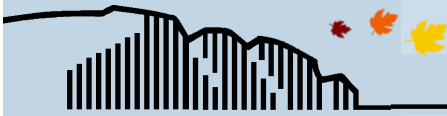


# Sidmouth College Newsletter



**Autumn Term 2016: Edition 1, 21st October 2016**

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Hello and welcome to the Autumn half term issue of our College newsletter. I am sure you will enjoy catching up with our amazing students and the fantastic and varied events in which they have participated since September.

You will be aware that this week we received notification from OFSTED that on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October they would be conducting a Section 8 inspection. The College's last inspection was carried out in 2012 so it was a visit we were expecting. For us it was a great opportunity to showcase all that is good about the College and in a few weeks I will be able to share with you the feedback that the College received. I would however like to take this opportunity to share with you a couple of comments about our students made by Jim Sage, HMI. Mr Sage stated that "Sidmouth College students are extremely positive and proud to be part of the school. Their behaviour in and out of lessons is exemplary." This is something that we observe on a daily basis but it is always nice when people who are not associated with the College recognise the qualities of our student body.

You will not be surprised to hear that for me personally it has been a busy half term. I am immensely proud to have taken on the role of Principal and am enjoying working alongside our outstanding staff and students in our relentless drive towards excellence. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your fantastic support over the course of this half term. Our students' success would not have been possible were it not for the enormously positive involvement of parents, staff, governors, volunteers and helpers who have provided their time, enthusiasm, encouragement and praise.

As we move into the half term break it is important to stress the need for students and staff to have a much earned rest. No doubt all students will have some coursework or homework that needs to be completed; however, this can be interspersed with periods of relaxation and down time. It is vital that batteries are recharged and students are raring to go on our return to college.

That's enough from me. Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter and just remember, everything that you will read about took place in just seven weeks! Incredible!



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## Students cycle in the Tour of Britain

Sidmouth College braved the wind and rain to watch the start of the sixth stage of the Tour of Britain on Friday 9th September. As well as watching the professionals, students were able to join in the action on Sidmouth seafront. Our KS4 singers entertained spectators on the promenade, whilst others took part in various activities including making drinks using a pedal powered smoothie maker.

Just after 11 o'clock, as the cyclists were warming up, our very own students had the fantastic opportunity to take part in the race itself. During the Summer term students were given the opportunity to complete Bike Ability training, a scheme set up to teach road and bike safety to children. Students who took part in this were invited by organisers to cycle the first part of the race, ahead of the professionals. Well done to everyone who took part and did the College proud!



## Year 7 Impact Day

The Year 7 Impact Day saw all students off timetable for the day and rotating around a series of four workshops. They explored the theme of friendship through a fantastic performance, 'How to be a good friend', presented by our Year 13 drama students; how to stay safe (presented by PC Simon Blythe); changes to expect in puberty and a training session on positive behaviour on the internet and beyond, presented by Mr Birch. They also squeezed in a House teamwork challenge in the sports hall at the end of the day! All of the students seemed to thoroughly enjoy the sessions and, hopefully, learned some valuable life lessons.







### Introducing our new Student Heads of House

During the Autumn Term Year 10 students had the opportunity to apply for Student Head of House positions. Heads of House had the difficult task of whittling the many applicants down to just a select few candidates, who went on to be interviewed. The successful students will take on the role for this academic year and gain a seat on the Student Executive. The student executive consists of our new student heads of house, along with the Sixth Form Leadership Team. Duties will include attending regular meetings with the Senior Leadership Team and Governors to discuss important student matters and ensure that all students have a voice, along with representing the College at annual events. We are pleased to present below our new Student Heads of House:



#### **Scott House**

##### **Heads of House**

Toby Garrick &  
Izzy Wright



##### **Deputies**

Zaynab Chowdhury  
& Kezia Egargo



#### **Drake House**

##### **Heads of House**

Flora Hastie &  
Jed Reid



##### **Deputies**

David Luxon &  
Wiki Mosiezna



#### **Raleigh House**

##### **Heads of House**

Josh Allen &  
Sophie James



##### **Deputies**

Charlotte Hadfield  
& Mary Rich



#### **Grenville House**

##### **Heads of House**

MJ Babington &  
Maciej Osinski



##### **Deputies**

Amelia Badcock &  
Harriet Slater

### Students collaborate for Neighbourhood Plan

A group of students from across the year groups joined with visiting students from local primary schools to take part in a creative workshop to help write a questionnaire for the Sid Valley Neighbourhood Plan. Students focused on the design and content to ensure it would be suitable for young people to complete. These questionnaires will go out to all young people in the Sid Valley to enable their views to be considered within the Neighbourhood plan.

After Half term the students will be visiting Sidmouth Town Council Chambers at Woolcombe House where they will look at the draft questionnaires and ensure they are suitable to be used for the young people in the Sid Valley.







## Inter-House cross-country

This year cross country was held over two days in October. Year 8 were lucky to race on day one when, for a second year in a row, they were blessed with a sunny day, which made for perfect running conditions. Unfortunately, day two brought the rain and therefore the mud, but as always, students were in good spirits. There was some very competitive running, with just a few seconds separating 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions in most cases. Results were as follows: **Y7 Boys**—1st Soren Hall, 2nd Henry Tuohy, 3rd Sam Harris; **Y7 Girls**—1st Georgia McNally, 2nd Lucy Spiller, 3rd Emily Alcala Ganty; **Y8 Boys**—1st Joe Ashby, 2nd George Manley, 3rd Jack Goodman; **Y8 Girls**—1st Molly Garrick, 2nd Grace Sinclair, 3rd Ella Maguire; **Y9 Boys**—1st Josh Miller, 2nd Will Bond, 3rd George Gelling; **Y9 Girls**—1st Charley Hosking, 2nd Ellie Howlett, 3rd Harriet Wardrop; **Senior Boys**—1st Tommy Reardon, 2nd Sam Pyne, 3rd Toby Garrick; **Senior Girls**—1st Issy Pinnock, 2nd Lucy Gosling, 3rd Eve Cockayne. **The overall winning House was Raleigh**, with Grenville 2nd, Scott 3rd and Drake 4th. **For more pictures of cross-country visit our facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sidmouthcollege](https://www.facebook.com/sidmouthcollege)**



Year 7 Winners



Year 8 Winners



Year 9 Winners



Year 10 Winners



## Sidmouth College Equestrian Team



Over the last year Mrs Churchill has invited keen riders to join the Sidmouth College equestrian team. In October the team competed fantastically at the National Schools

Equestrian Association (NSEA) Arena Eventing competition at Bicton Arena. Representing Sidmouth College were Maddie Whitfield, Millie Jarrett and Charly Hosking. All the girls performed well and showcased some impressive riding skills, clearing almost all the fences despite the very wet and slippery conditions. Well done to all the girls, we hope they will continue to represent the College at future events across the year. We'd also like to thank Mrs Hosking for helping to organise the teams and providing invaluable support at every event.

## U14 Hockey Finals

This term our U14 hockey team have been on fantastic form. The girls represented East Devon in the Devon Schools' Hockey Finals which took place at Exeter University in October. Despite it being a very wet and windy day, the girls showed some fantastic skill and excellent teamwork and in the end achieved 3rd place in their age group and 5th overall! A great result, well done girls!







### Trip to Bude - LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION! (report by Mrs Charlesworth)

Year 10 and 11 GCSE PE students spent a fabulous long weekend in Bude, Cornwall in October, taking part in various adventurous outdoor activities. Year 11's completed an Open Canoeing session on Bude canal, all gaining 1-2\* accredited skills, and all passing the assessment at the end of the session on Saturday. Iain the instructor told us he is now off to New Zealand to embark on 18 months of Open Canoe instruction so he wanted to leave behind a legacy of well skilled students before his travels!

Archery took place within the grounds of the Outdoor Centre and the students showed great poise and accuracy and again, all managed to pass the assessment on Saturday. Some enjoyed it so much that they had an extra masterclass on Sunday!

The Year 11's who were skilled in surfing were fortunate enough to be able to combine the latest video analysis technology to help with furthering their surfing skills. They all passed their assessment with flying colours and carried on surfing in their free time on Sunday. All the students I spoke to really enjoyed the free time activities on Sunday which combined Surfing and Archery.

The Year 10 students were very committed to the new GCSE specification and had indoor, outdoor and evening masterclass sessions in climbing, rope tying and belaying. The majority of the Year 10's wanted more climbing by the end of the weekend and all held their nerve as they climbed the cliffs above the spectacular Bude beaches. Climbing these cliffs requires fine movements, good balance and confident footwork. The climbing location used was beautiful and dramatic with levels of difficulty to cater for complete beginners right through to expert climbers. Well done year 10's - great team work! Students said the highlights were the great location, free time on Sunday, the instructors fun but focused approach, the filling food and the warm comfy common room! It was a great weekend and students were a pleasure to work with, a real credit to the College.



### U14 Netball team become East Devon Champions!

A superb result for our U14 Netball team who in October were awarded the title of East Devon Champions for 2016-2017! The team have played fantastically all season and at the finals this was no different. The team won all their matches, beating some very strong competition including schools such as Uffculme, Colyton, Honiton and Cullumpton.

The team will now go on to the Devon finals which will take place in November. We wish them all good luck!





## Students Audition for Youth Theatre!

Miss Davies has auditioned over 100 hopeful Year 8 to Year 13 students over the last few days in search of cast members for the next Sidmouth College Youth Theatre production. Miss Davies is not yet divulging what the production might be but has indicated that she needs a cast of approximately 60 to 70 students, so it promises to be impressive!

Students should hopefully know if their audition was successful by the time this newsletter goes to print and Miss Davies will announce her decision about the production after half term!



## Drama Trip

This half term A Level Drama students have had a wealth of theatre visits and experiences. At the start of term Miss Davies took students to the Radway Cinema in Sidmouth to watch a live streamed performance from the National Theatre in London of 'The Threepenny Opera'. Set in Victorian London, the dark comedy focuses on Macheath, an amoral, antiheroic criminal who has been sentenced to death by hanging. Students were inspired by the clever use of a revolving stage and the rustic, yet effective scenery.



Students also visited the Northcott Theatre in Exeter to watch a brand new musical 'A Pacifist's Guide to the War on Cancer'. It was an all-singing, all-dancing examination of life with a cancer diagnosis, which confronted the highs and lows of the disease using a mixture of music, dance, costume, extraordinary scenery, real life stories and lots of tears. It was a rip-roaring, heart-breaking celebration of ordinary life and death and a performance, the like of which students had never seen before and will not forget anytime soon.



## Alcohol awareness workshop

Year 9 students witnessed a hard-hitting alcohol awareness performance by The Solomon Theatre Company this term. The drama explored the dangers that young people face when drinking and the consequences it can lead to. It also explored the difficulty that many young people find themselves in when pressured to drink under the influence of others. The performance was followed by a workshop that discussed and answered many questions brought up during the piece, with which students were well engaged. One year 9 student said "It was really shocking and hard hitting, I learnt loads of things that I'd never thought about before. I'm definitely going to remember it"







### Careers Roundabout

During the last week of this half term Year 9 students have had a day off timetable to take part in the annual Careers Roundabout. The day is focused around giving students a vast variety of different workplace experiences, ahead of planning their work experience placements in Year 10 and making their GCSE choices.

As always, the day was packed with exciting and interesting visitors (not all human or alive!). Visiting employers included Spirent, Bicton College, Fords Plumbing & Electrical, Brend Hotels, Exeter College and many more.

On the day students had some fantastic opportunities including sessions on coding and programming, forensic science, where they were tasked with solving a murder using maggots and fingerprints, hair and beauty, equine care, animal care with the help of some ferrets and giant insects, map reading, Army training and electrical and plumbing engineering. There was something for everyone.

We are extremely grateful to all of our other visiting employers for providing this valuable experience. Careers Coordinator Mrs Young said "I've been blown away by the support of our business partners and staff in school. The students were all engaged and enjoyed the experience, thank you from everyone at Sidmouth College."



### Students Bake for Macmillan

Our Sixth Form students were busy in the kitchen preparing for the Macmillan Coffee morning that took place on Friday 30th September. With plenty of cakes, biscuits and other sweet treats baked, and students eager to purchase them, a fantastic £200 was raised for Macmillan. Head Boy Tim Middleton and Head Girl Beth Hall both said it was a great success and on behalf of the Sixth Form would like to thank all those who donated and supported the bake sale. They would especially like to thank Mrs Thorne who provided a whopper of a cake to be used for the 'guess the number of spots' competition. This alone raised over £30 and was won by staff member Mrs Pollentine whose guess was the closest.







## Sidmouth Science Week

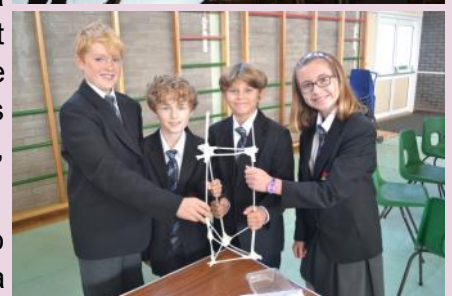
The College was a hive of activity during Sidmouth Science week thanks to the Science Department who went all out to involve students in celebrating the Festival.

The week kicked off with the whole of Year 9 being taken off timetable for the day to work with scientists, meteorologists, engineers and STEM ambassadors from the MET Office in Exeter. During the course of the day students learned how weather measuring equipment works, how and why volcanic eruptions are tracked and some even got the chance to become TV weather presenters! A busy day was enjoyed and the opportunity to experience some real-world science first hand was a great experience for the students involved.

Later on in the week a select group of 40 Year 7 students took part in a STEM day working with an ambassador from the Education Development Trust (EDT). Through the course of the day students worked in house teams to design and build elastic-band powered racing cars, paper towers and working trebuchets. Running as a house competition, students battled it out to build a working racing car required to travel the greatest distance for the least amount of 'money' spent in the components shop, along with a working trebuchet. The winners in the racing car category were Amy Bell, Ribia Binu and Sam Harris and the winners in the trebuchet contest were Tyler Adams, Maddie Whitfield, Eve Converso and Lily Rutherford.

Finally, a variety of keen scientists from across all year groups were invited to come along to the 'Lise Meitner' workshop, which involved a drama performance and a range of science experiments all in one. It was new experience students hadn't seen before with science and acting taking place around them as they sat at their desks.

Head of Science Mr Jolley said "It has been a fantastic and enriching week for our students. We are very lucky to be a part of the Sidmouth Science week activities and every year they get better and better. I'd like to thank all those who came into the College to run workshops and work with our students"



## An experience for A-Level Physicists (*report by Mr Jolley*)

A small group of Y12 Physics students joined physics students from Exeter School, Exmouth Community College, Colyton Grammar and Exeter College for a day of ancient and cutting edge physics. Travelling by coach, our first stop was Stonehenge, where we spent time looking at the stones and learning how ancient Britons were tracking and measuring the movements of the Sun through the course of the year. Back on the coach and it was off to Didcot, Oxfordshire for the main part of the day, a visit to the Diamond Light cyclotron facility. The cyclotron is a type of particle accelerator and is used to fire electrons around a 0.5km loop until they are travelling at close to the speed of light. Currently the brightest light source in Europe, the energy from this produces X-rays and other EM waves which are then used by scientists to probe the structure of molecules, discover nanoscopic design flaws in materials and identify novel applications and modifications to medicines. The students were lucky enough to be given a guided tour of the cyclotron, with the chance to talk to



some of the research scientists working in the facility. Students were exceptional and had a brilliant day~





## Life changing experience for students in Peru

Over the Summer holidays 5 students from Year 11,12 & 13 went on the trip of a life time to Peru with Camps International. In the run up to the trip, the students spent over a year working hard to raise enough money to fund the trip, this included holding fundraisers and taking on 1 or even 2 jobs after school. Whilst in Peru the students worked to aid local communities by supporting the development of projects including building schools and teaching young children. During their down time the students also had the chance to travel around Peru and visited some incredible places including Machu Picchu (photographed below), a 15th-century citadel situated nearly 8,000ft above sea level in the Andes Mountains. Well done to them all!



## Poetry Slam

On the 15th September the College was invited to take part in the Budleigh Literary Festival Poetry Slam. This was an extremely exciting opportunity given the status of the festival and we were delighted to be part of it.

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Fisher took six students: Ellie Wiles, Ruby Salih, Isla Sinclair, Mary-Jayne Babington, Kezia Egargo and Milly Fawell. The students spent a very productive day writing their own poetry and three of the students performed in the evening in front of an audience and three judges. Both the poetry and the performances were excellent and Mary-Jayne Babington was selected as a finalist. All in all it was a very successful day and we look forward to taking part next year!



## Ten Tors training

On Sunday 16th October this year's Ten Tors training got off to a great start with 45 students and staff out walking on

Dartmoor. The College will be well represented at Ten Tors this year with four teams in total. These include two 35 mile teams, one 45 mile team and one 55 mile team. The first session was a great success and students all said they were already looking forward to the next walk on Saturday 12th November and getting stuck into training ahead of the big event in May.



## Brody braves the clippers for good cause

Year 9 student Brody Fowler made a bold move this term by completely shaving his head for charity. Brody decided to fundraise for the Macmillan Cancer Support and has been making every effort to gain as many sponsors as possible. The cut took place at the Bowd in Sidmouth where Brody's Mum, who is a hairdresser, was given the task of completing the haircut.

Brody had fantastic support from friends, family and teachers, who were all impressed by his brave pledge, all for a good cause. In total Brody raised over £300! Well done Brody!



**Before:** Brody in a Science lesson experimenting with static electricity.



**After:** Brody after his haircut!





## The Sidmouth College Association

The SCA Committee are a fundraising body made up of parents, staff and members of the community who work together to provide extra resources and experiences for students at Sidmouth College. As the new academic year gets underway, the SCA are welcoming any new parents who would like to join and give their support.

If you can spare as little as 1 hour every half term, you can still make a valuable contribution which would be very much appreciated. Alternatively, if you have any fresh ideas that you would like to contribute, without becoming a committee member, the SCA welcome your contribution. Leaflets with all the information you need to know are available at the College reception, or you can email Lynn Horrell or Dominick Horrell on: [dominickhorrell@aol.com](mailto:dominickhorrell@aol.com)

**exeter city football club**  
FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

**OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY COURSES 2016**

MONDAY 24TH	TUESDAY 25TH	WEDNESDAY 26TH	THURSDAY 27TH	FRIDAY 28TH	FRIDAY 28TH
<b>EXETER TEIGNMOUTH</b> Launch Party   £15 Exeter City FC, EX4 6PX Launch Party   £15 Exeter City FC, EX4 6PX	<b>FOOTBALL FUN   £15</b> ISCA College, EX2 6AP <b>FOOTBALL FUN   £15</b> Teignmouth Sch, TQ14 9HZ	<b>GK &amp; STRIKERS   £15</b> ISCA College, EX2 6AP <b>GK &amp; STRIKERS   £15</b> Teignmouth Sch, TQ14 9HZ	<b>MATCH MANIA   £15</b> ISCA College, EX2 6AP <b>MATCH MANIA   £15</b> Teignmouth Sch, TQ14 9HZ	<b>MULTI SPORTS   £15</b> ISCA College, EX2 6AP <b>MULTI SPORTS   £15</b> Teignmouth Sch, TQ14 9HZ	<b>JUNIOR GRECIANS HALLOWEEN PARTY</b> 6.50 - 8.30pm Pizza, Games & Omelette St James Hall, Apple Green, EX4 5PX Only £3 per person
<b>EARLY BIRD OFFER</b> Book 5 courses for only £50 before 10/10/2016		<b>SAVE! AND BOOK ALL 5 DAYS FOR ONLY £60!</b>			
<b>SIDMOUTH</b> Football Fun   £15 St James School, EX10 8BG Football Fun   £15 St James School, EX10 8BG		<b>EXMOUTH</b> Football Fun   £15 Exmouth Town FC, EX3 3EE Football Fun   £15 Exmouth Town FC, EX3 3EE		<b>CRANBROOK</b> Football Fun   £12 Education Campus, SX2 3E4	
<b>SAVE! BOOK BOTH DAYS FOR ONLY £27!</b>		<b>SAVE! BOOK BOTH DAYS FOR ONLY £27!</b>			
<b>EXETER</b> Junior Football Leaders   £5 Exeter College, EX4 43S	<b>EXETER</b> Girls Football Fun   £5 ISCA College, EX2 6AP			<b>EXETER</b> Disability Football Fun   £5 ISCA College, EX2 6AP	
<b>ONLINE BOOKING: £15 per day</b> Limited pay on the day spaces. £17 per day				<b>5-a-side Tournament</b> 12pm - 3pm Exeter University Sports Park, EX4 4QN NEW! 3G Surface £20 per team (Minimum 6 players) WINNING TEAM RECEIVES A TROPHY, MEDALS & PICTURE IN THE MATCH DAY PROGRAMME	

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**Sixth FORM OPEN EVENING**

SIDMOUTH COLLEGE

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US ON TUESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 7-8:30PM**

At Sidmouth College we welcome local students and those from across Exeter and East Devon. We offer a wide range of Academic courses for students aged 16-19 years.

We have excellent dedicated facilities, including an IT suite, Common Room, Gym and Café. Bursaries are available to help with the costs of learning.

In 2016 our Sixth Form students achieved great results, with 86% gaining A\*-C grades.

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