



HOT OFF THE PRESS



STOKE
DAMEREL

ISSUE 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of this half-term, there's much to celebrate and reflect upon. We're thrilled to be part of the top-performing trust in the UK.

Our Year 7 students had a brilliant experience during their Big Day Out, and we've enjoyed a host of exciting trips and activities. Highlights include hosting our annual campus clubs fair, announcing our new Poet Laureate, Paula, and Poetry Champion, Sophie, as well as launching our campus production of Oliver Jr.

On the sports front, our teams have continued to shine, showing remarkable commitment and effort. Their achievements have earned consistent praise from our external partners, and we couldn't be prouder of their progress.

We are also excited to introduce our new house captains. Our House Leaders have done a fantastic job working with our newly appointed house captains to hand out our new house ties to the students, participate in fun fridays and help select charities for each house to fundraise for.

In addition to these accomplishments, we've been actively involved in marking important occasions such as World Mental Health Day and Black History Month, with our students deeply engaging in discussions and activities surrounding these topics.

Exciting developments are also underway with the expansion of our new sporting facilities. The plans complement the work already underway to transform the former Brickfields Sports Centre into a new community health and wellbeing hub that will be operated by the Argyle Community Trust.

As we look ahead, we anticipate the next half-term to be just as bustling and rewarding!

Best wishes,
Anita Frier, Headteacher



MEET OUR NEW POET LAUREATE. PAULA. AND CAMPUS POETRY CHAMPION. SOPHIE!

We are delighted to announce that Paula, our talented Year 9 student, has been crowned the new Poet Laureate following a rigorous competition with exceptional entries from all year groups. Additionally, Sophie, our gifted Year 11 student, has been named the new Campus Poetry Champion and will collaborate with the Poet Laureate, offering guidance and support to inspire students to explore poetry and self-expression.

Paula, our new Poet Laureate said, "I feel elated, that I would have the opportunity to represent the school and show my poetic talent. I am very proud of myself."



Paula's Poem: Counting Age

Counting age,
A journey through time
Each birthday a chapter,
A rhythm,
A rhyme.
From playful youth
To Wisdom's embrace.

Lines on faces,
Stories untold,
Memories cherished - silver and gold.
Many childhood secrets that
will not unfold,
With each passing year
A new stage,
Embracing the wisdom
Of counting age.

[CLICK HERE TO READ PAULA'S STORY...](#)

[CLICK HERE TO READ SOPHIE'S STORY...](#)



FRESH TAKE ON HISTORY WITH THE MUSICAL 'SIX'

Forty students across years 10, 11 and 13 had the opportunity to attend a spectacular performance of the musical "Six" at the Theatre Royal Plymouth. This production offers a fresh take on the lives of Henry VIII's six wives, telling their stories through a lively and modern musical style.

The show not only captivated the students but also offered valuable insights that aligned with the GCSE History curriculum, making it both an engaging and educational experience.

The excitement of attending a sold-out performance added to the evening's thrill. Daisy shared, "I have never been to a sold-out show before, the theatre was packed full of people. It was such an amazing evening and a brilliant performance to watch."

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE...](#)



THEATRE TRIP TO SEE '& JULIET'

Thirty-Seven of our Year 8 & 9 students had an unforgettable time at the Theatre Royal Plymouth, watching the critically acclaimed musical '& Juliet'! This modern twist on Shakespeare's classic Romeo & Juliet had everyone buzzing with excitement.

For many, it was their first time at the theatre, and they were blown away by the set design, costumes, and the magic of live performance. Some were even inspired to explore careers in the performing arts!

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE...](#)

CAMPUS PRODUCTION OF 'OLIVER JR' ANNOUNCED

Auditions for our 2024/25 campus production of 'Oliver Jr' are well underway!

We are so excited to watch the final show in February. Keep an eye out for more updates and how you can purchase your tickets.



KEY DATES

SDCC Remembrance Service

Monday 11th November

Year 10 Parents Evening

Thursday 14th November

Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams

Monday 25th November - Friday 6th December

Sixth Form Parents Evening

Tuesday 17th December



CROSS-CAMPUS CLUBS FAYRE

Students from all-year groups came together for our annual Cross-Campus Clubs Fayre. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as students explored a variety of extracurricular activities, signed up for their top choices, and got to know the staff behind each club.

Our clubs cover a broad spectrum of interests. Whether you're into sports, performing arts, visual arts, English, Maths, IT, or cooking, there's something for everyone. For those with unique hobbies, we also offer special interest clubs. Pokémon fans can get involved in the Pokémon Club, while students seeking a peaceful and creative outlet can join the Mindfulness Club.

As clubs begin, we're excited to see students engage in these incredible opportunities.

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

YEAR 7'S BIG DAY OUT

Our Year 7 house teams had an amazing adventure at Mount Edgcumbe for their annual "Big Day Out"! The day was packed with fun, team-building activities that encourage teamwork and a sense of adventure.

From scavenger hunts on nature walks to beach rock pooling and stacking twenty-seven stones in a rock tower competition, our students really brought along their competitive spirit!

The Big Day Out was a fantastic way to kick off the year.

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

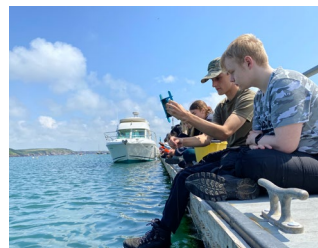


CCF SHINES AT ARMY CADETS REGIONAL FIRST AID COMPETITION

This year, SDCC proudly hosted the Army Cadets Regional First Aid Competition, where cadets from Plymouth College CCF made their debut, demonstrating their remarkable first aid skills.

Despite being first-time participants, Plymouth College CCF exceeded expectations. Their thorough preparation paid off, earning them the title of HQ South West CCF First Aid Team. In recognition of their outstanding performance, Ssgt Elliot, Sgt Swaddle, Lcpl Culver and Lcpl Hopkins received gold medals and brigade First Aid colours, presented by Colonel Guest.

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



YEAR 12 BIOLOGY STUDENTS EXPLORE THE WELSH COASTLINE

Our Year 12 biology students from across the campus travelled to the far western tip of Wales for a biology field work course, contributing to the practical component of their A-level studies.

They spent an incredible week at the Dale Fort Field Studies Centre, discussing the balance of ecosystems, becoming patient crab catchers, and some even became dedicated bee rescuers to help the local bee population.

Reflecting on the trip, Dr. Wright commented, "The students were outstanding. Spending time with such an amazing group of young people was a real privilege for all involved."

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

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

As Black History Month 2024 unfolds, our school community comes together to celebrate the invaluable contributions of black individuals to British society.



To support our commitment to recognising these trailblazers, we have organised a variety of educational activities throughout the month. Students from all backgrounds have engaged in lessons about influential black figures in history. Additionally, we have set up presentations on screens around our school, showcasing the lives and achievements of notable black individuals.

Black History Month is not just about education; it's also a celebration of the diverse cultures and traditions that enrich our community.

Together, we can amplify their voices and ensure that their stories continue to inspire and drive progress in our society.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

In honour of World Mental Health Day, students participated in special assemblies focused on the importance of mental health and wore yellow accessories throughout the day to show their support.

We were also treated to a special Michael Jackson dance by our talented student Levi. His performance was nothing short of spectacular and had all of the students on their feet.

Remember: There are always staff in school to talk to, however you are feeling, it matters. Talk 2 us is available for students to raise any concerns or worries.

talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net

The more people who stand out and show up, the more comfortable young people will feel about talking to someone if they are struggling.



Wear it loud. Wear it proud.

The World Mental Health Day. This October, wear yellow and discuss it with friends.
Let's Plan To - 2 young people are getting the support they need for their mental health. This needs to change. Who your support - is you.

#HelloYellow M&S | YOUNGMINDS



SIXTH FORM GEOGRAPHERS VISIT MILLBAY AND TOTNES

Our Sixth Form geography students had the chance to step outside the classroom and explore the real-world geography of Millbay and Totnes. The trip was designed to help them understand the concept of "changing places" and see first-hand how different areas adapt to economic and social shifts.

One of our students, Joseph, reflected on the experience, saying: "This was such a great day packed with lots of interesting information that we didn't know before". Amelia also commented, "This was a really good study day, the market in Totnes was great"

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



UWE BRISTOL AND UCAS FAIR

Our Year 12 students had the chance to visit UWE Bristol, where they had the opportunity to explore university life and tour their different departments including: Business, Engineering, and Medicine.

They also attended the UCAS fair at Ashton Gate, where they connected a range of universities and apprenticeship providers.

The trip was both inspiring and productive, giving students valuable insight as they plan their future career paths.

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

You can also reach out to **YoungMinds** at www.youngminds.org.uk who are there to support young people and their mental health.

NEW SPORTS FACILITIES

Our new expansion of sporting facilities is well underway here at Stoke Damerel Community College and Scott Medical and Healthcare College.

As part of the city's ongoing investment in sports facilities, a brand new, 2G sand pitch will be installed for both school and community use with modern flood lighting to ensure that it can be used all year round for hockey.

Meanwhile, a smaller rubber-crumb 3G surface will also be built for use for football and contact rugby training will replace the standing 20 year-old artificial surface.

An improved grass playing pitch is also part of the overall offering.

The plans complement the work already underway to transform the former Brickfields Sports Centre into a new community health and wellbeing hub that will be operated by the Argyle Community Trust.

Over the past six months, the Council and it's partners have been working with representatives from the hockey community to identify a new site for the sport in the west of the city with SDCC selected as the best location.



Councillor Sue Dann, Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HR, said: *"The plans for these new facilities look really impressive and will provide a fantastic base for numerous sports from across the city."*

Dan Cole, Senior Assistant Headteacher, from SMHC/SDCC Campus, said: *"We are thrilled to announce continued investment with the building of our state-of-the-art sports facilities at Stoke Damerel Community College. These facilities will allow us to build upon our current PE and sport provision within the College, whilst also offering opportunities that extend far into our local community. We are excited to watch the impact of these facilities and how they help to inspire and empower our students and the wider community to reach for new heights of excellence. Together, we are building a brighter and more promising future for all."*

[CLICK HERE TO READ OUR RECENT UPDATE...](#)



MEET OUR NEW HOUSE CAPTAINS!

We are delighted to introduce our newly appointed House Captains! Each candidate put tremendous effort into delivering well-crafted speeches that highlighted their leadership skills and vision. These speeches were presented under the pressure of a large audience, with 180-200 students and staff from their respective houses watching closely.

Our House Leaders have been instrumental in guiding and supporting our new captains, helping them step into their roles with confidence. Together, they handed out the new house ties to students and kicked off some exciting Fun Friday activities, including a *Crossbar Challenge*, *Penalty Shootout*, and a *Reading Challenge*—all designed to build house spirit and friendly competition.

We also held a *House Charity Vote*, where students had the chance to choose a charity for their house they would like to fundraise money for throughout the year.

Each house selected a cause they feel passionate about, and we look forward to seeing the community come together to raise funds and make a real difference for these charities.



Mayflower House Captains



Saltram House Captains



Smeaton House Captains



Sutton House Captains

SDCC SPORTS NEWS

NETBALL NEWS

YEAR 8 GIRLS NETBALL TEAM SMASH THEIR FIRST SET OF FIXTURES



The Year 8 Diamonds netball team had an outstanding start to their season, delivering back-to-back victories in their first set of fixtures.

In their opening match against All Saints, the team displayed impressive shooting skills, securing a 7-2 victory. Then in their second game against Lipson, the Diamonds proved their strength one again on the court. This time, it was their defence that stole the show, leading to another strong win at 6-2!

These two wins made history for the Diamonds, marking the first time they've won both games in one fixture!

RUGBY NEWS

YEAR 8 RUGBY TEAM KICK OFF THEIR SEASON WITH AN UNSTOPPABLE PERFORMANCE



The Year 8 rugby team made an unforgettable start to their season at their first central venue tournament, and what a day it turned out to be!

They dominated both matches, walking away as the standout team of the event. In a thrilling first game against DHSB, the team's defence was rock-solid, holding onto a one-try lead for over 20 tense minutes with some incredible tackling. However, it was in their second game where they truly unleashed their full potential with slick passes and quick footwork that led to a commanding 40-0 victory.

Oscar and Albie excelled at running with the ball, while Alfie and Henry stood out for their exceptional tackling skills.

FOOTBALL NEWS

CELEBRATING OUR U13 GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

The U13 Girls Football Team kicked off their season in the ESFA Cup with an exciting match against Tavistock College! Despite facing tough challenges, they showcased incredible resilience and teamwork, holding Tavistock at bay for most of the game.

While the result wasn't what they had hoped for, many players delivered standout performances, particularly Brooke from Year 7, who was named Player of the Match for her outstanding work rate and ability to drive the team forward.

With over 30 girls regularly attending our football club, enthusiasm for the sport is at an all-time high!



YEAR 9 RUGBY TEAM SHINES IN TOURNAMENT!

The Year 9 rugby team kicked off their season with an exciting central venue tournament at Plympton Academy, and they certainly gave the crowd something to cheer about!



Despite a close 10-15 loss to St Boniface in the opening match, the boys bounced back brilliantly with a stunning 40-0 victory against Plympton Academy!

There was some fantastic play throughout, with powerful running with the ball from key players like Jaxon and Freddie as well as an impressive hat trick of tries by Finley.

CLUBS

AUTUMN 2024



EVERYDAY

FOOTBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Astro
When? Before School

CAMPUS RADIO

Who? All years | *Where?* TBC
When? Break A & B

MONDAY

ROCK CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* PA 2
When? 3-4pm

SIGN LANGUAGE

Who? All years | *Where?* GF01
When? Break A

PRODUCTION DANCE

Who? All years | *Where?* PA1
When? 3.10-5pm

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

BADMINTON CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* Sports hall
When? Break A

MONDAY, TUESDAY & FRIDAY

BASKETBALL/NETBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Sports hall
When? Break B

TUESDAY

SDCC SINGERS

Who? All years | *Where?* PA4
When? 3-4pm

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CLUB

Who? KS4 Musicians
(on BTEC course) | *Where?* PA2
When? 3-4pm

COOKING CLUB

Who? Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* Fn1
When? 3-4pm

RUGBY

Who? All years | *Where?* Astro/Central Park
When? 3.10-4pm

NETBALL

Who? Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* Sports Hall/
Netball Courts
When? 3.10-4pm

FOOTBALL

Who? Year 9 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

TEXTILES: DIY FASHION

Who? All years | *Where?* VA2
When? 3.10-4pm

DIGITAL AMBASSADORS

Who? All years | *Where?* CT2
When? 3.10-4pm

MONEY MATTERS

Who? Years 8-13 | *Where?* EB12
When? 3.10-4pm

ECO COUNCIL

Who? Years 7-13 | *Where?* EB15
When? Break B

PRODUCTION ACTING

Who? All years | *Where?* Theatre
When? 3.10-5pm

MODERN BRITAIN

DEBATING CLUB
Who? All years | *Where?* EB10
When? 3.10-4pm

THE CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CLUB

Who? Years 9-11 | *Where?* PA2
When? 3.15-4.15pm

POKEMON

Who? All years | *Where?* CT1
When? Break B

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

FITNESS

Who? Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* FT1
When? 3.10-4pm

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

HOMEWORK

Who? Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Study Zone
When? 3.10-4pm

FITNESS SUITE

Who? Years 9 & 10 | *Where?* Fitness Suite
When? 3.10-4pm

WEDNESDAY

NEEDLE POINT

Who? All years | *Where?* Ma9
When? 3-4pm

NETBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Netball Courts
When? 3.10-4pm

BASKETBALL

Who? Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Sports Hall
When? 3.10-4pm

FOOTBALL

Who? Years 7 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

ART AND CLAY CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* VA3
When? 3.10-4pm

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* VA1
When? 3.10-4pm

PRODUCTION SINGERS

Who? All years | *Where?* PA2
When? 3.10-4.30pm

PARAGON MATHS

Who? Years 7 & 8 Week A
Years 9 & 10 Week B | *Where?* MA5
When? 3.10-4pm

MINDFULNESS CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* EB4
When? Break B

THURSDAY

KEYBOARD CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* PA2
When? 3-4pm

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Who? Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

STEAM

Who? All years | *Where?* CT1
When? 3.10-4pm

PRODUCTION ACTING

Who? All years | *Where?* Theatre
When? 3.10-5pm

PRODUCTION DIGITAL MARKETING

Who? All years | *Where?* CT3
When? 3.10-4pm

MEDIA CLUB

Who? Years 7-10 | *Where?* VA5
When? 3.10-4pm

LGBTQIA+ CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* EN2
When? Break B

FOOTBALL

Who? Years 8 | *Where?* Sports hall
When? 3.10-4pm

FRIDAY

FURTHER MATHS

Who? Year 11 set 1s only | *Where?* TBC
When? 3-4pm

BOOK CLUB

Who? KS3 | *Where?* Library
When? Break A

Aspire ACHIEVE Thrive

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Safeguarding your young person over the Half-term break

Vaping Update:

Our ongoing efforts to educate students and prevent vaping have resulted in a noticeable reduction in the number of vaping incidents within the college. We are committed to fostering a safe and healthy environment for all students, and part of that commitment includes addressing the risks associated with vaping.

During the week of October 7th, all vapes that were confiscated during school hours were sent to the police for testing. The goal is to analyze the chemicals contained in these devices, particularly those purchased illegally by young people.

This will enable us to expand our educational efforts and gain deeper insight into the broader community challenges related to the illegal sale of vapes and the potential risks involved.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing support as we tackle this important issue together. Your involvement is crucial in helping us maintain a safe environment and ensure the well-being of our students.



App Aware: *Chill Panda* - mobile app to improve wellbeing

Discover how to relax, manage stress, and boost your overall well-being with Chill Panda.

This innovative app helps you track your heart rate and provides personalized activities designed to match your current state of mind. These activities include calming breathing exercises and gentle physical movements to help you refocus and ease your worries.

Chill Panda is completely free to download from both the App Store and Google Play. The app is compatible with mobile devices equipped with a camera, making it easy to use anytime, anywhere.

It is a great way to take the first step toward a calmer, more balanced life with Chill Panda today!



TALK 2 US

Talk 2 us is available for students to raise any concerns or worries.

talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net

Collection of students after school

Please be considerate when collecting your child/children from school.

Please abide by the following: If parking in the City Business Park car park, please ensure you use the designated parking bays and the one-way system is adhered to.

Please do not: park on double yellow lines, in front of driveways or obstruct bays.

We have a role to play to support our community. Please be considerate and courteous of other people, recognising that people live and work within the local area.

Thank you for your cooperation.