



HOT OFF THE PRESS



STOKE
DAMEREL

ISSUE 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term at Stoke Damerel has been filled with non-stop excitement and outstanding accomplishments. Our DofE Awards and the much-anticipated Awards Evening were nothing short of spectacular, leaving everyone filled with pride.

Amidst these celebrations, we also faced the bittersweet moment of saying goodbye to our exceptional Year 11 and Year 13 students. It was a privilege to celebrate their achievements with staff and peers, marking the end of an important chapter in their lives. We are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished and wish them every success as they move forward into new opportunities.

This summer term has offered many opportunities beyond the classroom. Trips, sports events, and other activities have brought energy to the school community, creating memories that will last a lifetime. These opportunities have not only broadened horizons but have also strengthened friendships and fostered a true sense of camaraderie among students.

As the term draws to a close, we want to take this opportunity to wish all our students a fantastic, restful, and enjoyable summer break. We hope you make the most of this well-deserved time off and return refreshed and ready for another year of learning and growth. We very much look forward to welcoming everyone back to Stoke Damerel in September, ready for new challenges and successes.

Best wishes,

Anita Frier, Headteacher



Special Award Winners



Poet Laureate, Paula



Year 7 Award Winners



Headteacher Award Winner, Geri

AWARDS EVENING 2025

It was an evening brimming with pride, happiness, and recognition as Stoke Damerel Community College hosted its annual Awards Ceremony.

With the theme "Own your story," the night was brought to life through moving student speeches, a captivating musical performance by Isaac, and a specially written poem by our gifted Poet Laureate, Paula.

Congratulations to all our amazing students on their well-deserved achievements!

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



Year 8 Award Winners



Year 9 Award Winners



Year 10 Award Winners



Year 11 Award Winners

DIARY DATES

YEAR 7 & 12 INDUCTION DAY
Wednesday 3rd September

FIRST DAY FOR ALL OTHER
YEAR GROUPS

Thursday 4th September

YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 10th September

(Half day closing)



MENTORING SUCCESS

A group of Year 10 students attended a Celebration Event at the University of Plymouth, marking the end of their 12-week Mentoring Programme.

The initiative supported them in exploring academic pathways, building confidence, and developing key life skills with guidance from university mentors. During the visit, they toured campus facilities, took part in a First Aid workshop, and explored the Coast Lab and Marine Building.

The day concluded with a certificate ceremony recognising their commitment and growth. University staff praised their professionalism and enthusiasm, making the school proud.

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

YEAR 13 LEAVERS

A remarkable chapter has come to a close, and what a beautiful afternoon it was as we celebrated the inspiring journey of our Year 13 students.

Saying goodbye to such an extraordinary group fills us with pride, gratitude, and excitement for the paths that lie ahead. Whether pursuing university degrees, apprenticeships, or other incredible opportunities, the future is bright, and we know they are destined for greatness.

To our Year 13 leavers, we wish you every success as you take on this next chapter. The world is waiting for you, and we are confident that you will continue to shine wherever you go.



YEAR 11 LEAVERS

To our departing Year 11s—this is just the beginning. Carry forward everything you've learned and experienced here as you step into the next phase of your journey. Stay curious, remain courageous, and keep chasing your goals. We believe in you wholeheartedly and know you'll go on to do extraordinary things.

You will be greatly missed, and we can't wait to see all the incredible things you'll go on to accomplish in the future. Here's to the Class of 2025!



PROM 2025!

The SDCC Prom 2025 was the perfect send-off for our Year 11 students, capping off an incredible academic year. The evening was a dazzling celebration of achievement, fun, and cherished memories, leaving everyone with moments that will last a lifetime.





A FRENCH ADVENTURE TO REMEMBER

41 students from Years 8, 9, and 10 enjoyed an unforgettable five-day trip to France, staying in a stunning former chateau just outside Paris. Their trip was full of exciting activities, from climbing the Eiffel Tower to enjoy breathtaking views of the city's famous landmarks, to wandering the artistic streets of Montmartre. They practiced their French at a lively local market and took a scenic boat cruise along the River Seine, soaking in iconic sights such as Notre-Dame Cathedral and the Louvre.

The adventure ended on a high note with a thrilling day at Parc Astérix, where roller coasters and water rides had everyone cheering and laughing. Students praised the trip as a fantastic opportunity to broaden their horizons. Albie said, *"The trip was so amazing it didn't even feel real!"* while Gabriel commented, *"It was such great value — we packed so much in and had loads of fun."*

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



E-Scooter New Rules

A polite reminder of the law regarding the use of these vehicles. Riding an E-Scooter or non-compliant E-bike on a road or public area is illegal and can cause significant injuries if involved in an accident.

Please [click here](#) to view recent letter sent out with more information.

ITALY FOOTBALL TOUR!

Over 40 students from all year groups embarked on an unforgettable football tour to Italy, blending top-tier sports with cultural exploration. Kicking off in the scenic Lake Garda region, highlights included a boat cruise, a swim at sunset, and a day in Venice.

The football experience was equally remarkable, with students training at the AC Milan Football Academy and playing six competitive matches against local teams. A visit to the iconic San Siro Stadium and a shopping trip in Milan added a touch of glamour.

Throughout the trip, our students showed outstanding behaviour and maturity, making us incredibly proud. We look forward to seeing where next year's tour will take us!

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





COOKING UP SUCCESS IN FOOD TECH!

Laughter, learning, and the smell of simmering sauce filled the air as our Food Technology department welcomed students and their parents for a fun-filled afternoon of cooking and connection.

Families got hands-on in the kitchen, whipping up a delicious bolognese sauce to enjoy with spaghetti or take home for later. But the fun didn't stop there—they also received ingredients to create two more crowd-pleasing meals: chilli with wedges and sizzling fajitas.

The session showcased just how easy and rewarding batch cooking can be—saving time, cutting costs, and keeping mealtimes exciting. Everyone left with full tummies, big smiles, and plenty of inspiration to keep cooking at home!

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

YEAR 7 CURRICULUM COLLAPSE

Year 7 hit the new astro turf for a high-energy end ball tournament as part of their recent Healthy Active Lifestyles sessions! Tutor groups competed in a series of fast-paced matches, demonstrating strong teamwork and effort.

Our Year 10 Sports Leaders played a key role in running the event, supporting teams, and helping to keep things running smoothly. The afternoon was a great example of collaboration and community across year groups.

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



VISUAL ARTS SUMMER SHOW 2025

Families, staff, and governors joined us for our annual Visual Arts Summer Show, exploring a gallery filled with bold ideas—each piece telling its own story. From experimental film and digital design to striking canvases and evocative photography, the exhibition showcased months of dedication and creativity.



LEARNING ABOUT PRIDE AND PROTEST

Students from across campus took part in an inspiring LGBTQIA+ session led by Hollie Wright from the Intercom Trust. Hollie spoke about the history of Pride, the importance of protest, and the ongoing fight for LGBTQIA+ rights and equality.

Ella remarked, *"I never realised that's how Pride began, or what people went through to make things better for everyone."*

Miss Moss added, *"Our students really valued the opportunity to join Scott College for a session that resonated with them all."*

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



STUDENTS UNITE AT LGBTQIA+ EVENT

Students from across campus connected with 180 young people at the University of Exeter for an inspiring LGBTQIA+ event! With engaging workshops on identity, mental health, and self-expression, they created art, shared stories, and formed meaningful connections in a safe and supportive space.

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

DISCOVERING CRIMINOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY AT PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Our Criminology and Sociology students had an unforgettable day at Plymouth University, diving into exciting hands-on workshops and stepping into the shoes of real detectives in the university's crime suite!

They also enjoyed a captivating lecture from Dr. Ivan Tacey, who shared incredible stories from his research with the Batek people of Malaysia.

This immersive experience gave students a thrilling glimpse of university life and inspired many to consider Criminology, Sociology, or Anthropology as their next adventure!

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



LUKE POLLARD MP VISITS CAMPUS TO EXPLORE OUR EXCITING NEW SPORTS FACILITIES

We were proud to welcome Luke Pollard MP to our campus to explore our brand-new sports facilities!

The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to discuss the importance of lifelong fitness and how our recent developments—including the installation of cutting-edge astro turf pitches, the formation of exciting new community partnerships, and an outstanding, dynamic sports curriculum—will help us to serve both our students and the wider community for many years to come.

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



SMEATON HOUSE TAKES THE PRIZE!

Smeaton House smashed it this year, winning the House Points competition and earning an epic Reward Trip! From Nerf battles and team games to outdoor swimming and thrilling adventures, the students had a blast while celebrating their hard work and teamwork.

Mr Harvey couldn't be prouder, praising their fantastic energy, manners, and leadership. Huge congratulations to Smeaton—well deserved!

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



THE BIG SING RETURNS

Students from Years 7 to 10 recently took part in the second annual Big Sing, joining local primary schools for a joyful morning of collaborative music-making.

With a setlist ranging from Disney classics to Bob Marley, the event showcased the talents of our singers and Year 10 musicians.

Following the performances, students enjoyed a vocal harmony workshop led by the *Legacy Choir*, where they impressed with a four-part arrangement of 'Blinding Lights' by The Weeknd.

We're excited to continue working with the Legacy Choir in the lead-up to festive performances later this year—stay tuned!

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

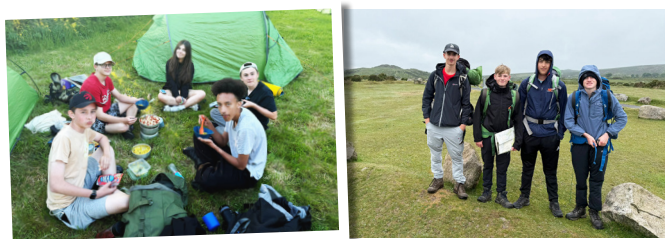


SILVER DOFE FINAL EXPEDITION SUCCESS

Our Silver Duke of Edinburgh students have successfully completed their final three-day expedition across the beautiful yet demanding Devon countryside. Starting in Ivybridge and journeying through South Brent, Michelcombe, and Dartmeet, they navigated, camped, and carried all their gear independently, relying solely on maps and compasses.

The journey tested their endurance, problem-solving, and teamwork—but they rose to the challenge with determination and a great sense of camaraderie. Each day brought new obstacles, but it was clear how much they had grown since their practice expedition. They applied their training, welcomed feedback, and stayed motivated even when the going got tough.

A huge well done to everyone involved!



DOFE STUDENTS DEDICATE 2080 HOURS TO VOLUNTEERING THIS YEAR

Our DofE students have truly shown exceptional dedication and perseverance this year. With a combined total of 2080 hours volunteered, they've made a significant difference in our local community.

A heartfelt congratulations to all students working towards their Duke of Edinburgh's Award — your commitment and efforts are an inspiration to us all!

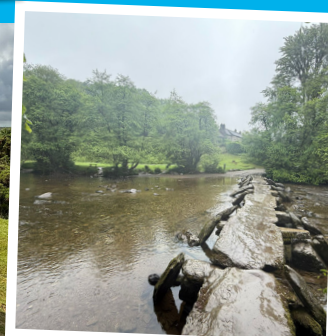


WRAPPING UP THE GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION ON EXMOOR

Our Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award students wrapped up their final expedition—an unforgettable four-day adventure through the wild and rugged landscapes of Exmoor. After gaining valuable experience during their practice trip on Dartmoor, they set off from Dulverton well-prepared and ready to take on the challenge—and they didn't disappoint.

Navigating through rainy weather and rugged terrain, the group showed impressive teamwork and determination every step of the way. Evenings brought a chance to unwind with outdoor cooking and a friendly game of football helping to keep spirits high despite the damp conditions.

By the time they reached the finish line in Lynmouth, there were big smiles, tired legs, and a huge sense of achievement. A massive well done to everyone involved—you've earned your Gold, and we can't wait to celebrate your success!



SDCC SPORTS NEWS

FOOTBALL



YEAR 9 PLYMOUTH CUP CHAMPIONS!

Stoke Damerel's Incredible Year 9 Football Team capped off a fantastic season in style by winning the Plymouth Cup with a 2-0 victory over Plymstock.

In a tense and competitive match, Jack opened the scoring with a superb strike from outside the box in the first half. The win was secured late in the second half when Ollie calmly slotted home a second goal.

Player of the Match honours went to Roo, whose crucial saves in the second half kept the team ahead and ensured a clean sheet.

Congratulations to the team on a well-deserved victory!

NETBALL

NETBALL TOURNAMENT SUCCESS AT IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

It was a fantastic afternoon of netball for our Year 7 and 8 students; The Year 7 Stars team secured an impressive third place, showing great potential and teamwork throughout their matches, while the Year 8 Stars put in an excellent performance to finish second, beating both Ivybridge teams and narrowly losing to Plymouth College.

A special congratulations goes to the Year 8 Diamonds, who were awarded the title of 'Most Sporting Team' - a recognition voted for by the tournament's umpires and coaches, in acknowledgement of their exemplary sportsmanship and team spirit.

Well done girls!



SPORTS LEADERS

STUART ROAD PRIMARY SPORTS DAY

A huge well done to our amazing Sports Leaders who helped make Stuart Road Primary School's Sports Day a big success!



They kept everything running smoothly and were fantastic at supporting and motivating the younger students - even in the heat!

From egg & spoon races to obstacle courses and parachute games, the primary school students had an absolute blast. Well done, everyone!

ATHLETICS

GLT CHAMPIONSHIPS

16 students represented our school at the GLT Athletics Event at Bath University. Competing in both track and field events, they showed great skill and determination.

We were proud to bring home several medals, with special congratulations to Lilly H, Oli NP, and Rueben M for winning gold. It was a fantastic day of achievement, teamwork, and school spirit.



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

SDCC SPORTS NEWS

ROUNDERS

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE FROM THE YEAR 8 ROUNDERS TEAM

A fantastic evening of fixtures saw our talented Year 8s secure two big wins — 13.5–3.5 vs Egguckland and 11–5 vs Notre Dame!

The team's commitment, teamwork, and incredible fielding stole the show, with standout performances all around.

A special mention goes to Vicky, our outstanding bowler, whose consistent skill and calm presence made a real difference on the field.

Well done, team!



ANOTHER TRIUMPHANT WIN FOR THE YEAR 8 TEAM

The Year 8 rounders' team once again demonstrated their talent and teamwork with a resounding victory over Torbridge High, finishing the match with an outstanding score of 14 to 3.5.

From the very first innings, it was clear that the team was in excellent form. Their communication, quick thinking, and strategic play gave them a strong advantage on the field.

A huge well done to all involved!



CRICKET

YEAR 7 CRICKET TEAM IMPRESS IN SOFTBALL COMPETITION

The Year 7 cricket team proudly represented the school in their first-ever softball cricket competition at Egguckland School.

For many players, it was their debut game - but you wouldn't have guessed it from their amazing performance.

Special mentions go to Harrison, who took an outstanding three wickets, and Zainullah, the team's top run scorer. Both were instrumental in the team's strong showing and set a high standard for future matches.

The team were a credit to the school, and we're excited to see what they achieve next!



YEAR 8 CRICKET TEAM EXCELS AT FINAL CENTRAL VENUE TOURNAMENT

Our Year 8 cricket team finished strong at their final central venue tournament with two great wins! They beat St Boniface by 22 runs—batting through all their overs without losing a wicket—and followed up with a 34-run win against Egguckland.

Standout performances came from Alfie, who impressed with powerful and strategic boundary hitting, and Albie, whose accurate bowling consistently kept the opposition under pressure.

Well done to the entire squad for their commitment and teamwork — a truly memorable way to end the tournament!



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

AI GUIDE FOR PARENTS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the way we live, work, and parent. This guide will help you understand what AI is, how it affects your family, and how to support your child in using it thoughtfully and responsibly.

1. What is AI?

AI (Artificial Intelligence) is when machines or software perform tasks that normally require human intelligence — like understanding language, recognising faces, recommending content, or helping with homework.

Examples:

- *Virtual assistants (e.g. Siri, Alexa)*
- *YouTube or Netflix recommendations*
- *ChatGPT or other AI chatbots*
- *Educational apps with personalised learning*

2. How young people Are Using AI

Children may interact with AI through:

- **Homework helpers** like ChatGPT or Khanmigo
- **Games** using smart non player characters (NPCs) or AI-generated content
- **Social media** filters, suggestions, or chatbots
- **Voice assistants** like Alexa or Google Assistant

3. Benefits of AI for young people and Teens

- **Learning Support:** Helps with writing, maths, and research
- **Creativity Boost:** Makes art, music, or stories
- **Accessibility:** Aids young people with learning differences (text-to-speech, translation)
- **Career Skills:** Introduces coding, logic, and AI ethics

4. Risks and Concerns

Be aware of:

- **Misinformation:** AI may give incorrect or biased answers
- **Privacy:** AI tools may collect data on users
- **Over-reliance:** Young people might use AI instead of thinking independently
- **Inappropriate content:** AI isn't always filtered for age-appropriateness
- **AI-generated cheating:** Essays or assignments completed by AI

5. What Parents Can Do

Talk About AI:

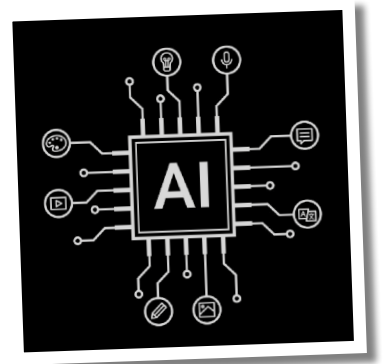
- *Explain what AI is and how it works*
- *Discuss its strengths and limitations*
- *Highlight when it's okay to use — and when it's not*

Supervise Use:

- *Explore apps and platforms together*
- *Use parental controls where available*
- *Set clear boundaries for AI use in schoolwork*

Encourage Critical Thinking:

- *Explore apps and platforms together*
- *Use parental controls where available*
- *Set clear boundaries for AI use in schoolwork*



SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

6. Tools & Resources for Parents

Tool	What It Does
Common Sense Media	Reviews AI apps & gives age-appropriate guidance
Family Link (Google)	Parental controls for Android/Google
ChatGPT (with supervision)	Homework help, writing, research
Khan Academy / Khanmigo	AI tutor for students
BeeLine Reader	AI that makes reading easier for young people

7. Conversation Starters

- “What did you ask the AI today?”
- “How do you know that answer is right?”
- “What would you have done without the AI?”
- “What do you think the AI can’t do?”



Final Tip: You’re the First AI Role Model

Your children watch how you use technology. Be curious, responsible, and open — it will help your child build healthy habits with AI.

If you would like more information on AI or any other safeguarding issue **contact Mr Kelly using skelly@sdcc-smhc.net or the confidential talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net email.**



If you are struggling to feed hungry children during the summer months we have our own Food Bank to support our families in need.

For further information please email safeguarding@sdcc-smhc.net.

Safeguarding staff will be checking their emails over the Summer break, however, if you have an immediate or urgent safeguarding concern please contact the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) using

MASH@plymouth.gov.uk or
01752668000.



OUR AWARDS EVENING WINNERS

YEAR 7 AWARDS

Determination to Succeed	Confidence U
College Representative	Belle L
Academic Studies	Catherine P
Commitment to Studies	Rhys B
Student of the Year	Tomasz K

YEAR 8 AWARDS

Determination to Succeed	Bibi C
College Representative	Shiloh H
Academic Studies	Adea C
Commitment to Studies	Ophelia M-E
Student of the Year	Charlie M

YEAR 9 AWARDS

Determination to Succeed	Isla N
College Representative	Harry L
Academic Studies	Darion J
Commitment to Studies	Otis R
Student of the Year	Paula A

YEAR 10 AWARDS

Determination to Succeed	Hossam Y
College Representative	Milan F
Academic Studies	Oliver P-M
Commitment to Studies	Kelsey D
Student of the Year	Ruby J

YEAR 11 AWARDS

Determination to Succeed	Jercila C
College Representative	Lilli M
Academic Studies	Sophie G
Commitment to Studies	Aaliyah Y
Student of the Year	Noah U

SIXTH FORM AWARDS

Year 12

Determination to Succeed	Ava G
College Representative	Faith A
Academic Studies	Thea S
Commitment to Studies	Emily B
Student of the Year	Kiran B

Year 13

Determination to Succeed	Holly T
College Representative	Connor F
Academic Studies	Freddie L
Commitment to Studies	Phoebe F
Student of the Year	Geri K

SPECIAL AWARDS

HOUSE AWARDS

SALTRAM AWARD

Adrianna S

SMEATON AWARD

Sophie G

SUTTON AWARD

Mya S

MAYFLOWER AWARD

Layton P

CHARACTER CURRICULUM AWARD

Albie R

GOVERNORS AWARD

Joseph E

CHRISTINE PARKER BURSARY AWARD

Oscar L

KAREENA TAYLOR AWARD AWARD

Ava B

JAY RUMBOLD AWARD

Harry L

ALISON PENNEY AWARD

Phoebe F

JOHN LESLIE WEBB AWARD

Isaac B

CAROL HANNAFORD/JANET GRIFFITHS AWARD

Phoebe G

HEADTEACHER AWARD

GERI K

Congratulations to all of our winners including our amazing subject winners too!

SDCC YEAR IN PICTURES

2024-25

