



# HOT OFF THE PRESS



STOKE  
DAMAREL

ISSUE 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

*The first half term of the new academic year has come to an end and our students have been as busy as ever!*

*We've celebrated National Poetry Day, World Mental Health Day, and Black History Month, in which our students really got involved. A group of students had the privilege to go and see the unveiling of the new Jack Leslie Statue, an influential event that they were so lucky to be a part of.*

*We have also seen a huge number of sports matches taking place in which our students have demonstrated teamwork, resilience, and commitment, traits that we want all our students to grow and develop. Well done to all students who have been involved in this term's activities.*

Best wishes,

Anita Frier, Principal



poet who performed at the event, Luke Pollard, and the Argyle Team (all of whom signed their AAT cards!)

It was a fantastic experience for our students plus they got the chance to be interviewed by BBC Radio and ITV news!

Our History Ambassadors have also been busy, creating a board that is displayed in The Street throughout October. Each of the students chose a person to research to promote stories from Black History, to educate both students and staff. Students have also displayed why Black History is important.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE...](#)

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2022

Our students have been celebrating Black History Month throughout October...

On Friday 7th October, 25 students along with Miss Booth and Miss Honeyghan, had the enormous privilege to be invited along to the unveiling of the Jack Leslie statue at Plymouth's Home Park.

Jack Leslie was a footballer who was denied his right to play for the England Squad as he was Black. His statue was unveiled by his grandchildren, and during the event, the FA announced Jack Leslie would be given a posthumous England Cap and was recognized as the first Black England Player.

Our students were extremely respectful and delighted to be part of the celebrations. They met Big Scoop, a

### DIARY DATES

Friday 11th November  
Remembrance Day

Wednesday 16th November  
Year 11 Parent Revision Evening

Monday 21st November - Friday 2nd December  
Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams

Tuesday 6th - Wednesday 7th December  
Year 12 Chemistry Trip London

## SDCC CADETS WIN CARDBOARD BOAT RACE!

Our amazing Cadets Callum, Reece and Joe took part in a local cardboard boat race run by The Devon and Cornwall Area Committee and sponsored by IMechE - Institution of Mechanical Engineers. A whopping 29 teams took place in the 'Build on the Day' challenge, in which our talented SDCC team took first place!



The team arrived at 9am and then had 3 hours to design and construct a boat from only cardboard and tape. The boat had to carry two people from the Barbican Pier to the Mayflower Steps.

Having spent only 2 hours building the team felt so confident in their craft, they spent another hour lovingly crafting silly hats from the remaining material!

Once in the water (and not sinking!) the two cadets chosen, as they were the lightest, paddled with all their might towards the finish line. With Joe at the helm they managed to secure first place!

The students had an amazing day, with lots of excellent team building and positivity. Next year, we look forward to submitting an adult team alongside, to see if they can beat our fantastic student team!



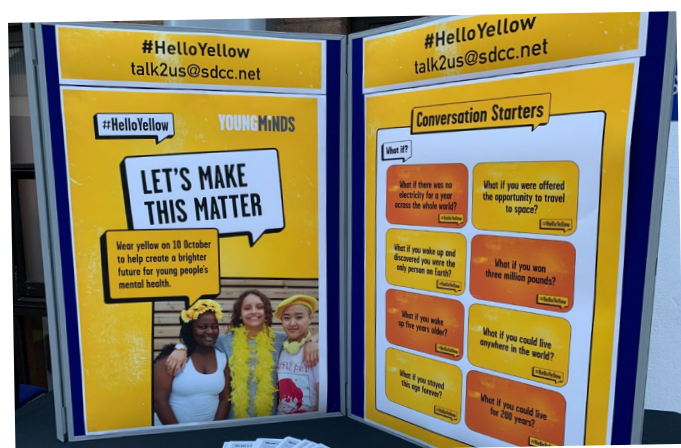
## YEAR 7 BIG DAY OUT



Our fantastic Year 7 students participated in their Ice Breaker day out to Mount Edgecombe this week.

Pupils were absolutely amazing as they participated in different activities run by their tutors and our wonderful Sixth Form Leaders.

Activities included team building games and a variety of STEAM activities. Pupils also marched to the ferry (and back) and showed wonderful resilience no matter the weather. All the Year 7 pupils represented Stoke Damerel to the highest standards, they all had a wonderful time with lots of smiles, laughter and team building.



## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

It was World Mental Health Day this month. Students raised awareness with a bright yellow board and interactive sheets in The Street. Staff and students accessorised in yellow.

The well-being and mental health of our students is paramount here at SDCC. If students need someone to speak to or are worried about peer on peer abuse, contact our Safeguarding Team: [talk2us@sdcc.net](mailto:talk2us@sdcc.net)

We are always here for you!



# NATIONAL POETRY DAY - OUR NEW POET LAUREATE!

Congratulations to Sophie, our New Poet Laureate!

On National Poetry Day, SDCC held a whole school election in order to choose the new Poet Laureate for 2022/2023. Students from all years had the opportunity to write a poem to enter the competition. There were a number of excellent entries from which three finalists were selected by a panel of judges.



It was a close competition between the three shortlisted candidates - all who produced thoughtful, well-crafted poems on the theme of The Environment - but in the end, Sophie's poem won the vote.

Sophie, our new Poet Laureate said, "I am delighted! I spent hours writing this poem and even restarted it twice! I put a lot of time and effort into this, and I'm so pleased my hard work paid off. I love writing poems, It gives me the chance to express myself and process my emotions in a creative and subtle way. I love coming up with poems in my spare time, it lets my mind run wild!

Last year, Molly enjoyed the prestigious position, and this year we are certain that Sophie will enjoy it just as much.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

## Our Wonderful World By Sophie Gallagher

Waterfalls weaving gracefully through the rocks below  
Daisies, poppies and cornflowers dancing in a meadow.  
Shades of hazel, auburn and gold leaves cascading from trees  
Fields of wheat and corn swaying in the breeze.

Spring brings Easter, little lambs and yellow daffodils too.  
Summer delivers barbecues, sandy beaches and skies of blue.  
Autumn is growing pumpkins and wearing warm woolly shawls  
Winter is Christmas trees decked in tinsel and watching snow fall.

Caterpillars emerging as beautiful butterflies, learning how to fly  
Cheery, chirping songbirds reciting their delightful lullaby.  
Foxes scurrying stealthily across deep emerald forest floors  
Bears searching ravenously for food on all fours.

This is our wonderful world and we must look after it.



## BARBICAN THEATRE'S THE REBELS YOUTH COMPANY DELIVERS WORKSHOP WITH DANCE STUDENTS

Our Dance students enjoyed a visit from the Barbican Theatre's The Rebels Youth Company this month.

The workshop was run by Charlie and focused on contemporary and commercial choreography. The students had the chance to take control and create their own dance choreography with the help and advice from professionals. Students worked in pairs or groups of three, to create a creative piece.

The students learned a huge amount about the world of commercial choreography with many saying they wanted to explore this as a career. There were lots of smiles and enthusiasm by the end of the workshop.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



## YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK TRIP

The Year 10 geographers have had an amazing opportunity to visit Bristol today, visiting key geographical areas around the city. The group managed to pack a huge amount of learning into a small amount of time and did a lot of walking!

The central theme of the day was around Urban Change and identifying evidence of past industries.

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Our Student Councillors have once again been democratically elected for this year and have held their first meetings. The student council provide a means for student expression and assistance in school affairs and activities. It give opportunities for students experiences to be shared with the senior leadership of the school and helps us to shape future opportunities and initiatives.

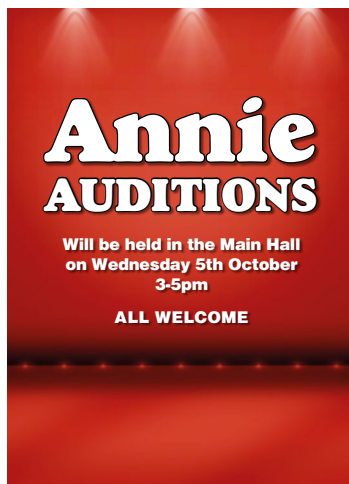
This term the student councils have been focusing on how to best raise school attendance as well as providing details of how they feel the start of the year has been and provided strong recommendations on how we can move forward over the coming months

All students have a student voice book at the back of their tutor rooms enabling them to express their views at anytime throughout the year. The next meetings will be held in November.



## ANNIE AUDITIONS

After a very busy audition for the whole school production of 'Annie' 2023 we have cast the actors and are excited to continue rehearsing with our new scripts. So much talent auditioned for the roles, making our lives as teachers extremely difficult!



Students are now busy learning lines, choreographing dance sequences and learning the music and have a busy committed rehearsal schedule ahead. We cannot wait to share the production with our supportive audience of parents, staff and friends.

Production dates: 7th/8th and 9th February

## CANTEEN UPDATE!

The new, stylish canteen is now taking shape! Students will be able to enjoy this new space in just a few short months and we are really looking forward to it!





# SDCC SPORTS NEWS

## FOOTBALL NEWS

### FANTASTIC FIRST MATCH FOR OUR YEAR 7 FOOTBALL TEAM



The Year 7 boys football team had their first ever match this week. The boys did fantastically, losing narrowly against Ivybridge who are notoriously, one of the best sides in the South West.

The boys' effort was fantastic. The game ended 3-2 to Ivybridge. Man of the Match went to Freddie for his excellent performance, however all the boys played so well, it was a very close call!

The PE staff can't wait for the Devon Cup and Plymouth Cup to start after their performance. Best of luck for the rest of the competition, we are expecting big things from this budding new team!

### YEAR 8 FOOTBALL WIN!



Our SDCC Year 8 Football Team are 'kicking' off the new season with a bang, winning the first round of the National Cup by beating Lipson 3-2!

The boys played some amazing football with lots of team spirit and positivity. Man of the Match went to Mason. Well done boys, a great start to the year, we hope it continues!

### BOYS FOOTBALL TRAINING

42 students turned out for football training at the beginning of the season, which was fantastic to see! Lots of commitment and passion has been shown which has carried through into fantastic performances in matches. Well done to all our sports stars!

## DANCE NEWS



### DANCE STUDENTS COMPLETE THEIR LEVEL 2 LEADERSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to our 13 Sports Dance Leaders who completed a Level 2 Leadership Award in Dance today!

The students were required to complete a minimum of 52 hours of additional study outside of lesson time made up of volunteering within the community, planning and delivering their own dance workshops, as well as showcasing their choreography and performance skills which they did through last year's musical of The Wizard of Oz.

After giving up every Thursday after school, the students were very proud of what they achieved and feel they have really developed their communication skills when working outside their comfort zones.

Well done to all the students, we are so proud of you!



# SDCC SPORTS

## RUGBY NEWS

### NETBALL NEWS

#### SDCC NETBALL TEAM COMES FOURTH IN PLYMOUTH TOURNAMENT



Our SDCC Netball has done fantastically well in their first tournament of the year this month. The team fought hard to finish 4th in Plymouth!

The Year 8 girls really stepped up to the mark, to support the Year 9 students, showing their great defence skills. There were some super shooting from Brooke and non-stop energy from Miley, who played every game in Centre position.

As always we were well-supported in the crowd by parents, it's lovely to have so much support each week. Well done girls, you did us proud!



#### SDCC NETBALL STARS!

Our star netball girls have been incredible as they settle into this term's fixtures.

Our Year 10 team, stepped up last minute to play in the Year 11 league after another school dropped out. Thrown in at the deep end they ended the matches; DHSG (16.4 loss) and PHSG (14.4 loss). It was a brilliant display of teamwork, resilience, and adaptability!

Our Year 11 team were amazing, and fought well against Notre Dame, finishing 10.10. They then went straight to Plympton to play Hele's with no break, with a fantastic win of 9.4.

Well done to all our amazing netball players!



#### YEAR 7 RUGBY TEAM SHOWS GREAT TEAMWORK IN TOUGH GAMES

The Year 7 Rugby team, turned up with lots of enthusiasm for the game. They showed great improvement in the second game narrowly losing 25-15 against DHSB.

Some great progress made in both games - well done boys!



#### AMAZING PERFORMANCE FROM YEAR 8 RUGBY TEAM

There was a new-look Year 8 rugby team this week, with great debuts for Oli, Josh, Mason, Harris, Myles and Leyton. There was a solid performance from Byron as captain and some incredible speed and skill on display from Sean and Blake. Henri topped the scoring and gave his most physical performance yet, making his first ever tackle - Poor Heles Player!

Final results: SDCC 10 - 15 Torpoint, SDCC 25 - 0 Heles. Well done boys!



#### YEAR 10/11 RUGBY SUCCESS



Our brilliant Year 10/11 Rugby Team put in two great performances tonight to draw 5-5 against St Boniface and then beat Plympton 20-5!

There was lots of great tackling and teamwork on show.

A special mention to our players who stood in on the opponents' team to make sure they had enough players. Well done boys!