

Coombeshead Academy

Newsletter

Term 2- December 2024



Dear families,

We have had a lovely term, it's been very busy with pantomimes, Christmas Fayres, Christmas jumpers and a whole host of other exciting events!

Earlier this term we had an ESW trust review where senior ESW staff and external providers visited the school over two days to look at lessons, speak to students and staff and meet with leaders. We had very positive feedback around curriculum development, the quality of teaching and positive school culture. There was also a Governor Engagement Day on Friday 15 November where members of the governing body spent the day in school looking at key themes around curriculum, teaching, inclusion and culture. We also received positive feedback from this, specifically around positive attitudes to learning and behaviour in lessons and around the school site. The "Warm, strict" approach we have been working on in school is having an impact in terms of positive relationships between staff and students and an increase in praise points and rewards. There has also been a significant decrease in behaviour points and suspensions.

Year 11s sat their PPE exams (mock GCSEs) and received their grades, which were the highest we have ever had at this point. They are an incredible year group and have been working extremely hard in lessons and when revising at home. We are so proud of their attitude and the effort they are putting in; their future looks very bright!

Students have been thriving with all our extracurricular activities such as sports clubs, performing and creative arts events and charity work. The summer enrichment week offer will be going out to parents shortly. This includes a residential adventure trip for Year 7, and a range of residential and day trips for year 8 and 9. There will also be daily events back at school for those students who chose to stay with us for the week. Please sign up to these early to avoid any disappointment.

Leaders have been working on mapping out our "11 by 11" provision. The aim is that all of our young people have accessed at least 11 key areas of enrichment by the time they leave Year 11. This includes things like leadership opportunities, community work, careers advice and work experience, etc. These are activities and events all students will encounter as part of their universal provision. For example; years 7 to 10 all had a session with the BBC this term looking at and discussing careers in the South West and every tutor group put a Christmas food hamper together to support a local food bank and families who are struggling at this time of the year. In addition our students all participated in our moving Remembrance service on 11 November where a Navy veteran spoke to them about his first-hand experiences of war. All these events and activities help to develop a young person's character and enable them to have a rounded understanding of the world around them.

Just a reminder that our Student Support team are available each break time for students to "drop in" and discuss any issues or concerns they have. The Student Support Officers are:

- Year 7 – Ms Kim Routledge - kimberley.routledge@coombesheadacademy.org.uk
- Year 8 – Ms Natalie Macfarlane - natalie.macfarlane@coombesheadacademy.org.uk
- Year 9 – Ms Ali Massey - alison.massey@coombesheadacademy.org.uk
- Year 10 – Ms Beth Griffiths - bethan.griffiths@coombesheadacademy.org.uk
- Year 11 – Ms Lucy Donaldson - lucy.donaldson@coombesheadacademy.org.uk
- Pastoral lead – Ms Natalie Beeks - natalie.beeks@coombesheadacademy.org.uk

Another reminder you can view the latest communication leaflet with contact details of all key staff and what to do if you are encountering any issues or concerns on our website [here](#)

We hope everyone has a lovely Christmas. We break up on Friday 20 December at 1.30pm and look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 6 January 2025. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Coulson'.

Helen Coulson

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS AT CHRISTMAS

The lead up to Christmas is a fun and exciting time, but for some young people it can be a very difficult time, and leave them feeling anxious, lonely or stressed. Young Minds is the UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's mental health. Please follow the link below to find out more about the work that Young Minds does and the support it can offer to young people and their families.

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

Online Safety Information for the Christmas holidays

As we approach Christmas, more children will be in receipt of digital devices than ever before. Whilst we acknowledge the happiness, fun and entertainment that they can bring, they can also pose a number of dangers too. Please find below, details of resources that will help families to encourage the safer use of digital devices over the Christmas period.

Family Agreement

Over the holidays, some children will want to spend the maximum amount of time online and playing games; this can lead to conflict. You may want to establish the expectations and set up a family agreement template. You may wish to use one such as the example from Childnet:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement>

Advice by age

Some children may ask to be on certain apps. Many have age guidelines (0-5, 6-10, 11-13 and 14+). The following website has some useful information:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

Parental Controls

We are aware that sometimes ensuring that children stay safe can be a challenge. As parents you may want to follow these two simple steps to keeping your children safe online:

1. Look up the device on YouTube by using a simple 'how-to' query, e.g. 'how to restrict in-app purchases on Playstation 4'.
2. Look at the following site for help in setting up restrictions on devices:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Gaming

Many children will want to use their break for gaming. This can cause challenges. You may wish to look at the following site for guidance:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

Once again, Internet Matters is a useful source of information for parents:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-gaming-advice/>

YouTube

There is a YouTube app or site for children (<13) and may be of use for primary aged children.

App: <https://youtube.com/kids/>

Web: <https://www.youtubekids.com/>

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS AT CHRISTMAS

Social Media Advice

Once again, Internet Matters has a really useful hub for parents, it explains both the risks and the benefits: www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/

HOLIDAY SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

If you have any safeguarding concerns during the school holiday, please be aware of the following avenues of support:

- MASH - Devon County Council Safeguarding Hub. If you are worried about a child or young person in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child or young person worried about your own safety - 0345 155 1071
- mashsecure@devon.gov.uk
- Outside of office hours contact Emergency Duty Team - 0845 6000 388
- Childline - 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk
- KOOTH - The Kooth team provide free, safe and anonymous online support and counselling. The whole team are made up of friendly and experienced individuals who want to help. www.kooth.com
- SHOUT/ Crisis Text Line - Shout is the UK's first 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Free text 85258
- Police - 999 (emergency)/101
- Chat Health - Young people aged 11-19 can text a school nurse for confidential advice and support. Text 07520 631722 for advice on things like relationships, bullying, mental health, self-harm, drugs/alcohol.



Mental Health & Me

December 2024

Mental Health at Christmas

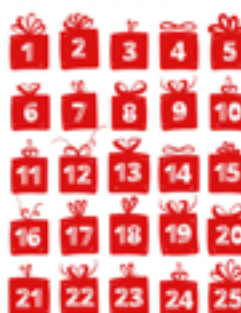
Christmas can be overwhelming and a busy time of year. It is important to prioritise yourself during this time, as your mental health **does not** need to be put on hold.

Try to...

- Be boundaried – if you want to say no, that is ok
- Take time out for yourself
- Maintain a good sleep routine
- Exercise
- Do activities that you enjoy and find relaxing

Visit the link below for YoungMinds Wellbeing Advent Calendar [secondary-school-advent-calendar-2024.pdf](#)

YOUNGMINDS



Visit the link below for more on managing your mental health at Christmas:

[Mental health at Christmas — Tips for the festive period | Devon Mind, leading the fight for mental health in Devon](#)

Self-Care

Self-Care = Actively taking care of your mental health & wellbeing, by discovering what works for you.

PHYSICAL

Sleep
Stretching
Walking
Exercise
Healthy food
Yoga
Rest

EMOTIONAL

Manage Stress
Emotional maturity
Forgiveness
Compassion
Kindness (to yourself)

SOCIAL

Boundaries
Support system
Positive social media
Communication
Friend time
Ask for help

If you need further support for your mental health, please speak to a trusted adult in school. You could also contact 111 and select option 2 for mental health support and advice. In an emergency, call 999.

CHILDREN IN NEED - MASTERMIND

On Friday 15 November, students and staff at Coombeshead Academy got involved with fundraising for the annual Children In Need appeal.

Teachers were put in the hot seat as they took part in a 'Mastermind' challenge in the school theatre, answering questions on a topic of their choice to raise money. 'Mastermind' is one of the UK's longest-running quiz shows. With its iconic, ominous black chair, contestants face a series of challenging questions, interrogation-style.

Question master extraordinaire Mr Graham fired a series of tricky questions for 2 minutes to each of the contestants: Ms Stewart, Ms Williams, Ms Chappell, Mr Stevenson, Dr Hockley-Still and Mr Doxford. Topics included traditional British foods, kings and queens of England, U2, Exeter City FC, history of the Premier League and Harry Potter. With an encyclopaedic knowledge of Exeter City FC and scoring an impressive 18 points - Dr Hockley-Still came out as the undisputed champion!

Thanks to the generosity of the donations, we raised a grand total of £74.30. A huge thank you to all who took part!



REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

On Monday 11 November, all staff and students gathered for our annual service of remembrance. The service was led by Mrs Coulson who spoke of the sacrifice made by others during times of military conflict. Our guests were Mr and Mrs Kevin Adamson. Kevin is the chairman of the Royal Naval Association in Plymouth and himself saw active service in the Royal Navy. He spoke about the significance and importance of Remembrance Day for veterans. The whole school fell silent for 2 minutes and we were joined by long time supporter of the school, Mr Mike Brewer who played the Last Post. The students were an absolute credit throughout.



REMEMBRANCE - CREATIVE ARTS

Prior to Remembrance Day Coombeshead students worked with Devon based sculptor Alistair Lambert, in sessions funded through Daisy by The Helen Foundation, to create a large commemorative World War One sculpture. The sculpture is now hanging in the new gallery stairwell in the CREATE department at the school.

Initially students conducted research and created drawings focusing on World War One aviation. The students made the most of Alistair's knowledge and got stuck in with the workshop, producing some great sculptures, while also learning more about our history at the same time.

As part of the installation and part of the school's Remembrance Day preparations, staff and students from all year groups have made hundreds of 3D paper poppies to hang in the windows of the Create gallery.



REMEMBRANCE - CREATIVE ARTS AT HOME

Willow W has been making this beautiful creative 'Wings of War' piece at home putting many hours and thought into the piece. Willow loved the process of creating art at home and they are already planning their next home project. Well done Willow.

Ms Emily Parr



FRENCH PEN FRIENDS

This term students in the class 7T1 French (Madame Farleigh) have been delighted to start exchanging letters from their new French penfriends who live in Brittany. The students have welcomed this penpal experience very enthusiastically and they have been keen to write back in French, using what they have learnt in lessons since September.

Quel effort fantastique, bravo!



POLICE TRAINING VIDEO - YOUNG DEVON

Last year some year 9 Diversity Ambassadors took part in the peer research project 'Safer spaces, safer places' with the charity Young Devon, which was about making our local area safer and more inclusive for young people. Initially some of the students expressed their concerns about the perception of young people in the community (misconceptions/stereotypes) and their experience with the police being quite negative at times.

Consequently the same group of students (now in Year 10) have been involved in another collaborative workshop this term. This time they've been invited to script a video based around police officers learning how young people perceive them and how the trust and cooperation can be built.

Becca Hewitt (Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager for Teignbridge District Council) attended the latest session when the video was filmed in school by a professional videographer with students directing, narrating and acting very skillfully. Becca commended our students for the positive impact that their contributions will have on local police training.



Paid Teaching Internship

Thinking about becoming a teacher? **Earn £1275** by completing a paid teaching internship to gain hands-on experience in school and discover if teaching is for you.

- **When** | Internships last 3 weeks, start on 16 June 2025 and you'll be paid **£425 per week**
- **What** | Gain classroom experience, support pupils, shadow experienced teachers, observe lessons
- **Who** | You'll need to be studying for a related degree or masters and interested in teaching either: Chemistry | Maths | Computing | Physics | Modern Languages



abby.spearing@swift.org.uk 01548 852641

HITS FOODBANK

Mrs Goldsworthy and Mrs Farleigh organised a Christmas hampers collection involving the whole school. Every tutor group from year 7 to the Sixth Form was given a cardboard crate to decorate and fill with food items to be donated to the foodbank HITS. This local charity supports people in need throughout Teignbridge, including some of our students and their families.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to this appeal - your kind donations have been gratefully received by HITS. Well done Coombeshead for such generosity and community spirit, it is very much appreciated!

Here's a photo of all the hampers gathered with the help of some of our year 9 diversity ambassadors, linking to the values of inclusivity and community cohesion that we promote in school.



BBC BITESIZE CAREERS ROADSHOW

On Thursday 28 November students from years 7-10 took part in the BBC Bitesize Careers Tour.

Students took part in 4 x 1 hour sessions, led by BBC Talk Sport presenter Steve Forbes, who introduced three professionals in a 'panel-style' setup. We were joined by Harry Moreton, Charity Development officer at Exeter City Football Club, Daniel Willers, Creative Director at Yellow Mouse Studios in Exeter and Yolanda Bekker Colman, Resource Scheduler at BBC Plymouth. Each of the guests talked about their career pathway and covered a variety of topics, such as relevant qualifications, personal anecdotes, advice on work experience and key soft skills for the workplace. Students were given the opportunity to ask lots of questions at the end of each of the sessions.

The Bitesize Careers Tour aims to focus on careers in a variety of sectors and has hopefully helped to inspire students about opportunities that exist on their doorstep. The aim of the Bitesize Careers Tour is to raise awareness of career aspirations to secondary pupils across the UK and give them practical advice on how they can pursue a career in a variety of settings.



CAREERS FAIR 2024

On Thursday 5 December Coombeshead Academy hosted its annual careers fair. For the first time, this was held during the school day and meant that all students from years 8-13 were able to attend and find out information about future jobs and training opportunities. The careers fair ran from 10am until 5pm which meant that all students and parents/ carers had an opportunity to attend. More than 50 delegates attended the fair from a wide range of further and higher education providers as well local and national employers including Mercedes Benz, Forestry England and many, many more. Students really engaged well with the fair and came away with lots of ideas about their future career pathways.



YEAR 11 EMPLOYER INTERVIEWS

As part of the ongoing careers programme at Coombeshead Academy, on Tuesday 17 December, year 11 students took part in a mock job interview with a local employer. The purpose of the interview is to prepare students applying for jobs, training and future post GCSE courses, as well as building their confidence and improving their communication skills. Students prepared a CV in preparation for their interview and were put through their paces during a half an hour interview. Each student was provided with detailed feedback based on confidence in answering questions, confidence and body language. All students represented Coombeshead Academy brilliantly and the feedback from employers was overwhelmingly positive. We are sure that this experience will be extremely important as we continue to support students in making their transition into the wider working world. We would like to say an enormous thank you to the employers that gave up their time to support this event. If you have experience in leading interviews and feel that you could contribute to future interview events, or indeed know somebody that could volunteer their time, we would be extremely pleased to hear from you. If you are able to give some time for all/ part of a day please contact Anna Salmons (Curriculum Team Leader for Life Skills) on: anna.salmons@coombesheadacademy.org.uk



DANCE WORKSHOP

Our KS4 Dancers had a fabulous two hours workshop with the amazing Groovement Project yesterday. They learnt a wonderful musical theatre piece from Matilda the Musical! Well done everyone!



CINDERELLA - CHRISTMAS PANTO

On Wednesday 4 December, our BTEC Performing Arts group performed their production on the pantomime, Cinderella. Throughout the whole day, the group performed the Panto 3 times. These included a morning performance to a theatre full of local primary school pupils; an afternoon performance to our year 7 cohort and then an evening performance to a packed out Bushell Theatre.

The performances were all really well received and for the 2nd year running, we involved our Year 10 Drama group to help support with the production.



CINDERELLA - CHRISTMAS PANTO



PERFORMANCE OF FEEL ME BY PAPER BIRDS THEATRE COMPANY

Year 11, 12 and 13 Drama and Performing Arts students went to the Drum Theatre, Theatre Royal, Plymouth to see a performance of 'Feel Me' by the Theatre company Paper Birds on Tuesday 12 November. The production of 'Feel Me' follows the performers telling a story of 'every-person' who is displaced in society and asks the audience how they feel empathy for people who find themselves in this situation.



We were lucky enough to have Georgie Coles, a member of Paper Birds Theatre Company led a Theatre Workshop with our students on Wednesday 13th November at the Bushell Theatre in Coombeshead Academy. This helped the students in their understanding of the performance and they explored and gained knowledge of new and exciting devising drama skills.



'Feel Me' by Paper Birds was an excellent performance for me. Being in the front row during the performance and being so close to the performers was a different feeling to other shows I have seen. It made me feel really connected to the characters and the story. The message of the performance and how it was executed was really touching and with the audiences use of mobile phones made the audience feel more involved in the performance.

Ruby W

I really loved watching Paper Birds perform 'Feel Me' and to develop my understanding of serious topics like displacement. I feel like this is crucial for our education and vital for our learning. To further this, the workshop gave me a chance to understand the insight and origin of the performance in elaborate detail and I really highly recommend these experiences in the future.

Chantelle DV

SOUL AND FOLK BAND

On Friday 6 December, our Soul Band and Folk Group were invited by Devon Music Education Hub, to perform live Music at Princesshay Square in Exeter Town Centre. We travelled by minibus to Exeter, set up our equipment and performed to a large crowd of shoppers and workers, right in the town centre. One of our year 11 pupils, Kate Sampson also performed a solo piece.

The feedback we received was excellent and the performances from both groups were outstanding. Both groups showcased the talented musicians we have at Coombeshead Academy and represented the school very well



CREATE ACADEMY



CREATE ACADEMY - BRISTOL ART AND CULTURE

CREATE Students from Coombeshead Academy have visited Bristol for a day out, soaking up the art and culture the city has to offer.

The sixth form students visited a whole host of artistic destinations including the Arnolfini Gallery where they examined the photography exhibitions and the M SHED, a museum all about Bristol. The group also went to see the Aquarena by William Pye, which is part of the largest public art commissioned programme in the South West.



CREATE ACADEMY - GALLERY PARADISO

Students from Coombeshead Academy have displayed their work at an exhibition for talented young artists at the Gallery Paradiso in Bovey Tracey, a thriving arts centre housed in a restored historic building.

The month-long exhibition ran between October and November and showcased the work of emerging local artists, providing an exciting platform for their creative expressions and unique perspectives.

Coombeshead Art & Design, Textiles, 3D Design and Photography students all exhibited a mixture of pieces. The owner of Gallery Paradiso, Jane Loder commented on the fantastic standard of the students' work and how they stood out from the rest of the exhibition for their innovative approaches.

Coombeshead Academy is home to the CREATE Creative Arts Academy, where specialist studios and teachers provide an exciting range of creative courses. CREATE offers Art & Design, Photography, Textiles, 3D Design and Graphics providing young people with pathways to successful futures in diverse and rewarding arts careers.

Helen Coulson, Headteacher at Coombeshead Academy said:

"I never fail to be impressed by our students for their creativity and courage in showcasing their work. Their passion and dedication shine through every piece, and it's inspiring to see them express themselves so fearlessly. This exhibition was a testament to their talent and the bright futures ahead of them."

Matthew Shanks, CEO of Education South West said:

"Everyone at Education South West is so proud of the CREATE students who displayed their work at this exhibition and grateful to the Gallery Paradiso for providing them with the opportunity to show off their creations in a professional environment."



CREATE ACADEMY - GALLERY PARADISO



CREATE ACADEMY - WORKING WITH LOCAL PRIMARIES

An art and design teacher from Coombeshead Academy has been visiting local primary schools this term to deliver free workshops.

Emily Parr works at Coombeshead's CREATE Creative Arts Academy and the purpose of the workshops was to offer the young pupils some time with an arts specialist to enrich their experience of creative subjects. As well as providing the primary teachers with art related Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

One of the schools to benefit from the workshops was Haytor View Primary School, where Year 3 pupils took part in a session on colour through the medium of paint. The group learned all about the work of artist Georgia O'Keeffe to help them understand how to mix and control colour.

The pupils first task was to look at a colour wheel and then consolidate their understanding by completing their own colour wheel. Their newly acquired colour skills were then applied to recreating a Georgia O'Keeffe painting.

The CREATE Creative Arts Academy at Coombeshead Academy provides specialist studios and their teachers deliver an exciting range of creative courses. CREATE offers Art & Design, Photography, Textiles, 3D Design and Graphics providing young people with pathways to successful futures in diverse and rewarding arts careers.

CREATE ACADEMY - WORKING WITH LOCAL PRIMARIES

Helen Coulson, Headteacher at Coombeshead Academy, said:

"It's wonderful that we are able to share some of our expert staff with local primary schools for the benefit of both pupils and teachers. We are fortunate to have some hugely talented artists working at the CREATE Academy and I am glad Ms Parr was able to visit so many local schools to run her inspiring workshops."

Matthew Shanks, CEO of Education South West said:

"At Education South West we believe strongly that local schools should collaborate in order to provide Devon's children with the best possible education and we also feel that promoting the value of the arts is very important. As such, it's great to hear that Coombeshead have managed to entwine both of these values through offering these fully resourced art workshops to primary schools at no cost. I hope the pupils thoroughly enjoyed them."



WOMEN'S RUGBY OPPORTUNITIES

Exeter Chiefs have a fantastic offer coming up in December - all under 16's will have free admission to Exeter Chiefs v Gloucester - Hartpury, Saturday 21st December, please see attached image and feel free to distribute via newsletters, websites, social media etc.

On this day they also have a discounted match day experience for £12 per person - this includes a tour of changing / facilities, training session with some of the players plus guard of honor on the pitch and watching the match - more info available -

<https://www.exeterchiefs.co.uk/community/womens-match-day-experiences>
and booking form for the match [HERE](#) -

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=SHjtK8t4VkiExByrZou7GvwNx0f-4mUpCtQkxN3Q-TXRUOUcwRFhNWFpOTEVTMFdYMEJQR0o1RDFXOS4u&route=shorturl>



The poster features a dark background with a complex, geometric pattern of intersecting lines in shades of blue and red. At the top, the Exeter Chiefs and Gloucester-Hartpury logos are displayed. Below them, the match title 'Exeter Chiefs v Gloucester-Hartpury' is written in large, bold, white letters. Underneath the title, 'THE FESTIVE FACE-OFF' is written in yellow, and 'SAT 21 DEC 15:00' is in white. In the center, two young women are featured: one in a red Hartpury College jersey and another in a black Maynard School jersey. At the bottom, 'KIDS GO FREE!' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. Below this, a list of activities is provided in white: 'VISIT FROM SANTA | CAROL SINGERS | DANCE SHOW', 'HALF TIME ZORBING | RIVER DART KID'S ZONE', and 'CHRISTMAS FACE PAINTING'. At the very bottom, the website 'TICKETHUB.EXETERCHIEFS.CO.UK' is written in yellow.

Exeter Chiefs v Gloucester-Hartpury

THE FESTIVE FACE-OFF

SAT 21 DEC 15:00

KIDS GO FREE!

VISIT FROM SANTA | CAROL SINGERS | DANCE SHOW
HALF TIME ZORBING | RIVER DART KID'S ZONE
CHRISTMAS FACE PAINTING

TICKETHUB.EXETERCHIEFS.CO.UK

GIRLS RUGBY DEVELOPMENT DAY

Newton Abbot rugby club came into school to run a girls rugby development day in November. Lessons 1 & 2 saw 30 Year 7 & 8 girls and Lesson 3 & 4 saw 35 Year 9 & 10 girls battling the wind, rain and cold to participate.

The sessions consisted of numerous skills and drills to build the girls confidence in rugby. Despite the temperature the girls had a fantastic time, the best bit being the tackling. The day was great fun and the girls learnt a lot and found a new love for rugby. It was also nice to see some of our ex-students coming in to help run the day. Newton Abbot rugby Club came in last year to run a girls development day and from that around 10 students have now been involved in the girls rugby. If you are interested in rugby and had a good time please head over to Newton Abbot Rugby Clubs website for details on their girls rugby.



YEAR 7 GAMES EVENT AT THE ZOO

Members of year 7 went to Paignton Zoo on Wednesday 13 November to compete in a School Games Event where they needed to work together to orientate themselves around the zoo following a map. They had to get themselves to several different check points where at each Checkpoint there were several questions that they needed to answer. Team work was the main skill they were working on as they all did this amazingly and we were actually the first school to make it to the final checkpoint across the wobbly Lemur bridge where they then received certificates, a badge and an ice-cream.

All the students involved were a real asset to Coombeshead Academy. Well done everyone!



YEAR 7 GAMES EVENT AT THE ZOO



YEAR 7 NETBALL

Our year 7 girls Netball team took part in their first central venue league hosted at Paignton hub this week. They played excellently, coming away with two clean wins and an end-to-end draw against the Torquay Academy netball academy players. We are so proud of the team and they did Coombeshead Academy proud.



CROSS COUNTRY

A big well to our Coombeshead Academy Cross Country Runners. Students competed in the School County Cross Country Championships last week on the course at Stover school. With 24 competitors from every year group 7-11, the runners showed brilliant effort, resilience and sportsmanship as they completed races ranging from 2.2km to 3.7km. Congratulations and good luck to Paige in year 11 for qualifying for the next round of the inter girls category.



YEAR 7 RUGBY

The year 7 rugby team had their first game together against Newton Abbot College. The team played really well with some hard tackling in defence and some great offload attacking rugby. The team won 30-0. Well done to all involved.



YEAR 9 FOOTBALL

The year 9 football team travelled to Tiverton for the football Devon Cup. The team were eventual winners 2-1 and go through to the next round of the Devon Cup. Well done to all involved.



LINCOLN M SECURES PLACE AT TORQUAY UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

Lincoln M has been given a place at Torquay United football club. This is amazing news for Lincoln. Lincoln has gone on to score in his first debut game in Cornwall and everyone is very proud of him.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH - GOLD

Year 13 student, Sam, went on his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Residential over October half-term and he chose to go sailing. A DofE residential is a 5-day, 4-night program where participants complete activities with others away from home and is an opportunity for a young person to step outside of their usual environment, routine and social setting, giving them the opportunity to find out more about themselves. Sam said 'I absolutely loved my sailing trip, we got involved with putting the sails up, cooking for everyone, learning all about the different parts of a sailing trip and the different types of sails on a boat.' What an amazing experience!

