great spirits with lots of laughter along the way.

Throughout the week the group enjoyed many different activities on an evening, these included; swimming, a delicious BBQ evening, a disco, pizza at a local restaurant and the buzz of an ice hockey match. Students also had the chance to use the amazing facilities of the hotel; trampolines, climbing walls, a volley ball court and much more!

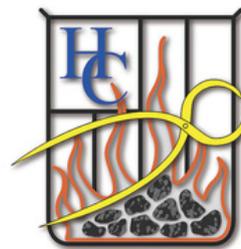
Towards the end of the week the group had a chance to visit the glacier. They made it to the top of the Kitzsteinhorn at a breath-taking 3029m! The views were spectacular and a little scary.

To find out more information about our skiing trip and other exciting news, visit our [Facebook page](#).



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Summer Term 1, 2025

Faculty Highlights

Science Highlights

A slightly shorter but equally busy half term has once again seen our students engaging in a wide variety of practical experiments.

At Key Stage 3, some students completed eye dissections, successfully removing the lens and exploring its properties. Others investigated echoes using bouncy balls on different surfaces, and observed the dramatic reactions of alkali metals with water—with potassium proving to be a particular favourite!

At Key Stage 4, students carried out heart dissections, identifying the key structures of the heart. In Physics, they explored energy stores using trolleys and ramps, while in Chemistry, some began investigating rates of reaction and reversible reactions.

Students in our Gateway Room have also been busy with practical's, including chromatography, microscopy and building circuits. These sessions have been supported by our fantastic Science Technicians.

Winchester Science Museum

Last week, 75 of our Year 7 students embarked on an exciting trip to the Winchester Science Museum. The day was packed with hands-on learning and cosmic exploration!

Students took part in a rocketship workshop, where they designed and built their own mini rockets—an engaging way to learn about propulsion and aerodynamics. They were then transported across the galaxy during a captivating planetarium show, which brought the wonders of our solar system to life in stunning detail.

The rest of the day was spent exploring the museum's interactive exhibits, where students experimented, discovered, and deepened their understanding of the world around them. It was a fantastic day full of curiosity, creativity, and scientific discovery—and, most importantly, everyone had a brilliant time!



Sparx Science Superstars

Our students continue to excel on Sparx Science, and despite the shorter half term, we've already surpassed 115,000 questions correctly answered this year!

We'd like to celebrate the following students for their outstanding effort:

Year 7: James, Alex, Maggie, Tilly

Year 8: Eddie, James, Noah, Hayden

Year 9: Swazi, Jack, Cassia, Ben

Year 10: Sam, Bethany, Theo, Ruby

Our top-performing tutor groups this half term are: 7D1, 8T1, 9V1, and 10D1.

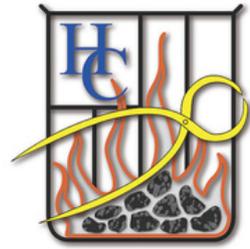


We would like to say a big well done to our Year 11's for completing their first three GCSE Science papers and wish them the best of luck for the after half term.

Mr M Rake, Faculty Lead.

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PE HIGHLIGHTS

Year 7

- Boys football - The team currently sit joint 3rd in the table after a very promising season. We head to Brookfield Community School for our final game where a medals match is very much on the cards. A 2-2 draw with Portchester Community School and a 1-0 win over Fareham Academy most recently has left the squad in high spirits. A great start to Henry Cort for the year group!
- Girls netball- Great start to their season, settling in game vs Cams Hill in the first round and a win over Crofton last week. The girls are starting to gel together as a team and it is lovely to see.
- Girls football have had a successful season, with a fine 3-0 win over Brune Park to complete their matches. Just waiting to hear if they will make the area finals.
- Basketball, following the district league the girls have won a number of games and we are awaiting to hear if they will be playing in the finals.

Year 8

- Girls netball - 2nd in the League table currently with 4 wins and 1 loss. A fantastic effort by all players. Keep up the incredible work girls.
- Boys football - we are currently positioned 3rd in the table with 2 games to go. Needing to win at least 1 of those last 2 games to potentially make the Gold medal match. A standout performance so far was from Callum who scored a hat-trick v Bridgemary in a 5-0 win.

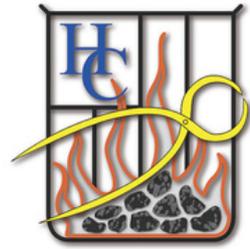


Year 9

- Boys football - A superb return for year 9 football. A 3-0 win vs Bridgemary and a 2-0 default win vs Fareham Academy had left the team in contention for a playoff place. Recently drawing 1-1 with the district winners from last year (at half time) to fall just short 4-2 at the final whistle. Puskas award going to Fintan for scoring the goal of the game. They fell short to a very strong Brookfield Community School team for their last game of the season!
- Girls netball - fantastic battle in the last game vs Cams Hill which saw a 20-20 draw. Incredible effort by all players.

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District Athletics

Last week we competed at Mountbatten Centre in Portsmouth for the District Athletics. Our girls became District champions and claimed the shield for first place. The boys also did well and were placed 6th overall. There was 11 Fareham and Gosport schools that competed at the competition.

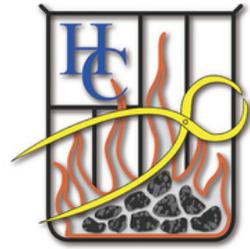
Special PE Mentions...

- Our Senior girls were undefeated in their football games, unfortunately losing to Cams 0-1 last week however they will be playing in the Gold medal match final in June so we are hoping for the girls to lift the trophy.
- Special mention to Poppy (Year 11) and Olivia (Year 9) who have been volunteering to umpire Netball fixtures both home and away, their dedication and setting high expectations and positive role models will continue to build the profile of Girls PE.
- We want to say a huge well done to our Year 10 students that have all completed their controlled assessments and final exam in PE. They can now look forward to 5 practical core PE lessons a fortnight and start their preparations for their final sports day at Henry Cort.
- In the Summer Term we look forward to our Athletics season and we have competitions at Mountbatten Centre in Portsmouth coming up, where we will compete to be District Champions in each year group. Sports Day is on Friday 20 June.
- An extra thank you to all students that have represented Henry Cort in extracurricular teams so far this year. Have a great and well-earned break everyone.

Mr J Plomer, PE Lead.

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Communications Highlights

It has been another busy few weeks in the English department. Year 11 have been working really hard with their dedicated teachers to revise for their final GCSE examinations in both English Language and English Literature. They have worked so incredibly hard, attending intervention sessions during tutor time and after school revision sessions so that they can achieve the very best results. I am genuinely excited about results day this year because I am confident that so many students will succeed in achieving the results that they deserve.

Year 7 have been reading and writing science-fiction stories. They too have worked hard and have made so much progress since they started with us at the beginning of the academic year. They will be bringing their finished stories home to show you when they have finished writing them.

Year 8, 9 and 10 have all been studying Shakespeare and have really enjoyed doing so. 'Much Ado about Nothing', 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Macbeth' are being read and enjoyed and we will continue studying these plays into the second half of the Summer term, exploring Shakespeare's stage-craft and amazing skill with language.

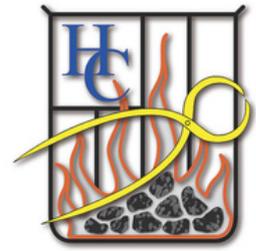
Year 7 will be joining the Shakespeare fun after the break when they look at a range of openings to his plays. I believe that the English team showcase Shakespeare to students brilliantly well and we don't hear talk of 'boring' or 'I don't understand' with any regularity.

Thank you for all your support again this half-term. Your children are a credit to you.

Mrs F Sear, Faculty Lead.



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Maths, IT and Business Faculty Highlights

Sparx Maths Home learning Headlines

Students in your school have completed
11,178 hours
of personalised learning
on Sparx Maths this year!

290 students
have already improved at their times
tables this year. Great job!

1,232,708
questions answered correctly in Sparx Maths so far
this year

The following students have worked incredibly hard at their homework, achieving 40+ XP this year. This is a phenomenal achievement and reflects hours of independent study above and beyond the compulsory homework that we set. Congratulations to the following students:

Initials	XP level
GN	62
JO	62
NH	47
ND	45
AP	43

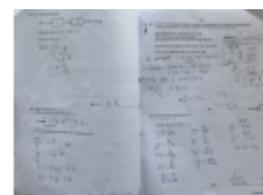
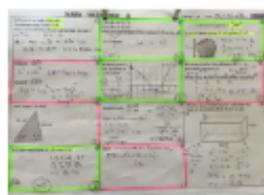
Maths This Term

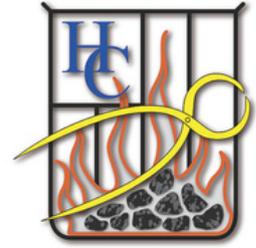
- Year 7 have been learning construction, measuring and using Geometric notation
- Year 8 have been learning about angles in parallel lines and polygons
- Year 9 have been focused on Pythagoras, enlargement and similarity
- Year 10 have learned about probability and statistics
- Year 11 have been revising for their final GCSE's

Year 11 Maths Revision

It has been an absolute pleasure to see how proactively Year 11 have been revising this term and I am confident that they are very well prepared for their GCSE exams. The progress they have made has been superb and I would like to take this opportunity to wish them the best of luck in their GCSE exams.

Below are some pictures of Year 11 revision strategies - Using their CGP revision guides, personalised learning checklists, exam past papers and bespoke revision resources.





Year 11 Student Voice:

"I find that using past papers and revisions resources help identify my strengths and weaknesses"

"When I started GCSE Maths, I felt overwhelmed from the sheer size of the work that was to come. However, once I grew in the subject, I gained a new sense of confidence through many past paper questions and in-depth learning"

ICT

Year 7 Student Voice

We have learnt about Microbits, pixel art, data representation, the history of computing, scratch and input and output.'

'I have learnt how to decipher numbers that make messages'

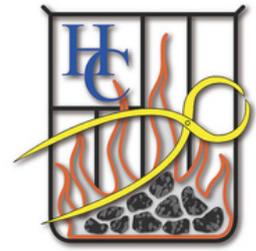
'I have learnt about the history of computing and about important people in computing.'

'Binary, denary, programming with blocks and Microbit programming with blocks.'

This half term Year 7 have studied Data Representation, using conversion skills to convert binary numbers to denary and ASCII. Students also created their own magazines, using the knowledge and skills learnt in lessons to help them. Their magazines have been both informative and engaging, showing the progress made both in and out of lessons.

Year 8 this half term have been using their researching skills to plan a holiday that meets a specific brief. Students have enjoyed researching destinations around the world, some of which have been based on places they have visited, plan to visit or are visiting in the future. Once they had finished planning, students were to compare their results to see which holiday was the best value for money. Homework to support this, asked students to research activities for the planned destinations, showing a range of activities around the world.

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Year 9 this half term have been focusing on the Imedia strand of the curriculum. Their task was to promote this year's production 'School of Rock'. Students have used a range of tools to help them create flyers and promotional videos, where Ms Wallis will judge. The winning pieces will be selected to promote the event around the college.

Year 10 this half term have continued to learn content within Computer Science. Main topics covered have included Ethical, Environmental issues, as well as Net Neutrality. Students have also spent time looking at key concepts to help prepare for their PPEs in the Summer Term.

Year 11 Imedia

Students have had a busy half term preparing themselves for their final exam in June. Students have been working both independently; as well as in small groups, reviewing and revising topics. All students have taken every opportunity to ensure they are prepared for their final weeks before they sit their paper.

Learning new media techniques and expanding my skillset'

When asked what they will miss when they leave, they all have said; 'The learning environment, staff and peers' along with learning new skills and techniques that will help them in the future, no matter what they decide to study.

Year 11: Computer Science

Year 11 students this half term have been focusing on preparing for their final exams. They have used the past few weeks to work independently as well as with peers to ensure they are as prepared as they can be for their upcoming GCSE's.

Learning and designing programs'

'Learning about how a computer works and what component controls it'

Business

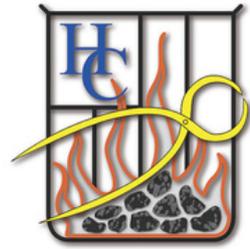
Year 10 have finished learning about the different roles that people have in business and all the key elements required to make a business run smoothly. With a focus of human resources, they have learned about:

- organizational structures
- the importance of communication within business
- recruitment and selection
- pay and motivation
- training and development
- health and safety
- employment law

Year 11 have now completed their GCSE Business Studies Exam having thoroughly prepared with structured revision tasks including revisiting all content taught to ensure all students were feeling confident before their papers. We wish them every success!

Mr J Smith, Faculty Lead.

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Humanities Faculty Highlights

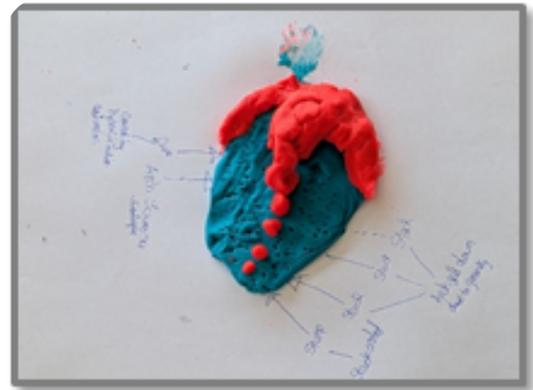
The department would like to say a huge congratulations to Year 10 for making it to the end of their short course and completing their exams. Furthermore, we have seen a momentous effort from Year 11 in the preparation of their GCSE exams. All the best from everyone in humanities, we know with your hard work, you will succeed.

Geography

In Year 7, students have been looking at erosion and how coasts change with the different erosional processes. They produced excellent play dough annotated models of headlands and bays as seen in the image. In Year 8, students have been looking at Africa and learning both the physical and human geography of the second largest continent. Students had to determine whether Africa's future lies with China or not by examining different pieces of evidence.

In Year 9 Geography the students have begun looking at Ecosystems and all students have been trying out their field sketching skills.

The students have also been looking at how ecosystems can be changed, studying the fascinating reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone National Park. The Year 10 students continue to grow in their skills, and have been studying our physical environments and started their look at how countries have developed. Finally, as mentioned earlier, a huge good luck to the Year 11 cohort with their exams!



History

This term, in Year 7, students have continued to look at medieval England with this term's theme being society. Students have explored what life was like in the middle ages, Jewish Expulsion, the causes and consequences of the Black Death leading to the Peasants Revolt. In Year 8, pupils finished their work on the slave trade and have been introduced to the Industrial Revolution and specifically seeing the changes that it brought about for women, children and public health. Year 9 have been looking at Medicine Through time and have learned about what people believed caused disease, how it was prevented, what treatments were on offer and who they could get treatment from in the medieval period. Finally, in Year 10, students are coming to the end of their medicine course and have looked at modern medicine and have been introduced to World War 1 and how this brought about change in the approaches to medicine.

RE

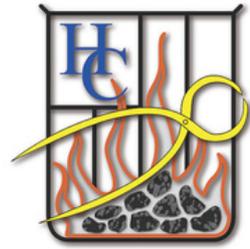
In Year 7, students have begun to look at Christianity by focussing on who Jesus was whilst looking at some of the key events in his life. In Year 8, students have begun to look at a unit called: What has religion done for us and have explored ethical issues surrounding of different topics such as war, terrorism and slavery. In Year 9, students have continued with their Ethic's unit and have been focusing on Good and Evil. Students have engaged in learning about the death penalty, arguments for and against it whilst also showing maturity whilst studying sensitive topics such as abortion and euthanasia.

Citizenship

In year 10, students have been focusing on pressure groups and democracy in Britain today. Year 11's, good luck with your exams!

Mr M Currie, Faculty Lead.

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Creative and Technical Faculty Highlights

D&T

In Design & Technology, students are underway with the manufacture of their prototypes. Year 7 are making sweet dispensers inspired by a contemporary designer. Year 8 are making lamps and are learning about electronics and how to solder. Year 10's will be soon starting their NEA after half term and Year 11 will soon be sitting their written exam. Good luck to them!

Drama

KS3 have been studying plays by local Playwright Mark Wheeler this half term. Year 7 "Chicken" which is a play about road safety, Year 8 Arson About which is a play about fire safety and Year 9 Missing Dan Nolan - the real story of Dan from Hamble who went missing in 2002 and the message from his parents about teens staying safe when they go out together. We have experimented with physical theatre and learning lines off by heart, to stage expressive interpretations of the texts. There have been some incredible performances, particularly from Emily and Jacob in Year 9. A special mention goes to Liam in Year 9 for his creative and accurate lighting of the assessments, this really helped add to the atmosphere of the plays. Also, Ivy in Year 7 who designed and made her own car prop at home which absolutely blew us away! Year 8 continue with this and have their assessments next half term.

Year 10 are soon to start their NEA Assessment piece for Component 1 Devising. Year 11 have completed their GCSE course with outstanding text-based performances of DNA by Dennis Kelly and culminated with the written exam. Well done to the whole Year 11 class who worked incredibly hard, it will be sad to see them go but I'm super excited to see how they get on in the future. Lots of the students have applied to continue Drama and Performing Arts at College, good luck to you all!

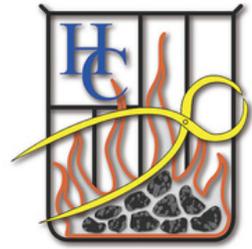
Music

Year 7 have been learning about The Blues and the legacy the music has on today's popular music. Students have sung spirituals, learnt the 12 bar blues chord sequence and improvising using the blues scale. Our Year 8 have explored the concept of live lounge arrangements by comparing number of original artists recordings with other artists live lounge arrangements. They have experimented with Billie Eilish's Bad Guy and The Blinding Lights by The Weeknd to create their own live lounge performances. The Year 9 students have been mastering the off beat chords of Reggae by rehearsing group performances of Bob Marley's Three Little Birds.



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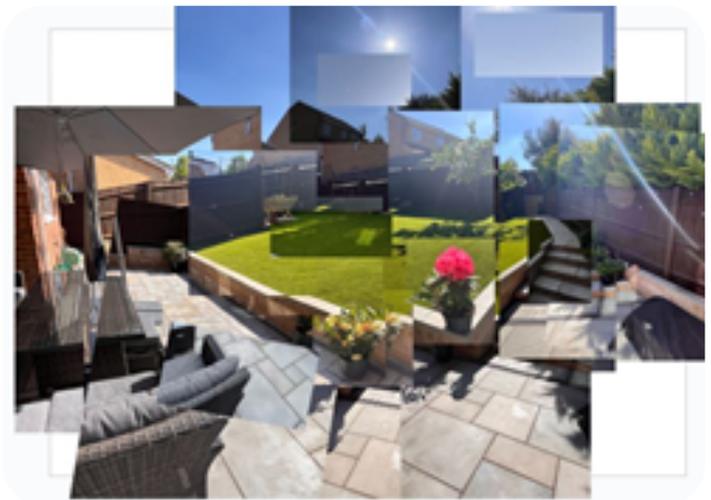
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Photography

In Photography, we have recently bought in new equipment such as DSLR cameras, props, backdrops and new lenses that shoot amazing photographs! Year 9 have been learning about David Hockney and his Joiners work. Year 11 have now completed their course and some of their work will be exhibited in this year's Summer Showcase.



School Of Rock - Whole School Production

Rehearsals are well under way for School of Rock. The rehearsal schedule has been published and we've started gathering costumes and props. Students from Year 7 through to Year 10 star in leading roles. Come along and celebrate the students' talents with us, it is sure to get your summer rocking!

Ms A Wallis, Faculty Lead.

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<https://www.henry-cort.hants.sch.uk/>

PO15 6PH

The Henry Cort Community College Presents

SCHOOL of ROCK

THE
MUSICAL

THURSDAY 26TH JUNE

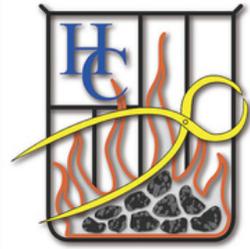
FRIDAY 27TH JUNE

Tickets
Available via **SCOPAY**
Standard £8
Concession £4
(Child/OAP)

DOORS
open 6pm
for 6.30pm
show



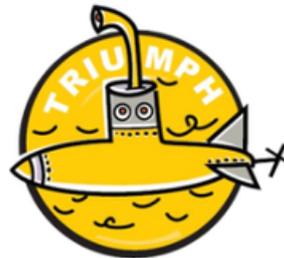
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House Assemblies

This week we have also held our house assemblies to celebrate the achievements of each house, each led by the house SLT link.



Attendance

We have been celebrating the tutor group with the highest attendance for each house, congratulations to our winners – **7D1, 9I1, 7T2 & 7V2**



Weekly Quiz Results

During tutor time every Friday, Mr Carroll holds a weekly quiz for fun, our students take part as a group against each other and the winners for each house are – **10D2, 10I2, 8T1 & 8V1**



ASPIRE

Over the course of the term, students have also been awarded points in relation to our ethos ASPIRE. We have celebrated each house with the most amount of points for –

Achievement – We aim high – **Triumph**

Support – We target support and support each other – **Triumph**

Perseverance – We value effort, every lesson, every day – **Daring**

Individuality – We celebrate our difference – **Triumph**

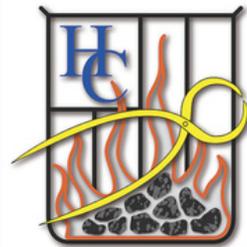
Respect – We respect each other – **Victorious**

Excellence – We can all excel – **Invincible**



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Year Celebrations

This week in assembly we have been celebrating in year groups; student achievements and we are excited to share some of these with you. The focus of these assemblies are in line with our ethos ASPIRE, the top 5 students in each category were celebrated during these assemblies, we are sure your child has been excited to share this with you.



Achievement - We aim high

Support - We target support and support each other

Perseverance - We value effort, every lesson, every day

Individuality - We celebrate our difference

Respect - We respect each other

Excellence - We can all excel

Achievement

Year 7 - Olivia, Scarlett, Alesha, Dexter & Elena

Year 8 - Katie, Charlotte, Beau, Marci & Tino

Year 9 - Kacie, Rosie, Holly, Jack & Jack

Year 10 - Demetri, Alexander, Bethany, Faith & George

Support

Year 7 - Noah, David, Amelia, Jude & Kim

Year 8 - Zachary, Alexander, Eddie, Evangeline & Holly

Year 9 - Virtue, Thea, Arhana, Katie & Mia

Year 10 - Lily-Mae, Gracie, Benjamin, Lewis & George

Perseverance

Year 7 - Jasmine, Scarlett, Olivia, Alesha & Anabelle

Year 8 - Zachary, Katie, Chloe, Max & Holly

Year 9 - Joshua, Eddie, Virtue, Swazi & Omid

Year 10 - Lily-Mae, Bethany, Callum, Noah & Demetri

Individuality

Year 7 - Viktoria, Alex, Edward, Michael & James

Year 8 - Belle, Holly, Jenny, James & Zachary

Year 9 - Emmy, Sophia, Harvey, Kacie & Holly

Year 10 - Tristen, Lacey, Noah, Emmanuel & Frankie

Respect

Year 7 - Seb, Jasmine, Olivia, Millie-Anne & Elena

Year 8 - Anna, Olivia, Belle, Holly & Emily

Year 9 - Sophie, Abigail, Lily, Christian & Aimee

Year 10 - Faith, George, Tyler, Munachi & Bethany

Excellence

Year 7 - Alex, Millie-Anne, Noah, Maisie & Viktoria

Year 8 - Jack, Benjamin, Zachary, Joseph & Harry

Year 9 - Josh, Riley, Imy, Caelan & Emmy

Year 10 - George, Isabelle, Benjamin, Ava & Charlotte

The following students have been awarded the most amount of golden tickets within this term for their year groups and should be immensely proud of themselves.

Congratulations

Year 7 - Finley, Harry, Alex, Edward & Jessica

Year 8 - Tino, Bonnie, Finley, Harry & Jenny

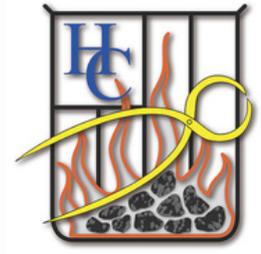
Year 9 - Jay, Caelan, Ridley, Amarni & Cruz

Year 10 - Matthew, Bethany, Milo, Demetri & Diyona



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Year Celebrations

Year 7

This half term has gone in the blink of an eye, the Year 7's have continued to show us how creative and conscientious they are. They had their first exam experience this half term and they behaved impeccably throughout. We know for some students this would have been a very daunting process, but they managed very well and we hope that now they have experienced this, the process will become less scary.

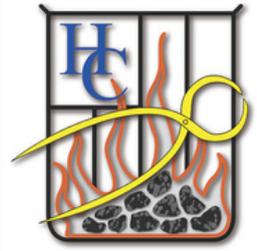
We were also fortunate for a number of our Year 7's to attend a trip to the Winchester Science Museum. Mr Rake reported that the students had a fantastic time and represented the College very well. We know that this was a popular trip so we are looking to see if we can run a similar one in the next academic year.

In PE lessons the students have been preparing for the long anticipated Sports Day, which will be hotly contested. I am very much looking forward to seeing which House comes out on top, but I know the Year 7's will give it their all.

Have a lovely restful half term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 2 June.

Mrs S Warner, Head of Year 7.

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Year 8

Although this half term has been a short one, there has been a multitude of achievements and successes! Alongside all the spring success you will have read about in Mr Plomer's PE highlights.

Mrs Whittingham is leading a group of pupils in a reading club linked with the Hampshire book awards. They are in the process of reading 6 books from the eight recommended, some are reading and others are listening to audiobooks. There are an exciting range of literature and Mrs Whittingham is currently on her third book as well! They meet every fortnight in the library along with the librarian for discussions and fun activities. They will be attending the voting session for the book awards at Wyvern College on the 25 June.

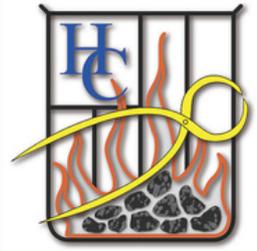
Eddie and Chloe have scored a whopping 340 positive points this half term, with Katie in close second with 333. I am so proud of the continuous hard-work and dedication all pupils bring each day to college and their learning.

There are a number of pupils who have achieved 100% attendance for the ENTIRE academic year so far; Freya, Olivia, Jack, Reuel, Reuella, Charlotte, Younes, Bea, James, Will, Katie and Thomas. Mr Davies and Ms. Selfe's tutor group have not only achieved the highest attendance this half term but also the highest points awarded through Sparx Science and the most positive points.

With only seven school weeks left in the academic year, the summer holidays are not far away. I hope everyone has a restful and lovely break, ready to succeed and exceed expectations in the final half term.

Miss M Lane, Head of Year 8.

The Henry Cort Community College



Summer Term 1, 2025

Year 9

Spring has definitely sprung in this very short half term and Year 9 has continued to thrive in many areas. Last half term we recognised our own number 1 recording artist, this half term we recognise our very own World Champion in Cheerleading. Who would have thought Henry Cort had a wide range of talented students.

Over in the Cort Theatre, Ms Wallis and her team continue to work with the production crew, rehearsing after school to ensure that they give the performance of a lifetime in the summer term, whereas over in PE the girls football team won the U14 League Division 1, as well as winning the Hampshire League Cup Final.

Our assemblies this half term have looked at Military Children and what their day to day lives look like, with a special contribution from our very own Mrs Johnson. Whilst in tutor time we worked with Mrs Hills, using our literacy skills to write a short poem or a letter of thanks to those who give up so much, to ensure our safety. The winners of this competition will be recognised in our end of half term celebration assembly.

Another celebration was looked at with the help of Mr Currie, who kindly provided material to help celebrate VE Day on the 8 May. It was so nice to hear his voice around the college during tutor time, whilst students engaged.

I would also like to celebrate the fantastic success of the Year 9 athletics team with our boys team finishing 6th overall and the girls team winning the area sports championships.

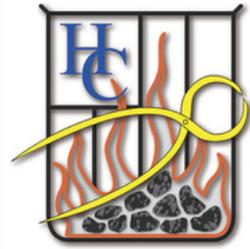
I would like to say a huge thanks to all of the Year 9 team, for your continued support and hard work.

I hope you all have a restful break and look forward to seeing you all, rested and prepared for the final half term.

Mrs S White, Head of Year 9.

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Year 10

This half term has been a whirlwind of activity. After lots of hard work and revision the Year 10 students are sitting their actual GCSEs in both R.E and P.E VCert. Achieving good results in these exams will give them a head start over the local students when applying for college placements as they have 'actual' grades that they can put down on the application and not just predicted grades. The behaviour of the Year group has been exemplary in the exams they have sat so far and most students have felt confident that they have completed the exam to the best of their ability.

After half term we have one more R.E exam and then we will be moving onto their WEX placement. This is an important part of their Year 10 as it gives them the opportunity to experience what it is actually like to be in a place of work and the expectations of the employer.

Over the last few weeks a number of Year 10 students have applied for student leadership roles and are now being interviewed for roles by myself and members of the senior leadership team. It is fantastic to read their applications and to hear their views on how they can make a real difference to the college. It is so great to see their motivation and commitment to the application process and roles.

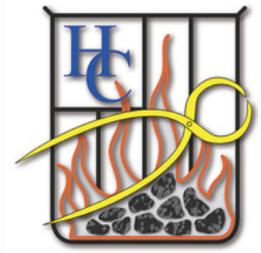
We are now 7 weeks away from the end of term and then the students will be stepping up to Year 11. I have every confidence that this year group will rise to the challenge of Year 11 and achieve the best possible results they can.

I look forward to working with them all and making sure each and everyone of them has the best possible chances to succeed.

Ms J Nutt, Head of Year 10.

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Summer Term 1, 2025

Year 11

Year 11, by the time you're reading this, you'll have completed your last full half-term with us at Henry Cort – congratulations! You've been busy revising, both at home and in school, and you've done everything you can do to be ready for your exams.

When we think back to how your time with us started in Year 7, with all your lessons in your bubbles, and a tiny space at the top of the quad to take your breaks in, to who you have all grown into now, it is an amazing sense of pride that we let you go on to the next phase of your lives.

While we know you'll be revising and studying and checking and re-checking your notes, please remember to take some time to rest and recover before the last push – you'll have 2 ½ weeks of exams after you come back, before you're completely free!

We're really excited for the prom and the prom committee have been fantastic at helping us organise and prepare for this, and of course a big thank you to Mrs Beynon for her help, too!

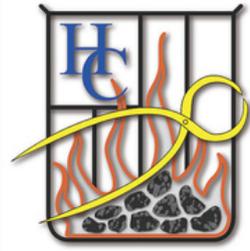
It's hard to condense 5 years of hard work, laughs, and tears into a couple of paragraphs; in short, you've all done so well. You've all dealt with adversity in your own ways, you've all made memories for life, succeeded and failed. It's been a pleasure to watch you all grow, both as your music teacher in Year 7 & 8, and as your head of year every year after that. I can't wait to see what happens in the last few weeks of exams, and we are all so excited to hear how you get on, both in your results, and in your lives after.

Good luck for the rest of your exams, and enjoy your early summer break when it arrives!

Mr B Chilcott, Head of Year 11

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Summer Term 1, 2025

Revision

As the exams have begun, it's crucial to support our learners in adopting effective revision strategies. At Henry Cort students have been taught the Input-Store-Retrieve (ISR) method, both in class and for at home learning. The ISR method is a structured approach to revision that involves three key steps, over the space of an hour:

 **Input:** This is the initial stage where you physically complete traditional revision techniques. This could include creating flash cards, making mind maps, listening to podcasts, making notes during a video, creating quizzes, summarising key texts. The goal is to absorb as much relevant information as possible. Students should do this for approximately 30 minutes.

 **Store:** Once you've gathered the information, the next step is to help your brain store it effectively. Students should take a break from their studying, have a snack, hydrate, or doing something mindful. They should avoid using phones/gaming devices. This should ideally be for between 5-10 mins.

 **Retrieve:** The final step is retrieval, where you actively recall the stored information. This can be through self-testing, using your flashcards, cover and repeat, teaching the material to someone else, or practicing past exam questions. Retrieval helps reinforce your memory and ensures you can access the information when needed. This would be done for 20 minutes.

Students in Year 11 have received support in creating a well-structured revision timetable during PDL time and in tutor sessions. A revision timetable is essential for effective study. It helps students allocate time to different subjects and ensures all necessary topics are covered. Students have been encouraged to consider the following criteria when creating their timetables:

Revision Sessions: Allocate specific times for each subject/topic and stick to them.

Breaks: Regular breaks are crucial to avoid burnout and maintain focus.

Relaxation: Include time for relaxation and hobbies. This will help to reduce stress and keeps them motivated.

There are a wealth of revision resources to support students, these have been shared with the students via Edulink. Additionally, resources such as GCSE Pod, Seneca, Sparx and where appropriate bespoke Google classrooms, have been curated by staff to support students. Revision study guides are also available. Past papers and exam questions, which can be used for retrieval, can be easily found on line and staff have been marking additional questions and papers for those students that bring them in.

Effective revision is not just about hard work; it's about smart work. Using the ISR method, leveraging online resources, and maintaining a balanced timetable can make a significant difference. Remember to stay focused, take breaks, and keep a positive mindset.

We wish everyone the best of luck with their revision and upcoming exams!

Ms C Gudgeon, Assistant Principal

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Careers

It has been a busy month behind the scenes with our careers education this term. Year 10 are busy preparing for their work experience in July, the statutory guidance for career education has been updated and we saw the launch of the first Careers Newsletter.

During PDL, Year 8 have had sessions on decision making, apprenticeships, university and employability skills – working on teamwork, creativity and speaking skills.

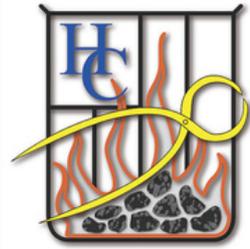
We have lots of opportunities coming up next month including trips to Fareham College, Cemast and the maritime fair, Seaworks.

If you would like to get involved with our careers programme by coming in and chatting to a year group, hosting a work experience student or attending our careers fair or speed networking event, please get in touch with Mrs Hills sac@henrycort.org.

Mrs S Hills, Transition Manager.

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Friends of Henry Cort

The FOHC have had a wonderful start to our summer term this year, we are thrilled to have a new member join our team, Felicia, who has been a fantastic addition, bringing new ideas and great enthusiasm and we are all looking forward to working together and planning our future fundraising events and activities!

The return of our popular quiz night on Friday 9th May was a great success! Eight teams went head-to-head across seven rounds of questions, whilst our resident Quizmaster Pete Smith kept the atmosphere fun and friendly with everyone enjoying their evening! We are hoping to make this a termly event from the next academic year so keep a look out for the dates for your diary! The quiz evening made a small £30 profit towards our fundraising goals this term which include raising funds for new PE Fitness suite equipment and some board games for use in future school activities for Year's 7 and 8.



Our next activity this term is for our students, we are organising a Student Taskmaster Challenge event to be held straight after school on THURSDAY 10 JULY 3PM. This will be where teams of 4 to 6 students can choose their teams, and work with their friends to solve a variety of interesting puzzles and challenges with prizes available for the winning team(s). We will also be selling soft drinks and food during this event, and we are looking forward to seeing our students participating and having fun! Booking will be via Scopay and details will be available after May half term, so please look out for more information via emails on this event.

With the success of our Christmas raffle, we are now looking forward to running our Summer Raffle at the end of the summer term (more details to follow via email), with some fabulous prizes already coming in including Merlin tickets, local art classes and pub meals for two! If you or anyone you know would like to donate a prize, please get in touch with us, no prize is too small!

Please like and follow our [Facebook](#) group to keep up to date with all our news or email fohc@henrycort.org if you would like to get in touch or would like more information about joining us!

**Your FOHC Team,
Sallie, Arlene, Sharon, Tracy, Emma and Felicia**

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