

Sidmouth College Newsletter

Summer Term 2018: Edition 5, 25th May 2018

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Hello and welcome to the summer term issue of our College newsletter. I hope that you enjoy catching up with our students and the fantastic and varied events and activities they have taken part in since Easter. Despite this being one of the longest terms of the academic year, the time seems to be flying by with so much being achieved by students and staff alike. Over the past month many of our students finalised their preparations for formal examinations and we are now well into GCSE and A Level exams season. Our Year 11 and 13 students have been simply outstanding in their approach to learning and study this term and are to be congratulated for their determined, confident and careful attitude to this important time in their academic journey. I would like to thank all parents, carers and families for the ways in which you have supported them this year, as a Dad of a child doing formal examinations myself I do know that at times this will not have been easy!

Looking ahead there is so much to look forward to over the second half of the summer term. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students go off on their official study leave today after enjoying a day of celebrations. Students can look forward to the Year 11 prom and the Year 13 Leavers events that take place on completion of their examinations. Both evenings are always key events in the College calendar where fabulous dresses, sharp suits and flash transport will, I am sure, be part of both celebrations. Elsewhere, we have the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition, Sports Day's, Year 9 Awards Evening, Year 6 transition days, work experience and activities days all to look forward to.

You will be aware that this week the Governing Board appointed Sarah Parsons to the position of Principal from September. Sarah is an exciting appointment for the College and someone who I am sure will continue to take the College forward in its journey towards excellence. I would like to take this opportunity to dispel any rumours there may be that I am leaving Sidmouth College. When I commenced the role of Acting Principal two years ago, the position was temporary for the year. My continuation in the shared role for a second year was to assist the College as it considered partnership options and address the budgetary issues faced by many schools in Devon. It was a tough decision to make but I have decided, for personal reasons, not to seek this position on a permanent basis. I have to say it has been a privilege be the Acting Principal and Co-Principal of Sidmouth College. I would like to personally thank Martyn Dudley for the outstanding work he has done in the role of Acting Co-Principal. My thanks must also go to my leadership team and all the staff within the College for supporting me in my role. I would also like to thank the students for their support and for being the amazing individuals they are. A College is only as good as the staff and the students who walk through the gate and we are fortunate in both cases. My final thanks goes to the support I have received from you as parents. Your support has ensured that the partnership between College and home is strong and in being so conducive to helping your child succeed in their education. My passion and desire for Sidmouth College to become one of the highest performing schools across the County is relentless and come September I will resume my role as Vice Principal.

Before all that happens we have a small matter of half term to look forward to. Mine will be spent catching up and enjoying quality time with family and friends. Whatever you are doing I hope that you have a great week.

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New Student Heads of House for 2018/2019

We are pleased to introduce our newly appointed Student Heads of House for the next academic year. After applications, campaigns and elections we now have 16 new enthusiastic leaders. For Raleigh House: Emily, Katie, Ben and Jess. For Grenville House: Rebecca, George, Tom and Elly-Jayne. For Scott House: Will, Anya, Max and Oliwia and finally for Drake House: Harvey, Tim, Darcy and Siona. Congratulations to them all, we look forward to seeing the work they do over the next year.

Raleigh Student Heads of House



Grenville Student Heads of House



Scott Student Heads of House



Drake Student Heads of House



Ten Tors

After months of training Sidmouth College has had another successful year of Ten Tors. We are pleased that the College entered 3 teams to take part, which included two 35-mile teams and one 55-mile team. Conditions were ideal and the weather was fair, which made for great walking.

Students did fantastically well showing excellent mental and physical resilience. All teams finished strongly at the following times 11:00 35A

Team - Harvey, Jess, Darcy, Ellie-Jayne, Lorenzo and Finlay, 12:00 35B Team - Rayan, Ben, Max, Ollie, Joe and George, 13:30 55 Mile Team - Josh, Jude, Logan, Gab, Toby and Rowan. All very impressive results. Year 11 student Sofia walked the 45 mile challenge with Tavistock College and finished at 15:45.

Sidmouth College has a strong tradition of success in the Ten Tors Event and we are grateful to our volunteers who have helped us train on Dartmoor over the past 8 months.

Mrs Clark, who supported organisation of this year's Ten Tors, said "The college is very proud of, and pleased with our team members this year. They were a pleasure to train with on the moor and a good example of how impressive our young people can be." Well done to everyone who took part, a great achievement. You've all earned a well deserved rest over half term!





Year 7 Super 8's Athletics

A team of 8 girls and 8 boys from Year 7 competed in a track and field event this half term. This was an excellent experience for Year 7s in preparation for an East Devon competition after half term. A special mention to Rosie, Harrison and Amy who won their field events by some distance. The recipient of the sporting values medal went to Emily for showing outstanding team work and dedication to athletics. Well done to all the students who took part.



Students Represent Devon

Faith, Lucy and Iona from year 8 played in the final U13 Girls Devon County Cup game on Thursday 10th May against Ivybridge at the Devon FA HQ.

Unfortunately, the team lost 5-0 against a very strong side, but they played well showing a lot of hard work and determination. Well done to the girls.



College Alumni Success

Former Sidmouth College student Dom Bess has received his first call up to the England Test cricket squad to face Pakistan this summer. Dom has played cricket full time since leaving school and earned a professional contract with Somerset County Cricket after graduating from their academy system. He has gone on to impress whilst representing Somerset, England Under 19's and England Lions. We wish him all the best this summer.



Devon Athletics and Field Cup

On Tuesday 8th May, Mrs Omand took over 20 students to Exeter Arena to take part in the Devon Athletics Cup. Students took part in a variety of Athletics events, competing in year groups. The Year 9 and 10 boys came 2nd out of thirteen Devon schools including Blundells and Ivybridge. All students performed fantastically and were a credit to the College on the day.



U13 Cricket

The Under 13 girls team played in the Cricket festival at St Luke's school this term. The competition was strong and the girls gave strong performances, improving throughout the day. They had a great time and staff commented on their teamwork and fantastic sporting attitude.





Sports Captains Announced

We are proud to announce the new Sports Captains and Vice Captains for each House. For Raleigh House the Sports President is India and Vice Presidents are Emily and Millie. For Grenville House the Sports President is Jack and Vice President is Ellie. For Scott House the Sports President is Scarlett and Vice President is Emily and finally from Drake House the Sports President is Kate and Vice President is Kloe. Congratulations to them all, they have a busy Summer of Sporting events coming up.



U13 Cricket

On Monday 21st May the U13 cricket team played in the East Devon Softball Cricket Tournament.

The team played exceptionally well, displaying fantastic skill and team work, as a result they won every match and are now due to play in the Devon finals after half term. An excellent set of results. Congratulations to the team and good luck in the finals!



Sidmouth College Equestrian Team

Last month at the Schools' National Championships Charly Hosking represented Sidmouth College and came 2nd on her horse Jack. In March Charly and Jack came 1st at Bicton Arena and became the Devon County Champion, also qualifying to compete nationally. On Friday 20th April Charly and per pony drove the 5 hour journey to Bury Farm in Buckinghamshire for the NSEA National Championships. Charley had two excellent runs and finished in 2nd place out of 150 riders, with only a fraction of a second between 1st and 2nd. A great result for Charly and Sidmouth College. Well done Charly and Jack.





Year 11 Celebrate Last Day Before Study Leave

It was our Year 11s last day today and, after two normal lessons first thing, the rest of the day was theirs' to relax and enjoy, starting with the traditional T-shirt signing on the field and finishing with a celebration lunch and leavers' awards assembly, hosted by Miss Hughes and the Heads of House.

Miss Hughes, who was this year group's Head of Year before switching to the vertical House system, had a few words to say about this cohort: "It has been a pleasure to watch this year group grow and develop since their first days in year 7. I can still remember their anxious faces on the new intake days and it's hard to believe that those same students are the ones I have said goodbye and good luck to today. They have matured into confident young adults ready to take on the next challenge. They should be proud of all that they have achieved so far and I look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the next few months and years. I wish them every luck going forward and I know that myself and the rest of the staff at Sidmouth College will miss them all."

Their last full day was a special occasion, which was enjoyed by all. The weather was kind and all students were in good spirits throughout the day. They really were a credit to the year and the College.

However, it's not over yet!... There is still the small matter of exams - and not forgetting the Summer Ball. Everyone at Sidmouth College would like to wish this year group the best of luck for the future, and we look forward to seeing many of their faces back in the Sixth Form.



Year 13 Say Goodbye to Sidmouth College

Meanwhile, only 24 hours earlier, on Thursday 24th May, it was Year 13 students enjoying their last day at Sidmouth College. They began with a very civilised tea and cake in the Sixth Form common room with teachers and staff, followed by games on the field and a pizza and BBQ feast to cap it all off. Head of Sixth Form Mrs Hurley said "Today is the Year 13s last day before their exams start. They have been an absolute joy to have in the Sixth Form - hard working, sociable and willing to do all when asked. As a Sixth Form team we wish them all the best in their forthcoming exams and look forward to some superb results in the summer. Good luck to them all."





Year 10 rewarded with Ice Skating Trip

On Friday 27th April Mr Williams and Miss Ryce took 50 Year 10 students to Plymouth Ice Rink. The trip was awarded to the top praise point scoring students in the year group, who have achieved 35 or more praise points.

Almost all students took very naturally to the ice, even those who had never ice skated before. There were only a few slips and tumbles, but students were very resilient and got straight back up. All in all a very enjoyable day. Leader of Engagement and Performance, Mr Williams, said "These students deserved a treat for all the hard work they have put in to their work this school year ahead of their GCSEs next year, students behaviour was impeccable and they all had a fun and enjoyable day".



Geography Field Trip

Mrs Gill, Mrs Youngman and 24 students enjoyed a Geography trip to Seaton in the sunshine this half term. On the day they studied the coastal processes that operate there and the impact that human activity and management are having on the coast. It was a very interesting experience for the students, they examined how coastal processes such as tectonic movement and climatic impact all combine to affect the coastline. Students are now ready to embark on their geographical exploration unit ready for their exams next year.



Year 5 Humanities Transition Day

On Tuesday 1st May around 50 Year 5 students from local primaries visited the college to take part in a Humanities transition day. These transition days are designed to familiarise students with the college before their big move into Year 7 in 2 years time. It also gives students the opportunity to learn new and interesting things on topics they may not have studied before. This year, students completed an activity all about Africa. Mr Trengove, who helped run and organised the day, said "It was great to have the Year 5 students come up to visit us, they thoroughly enjoyed the activities and were a pleasure to teach"





Theatre Visit

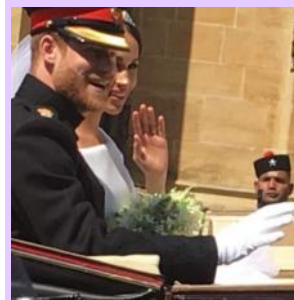
Miss Davies and Year 12 Drama students travelled to The Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre in Taunton on 9th May to see a challenging piece of Mask Theatre performed by renowned Mask company Vamos Theatre. Created from two years of research with ex and serving soldiers, families and health professionals, A Brave Face explored Post-Traumatic Stress, an unseen and often unrecognised injury of war, and the impact it can have on even the closest families. With compassion and fearlessness, Vamos brought its trademark, wordless, full mask style to a story that needed to be told.

According to research 'more soldiers and veterans killed themselves than were killed on operational service in defence of the realm.' This was a powerful and emotive piece of theatre that revealed the impact of PTS on service men and their families following the deployment to Afghanistan. The actors ability to communicate emotion and action without verbal language was effective using clever musical underscoring and sound effects to reinforce the mood and the atmosphere.



Miss Davies Receives Royal Invitation

Our very own Director of Performing & Creative Arts Miss Davies was excited to attend the Royal Wedding of on Saturday 19th May at Windsor Castle in London. Miss Davies was nominated to attend by HM Lord-Lieutenant of Devon for her outstanding contribution to the local community through the Sidmouth Youth Theatre. This is a celebration of her founding, directing and producing 43 productions for young people to participate in since 1985! On the day Miss Davies enjoyed a picnic on the grounds of Windsor castle whilst watching the wedding procession take place. See a photo Miss Davies took of the newlywed couple below.



Daffodil Competition

This year saw Sidmouth hold its very first Sidmouth Daffodil Day on Saturday 31st March. As part of the day the organisers ran a daffodil artwork and photography competition and a selection of students from Sidmouth College decided to enter their own work. The work was displayed at Kennaway House alongside many local artists and work from Sidmouth Primary School. All our entries were fantastic and judges commended the high standard of work, congratulations to India, Eve, Tilly, Iona, Isabel, Shahad, Tommy and Kate who were all named winners and runners up in their age category and all received prizes for their great work.



Year 9 Impact Day

On Friday 18th May students in Year 9 were off timetable to take part in a series of workshops as part of their personal development impact day. Sessions included First aid training with Mrs Harris, where students used our new CPR dummies to learn valuable lifesaving skills. Students also took part in a rights and responsibility session with PCSO Phil Thomas, a talk about health and contraceptives with Tracey Wills and finally a session with local magistrates all about our legal system, where they took part in a mock trial! Students were all positive and showed fantastic attitudes toward all of the workshops they took part in. We would like to thank all the visitors for working with our students and making the day possible.





Jess Gets to Semi Final of Cook Off

On Monday 26th March Jess Barriball, a Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition student represented Sidmouth College in the semi-finals of the Great Schools Cook Off, held at Exeter College.

Jess had to design her own menu that included a main course and dessert using the following criteria: must include chicken, potatoes and vegetables for the main, and a soufflé of your choosing for the dessert.

Jess had 1 hour and 20 minutes (including washing up) to produce her meal, which she did fantastically well.

She made asparagus stuffed chicken, served with duchess potatoes, glazed baby carrots and parsnips. For dessert she made banana and passion fruit soufflé, served with passion fruit coulis and a chocolate coating. Judging was tough, with 5 category's to score in, these included cooking techniques, presentation and timing, taste, hygiene and preparation.

Jess did extremely well very nearly being selected for the finals and receiving 3 months' worth of free travel on Stagecoach for all her hard work. Now that we have had an entry into this competition we hope that next year others will take the opportunity to compete with their own menus. Well done Jess, a great achievement!



Star Bakers This Term

It's been another busy term in the Food Technology department. Students have been cooking up a storm creating all sorts of tasty treats. The Technology team said that they have been impressed with the high standards of cooking from students. See here some of the excellent makes and bakes including pies, pastries, quiches and fruit salads!



Students Fundraise for Borneo with Fashion Show

On Thursday 10th May Year 10 students Emily and Jess teamed up with 'Colours', a fundraising organisation, to hold a Fashion Show and pop-up shop in the College Hall. The event was organised by the girls to help raise funds for a 4 week volunteer abroad programme with Camps International. They plan to go to Borneo in July 2019. On the trip Jess and Emily will help construct amenities in Mantanani and assist with local conservation projects in Batu Puteh, including safeguarding the wildlife and natural habitats.

The fashion show was a huge success with over 120 guests attending. In total Jess and Emily raised £860 towards their trip. The pop up shop was very popular selling high street brands such as M&S, Coast and Dorothy Perkins, and even better they were all at least 50% cheaper than in the shops! Congratulations to Jess and Emily for putting on a such a great evening. Good luck to them in raising the remaining funds needed for their trip.





Bags 2 School

This term the Sidmouth College Association held another Bags 2 School fundraiser to raise money for the college. As usual we had a mountain of bags full of old donated clothes. In total we collected around 200 kilograms of clothing, which raised £80. Every little helps and all the money raised, no matter how much will go back into the school and pay for, or be put towards, purchasing resources for the College. Recently the SCA have funded artwork display boards for the Art and Photography Department and new textbooks for Humanities. Thank you to every family that donated items to the fundraiser, we hope this will continue and be run again next year.



Students visit Malden House

As part of Dementia Awareness week the college was invited to visit Malden House to work with the staff and residents. On Monday 21st May Mrs Whitworth took 15 students up to receive dementia awareness training from the staff at the care home. During the training the staff shared their care values and gave the students strategies to use when working with someone suffering from dementia, these included how to empower people, keep dignity intact and encourage independence.



On the following Thursday 24th May students returned to the Care home to work with the residents in a variety of activities, putting their new training into practise.

Coachbright

This term a selection of Year 12 students have been paired up with students in Year 10 in a new scheme called CoachBright, which is a social enterprise designed to enable students to achieve the grades and confidence they need to progress with the help of coaches.

The coaches from Year 12 volunteered to take part and work with younger students. On Friday 18th May the students were invited to Exeter University to take part in some team activities including a treasure hunt around the campus, quizzes on Exeter University and a taster of University Societies, including Shakespeare Society and Debating Society. The day was capped off with a graduation ceremony.

Head of Sixth Form Mrs Hurley who lead CoachBright in school said "The coach bright programme is designed to help students make progress in those areas that they have highlighted such as Maths, English and Science. All students involved have been a credit to the school; as a result of which, we have been asked to become involved in other projects funded by the University."



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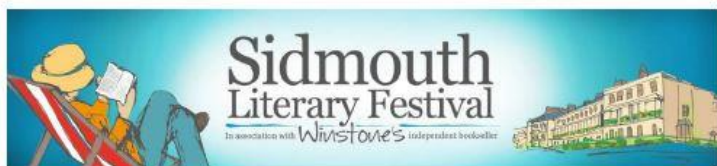
Second Hand Uniform Request

The Sidmouth College Association (SCA) runs a second hand uniform sale at the College to recycle unwanted items and to deliver a service to parents.

The SCA would like to request donations of any uniform that your child no longer needs or no longer fits into. We accept all items of uniform such as blazers, shirts, trousers and sports kit. We ask that uniform is in usable condition and had no serious wear and tear or damage.

This has proven to be a very successful fundraiser over the last 5 years and very successful for prospective year 6 parents kitting out their child in the Sidmouth College uniform ready for September.

The SCA plan on attending Sidmouth Primary School's Summer Fair to sell uniform to prospective parents. Currently, we would like to particularly request uniform for Years 7 and 8 students in smaller sizes, but would be grateful for all donations.



Do you write or blog? Do you want to pursue a career in journalism?

This year's **Sidmouth Literary Festival** takes place over the weekend of 15-17th June at Kennaway House.

The festival's signature event is the **How To Get Published** panel which takes the form of a panel of industry experts giving advice on writing and tips on the steps you need to take to see your work in print or pursue a career as a professional writer. Following a panel session and Q&A in the morning, one-to-one sessions are available in the afternoon where a member of the panel will give feedback on your writing. This year's panel includes a senior editor from Penguin, a literary agent, a range of journalists as well as experts on alternative routes into print such as self-publishing and crowdfunding.

As a result of last year's festival, five attendees have had work published.

We are making a limited number of places on the workshop available to under 25s at half the full entry price (£12.50, reduced from £25). These places are available on a first come first served basis. Please contact sidmouthlitfest1@gmail.com for further details.

For more details on the event and the full festival line-up, see <http://sidmouthlitfest.co.uk>

How to Get Published
Sunday 17th June 2018
Panel session and Q&A from 10.00.
One-to-One sessions from 13.30

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