

SPRING TERM 2024



Easter Greetings from the Truro School Boarding Community

As we reach the end of another exciting and action-packed term in Boarding here at Truro School it's important to reflect upon just how much has been achieved over the past weeks and months.

Our boarders continue to develop, both academically and in terms of maturity. They have grown! In no small part due to the healthy and plentiful meals served by our catering team. So much so that many now tower above staff, but thankfully they are still helpful and kind to us!

Our boarders have participated in sport, drama and music, with some regularly involved in all three. They have completed EPQ presentations, revised, studied new topics, worked on projects individually and collaboratively, developed external interests in sailing, rowing, fencing, gymnastics and more with some competing successfully, and winning, at national level events. It is certainly a term to be proud of and one, as ever, that has flown by.

Equally, boarding staff have continued to develop and enhance our provision. In recent weeks being involved in an externally reviewed safeguarding audit, a UK Visa and Immigration procedural assessment and a very successful visit from a large group of international boarding agents who were left in awe of our fabulous students! We are proud to say that we achieved highly successful outcomes in all of these visits, thanks to the diligence and hard work of our staff team, and our students. However, we are never ready to rest on our laurels and are keen to continue to further enhance our support for our boarding student family.

The upcoming Summer Term is always a busy one. Formal examinations begin for some and have already started for others. There will be events and opportunities galore when we return after the break and so it's important that our boarders utilise this opportunity to rest, recover, organise, take stock and prepare for what will no doubt be a whirlwind of a term ahead.

I wish you all a wonderful break. Stay well, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

David McKeown
Head of Boarding



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Welcoming International Boarding Agents

We were delighted to welcome thirteen international boarding agents to our school, representing a diverse range of countries, including China, Italy, Bulgaria, Romania, Taiwan, Germany, Turkey, Switzerland and Ukraine. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the vibrant atmosphere and enriching experiences on offer at Truro School.

The agent delegates were visiting us as part of a BBSN-organised trip to showcase the best of British boarding. Throughout their visit, our guests had the chance to immerse themselves in various aspects of school life. From watching engaging presentations at the EPQ evening to hands-on culinary experiences in our Cookery School.

Led by some of our current boarders, the delegation took a comprehensive tour of the campus and boarding houses, gaining insights into our community and values. One of the highlights of their visit was witnessing the rehearsal of our upcoming musical, *Crossroads*, written by an exceptionally talented pupil, Scarlett.

Thank you to all of the pupils, students and staff who have served as outstanding ambassadors for our school.

“From the moment we got to Truro School, we felt welcome and each and every member of staff, as well as your students, was a delight to speak to. The joy, the friendliness, the way each member of staff thrives in their field of expertise, well-spoken and polite students.... but most of all, everybody seemed so incredibly happy.” FAM Agent feedback 2024



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Exploring the Drama of Holy Week

The Rev Helen led a service called 'Entering into the Drama of Holy Week' encouraging the boarders to think about the build-up to Easter including Palm Sunday and Jesus's entry into Jerusalem and the Last Supper.

Reflecting on the drama and the journey that Jesus experienced in the lead-up to his crucifixion and resurrection, the boarders took time to think about the importance of these events in shaping such a special time in the Christian calendar.



Chinese New Year

All boarding houses celebrated Chinese New Year with a delicious hotpot feast and explored virtual reality experiences, hinting at potential house competitions in the future. Leora's Chinese Quiz added to the excitement, with Asia and Taerim emerging as winners.

In Plymouth, boarders braved the exhilarating 'viper drop' and had a go at tubing and tobogganing at the dry ski slope.

There were mindfulness, yoga, and brain gym workshops to prioritise their wellbeing, and a birthday celebration for Marie, complete with singing and chocolate cake.

Laser-tag and Easter Bake-off

Our boarders enjoyed a thrilling outing to a laser tag arena, where they divided into teams and engaged in friendly competition against their fellow housemates.

Building on their competitive spirit, our boarders also participated in an exciting Easter-themed bake-off challenge at our cookery school. This event provided them with the opportunity to showcase their culinary talents as they baked and decorated cakes, demonstrating their creativity and flair in the kitchen. The boarders thoroughly enjoyed both activities, fostering a sense of camaraderie and fun within the boarding community.



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Sixth Form Celebrates No.1 Ranking

Truro School Sixth Form is celebrating after the latest official Department for Education A-Level performance tables have been released, once again placing Truro School as the leading A-Level provider in Cornwall.

During the recent A-Level result's day, the father of one of last year's Sixth Formers, Alicia, who recently started at her first choice of university studying Biomedical Sciences told us, "Truro School isn't singularly focused on the academic but looks at the development of each individual as a whole person. The School Diploma is brilliant. That it can sit alongside other interests like the Duke of Edinburgh Award is fantastic. Truro School is creating valuable members of society. When you pay school fees, you're guaranteed an education, but what you aren't guaranteed is enthusiasm and engagement. But this school delivers that for every student under its care.



EPQ - An Evening of Excellence

Our audience was in for a real treat, as they enjoyed the Truro School EPQ Showcase evening. The Extended Project Qualification is an established A-Level programme that equips students with a range of professional, academic and personal skills.

From researching to referencing; discussing to creating; each student's project is a unique venture into a personalised area of interest. Students select one project from an option of four (artefact, dissertation, investigation and performance) and delve into a defined area of enquiry. After completing their projects, they are required to present their work to a non-specialist audience, where they present their work before accepting questions from the audience on their subject. It was a truly insightful evening, with every audience member learning something new from the presentations.



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‘One of the Best Schools in the South West’

Thank you to Talk Education for listing Truro School as one of the best schools in the south-west of England.

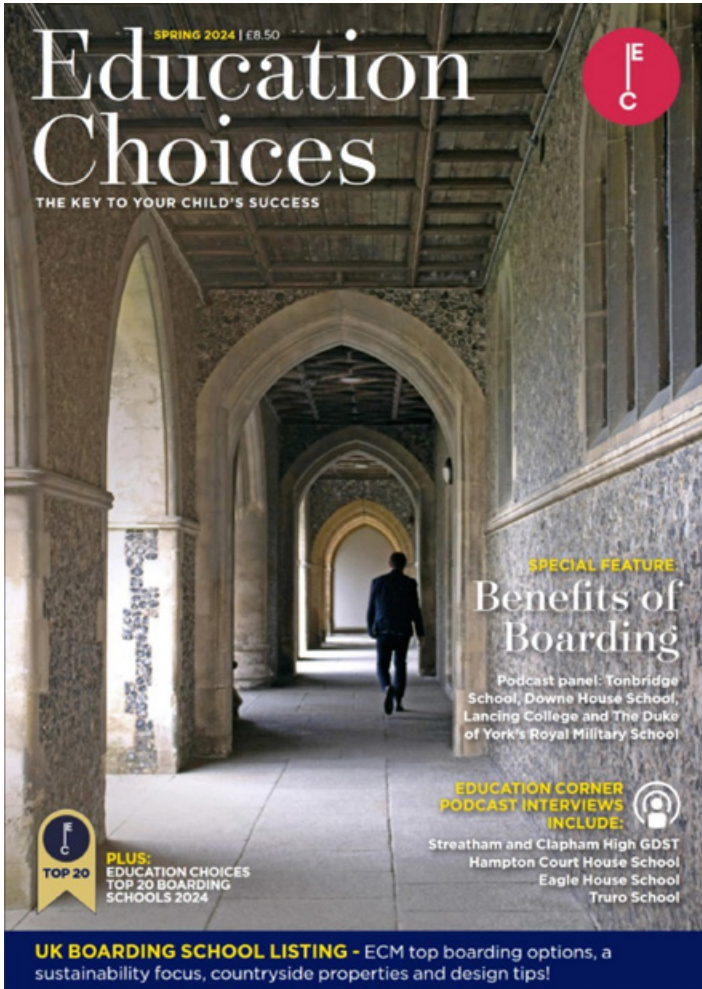
They write, “Families thinking about moving to the South West – or staying put and choosing a boarding school in the area – are spoilt for choice... Read on to find out more about some of our favourite schools in the South West and why their location matters.”

“Surrounded by 40 acres of sports fields and green open spaces overlooking Truro (the prep has its own site next Truro Golf Club, a few miles across the city), this all-through school lives up to its ‘to be rather than seen to be’ ethos. And as locations go, this one is epic. The Cornish coastline is just down the road, meaning many pupils grab their surfboards at the end of the day to head straight to the beach – and there’s nothing unusual about parents arriving for pick-up in their wetsuits. Biology and geology lessons take on a new dimension, with classes taken out to the beaches; prep-school pupils get stuck into kayaking and bushcraft, and water sports are a popular weekend activity for boarders. The school’s proximity to the South West Coastal Path is another boon, and pupils have had much success in the annual Ten Tors event on Dartmoor.

The maritime landscape surrounding the school instils a real sense of environmental stewardship in pupils – and through regular beach clean-ups and coastal projects, they develop a deep-seated respect for the sea and a commitment to preserving it for future generations.”



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EDUCATION CORNER PODCAST WITH HEAD
Mr. Andy Johnson
FROM TRURO SCHOOL, CORNWALL



On the school's website, you describe the ethos of the school as 'compassionate, ambitious'. Could you elaborate what this means, and tell us a little bit more about the ethos and values at Truro School?

Mr. Andy Johnson: The ethos of the school is to be a place where every child is valued and every staff member is committed to the well-being of the school. We have a strong focus on academic excellence, but we also value the importance of the arts, sports, and extracurricular activities. We want to create a balanced and well-rounded education for all our students.

For non-boarding students at least as much as an education down, which I think is a very important part of the school's ethos. I love the fact that children come here, get their education, and then they have this opportunity to go to university or to work in the real world. It's a very important part of the school's ethos. It's a very important part of the school's ethos. It's a very important part of the school's ethos.

What are the main entry points for children and families considering Truro School?

Mr. Andy Johnson: We have a variety of entry points for children and families. We have a strong focus on academic excellence, but we also value the importance of the arts, sports, and extracurricular activities. We want to create a balanced and well-rounded education for all our students.

EDUCATION CORNER PODCAST WITH HEAD
Mr. Andy Johnson
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What's great about good partnerships is that everybody's equal. Everybody's working to work together to benefit everybody. There's no hierarchy there and that's what is at the heart of having partnerships.

What are your aims or hopes for the future?

Mr. Andy Johnson: We have a variety of entry points for children and families. We have a strong focus on academic excellence, but we also value the importance of the arts, sports, and extracurricular activities. We want to create a balanced and well-rounded education for all our students.

Truro School Featured in Education Choices

Head, Andy Johnson, was invited to feature in the latest edition of Education Choices Magazine, in which he talks about the bespoke boarding experience at Truro School, the school's unique Cornish setting, mental health support and compassionate values.

Truro School was also featured in Education Choices Magazine's 'Recommended Boarding Schools' Feature, positioning the school as one of the leading boarding schools in the UK.

Education Choices is an award-winning magazine that provides informed and unbiased information and explores the choices available to children, families and young people in the UK and across the globe.

<https://www.truroschoo.com/parents/news-galleries/>

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Learning New Skills on a Wednesday Afternoon

Our Wednesday community volunteering activity is highly sought after by students from 4th Year to Sixth Form, drawing in a large group of pupil volunteers each term. This is an excellent opportunity for pupils to enhance their skills and acquire practical work experience.

We spoke with seven girls participating in the volunteer program at Oxfam in Truro City Centre, where Deputy Manager, Caroline commended the student volunteers for their hard work and positive attitude, noting their increasing confidence as they engage with customers and learn new skills.

Marley, an international student from Lithuania, is involved in shop merchandising and product presentation, enjoying the opportunity to interact with customers and develop their communication skills.

If you want to learn more about this club, and the many volunteering opportunities on offer please get in touch with Mr Chamberlin.



Sixth Form Diploma Graduation

The whole school gathered together for the last assembly of the spring term to celebrate the achievements of our Sixth Form Diploma Students. It has been an exceptional two years for these students, who are the second cohort in this new and exciting Sixth Form Diploma.



Mr. Williamson commended the students who embraced the challenges and seized the numerous opportunities provided by the diploma program.

Prefects Olivia and Sam shared their reflections on their diploma experience, highlighting their participation in a wide range of activities such as Gold D of E, 1st Rugby, 1st netball, and the Charity Committee.

Mr Johnson presented these prestigious awards, with special awards given to six outstanding students who excelled in leadership and service, personal growth, and supra-curricular. Congratulations to all the Sixth Formers Diploma Students award winners.

Thank you for a fantastic term!



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