HOTOFFTHEPRESS.

**ISSUE 3** 

Dear Parents/Carers,

The term has been another incredibly busy time, with trips and activities in abundance.

We've also had some individual student successes, including Rueben who has been successful in getting through to the Oxford University Computing Challenge.

A special mention to all our fantastic sports teams who have excelled this term, with many winning tournaments and cups. It is fantastic to see teamwork, resilience, and determination being displayed. Well done to all students involved.

Best wishes. Anita Frier, Headteacher



### **STUDENT'S WFC PERFORMANCE - NOW LIVE**

Over the last 10 months, students in Year 9 have experienced industry professionals from performing arts company 'With Flying Colours'. They have been coming into school and running various workshops including voice, movement and script work workshops.

This was our third year working on the exclusive collaboration project, with the professional development of an informal piece of performance.

Thank you so much to the staff at With Flying Colours for enabling our students have be part of this incredible experience.

## **AT SDCC**

**Our SDCC Christmas** Tree has been decorated with birds created by our students. We think they look wonderful!







## **OUR POET LAURETTE'S CHRISTMAS POEM**

The time for cosy winter nights are here once more, Grabbing a blanket, settling into a film or four. Time for opening presents and sitting by the fire, Singing songs together and dressing in festive attire.

Throw on your Christmas jumper, drag yourself to school Setting homework so close to Christmas just feels cruel. Nearly the Christmas holidays, keep going, countdown the days Celebrating Christmas in our own special ways.

The Christmas tree in The Street every December Shining so brightly it looks like a fiery, amber ember Deck it with stars, add the hand-made decorations It's nearly Christmas time, make all the preparations.

Solving Christmas themed Maths sheets, Artistic birds lining the entirety of the street. Pulling crackers, eating Christmas dinner in colourful paper hats Arguing about sprouts, digging into the turkey plump and fat

Whilst the current year is coming to an end, We still have time to cheer and make amends. The Christmas season is ephemeral But the joyful, busy atmosphere remains at Stoke Damerel.

#### **CLICK HERE TO READ MORE**

#### STUDENTS VISITED BY THE ARMY MEDICAL CORPS AND MILLIE, THE WORKING DOG!

This term, we were joined by representatives from the Army Medical Corp with a special guest appearance from Millie, a retired army working dog.



The Army Medical Corp spent

time with our BTEC Health and Social Care Students in year's 11, 12 and 13, where they listened to a presentation on medical careers within the Army and an explanation on how to apply.

The students got to spend time with Millie and her dog handler, and learnt all about her career as well as what sorts of things she had to do. They also got to hear from Millie's Handler and what it's like to be a Dog Handler within the Army.

They also got to practise bandages and first aid, look at the equipment that army medics use and learn amazing facts about life within the Army Medical Corp.

It was a fantastic event and students were completely engrossed in the whole session. Thank you so much for coming in and giving our students an insight into different career paths, they loved every second, especially meeting Millie!





### ODDBALLS FOUNDATION TALK

Oddballs Foundation came in to see our sixth form student's cross campus this week. Students heard from Kitan, an Oddballs Ambassador, about the foundation and the importance of checking for testicular cancer.

We look forward to working with the Oddballs Foundation in the future!



#### YEAR 11 GCSE LOCATION PHOTOSHOOT

Year 11 GCSE photography students got to experience what it was like to go out on a location photoshoot.

One group visited Central Park and another ventured down to Royal William Yard and were all blessed with beautiful sunshine.

All students managed to all take at least 100 photos each building up a mass portfolio to use within their coursework to create some 'Surreal' edits.

The students had a great time and really developed their confidence with what can be done with the DSLR cameras. All the students behaved impeccably and were a real credit to the school.

**SEE MORE STUDENTS PHOTOS HERE** 



#### REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022

To mark Remembrance Day this year, our students have worked hard to show their appreciation to all those who served in WW1.

At 10.55am all lessons finished and a special Remembrance poem, created by our Poet Laureate, Sophie, was read

out in a special recording for all students to hear. At 11am, all students observed a 2-minute silence whilst a remembrance presentation was shown on screens within classrooms.

Students who are members of the CCF, RAF, Scouts, Army Cadets and Sea Cadets all came together in their uniforms to perform a beautiful remembrance parade.

There was also an incredible display of WW1 artefacts brought into the college and the most stunning installation in the Street, made up of poppies which students have coloured and personalised.

This has been a fantastic opportunity for all of our students to commemorate an important event and get involved with and witness such an important and pivotal part of History.

#### CLICK HERE TO READ MORE















### YEAR 6 STUDENTS GIVEN HEART DISSECTION SESSION BY SDCC STAFF

Year 6 students at Montpelier Primary School had the fantastic opportunity to learn all about the heart, this week, with SDCC science teachers.

Having just finished their science topic on the human body, the students got to take a closer look at the heart, learning about the different parts and the role it plays in keeping the human body alive.





#### "LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE!"

Another successful afternoon of African Drumming with the help of our Year 6 Stuart Road Primary School Musicians.

This week, students were composing their own rhythmical pieces and performed them as a whole class ensemble. Students experimented with tempo and even added their voices in to create variation to their work. We can't wait to hear what they create in their next session.

### STUDENTS MAKE CENTRIFUGE WITH BD PLYMOUTH AND CHARITY SMALLPEICE

BD Plymouth, who manufactures BD Vacutainer<sup>®</sup> tubes, along with the charity Smallpeice, hosted an amazing STEM event for 60 of our Year 9 students to build a centrifuge.

Students were put into groups of 4 or 5 and tasked to build component parts of a centrifuge with BD STEM Ambassadors, who are current BD Engineering Apprentices, supporting each group of students.

It was great for the students to learn about such an important piece of machinery and also gain an insight into the sorts of job roles and skills used within BD Plymouth. Thank you so much for coming in and we hope we can offer this amazing opportunity to more of our students in the future.

#### **CLICK HERE TO READ MORE**



#### SUPERSTAR REUBEN THROUGH TO THE FIRST ROUND OF THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY COMPUTING CHALLENGE

Reuben who regularly attends the Code Club after school, was entered into the Bebras Computing Challenge. As a result, he is through to the Oxford University Computing Challenge.

Reuben achieved a score of 129 points, putting him in the top 10% of all students nationally. There are over 185,000 students, just in his age group, so this is a huge achievement.

Reuben said, "I am really chuffed and excited. I was quietly confident as I seem to pick computing up really easily. I really enjoy it and it interests me so therefore I find myself working on projects without thinking it may help me in a competitive environment."

Well done Reuben! CLICK HERE TO READ MORE









#### **SDCC CADET ACTIVITIES**

Over half-term, cadets Georgia and Morgane joined Devon ACF for a weeks training at Okehampton Battle Camp, which included a 2-day exercise at Scraesdon Fort, long range shooting at Tregantle, as well as drill and first aid.

Georgia secured a place on the course to enable her to complete the residential section for her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. Morgane, also did exceptionally well on the course, and is now eligible to be promoted to sergeant!

Well done to both girl, this has been a fantastic opportunity that has enriched and broadened their horizon, both outside and within school.





#### A LEVEL ART TRIP TO THE BRITISH ART SHOW 9

Year 12 and 13 A Level Art students enjoyed a visit to the touring British Art Show 9, whilst it is currently in Plymouth.

The students also visited various venues across the city, and viewed a wide variety of art, to increase their cultural capital.

#### CLICK HERE TO READ MORE



SPCC BOOK CLUB

Our SDCC Book Club have been reading and sharing their thoughts on the book, 'Dear Emma' this half-term. The book is by local author Eleanor Halton about a boy called Harry who is evacuated to a Devon farm during WW1.

If you would like to join the Book Club, come along to the SDCC Library at Break A on Fridays.

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 11th January Year 11 and 13 Parents Evening

#### SAVE THE DATE

Thursday 26th January SDCC Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 1st February Year 9 Parents Evening & Options Evening

Tuesday 7th - Thursday 9th February School Production of Annie



#### FIRST PLACE FOR AMELIA IN THE PLYMOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Our incredible student, Amelia, is aiming high as she wins the Plymouth Music Festival in her category for singing, with a score of 86 out of 100.

Amelia, our budding singer is excelling with her extracurricular activities. Amelia is keen to promote self-love and that anything is possible if you put yourself forward and do what you love.

"I sing because it makes me happy and makes me forget about any bad things that have happened. I also write my own songs about my life experiences, it helps me to deal with my feelings, and it builds my confidence."

#### **CLICK HERE TO READ MORE**





#### PREVIOUS SIXTH FORM STUDENT, SAMUEL, UPDATES US ON NEW CAREER PATH

"I am extremely proud to announce that I passed out on Friday after completing my 10-week basic training at HMS Raleigh. I am now at HMS Collingwood in Fareham, completing my 6 months initial training as a Communication Information Specialist."

Samuel also received his Gold Duke of Edinburgh award a couple of weeks ago. Well done Sam!

## STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE



Students discussed safety within the school, with the consensus being that students felt safe in school and received additional learning about how to keep themselves safe outside of school.

Students then shared ideas of how to improve aspects across the campus. The points raised were really constructive and there were some great ideas to help to improve certain aspects.

#### What we've done

- New traffic control equipment outside the school
- A new menu will be released in line with the opening of the new canteen in January
- More information around areas such as equal rights and minority groups have been planned
- Paper copy of revision guides for Year 11



#### **ANNIE AUDITIONS**

Our auditions are in full swing!

We are so excited about our first cross campus production. Parts have been cast and students are well under way in learning their lines. They are working really hard, four days a week in rehearsal to make sure the production is the best it can be!

#### **SAVE THE DATE: 7th - 9th February** Tickets will go on sale at the end of January.

HIPING SPCC

The college boasts a wide range of indoor and outdoors spaces facilities available for hire.

For further information and to <u>view our 360</u> <u>virtual tours</u>, please email communitysports@sdcc.net or visit School Hire: https://sdcc.schoolhire.co.uk/

#### FUNDRAISING FOR THE LOCAL CHIRSTMAS FOOD BANK

Students helped to raise money for the Christmas Local Food Bank Appeal by running a number of activities.

Students organised a penalty shootout and bake sale, hot chocolates were served, and we even had an axe throwing range on the field! There was also a special 'Sponge the Teacher' event in which Miss Frier, along with Mr O'Brian and Mrs Osmaston, volunteered to endure 30 minutes of getting sponged by the students on one of the coldest days of the winter so far! <u>CLICK HERE TO READ MORE</u>



#### SIXTH FORM STUDENTS VISIT EXETER UNI LIBRARY

A group of our Year 13 History students had the opportunity to visit Exeter University Library for their History A Level coursework.



They used the superb resources at Exeter University, to find primary resources for their Vietnam War project.



Our new spring clubs list is out!

DOWNLOAD FROM OUR WEBSITE



# **SDCC SPORTS NEWS**

FOOTBALL NEWS

#### YEAR 7 FOOTBALL TEAM WIN FIRST ROUND OF THE DEVON CUP



The Year 7 Boys Football Team, travelled up to Torquay last night for the first round of the Devon Cup.

The boys did amazingly well to beat Spires Community College 5-4. They were 3-1 up at half-time and then had to battle against the steep hill and horrendous wind to hold on. Every one of the students contributed on the pitch, resulting in the boys winning and moving on to the next round. Well done boys!

## YEAR 7/8 GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM



The SDCC Year 7/8 girls football team attended a tournament, putting on an excellent team performance.

Throughout the afternoon and were a delight to be with. They played some very strong opposition teams which led to 1 win, 1 draw and 5 narrow losses.

## YEAR 8 BOYS DEVON CUP FOOTBALL



The Year 8's secured a convincing win over Axe Valley in the Devon Cup today winning 6-0.

Everyone played well with stand out performances from Markuss, Oli and Mason. Well done boys - a fantastic achievement!

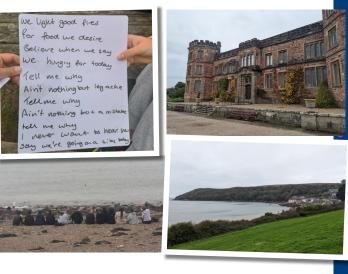
#### DOFE TRIP TO MOUNT EDGCUMBE

Students joined together for their first Silver DofE practise day, this week.

They took on the 5.7 mile walk as well as several challenges including 2 steep hills but were all smiling at the end!

The day also involved workshops to encourage pupils to work as a team and to focus on their expedition aims. Pupils enjoyed rock pooling, creating team songs (see photo of our best lyrics), sketching the beautiful views, photo challenges and many more.

Pupils demonstrated creativity, resilience, good humour and teamwork throughout. We look forward to more DofE workshops and our practise walks.





## YEAR 8 RUGBY COME 3RD IN PLYMOUTH CUP

Our Year 8 Rugby Team took part in the Plymouth Cup and performed really well finishing 3rd overall!

The team showed great attitude and resilience to win some very close matches with everyone contributing at different times.



# **SDCC SPORTS**



#### YEAR 7 NETBALL TEAM SHOW AMAZING DETERMINATION



Year 7 played their final friendly matches tonight. The girls showed wonderful determination against some tough opposition.

The girls also coped wonderfully with some playing out of position. We can't wait to see the girls develop more through training sessions and matches!

Player of the match was Mica, for outstanding improvement from last week and being a strong member of defence. Mica was the chosen player by both opposition teams and Miss Turner.

Well done girls!



#### YEAR 8/9 GIRLS' NETBALL TEAMS SHOWS IMPRESSIVE SPIRIT

It has been a busy time for our girls' netball ball teams, with both Year 8 and Year 9 teams playing exceptionally well.

The Year 9 Netball Team girls had the upper hand against Plymstock and secured an 7-4 result, a great come back after being 2-0 down. The girls continued to play to a high standard against a strong PHS team, unfortunately losing 11-2.

The Year 8 girls netball team had two fixtures against tough opposition. They played some fantastic netball, with some excellent shooting by Brooke. Unfortunately both teams proved too strong in the second half.



#### YEAR 9 BOY'S RUGBY TEAM COMES SECOND IN PLYMOUTH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

PUGBY NEWS

The boys performed incredibly well, showing amazing team work and skills evidenced by winning 5 out of their 6 games, and finishing second in the tournament! The games were played in a great spirit and the team showed lots of improvement.



## YEAR 7 RUGBY TEAM, WINNING 3/3 MATCHES!

Our amazing Year 7 Rugby Team put in a brilliant performance in their matches this week, winning all three of their matches today.

There were lots of excellent tackling, running, and teamwork which resulted in incredible results, against DHSB, St Boniface, and Plympton Academy.



Well done boys!

## SDCC YEAR 10/11 RUGBY TEAM FINISHES 3RD IN THE TOURNAMENT



Congratulations to the team on finishing 3rd in the tournament.

The boys made great improvement, learning from mistakes, working together as a team and sharpening their skills. They played some great rugby as a team!