# Sidmouth College Newsletter



Spring Term 2018: Edition 4, 29th March 2018















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We can now start to wind down and look forward to a long weekend after yet another busy term, despite being somewhat interrupted by the 'Beast from the East' I and II. Now the clocks have sprung forward and the days are longer, let's hope spring really starts to kick in over the Easter break. As ever, this Newsletter is brimming with activities and successes that the students have been enjoying this half term. I'm sure you'll agree we have some fantastic young people at the College and it's great to see the scope and depth of their activities and achievements. I am always immensely proud of their achievements and how they support either each other or their community. Today's non-uniform day and Bertie Bentley shaving his head are just two examples and you can read more about these events in this Newsletter.

Easter brings an opportunity for friends and families to spend quality time together, as well as to give and receive Easter gifts and well wishes. The volume and variety of Easter Eggs is ever growing, and perhaps more pertinent than ever this year, the volume and variety of

plastic waste that these sometimes simple, sometimes elaborate, treats bring. 'Blue Planet' and associated campaigns have really brought plastics to the forefront of the media and people's minds. I'm sure many of you have been shocked by some of the footage that has been displayed in heightening our awareness of the issue. Equally, it raises the challenges faced in trying to both manage and avoid this exceptionally prevalent product.

We are fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of the world, and we must do what we can to protect our environment. Next term, alongside other community initiatives that run in Sidmouth, the College will continue looking at ways to educate our young people and reduce plastic use and waste. Education is fundamental to changing people's attitudes and actions, and the College recognises the role it has. Working closely with our local community and forging positive relationships only enhances the educational opportunities for our students. This is something we're keen to develop and you will see many examples of student involvement with the local community in this edition. I would also like to draw your attention to page 11 where you will find two ways that we can all support our community either through the beach clean happening on Sidmouth Sea Front on Saturday 14th April at 10.00am. or by supporting the SCA's Bags 2 School fundraiser. Both fantastic ideas and well worth you considering over the Easter period.

Lastly, please spare a thought for our Year 11 and 13 students whose Easter break will undoubtedly involve revision, coursework completion, and preparation for the Summer term. Nevertheless, this is essential time to get set up for a successful examination experience in May and June. Easter will present a challenging time, requiring focus, resilience and determination but hopefully accompanied by reward and maybe chocolate! Give them your support please, and help them balance work and play!

I wish you all a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing students return to the College on Monday 16th April 2018.

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# Holland and Belgium Trip (report by Miss Hext)

A group of 32 students from Years 11, 12 and 13, along with Miss Hext, Mrs Hurley and Mrs Liddle, have recently returned from a Study Visit to Holland and Belgium. After a long coach journey we first stayed in a moated castle at Heemskerk, just outside Amsterdam. Our visit to Amsterdam the following day began with a tour of Anne Frank House – the secret annex where Anne and 7 others hid from the Nazis for over two years before being arrested by the Gestapo. Anne's Diary – written during her months of hiding – is on display for people to see today. We also visited the Theatre where Jews had to wait before being deported to the concentration camps and the Auschwitz Memorial.

We then travelled to Arnhem to see the site of the Second World War battle codenamed Operation Market Garden. After this we travelled down to Vught – a concentration camp where we were shown around by Dutch guides. Our next stop was Ypres in Belgium where three Sixth Formers, Gabe Broom, David Luxon and Jess Gosling laid a poppy wreath on behalf of Sidmouth College at the Last Post Ceremony under the Menin Gate. 2018 marks the hundredth anniversary of the end of the First World War and it was a very special moment to attend a ceremony at the site remembering 54,896 of those Allied Soldiers who have no known grave. We also visited several First





World War sites including Hooge Crater (a chance to walk in a First World War trench and see artillery casing, barbed wire and other debris from the war) and Essex Farm (where we visited the grave of Private Strudwick who died aged 15 – or possibly even younger). We also heard the story of the poem, "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae. A visit to Langemark German Cemetery reminded us that war always has two sides. We ended our tour



by laying a wreath in the rotunda at Tyne Cott cemetery – the largest Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery where 11,954 are buried. Several graves have recently been added as every year more bodies are discovered.

The trip was a huge success and students have taken home many memories. As we remember the First World War we must play our part in building a brighter and more peaceful future. A quote by Albert Schweitzer is printed on a board outside Langemark Cemetery and reads, "The soldier's graves are the greatest preachers of peace."

# **Bertie Shaves Head for Stand up to Cancer**

Year 11 student and Grenville Student Head of House Bertie Bentley shaved his head on Thursday to fundraise for the charity CLIC Sargent. The whole college also took part in a non-uniform day on Friday to raise money for the same cause. The college chose CLIC Sargent because this was the charity that has supported Year 9 student Harvey Slater throughout his treatment. In total the college raised £758 and Bertie has so far raised an astonishing £574!. Great efforts all round!



# **Head of House Voting**

On Friday 16th March students in years 7-10 voted for their future Student Heads of House, who will represent them next year. The process began at the start of term when students had the opportunity to apply for one of the SHOH positions, a shortlist was then made and those candidates created their own campaigns and presented in assemblies to try to win votes from members of their House. The votes will now be collated and counted and the successful Heads and Deputy Heads will be announced after Easter.





#### **Netball**

Our Year 10 girls, who are current East Devon netball champions came runners up in the Devon State Schools final this term. The girls played exceptionally well and were undefeated beating Teign, Churston, Ivybridge, Penryn and Torquay Grammar school on their

way to the final where they eventually lost to National finalists, St Peter's. They were excellent role models for the College and the lyybridge teacher commented on their outstanding sportsmanship. Player of the tournament went to Kate Marriott.



#### **Hockey Results**

**U12B** - The U12 B team had a positive experience at the East Devon hockey tournament. The girls showed lots of perseverance in tricky weather conditions and skill despite a number of them having not played competitive hockey before. The girls finished joint 3rd and can be proud of their endeavours. Poppy and JJ were particularly impressive, demonstrating fantastic stick work.

**U13** - The U13 team finished as winners at the East Devon hockey tournament. They defended outstandingly, only conceded one goal all tournament; credit to goalkeeper Fearne and the defenders. Captain Jess lead superbly by example and was ably supported by Georgie in attack who scored her first goal! Great effort girls.

#### **Football**

The U15 College team played in the East Devon 6 aside tournament on Wednesday 21st March. The A team unfortunately lost in the semi final, however the B team won the B final against Honiton. All played some great football and they still had time to do their hair at the end according to Mr Williams!



# Rugby 7s

On Thursday 8th March our upper school students played in the Rugby 7s tournament at Blundell's school. This was an Exeter and East Devon tournament. The boys narrowly lost out on a semi final place as they drew their first game against Exmouth. However they did beat Uffculme 26-5 which was a great achievement.



# **U13 Girls Rugby**

The U13 girls braved the challenging conditions to entertain Clyst Vale in a thrilling game of rugby. Both sides demonstrated excellent handling and offloads to score 6 tries each. Lottie, Lucy and Gracie were particularly impressive in attack, taking their tries well. It was great to see all the girls getting stuck in and embracing the mud!







# **Interhouse Football and Hockey**

During this half term students in Years 7,8,9 and 10 signed up and took part in Interhouse Football and Hockey. It was due to take place on the 1st and 2nd of March, but was postponed to the following week due to the snow. The following week the weather was much more appropriate and students competed in House teams. As always there was a healthy amount of competitive spirit between each House and all competing played exceptionally well. Many students took to the side-lines to cheer on their House and give players that extra boost.

#### Results:

1st Raleigh 2nd Drake 3rd Grenville 4th Scott





# Cross Country

Toby Garrick and Josh Miller did amazingly



well at the National Cross Country Championships in Leeds during the penultimate week of term. Toby came 80th and Josh came 153rd. It was an outstanding achievement for them to reach national level. Well done to them both.

#### Rugby

The U13 girls rugby team finished their season with a 3rd place in the Devon tournament at Topsham RFU. The girls played exceptionally well as a team and persevered even when it was tough, especially being the smallest team there! An impressive nine tries gave Lucy Spiller the Players Player award and a special mention goes to Emily Alcala Ganty, in her first competitive experience, who came away with four tries and a number of try-stopping tackles. Mrs Omand said all of the girls were a credit to the school and have been hard to improve. Roll on next season! Big thanks to Dom from Devon RFU and Mr Powell for helping with training and matches this season!



#### **Exeter Chiefs Coach Works with Students**

On Thursday 22nd February a selection of students from Years 8 and 9 had the opportunity to take part in a rugby workshop and training session with Ann Webb, who is a coach for the Exeter Chiefs rugby team. During the first session they worked together discussing skills and good qualities involved in sport that they can transfer to all parts of life and school. After that they were out on the astro pitch honing their rugby skills and taking part in a range of



skill games to improve their rugby and sporting techniques. A big thank you to Ann from the Chiefs who came in and worked with the group.

#### Netball

The College has had a lot of Netball fixtures taking place this half term. In March the under 14s team played against Honiton and won 11-5. A fantastic result! Erin Kirley was awarded player of the match.

The under 12s also played against Honiton and won





13-6. Tara Darlami was player of the match. These were both great results and we look forward to more fixtures coming up next term. Congratulations to all the girls who played in the matches,



# **Year 7 Visit the Eden Project**

On Tuesday 27th February the entire Year 7 cohort visited the Eden Project in Cornwall. It was an early start at 8:30am when three coaches of 125 students and 10 staff set off on the 2 hour journey.

The group received a welcome talk from staff at the Eden Project and found out all about the History of Eden since March 2001 when it first opened. After that the group were split into two groups. The first group were able to explore the Mediterranean Biome and the entire site of Eden, including the outdoor gardens. They had a booklet and quiz to complete with various plants to find and questions to answer. The second group stayed with the Eden staff and completed a workshop called 'Jungle Connections', whereby they looked at what the Rainforest does and how it affects us. They also looked at products made from trees and plants in the rainforest and how deforestation is destroying the jungle and habitats for jungle animals. After that they visited the Rainforest Biome, searching for plants that are used to make products such as the fruits we eat and the cosmetics we use. The temperature and humidity levels were high and many students were pleased to get

back out in the cold after vising a climate similar to that of South America. In the afternoon the two groups swapped over and took part in the other activity.

Students had a fantastic day, for many it was their first visit to the Eden Project. Year 7 will use all the information they recorded and ideas from their visit in an upcoming topic in Geography









# **Daniel Inspires Our Students**

On Monday 5th March ex-student Daniel Neaves of DKN salon in Budleigh Salterton visited to speak to a selection of our year 11 students who aspire to work in the hairdressing industry. Daniel has had great success working as a session stylist all over the world for a host of prominent designers. Students were fascinated to hear stories of the places he had worked and the opportunities Daniel had worked hard to get. He now owns his own salon and



takes on apprentices to train. He and his team have also recently

set up YCT-Young Creative Team-which works with and nurtures young stylists to be successful in the industry with Daniel's guidance and support.

Students enjoyed listening to Daniel's story, hearing from his current apprentices and taking part in a practical hair activity. We would like to thank Daniel and his team for visiting to speak to our students and providing some fantastic advice.



#### **Roman Road Perform Live**

On Thursday 22nd February students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 had the chance to watch a live performance from band 'Roman Road'. The three piece pop boyband have been touring the UK visiting schools to deliver an online safety, cyber bullying and anti-discrimination performance and workshop.

The main message of the presentation was to empower students to make the right choices with regards to online safety and cyber bulling, as well as to convince students not to discriminate and to treat everyone fairly. They also discussed why diversity should be celebrated alongside fundamental British Values.

Rod Chao

It was a great experience and students were up dancing and singing along, some students even joined the band up on stage to sing their own songs. All were engaged throughout and left with lots to think about and reflect on. A big thank you to the members of 'Roman Road' Aaron, Adam and Cliff for visiting and working with our students to deliver such an important and beneficial message.

#### **Holocaust Memorial Day**

It was Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January and on Thursday 1st February Miss Hext took two Sixth Form students, Daisy and David, to Exeter Cathedral to take part in a HMD Inherit the Truth event at which a Holocaust survivor spoke. They both wrote and delivered speeches on the day and were the only students speaking, a great honour for the College!

Here is an extract from Daisy's speech:

'It's hard to know what to say or how to feel when faced with an event as awful as the holocaust, on the day that I visited the Anne Frank house I had very little idea of how the experience would make me feel, I knew it would be shocking, but I had no idea how sad and angry it would make me... Learning about this group of people and their experiences has made me eternally grateful for the life I have been given and the freedom I have. It has made me aware that I should use my freedom to educate myself on current events, to



make a stand for those who are being persecuted, to not allow any form of discrimination to be swept aside as something to accept, or something to ignore because it doesn't affect me."

#### **College Equestrian Team News**

In September the team consisting of Millie Jarrett, Izzy Reynolds and Charly Hosking competed at Bicton Arena against schools from Devon, Cornwall, Somerset and Dorset putting in a great performance. Charly was placed individually and qualified for the National Championships in October. Since then Millie has represented the college as an individual on a few occasions and Charly on a regular basis. Charly also competed and won at the County Show Jumping Qualifier for Devon which qualifies her for the National



Schools County Show Jumping Championships in Buckinghamshire in April 2018.

If anyone interested in joining the schools equestrian team they need to be able to compete at 80cm or above and have their own pony and transport. There are competitions in show jumping, cross country and dressage. Anyone interested can contact me by email christineandandy@johnlewis.com and I can answer any questions and provide more details.

#### **Year 8 Impact Day**

Year 8 students were off timetable on Monday 12th March to take part in a roundabout of workshops as part of their impact day.

On the day students began in the Hall watching a film about tackling homophobia, this was then followed by a round robin of sessions. These included a bullying workshop, a session with our School nurse Tracey Wills, a first aid and CPR training session with Mrs Harris and finally an arson awareness activity with the Devon and Somerset fire and rescue team.

Students gained lots of valuable skills during these workshops, which will benefit them throughout their lives.





# **Tree Planting**

On Thursday 8th March Mr Williams took over 20 students from Year 7 to the Scout Field on top of Salcombe Hill to work with the Sidmouth Rotary Club to plant over 100 saplings. The weather was perfect on the day and although it was tough work the students worked hard and had a great time. This is an annual event and the College enjoys supporting the Rotary Club to plant more trees in Sidmouth. Last year the group planted over 100 trees around the College grounds and they are looking great!



# **World Book Day**

On 1st March it was World Book Day, but due to the snow day the College was closed. Luckily the competitions were postponed to the following week. These were a 'dress the potato' competition,





whereby students decorated a potato as a literary character. Mrs Harrison was inundated with potatoes of all shapes and sizes and judged the entries based on the most accurate, creative and fun designs.

The winners were:

**Decorated Vehicle Award** 

'Murder on the Orient Express' - Phoebe, Charlotte, 'Mr Bump Potter - Poppy Teuton Naomi Linton and Molly Taylor

**Group Award** 

The Hungry Caterpillar - Lucy Spiller

**Individual Awards** 

'Harry Potter - Erin Welsh

The Mad Hatter - Iona Gray

**Highly Commended** 

'Thorin Oakenshield - Katie Swinney

The second competition was a 'Match the teacher to the book' contest. The winners were: staff—Mrs Harris and students 1st Harold Areeckal, 2nd Jacob Green and 3rd Amy Bell.

# **Amy wins 10th Anniversary Art Competition**

Congratulations to Amy Hills in Year 13 who won the Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival 10th Anniversary artwork competition. She submitted her painting of Sidmouth from the top of Salcombe Hill and we are very impressed. As the winning piece, it will have a permanent home in a public space in Budleigh Salterton and will also inspire a piece of writing by a leading South West writer. Judges included distinguished landscape artist Alan Cotton and Brook Gallery curator Angela Yarwood. A great achievement, well done Amy.







#### **Castles**

Year 7 Students took part in the annual castle building competition as part of their History topic. This term students have studied Medieval castles and looked at the components of a well designed castle including drawbridges, towers, turrets, moats and keeps. Students were then challenged, for their homework, to build their own castles displaying all of these features. Entries were





creative and packed with variety, being constructed from wood, cardboard and

even cake! In House groups, students marked each others castles and voted for the top 3 in each class. Mr Trengove said "every year I'm amazed at the fantastic efforts students put into building their castles and this year was no different. Students were particularly creative this year and also historically accurate". The winning castle will be announced to students once all have been brought in and peer assessed by the students.

# Ten Tors (report by Carole Clark)

We have successfully completed all of our day training walks this term, at the beginning of February we walked the Exmouth to Sidmouth stretch of the East Devon Way and on Sunday 25th covered almost 20 miles on Dartmoor in sub zero temperatures.





Early on Saturday morning of the 24th March 22 students and 8 adults set off for our weekend Training Camp. All 22 students (and adults), completing the walks on both days. On Saturday we completed a circular walk from Princetown (in the rain) and camped overnight. Not only was it an early start on Sunday morning, but the clock moving forward an hour robbed us of another hour's sleep, but the students were remarkably bright and cheerful to complete another and longer circular walk from Postbridge - this time in the sunshine.

The 6th formers in the 55km team enjoyed two full days of walking with 'wild camping' overnight but still arrived back on Sunday afternoon in good time. Our final training takes place on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd April, and students should keep watching both the Student Bulletin each day and the Ten Tors Noticeboard for details. Please note that this is the first weekend following our return to school after the Easter break. Following the April training, team selection will take place and the event will take place from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th May. Parents of students will receive details of the event, including information on how parents can be at the camp on the Sunday to welcome their children back after successfully completing the challenge.

# **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

Congratulations to students Josh Gill, Mattie Laurenti, Sofia Abrahams and Freya Cole, all of whom have now completed their Bronze Awards. Our Year 9 and



10 Award groups are now busy working on their sectional activities before tackling their expedition in the summer term. If you are a student in Years 11, 12 or 13 who started their DofE but haven't completed it, there is still time! Most of you will have done all of their activities but just won't have got around to putting the information on the system. Please do upload assessors' reports onto their DofE page so that you can claim their award; it makes a great addition to your CV or college/university application.

# **Exmoor Challenge**

On Sunday 11th March over fifty students and parents took part



in the second walk of the Exmoor Challenge. The walk started at East Budleigh and went onto the common, totalling about 8 miles. The weather was fine to start but the rain arrived around midday, however everyone persevered and spirits remained high throughout the day. By the end of the walk it had brightened up and everyone completed the walk. Well done to all those taking part. Good luck on the next walk which will happen after the Easter break.



#### **Spring Concert**

On Thursday 22nd March, Staff, Parents and friends were treated to a Music Concert covering a range of Musical Styles. Keen to perform were two ex-students who returned to College to show what they have been doing musically. Year 11 Student





Chloe wowed the audience with one of her GCSE Music compositions, while Kate, Flora and Hannah performed their graded Piano and Violin pieces. There were some wonderful performances from vocalists in Key Stage 3. A special performance of original Music by newly formed band 'Club Apollo' featuring Sam on Drums went down a storm with the crowd. The evening finished with the Year 10 GCSE group performing a range of pieces studied as part of the course.

Mr Hickman was very pleased to share with the parents and students news that the College has been successful in receiving a grant from EMI Music foundation to set up a portable recording studio at the college - watch this space! The next opportunity to see students play will be the Summer concert, which is on Thursday 12th July.

#### Mrs Harris Wins Books for the Library

In College staff are regularly prompted by our Librarian, Mrs Harrison, to enter competitions to win books for the library. Well, our premises manager Mrs Harris did just that and won a selection of 6 signed books by various authors. These have now been placed in the library for students to enjoy. Well done to Ms Harris, we are sure the students will enjoy reading the new books.



# **SCA Easter Egg Raffle**

In the run up to Easter every year the Sidmouth College Association (SCA) organise an Easter egg raffle for staff and students to take part in. The raffle prizes are donated by staff and this year there were a record breaking total of 60 to be won!



Students had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets in school and could buy as many as they liked to increase their chances of winning. SCA member Emma Gray and a selection of year 8 helpers sold tickets over the 2 weeks in the hall, equipped with Bunny ears and tails to draw in the crowds! The draw took place on the penultimate day of term and the winning names were announced this morning.

Overall the SCA raised £125 and those lucky students were delighted with their eggs! Thank you to all who donated eggs into the raffle, the students who helped sell tickets and to the SCA for their hard work and effort in organising this and other events this term.

#### **SCA Quiz**

On Friday 16th March the Sidmouth College Association (SCA) held a fundraising quiz night in the College Hall. There was a fantastic turnout with over 80 people attending, including teams of staff, parents and local quizzers!

In total the SCA raised a fantastic £905 which will go towards funding resources and equipment for students at the College, as well as paying for experiences for students., Thanks to the members of the SCA for holding such a great event.





#### **London Art Trip**

On Friday 23rd February Mrs Carr, Mrs Roberts and Mrs Marshman took a group of students from year 10,12 and 13 on a trip to London to see the Modigliani exhibition at the Tate Modern and then the Gursky exhibition at the newly refurbished Hayward gallery. Students also got to enjoy the swings installation in the Tate Modern. The gallery visits were fantastic and gave students plenty of inspiration. Check out our facebook page to see a video of what the students saw and got up to by visiting **www.facebook.com/sidmouthcollege**. Planning is currently

underway to take year 10 again in

the Summer term.







# Seafest Art Workshop

Coco Hodgkinson from Sidmouth Coastal Community Hub and her Seafest helpers came in yesterday to deliver Art workshops to all Year 10 students and the pupils who regularly come to Thursday Art club. They brought various types of fish with them and lots of exciting art materials and helped the students create some stunning art work, which will





become illustrations for a new cookery book full of fish inspired recipes.

Students also talked about environmental issues and used plastic bottles to create jellyfish chandeliers which will become part of the display at Sidmouth Seafest this year, which takes place on the Ham on May 12th. Seafest is an annual celebration of living by the sea, celebrating coastal culture, art, music, food and outdoor activities. Everyone involved had a great day yesterday and would like to thank Coco and her team for their inspiring input.

#### **Year 8 Artwork**

This half term year 8 students have been looking at different techniques to manipulate cardboard in order to create textures and shapes that resemble biscuits and cakes. The results look fantastic, good enough to eat! Mrs Roberts said she was thrilled with what the students produced and is so pleased with how engaged in the task the students were throughout.







# **Anthony Greenwood Photography Visit**

On Friday 23rd March A level Photography students received a visit from professional photographer Anthony Greenwood, they learned more about studio photography, portraiture, flash and lighting; it helped to embed their understanding of manual settings in different lighting conditions. This was then followed up with a Photoshop workshop allowing students to develop and practise using all these skills to use in their A level projects. Thank you to Anthony for sharing your skills and professional career and experience with us.





# **Bags 2 School**

After two years of success, the Sidmouth College Association are holding another 'Bags2School' fundraiser. Students will be sent home with a bag on the last day of term, asked to fill it with any items of unwanted clothing and then return it to the College reception by Thursday 19th April. If you have more items you can use black bin bags as well or any large carrier bag.

**Notices** 

All items donated will be sent to third world countries for re-use. Sidmouth College will receive 40p a kilo for items donated, which in turn will be used towards projects in the College.

Thank you for all your support in helping the college to fundraise.



#### **Problems Printing Your Reports?**

Recently you will have received your child's progress report by email. Some parents have informed us that although they can view the report correctly on screen, when they print it, some of the information prints in hieroglyphics. To resolve this problem, please update your PDF viewer on your home computer.





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