

Parent, Family & Community Briefing



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

Friday 16th October 2026



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

This week, we were delighted to welcome SPACE into school to deliver their safeguarding and healthy relationships workshops to our year 10 students. Once again, the facilitators were highly complimentary about the maturity, respect and engagement demonstrated by our young people throughout the sessions. Year 10 represented the school exceptionally well, and we are very proud of the positive impression they made.

Looking ahead, next week, marks the start of the first mock examination series for our Year 11 students. These exams will be conducted under full GCSE conditions and provide an invaluable opportunity for students to experience the expectations and routines of the summer examination period. The outcomes will help both students and staff identify strengths and areas for development, ensuring that support and revision can be targeted effectively in the months ahead.

We have shared a number of important communications with families this week covering a range of school updates and opportunities. We appreciate that there is often a great deal of information to take in, so please do take the time to read these carefully. If you have any questions or require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school. As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership.

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2026

TO ENTER:
Create an original Christmas card design

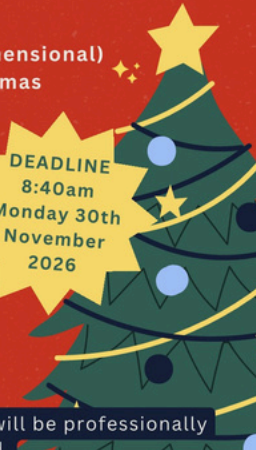
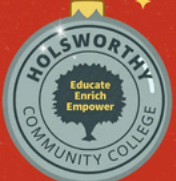
Artwork Criteria:

- Suitable to print (two dimensional)
- Depict HCC and be Christmas themed
- Skillful use of chosen media/techniques

DEADLINE
8:40am
Monday 30th
November
2026

ENTRIES TO BE HANDED TO MISS URQUHART (D4)

PRIZES - Winning designs will be professionally printed.
All successful entries will receive achievement points
1st place wins an amazon voucher!



The Sports Leaders/Council
are running a

CAKE SALE

Thursday 22nd
October

during Break 1 and 2

at the bottom of the stairs
under the library

50p
a cake



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Year 11 Update

Our year 11 students have made a positive and purposeful start to their final year at HCC.

The first major event on the year 11 calendar will be the mock examinations, which will take place immediately after the October half-term break, running from Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November. These exams will provide students with valuable experience and help identify areas for further development ahead of the summer examinations.

To support students in achieving their full potential, a range of additional opportunities are already in place:

- Study Skills sessions are delivered each Thursday as part of the tutor programme.
- Period 6 intervention sessions provide additional teaching and support in English and mathematics.
- Subject teachers are dedicating time within lessons to revisit and reinforce key knowledge, helping students build confidence and strengthen their understanding of essential content.

Year 11 is an exciting and important year, and we are committed to supporting every student on their journey towards success. Families can expect regular updates throughout the year, ensuring they are informed about the guidance, opportunities and support available as students prepare for their next steps beyond HCC.



Mr Ruse
Vice Principal

Key Stage 4 Revision & Study Skills



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Year 11 Explore Their Post-16 Options

This week, Year 11 students attended a valuable post-16 pathways assembly delivered by representatives from Exeter College.

Students were introduced to the wide range of opportunities available after GCSEs, including academic, vocational and technical courses. They also heard about enrichment opportunities, industry placements, support services and the application process, helping them to think carefully about their next steps and future aspirations.

As students begin making decisions about their next stage of education, we encourage families to continue exploring the options available and attend college open events wherever possible.

We would like to thank Exeter College for taking the time to speak with our students and for supporting them in making informed and confident decisions about their future.

Year 10 Work Experience Programme

We are delighted to launch our Year 10 Work Experience Programme, with placements taking place from 12–16 July 2027.

Students attended an assembly this week where they received information about arranging a placement, key deadlines and the support available to help them secure a suitable opportunity.

Work experience gives students a valuable insight into the world of work, helping them develop important skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving and independence, while also exploring potential career interests. We encourage parents and carers to discuss opportunities with their child and support them in finding a placement that reflects their interests and aspirations.

Please look out for the letter sent home, which contains further information about the programme and the process for arranging placements. If you have any questions or require support, Mrs Godwin will be happy to help.

We look forward to hearing about the exciting experiences our Year 10 students will undertake next summer!

Mrs Godwin
Head of Careers



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Key Dates

- **Tuesday 20th October** - Year 9 safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Wednesday 21st October** - Seasonal flu vaccinations
- **Thursday 22nd October** - Year 11 Geography Field Trip (Plymouth)
- **Friday 23rd October** - Non pupil day
- **Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October** - half term
- **Monday 2nd November** - All students return
- **Monday 2nd November to Friday 13th November** - Year 11 mock exams
- **Wednesday 11th November** - Armistice Day
- **Friday 13th November** - BAE Systems visit to school
- **Tuesday 17th November** - Year 11 Safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Wednesday 18th November** - Year 8 parents evening
- **Tuesday 24th November** - Trust Careers Fair
- **Wednesday 25th November** Year 9 parents evening



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THE HIDDEN BATTLE WITH ALLERGIES



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