



# HOT OFF THE PRESS



STOKE  
DAMAREL

ISSUE 5

Dear Parents/Carers,

*This half-term has been filled with trips, workshops and amazing opportunities for our students, including a residential to Manchester for a football packed few days. Students also had the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament, The Eden Project and the Theatre Royal.*

*We also celebrated the success of our DofE students, who have worked so hard over the last year to gain valuable skills which will help aid them in their future pathways.*

*Students have once again, excelled within their sports teams with several Cups won in Rugby, Netball and Football. The talent and dedication our students show is always second to none and we commend them on this.*

*We look back on positive memories but also look forward to plenty more exciting opportunities in the coming term.*

Best wishes,

Anita Frier, Headteacher



## RED NOSE DAY 2023

Staff and students have come together to create a jam-packed day full of fun activities for all the students, all in aid of raising much-needed funds for Red Nose Day 2023.

Activities included: red accessories, penalty shoot out, basketball 3 point challenge, guess the number of sweets in the jar, a student quiz and tag archery.

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



## FOOTBALL TRIP TO MANCHESTER

A group of football-mad Year 7 and Year 8 students embarked on a fun-filled trip to Manchester over the weekend.

On the first day, students visited Old Trafford Centre where they enjoyed a tour of the Manchester United Stadium and played a game of bowling in the evening.

The next day, the students visited the National Football Museum which is England's national museum of football. There was also some free time to shop in Manchester before the final stop of the tour, the much-anticipated FA Cup Quarter Final match between Manchester City and Burnley. The trip really did end on a positive, after Manchester City won 6-0, with plenty of cheering and positive energy.

The students came back tired but full of amazing memories and incredible experiences.







## DOFE AWARDS NIGHT 2023

We held our first cross campus Duke of Edinburgh Awards Evening this half term, celebrating all the incredible achievements our students have accomplished over the last year.

Simeon, Bronze Award student said, "I have gained so many new experiences and formed friendships with new members of the group. DofE was the most amazing thing I did. It has helped me to discover new clubs and activities."

Geri, Silver Award student added, "DofE helped me to become more confident with map reading, setting up tents, packing my bag with all of the essentials and cooking using cooking stoves."

Mia, Gold Award student said, "I found DofE to be challenging and stressful, but at the same time absolutely exhilarating. It taught me to push past my limits and step outside of my comfort zone."

Hobson, Gold Award winner said, "From completing my Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE I have gained friends, skills and memories for life. Since completing the Duke of Edinburgh Awards I have now been invited to collect my full award in London from the Palace."

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



## DOFE GOLD EXPEDITION

The Year 12 Gold DofE students participated in their first practice walk this week by completing an 8-mile loop in Merrivale on Dartmoor.

Even though the students were very cold they soon warmed up once they started navigating across the beautiful moorland. The Year 12's enjoyed navigating, exploring and climbing the tors.

The students were a real example of enthusiasm, dedication and endurance. They all really enjoyed their first walking experience and came away excited about their next challenge.



## DIGITAL AMBASSADORS

SDCC has introduced a new group of superstar Digital Ambassadors, who have been working on a number of exciting digital projects.

During this half term, a selection of ambassadors has been working with the IT Support Team, helping them with room checks, Chromebook trolley checks, and helping to resolve IT issues around SDCC. All of the Digital Ambassadors have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity and are really looking forward to helping out more in the future.

After his 'Work Experience', Reuben in Year 8 said: "Is it okay if I help the IT team every day because I absolutely loved it! I'm looking forward to helping take apart a Chromebook soon too."

Watch out for more activity from our savvy Digital Ambassadors next term!

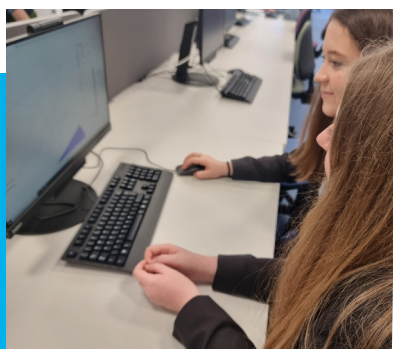




## YEAR 11 PHOTOGRAPHY STUDENTS GET CREATIVE ON PLYMOUTH HOE

This week Mrs Green took a group of Year 11 Photography students down to Plymouth Hoe and the Barbican area to complete a location photoshoot as part of the exam component of their GCSE.

All students behaved impeccably representing the school and all completed a good range of images to use in their upcoming mocks. The photos shared are ones taken by the students and are currently unedited so watch this space!



# PARTICLE PHYSICS MASTERCLASS AT PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Year 11 students went to Plymouth University to attend a Particle Physics Masterclass.

The students listened to lectures on the basics of Particle Physics and participated in exercises to analyse data from the Large Hadron Collider at CERN.

After lunch, the students took part in a conference call with researchers from CERN and other schools from around Europe to collate all the data together. Students were also treated with a virtual tour of the LHCb experiment in Geneva!

The students had a fantastic day and gained valuable knowledge and experience. They enjoyed working together as a team and also connecting with other students around the world.

# UCAS DISCOVERY TOUR

The event hosted over 100 universities, colleges, and apprenticeship employers. It gave them a fantastic opportunity to learn about different options and pathways for their future.

Our Year 12 students were buzzing with information when they got back on the bus, carrying with them lots of information and, of course, freebies from the exhibitors!

Lucy said, “It was great to see different universities with the same courses, so I could compare the exact details of the different places and make a better informed choice.”

Sam said, "The trip has definitely broadened my horizons; I am now considering different universities."

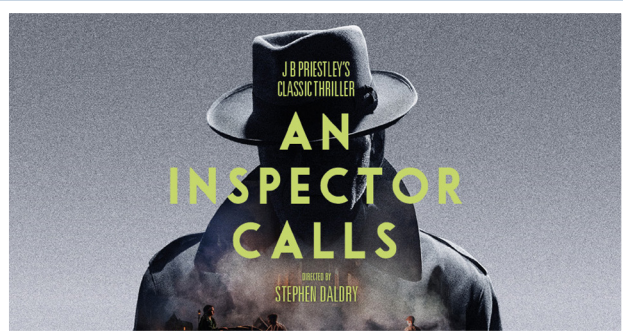


## EASTER EVENTS

Please view below the events in our local area over Easter. Click on the links for more information.

## Plymouth Performing Arts Academy

## Fit & Fed Experience Days



## AN INSPECTOR CALLS

94 Year 11 students attended a performance of An Inspector Calls at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

Year 11 student, Geri said “The production of ‘An Inspector Calls’ left me speechless because everything was performed in such an amazing way. It was an experience full of emotions, and it definitely helped me with my revision.’

All GCSE students study 'An Inspector Calls' as part of their English Literature course, so this trip has been an invaluable experience for all the students.





## SALMON INCENTIVE

Year 10 students got the chance to be part of the Fish Heroes project, which encourages young people to learn about, cook and taste fish.

The students cooked 'Cajun Blackened Salmon' with boiled rice and salsa learning new food skills which they will be able to use in the future. As part of the lesson, they also tasted the salmon dishes they prepared.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

## NO LABEL NO LIMITS WORKSHOP

We were fortunate to have the next workshop in a series of 6 for some of our year 9 female students. No Label No Limit is a personal development programme, inspiring and empowering Year 9 girls to reach their potential.

This latest workshop was around resilience and kindness. We were joined by three inspiring employers who spent time speaking to the girls both as a large group and individually about their personal experience of being resilient.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



## GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS VISIT THE EDEN PROJECT

A fantastic group of 97 Year 8 Geographers took up the exciting opportunity offered by the geography department of visiting The Eden Project in Cornwall.

In high spirits, the group arrived and attended a fascinating talk about the history and development of the Eden Project.

Following the talk, the students explored the biomes, where they encountered over 1000 different plant species! The group behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



## PARLIAMENT TRIP

Students from KS3 had the exciting opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament this half term.

The students listened to Michael Gove and Suella Braverman debating about the UK housing situation and immigration as well as having their own debates.

Students were so excited that after their lessons looking at democracy and how we use debates to get our views across, they were actually seeing it happen in real life. This experience for the students was invaluable to help them with their learning of the British Values.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)







## SDCC CAREERS FAIR

SDCC held its annual Careers Fair today. Over 22 representatives from universities, colleges, the armed forces, and local employers came to talk to our students.

Students gained information about what education, employment, and training are available and spoke to employers about what they were looking for from their employees and how to apply to training providers for apprenticeship opportunities.

## NSPCC ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS



The NSPCC is running a series of free Online Safety Workshops for Parents & Carers.

Visit our website for more information and to request joining details, please email [parentworkshops@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:parentworkshops@nspcc.org.uk)

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

## WORLD BOOK DAY

In celebration of World Book Day 2023, our students have had the opportunity to take part in a range of engaging activities such as our great SDCC World Book Day Quiz, finding their next favourite book, learning about books that were made into movies and our highly anticipated extreme reading challenge.

Every student was also able to download a free World Book Day book token and pick up a book at a participating retailer.



## SOCIAL APP GUIDANCE

Social apps are becoming increasingly popular with young people. It is important that we are aware of the apps our students may be active on and ensure they are using them safely.

### WHAT IS WHATSAPP?

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number.

What age rating is WhatsApp? The app is rated 16+.

### WHAT IS BEREAL?

BeReal is a popular image-sharing app where you can post your own pictures as well as view other people's. Users can only post once a day and are only able to see their friends' images if they have shared their own.

At a different time every day, users receive an alert telling them it's 'Time to BeReal'. This gives them two minutes to take a picture, using both the front and back camera of their device and post it on the app. You can add captions to your images and each image you take is saved into a collection of 'memories' which is displayed on your profile.

What age rating is BeReal? The app is rated 12+

### Risks of BeReal and Whatsapp

- Pressure to over share
- Location sharing
- Inappropriate content
- Over sharing
- Unwanted contact
- Cyberbullying
- Pressure to respond

For more information visit: [www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child)



# CCF NEWS



## CCF STUDENTS ON OVERNIGHT EXERCISE

Our CCF students enjoyed an overnight exercise on Dartmoor this weekend.

The juniors consolidated their basic field craft with a night under canvas, they also got the opportunity (if they chose too) to learn how to skin rabbits and pigeons.

The senior cadets were treated (by a serving member of the British Special Forces) to a night walk to find an "enemy" position which they attacked the following day using blank rounds and pyrotechnics.

All the cadets thoroughly enjoyed the exercise and a lot of fun was had by all. Well done to all for your commitment and hard work.

## MR O'BRIEN PROMOTED

Congratulations to Mr O'Brien on his promotion from AUO to 2nd Lieutenant. It is so great that our students benefit from his vast amount of experience and knowledge.



## DIARY DATES

Year 7 and 12 Parents Evening  
**Wednesday 26th April**

Lisbon Trip  
**Tuesday 16th May**

Year 10 Parents Evening  
**Wednesday 17th May**

## CADETS ATTEND FORMAL MILITARY DINNER



On Friday night our incredible cadets were invited to a formal military dinner at Plymouth College.

The dinner hosted guests from the local community as well as serving armed forces personnel. Before dining the cadets held conversations with guests and made them feel comfortable. During the Silver Service, 3-course meal they set the standard of good table etiquette which is paramount in the military.

After dinner, the mess games started; The cadets were introduced to an Officer Training Corp, and played their favourite game, bridging, followed by a very intense and competitive game of musical chairs!

It was a great experience for the cadets and a reward which they truly deserve after working incredibly hard over the last year.

## MISS OSMASTON COMPLETES SKILL AT ARMS INSTRUCTORS COURSE

Congratulations to Miss Osmaston, who, last week completed a Skill At Arms Instructors Course at Frimley Park CT.

The course is run by the Small Arms School Corps (SASC), who deliver this to the regular forces as well.

Miss Osmaston said, "It was the hardest course I have done for the Cadets, and I'm pleased (and relieved) to have passed it! This will allow us to deliver comprehensive training for the CCF, and help them be competent, safe, and accurate when it comes to training!"

We are so pleased our students get to work with such a dedicated and knowledgeable member of staff!





## IMOGEN WINS CHROMEBOOK FROM BEDROCK LEARNING

Congratulations to our Year 7 student, Imogen, who has won a Chromebook for her consistent completion of Bedrock lessons within English.

Imogen was entered into a prize draw after completing a substantial amount of questions correctly qualifying her to be in with a chance of winning the Chrome book. She received this surprise presentation in front of her entire year group in an assembly and preceded by a drum roll!



## CARBON & CLIMATE WORKSHOP

Year 8 students had a fantastic opportunity to take part in a Carbon and Climate workshop with Daniel Larn an Innovation Manager at RegenFARM.

This event explored the issues of climate change and the effects it is having on our world through a series of engaging curriculum linked activities.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE](#)



# SDCC SPORTS NEWS

## NETBALL NEWS

### YEAR 8 GIRLS NETBALL

The Year 8 Netball girls had a great end of season tournament finishing 3rd in Plymouth overall!

A special mention to:  
Stars - Harmony for excellent shooting under pressure.  
Diamonds - Ella for being everywhere on the court & for working hard at turning the ball over.



### YEAR 7 GIRLS NETBALL

On Wednesday the year 7 netball team went to Heles for their end of season tournament and the girls were absolutely incredible. They won 5 of their matches and drew 1. [CLICK HERE TO VIEW MORE](#)



## RUGBY NEWS

### YEAR 7 RUGBY CUP WIN!

Our Year 7 Rugby Team competed in the Cunningham Cup Rugby Festival against other schools from Plymouth.



The team played some brilliant rugby all day and were crowned deserved champions having won six out of six matches!

Every player made a contribution to the team with excellent tackling and running constantly on show. A special mention to Tao who finished top try scorer in the tournament and Josh for how well he organised and led the team.

For lots of the team it was their first experience of rugby this year and they were a credit to the school!  
Well done boys!





# SDCC SPORTS NEWS

## FOOTBALL NEWS

### YEAR 7 GIRLS FOOTBALL

Our year 7 girls had a football fixture against a very good Eggbuckland side.

Despite not winning the match the girls showed great character throughout the game and worked really hard for one another.



### FREDDIE IMPRESSES IN FOOTBALL MATCH

Our amazing Year 9 student, Freddie proudly represented Plymouth and Stoke Damerel in the Under 14's Plymouth School Football Association game.

Freddie will be an integral part of the squad for the season as we look to win the South West Cup for a 5th time. Well done!



### YEAR 8 SPORTS LEADERS TAKE EVENT WITH LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our Year 8 Sports Leaders once again proved themselves to be fantastic leaders.

As part of the event, our Sports Leaders each led a warm-up, a football skills session and officiated lots of matches.

Well done - another great event that ran smoothly due to their hard work and enthusiasm.



### GIRLS U13'S FOOTBALL TEAM THROUGH TO NEXT STAGE OF ESFA FOOTBALL CUP



Our talented Under 13's Girls Football Team, ventured down to Hayle for the ESFA Girls Under 13 Football Cup match this week, with a very successful outcome!

It took the girls a while to get into the game; having to play up a slope in the first half was a disadvantage and very challenging. The girls went into the break 3-1 down.

However, an incredible second half performance and a last minute winning goal meant we walked away with a 4-3 win and therefore go through to the next round of the cup!

Player of the match goes to Lyla for bagging all four of our goals. Excellent team performance all round!



### STUDENTS COMPETE IN CROSS-COUNTRY COMPETITION

Our Year 7 and 8's competed in a cross-country competition at Coombe Dean school.

The Year 7 Boys Team did a fantastic job with all four of them finishing in the top 20 of their race, with Ollie managing to finish 5th!

The Year 8 Team also performed brilliantly with both Jayden and Byron finishing in the top 20. A special mention should go to Ella who was the only girl to represent SDCC in her race and finished in 9th place out of 30. All three of them did amazingly well considering they were in Year 8/9 races.