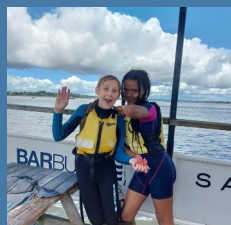


# Sidmouth College Newsletter

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Welcome to the summer edition of our College newsletter. This final half term of the year has been incredibly busy with students and staff taking part in a wide range of fantastic activities in addition to all the learning that takes place every day. I am sure that all students will have some special memories as a result of these opportunities and events. Please take time to enjoy the achievements and successes that are featured in this bumper summer edition!

I would like to take this opportunity at the end of the year to thank the staff at the College who have worked tirelessly to ensure that we have maintained our high expectations for teaching & learning. As is the case at the end of a year we are also saying goodbye to a number of staff, some of whom have worked at the College for a number of years. I am sure you will join me in wishing all those moving onto new opportunities or retirement the best of luck and enjoyment.

Thank you also to you, our parent community. The relationships that we have with you all are so important and I am grateful for your continued support over this year. It is so vital that we work together.

Students have worked hard all year, as a College we have been focusing on retrieval and the model of memory within classrooms, ensuring that students know where their gaps in knowledge are and how to move their learning on. We have made real progress on this, with students regularly using a red pen to support feedback in lessons. Please can I ask that all students return in September with the [required equipment](#) needed to be ready to learn.

We are looking forward to spending time with our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they receive their examination results in August. A-Level results day on 17th August, closely followed by the GCSE results on 24th August. The run up to both will be anxious times for students, families, and for the College as we all hope for the very best outcomes for everyone. The students had an impeccable attitude to their work and preparation to exams and I am confident that there will be much to celebrate this year. I will provide an update on exam results in the new academic year.

September will see us welcoming another full year group into Year 7, I am sure that they will all be a real asset to the College. The transition days this half term were very successful, it was fantastic to see the Year 6's enthusiasm for learning. We are also looking forward to welcoming back a large number of students into our Sixth Form. I have been really pleased that we are able to provide students with a wide range of subjects including some new courses and an improved enrichment offer for students which will give them a breadth of experiences that will support them in the future.

The College has had a superb year and this week has brought this all together through a wide range of exciting, unique and thoroughly beneficial experiences in our annual Activities Week. The trips and activities have been a great success, no doubt you will have heard all about your own child's adventures!

Have a relaxing and enjoyable summer break, we look forward to starting the new academic year with you on the Wednesday 6th September for Year 7 students only, and registration for Year 12 & 13. With Years 8-11 returning on Thursday 7th September.

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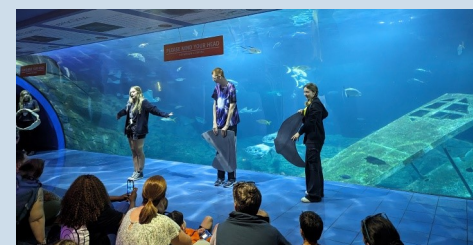
### Activities Days

It has been a long and busy year so to reward everyone and provide a few days of fun before the Summer begins, students and staff all took part in 3 days of exciting and enjoyable activities.

Every year students are given the choice of which activity they would like to take part in and these range from sports to arts and crafts and working with animals to going on a residential trip.

This year some of the activities included water sports at Exewake, A trip to London to the Harry Potter Studios, cycling across Devon, the Plymouth Aquarium, Paignton Zoo, Archery, team building and outdoor activities at Dynamic Adventures in Dartington and a visit to Crealy Adventure Park.

We've had great feedback from staff so far and from the photographs we've been sent throughout the week it looks like students have had a blast! See here photographs from a few of the trips and visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sidmouthcollege](https://www.facebook.com/sidmouthcollege) to see many more.



### PE Awards evening

On Tuesday 11th July it was another celebratory night at the College for the annual PE Awards Evening. A great night where the PE department celebrate and congratulate all those students who have represented the College in sporting events this academic year. With over 500 certificates handed out, it was a new record for the PE department with so many achievements to recognise.

Special mentions Isla D in Year 8 who was award 10 Colours for sustained commitment and representation of 10 sports this year, the 'Sam Marriott' Sporting Spirit Award for outstanding commitment across school sports awarded to Dara P in Year 10, the 'Marie Collins' trophy for all round sporting excellence in girls' sport awarded to Matilda B in Year 11 and the 'Geoff Retter' trophy for all round sporting excellence in boys' sport awarded to Alec B in Year 11.

Well done to all the students who have taken part in sports clubs and activities this year.







## Summer Ball

Year 11 students arrived at Woodbury Park on Thursday 29th June for the much anticipated final event of their year. The sun was shining which made for amazing photos down on the seafront to kick off the evening. Students then arrived in style at Woodbury Park in the usual array of interesting and impressive vehicles including limousines, a horse and cart and sports cars.

Everyone dressed to impress in dapper suits and dazzling dresses that wouldn't have looked out of place on the red carpet. After photos around Woodbury and a photo booth inside taken by Sidmouth College alumni photographer, Kyle Baker, it was time to tuck into a three course meal, followed by music, selfies and plenty of dancing!

Mr Ingham-Hill, who worked closely with the group over the past year, said "It was lovely to see the year group enjoying themselves. It is always sad to see Year 11 finish but I am pleased that so many are coming back for Sixth Form. I wish them all the best of luck with the next stage of their lives."







## Softball Tournament

Well done to the students who represented the college at a softball tournament at Exmouth Cricket Club this term. The boys played some great cricket throughout and all contributed in some capacity. Importantly - Oscar B, Luke and Freddie hit the most 6's!



## Cricket

We'd like to thank Sidmouth Cricket Club for hosting our U15 for an East Devon Schools cup fixture vs Exmouth.

Both sides batted well on a flat pitch to post competitive scores. Top scorer for Sidmouth was Ted with an impressive 36.



## Boys Tennis

Our U15 boys' tennis team played at the East Devon Boys Tennis Tournament in June week. The team did exceptionally well playing in very hot conditions.

Dougie B played well in his group pool winning three of his matches with Taylor RT winning two matches and Charlie RT winning one match. A Special thank you and well done to Jack L who stepped in last minute to complete the team, he played very well, only losing by one game in each match.



## Girls Tennis

The College U13 girls' tennis team played at the East Devon tournament in June.

On a very hot day, the players did exceptionally well. Isla T and Katie A played well in their group matches and Ann C qualified for the Quarter Finals.

Isla D made it all the way to the finals where she finished as runner up amongst East Devon schools! An excellent achievement. Well done to all the players.







## U12 Rounders

In June the Under 12s rounders team played their first match against Colyton. The team scored 6 in each inning but eventually lost by 4.

Congratulations to Year 7 student Faith who was voted Player of the Match.



## U14 Rounders

The Year 8 and 9 Rounders team took to The Woodroffe School on Tuesday 27th June to take part in a Rounders tournament against Woodroffe and Colyton. After defeats from Colyton, both teams fought hard and upgraded their strategies to successfully achieve a 8 1/2 to 8 and 6 1/2 to 2 1/2 win against Woodroffe; showcasing effective communication and excellent fielding, working as a new team.



## Interhouse Sports Day

During the penultimate week of term students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 took part in the Sidmouth College Athletics Championship. Across the three days students took part in a range of athletics events, competing in House groups with eyes on the prize of House Champions!

Day one was sadly rained off before Year 7 took to the field, but the following Monday they had their chance to compete. We had glorious sunshine the rest of the week which made for perfect conditions for all sports. Ending with a whole school relay event on Thursday 6th July. The students were great sports, cheering on their houses and creating an amazing atmosphere.

All year groups were eager to compete, with many aiming to break records and beat their personal bests. Students were very impressive this year, showing great commitment and enthusiasm to each of their events.

After a gruelling wait, PE staff announced the results in the end of term assembly. The results were as follows: 1st Scott, 2nd Raleigh, 3rd Grenville & 4th Drake. During the assembly individual results and record breakers were announced. The PE Department said, "As a department we are so proud of the students this year, they gave 100% to each of their events and they all excelled. As well as performing on the field, students were also great sports, cheering on students from all houses and encouraging each other."





## Year 6 Transition Days

This term we were joined for three days by 150 Year 6 students who will be joining the College in September. As well as having the opportunity to meet staff, find out their Tutor and House group and navigate their way around the site, the youngsters sampled lunch in the Canteen and took part in a series of taster lessons - including Maths, English, Drama, Technology, Science, Music and PE. All the students took the two days in their stride and displayed a very positive attitude, we look forward to welcoming them back to the College at the beginning of September.



## GCSE Celebration Event

On Monday 3rd July the College hosted Year 12 students for an afternoon to celebrate the achievements of their GCSE year at the College. And with such good results last summer it was an extra special celebration,

Individual students received subject prizes for achievement and progress across the curriculum. House prizes were awarded by Heads of House. Community awards were presented by the Sidmouth Lions Club, the Thelma Hulbert Gallery, the and Waitrose of Sidmouth, and there were a variety of cups and trophies for additional achievements.

Congratulations to: Izzy Brown and Harrison Howe who were awarded the Sidmouth Lions Shield for Achievement and Endeavour, Izzy Brown and Jess Askham who won the Waitrose Prize for Food Technology, Elsie Connick and Tommy Bennett for the Thelma Hulbert Award for Achievement in the Arts, Morgan Bain who was awarded the Michelmores Cup for Music, Tara Darlami who was presented the Pinney cup for best overall GCSE results and Flora Hadfield for winning the Bradfords cup for best overall contribution to the year group.







## Year 11 Leavers Day

On Tuesday 20th June Year 11 celebrated their last day at Sidmouth College. After their final exam in the morning, 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 the Heads of House.

Their last full day was a special occasion, which was enjoyed by all. 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.



## Duke of Edinburgh - Gold Award

A huge well done to the twelve students who completed their Gold D of E expedition this term! The group spent four days of hard work in beautiful, but stifling sunshine on the moors!

Both teams worked incredibly hard and made it over the line in good time and in great spirits. The groups now have to complete the final sections of their D of E before a trip to the Palace to collect their awards.

Well done everyone to all the students who have worked hard across the year to achieve this amazing accolade.



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## Author Visit

It was a pleasure to welcome author Emma Carroll to the College on Wednesday 21st June. She gave a talk to Year 7 students about her new book 'Escape to the River Sea'. Emma spoke about her inspiration behind the book and her writing methods. The book is set in the Amazon Rainforest and the session included Mr Atkinson, Mrs Lilley and Mr Powell eating what the students thought to be real Caterpillars (but only the Colin variety really.)

Students had the opportunity at the end of the session to buy a copy of the book and speak to Emma about being an author. It was a great experience for the Year 7s and a great inspiration for any keen readers and writers!



## Year 9 Haven Banks Reward Trip

On Monday 12th June fifty students from Year 9 spent an adrenaline filled day at Haven Banks on the Exeter Quay. The day has been funded since 2017 by the Sidmouth Lions Club, who have generously pledged to donate £1,200 each year as part of their 100th anniversary legacy project. The day rewarded students in Year 9 for high standards of achievement and progression. These included the top thirty students who had gained the most praise points so far and those who had made the most progress this year.

The trip was a huge success and the students had a fantastic time, feedback from every student was that it was a fun and enjoyable day and filled with new experiences that they will never forget.

Vice Principal Jim Ingham-Hill said: "As a college, we are delighted and honoured to have had the chance to work alongside the Lions club as part of the legacy project. The generosity of the Lions Club has now impacted 250 students and it is days like these that students will remember and talk about for years to come. We hope this partnership will continue and ensure that hundreds more of Sidmouth College students are given the opportunity to take part in an exciting enrichment opportunity."







## Head Boy and Girl Announced

We are pleased to announce our new College Student Leadership Team for 2023/2024. After a very rigorous process of applications and interviews, the following students have been appointed:

Head Boy - Josh Smith, Head Girl - Flora Hadfield,  
Deputy Head Boy - Matt Hall and Deputy Head Girl - Izzi Francis.

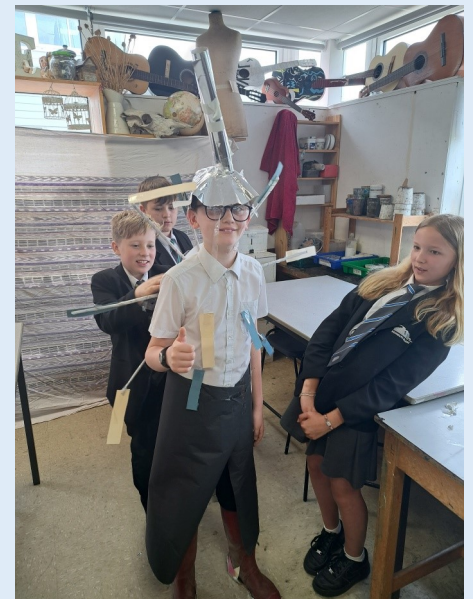


## Year 7 Art

This term Year 7 students have been looking at the work of Artist Sonia Delaunay with a focus on colour and fashion.

In lessons their project brief was to work collaboratively on an outfit to walk down the catwalk. The crazier the better!

Students had great fun being creative, using their imagination and working as a team to create a fashion show! Mrs Chapple-Hyam was thrilled with the results and commended all year 7s for getting involved and working together.



## Artist Visit

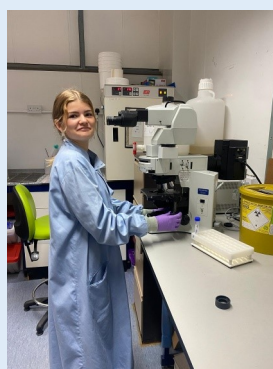
This term students were lucky to have the opportunity to work with internationally renowned artist Ian Murphy. Students were able to learn the skills and techniques he uses to create his artwork, layering materials to create architectural pieces which we think are amazing!





## Work Experience

Year 10 & Year 12 students all had the opportunity to take part in work experience this term. For Year 10 preparations began back in September, when students met with a range of employers to find out about the world of work. Students then had to consider which work areas they would like to find out more about and contact employers to secure a placement. Our Careers and Work Related Learning Coordinator, Mrs Young, said, "I have been pleased and surprised at the variety of placements students have found. The students I have visited have relished the chance to try new activities and I have been impressed by their talents and enthusiasm. Employers have really pulled out the stops to give them the best possible experience, I hope students have found it a valuable insight.



## Student Success

Congratulations to Year 7 Student Isla who is a very talented golfer. Isla has worked hard over the last few years to gain a position playing for the Devon U18 girls' team. Isla has also recently received a letter about a potential future University Sports Scholarship in America!



## Student Success

Well done to Year 8 student Toby who this term has competed in a football tour in The Netherlands as part of his ongoing development with the Exeter Regional Talent Centre. Toby's team finished third overall; in the Germany Cup.

Toby has now completed his first season with the RTC and was awarded the most improved U13 player. He has been retained for another season. An amazing achievement, well done Toby!





## Principal's Commendations

Last year Mrs Parsons launched a new award for students who have excelled or achieved something above and beyond and it has been hugely successful with over seventy students receiving this accolade over the past two years.

For the final term, the Principal's Commendations have gone to the Music Department Tech team who have worked incredibly hard this year supporting Mr Morgan and all our performers. The team ran their final events of the year this term, the Summer Concert and the end of term celebration assembly. A huge thank you to the team for all the work they do and the time they give up to support school events.

The second award went to two students who have achieved amazing results in sports this term. Ally in Year 7 broke two records in 100m and 200m running. These records have gone unbeaten for 20 years, well done Ally! The second student is Isla in Year 8 who achieved 10 colours for College representation this year, representing in Athletics, Badminton, Cricket, Cross-Country, Football, Hockey, Rounders, Sports Leaders, Tennis and Swimming, incredible!

Mrs Parsons awarded the group with their commendations during the last week of term. Well done to all the recipients this half term.



## Primary Transition Workshop

On Thursday 22nd June we welcomed Year 5 pupils from our primary feeder schools to the College to take part in a Food Technology workshop with Mrs Cox and Mr Walshaw. During their visit the pupils learnt about biscuit baking and had the chance to design and decorate their own biscuits. The College continues to build links with our feeder schools across the curriculum to support the transition from primary school to secondary school; the pupils are always a pleasure to teach.





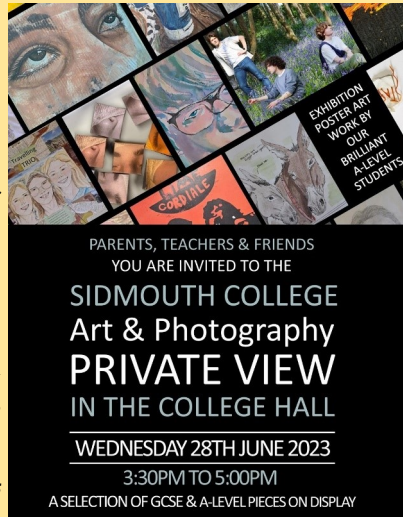
## Art Exhibition

On Wednesday 28th June, the Art and Photography Department held their GCSE and A-Level Private View in the College Hall.

GCSE and A-Level work completed by students this year was displayed.

We hosted a selection of friends, family and the public who enjoyed the vast array of work on show and on Friday 30th June exam moderators viewed the work and graded accordingly.

The private view is a great way of celebrating the hard work and the talent that our students have. Head of Art and Photography, Mrs Roberts, said "We are so proud of the hard work and dedication of our photographers and artists. We have challenged them to achieve their best and they haven't disappointed. It was a pleasure to showcase their work and fantastic that the exhibition was so well attended by parents, students and staff. Congratulations to all our talented students!"



## No Label, No Limit

The Year 9 girls had the final workshop and celebration this term for the 'No Label, No Limits' programme.

The workshops covered journaling, treating themselves with love, kindness and respect, understanding how to react, having courage to explore all opportunities and developing positive 'This is me talk'.

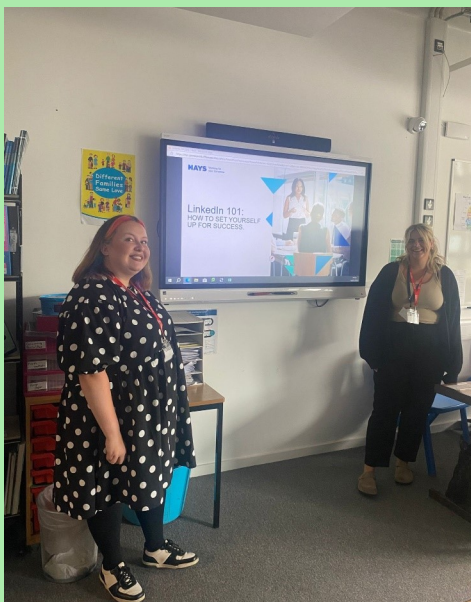
The girls all learnt to be the best version of their unique selves and to do things that make them happy and proud.

It has been hugely rewarding and beneficial to the students and we look forward to working closely with our amazing students and helpers next year.



## Year 13 Employability Week

Students in Year 12 took part in an employability week hosted by Mrs Hurley and Mrs Young during the penultimate week of term. Across the week students took part in a series of workshops including looking at how to use LinkedIn to help with careers with College alumni Lauren French and Chloe Evans from Hays. They also took part in a budgeting session, learning life skills for the future. The week was hugely successful and we hope the students gained a number of new transferable skills that they can take with them through University, College or the workplace.







## Drama NEA

Year 10 Drama students performed their GCSE Drama NEA practical exam this term.

The students were presented with three stimuli to choose to focus on; The Hillsborough disaster, an abstract image that linked to mental health and the Aberfan disaster.

All the groups chose the Aberfan disaster as they were shocked and saddened by the loss of almost a whole generation of children. They were keen to research for personal stories, witness accounts and to discover the impact of such a traumatic event on the people in this small Welsh town at a time when PTSD was not even thought about.

On 21st October 1966, the children left their homes to go to their school never to be seen again. It was the last day before the start of half term, when at 9.13am 116 children between the ages of 5 and 11 lost their lives. A tip of coal waste became dislodged in heavy rain and slid down a man-made mountain, engulfing Pantglas Junior School. Using their drama skills and their detailed research they devised an emotive and informative performance that challenged them to multi-role many different characters and to perform a monologue within the piece.

The groups worked hard to develop their skills and include many effective drama techniques to relate to their audience.



## A-Level Drama

The Drama studio was transformed into a setting for a piece created by the students and influenced by the renowned Theatre Company, Theatre Alibi, who specialise in 'storytelling theatre'.

They use a technique described as 'revealing transformations' where nothing is hidden from the audience. Actors change roles and speak in the 3rd person, breaking the 4th wall. The subject matter chosen by the students focused on mental health issues and in particular isolation and body dysmorphia.

The abstract monochrome set focused on the use of smashed mirrors to symbolise the broken person and used projections and back lighting to expose the internal workings of the human mind.

A small intimate audience were engaged in this powerful performance which was intensified by the use of emotive musical underscoring.

This is a challenging but rewarding element of the Drama A Level, demanding intensive research and inventive stagecraft.







## Drama Alumni News!

### Jasper Dommett, Composer

Former Drama Student Jasper, following his first class honours at The Welsh College of Music and Drama, has achieved a distinction in his Masters in Composition at the Royal Academy of Music this year. He is also thrilled to receive the coveted DipRAM for outstanding work.

He describes this last year as a remarkable journey working with world class tutors who have guided, shaped and challenged him to achieve his best. He is a very talented musician who will now start his PhD studies at The Royal College of Music in September with Classical Composer Mark Bowden whose music is described as 'an exceptional and absorbing pleasure' and 'powerfully dramatic' Jasper is very excited and he can't wait to get 'stuck in'.



### Charlotte Hadfield

Former Drama Student Charlotte is delighted to announce she has achieved a First class Honours degree in Drama at Birmingham University. This is especially significant following much of the early part of her course being impacted by the Covid lockdowns. Charlotte also worked with the film coverage as a PA for the Commonwealth games in Birmingham and took part in the opening ceremony.

She will now head to Guildford to take her masters in Drama where the facilities are world class and where easy access to London and connections with the industry will support her to follow her future career path. She is very excited about the next stage of her studies.



## Sidmouth in Bloom

This half term a group of students, accompanied by Mrs Harris and Mrs Young, went to Blackmore Gardens to do some planting with the Sidmouth in Bloom team. Lynette from SIB showed the students a variety of new techniques for planting a wide range of plants and flowers.

The group planted the troughs in Blackmore Gardens and two flowerbeds in the Bowling Green. This year the theme was the King's Coronation and the group planted two designs from College students including a Union Jack and Post Box.

Students worked really hard and it was great to see their design come to life in colourful flowers and plants.







### Summer Concert

After the success of the event last year, on Thursday 6th July the College opened up its grounds for the Summer Concert. This year we went bigger and better with a professional outdoor stage, bigger audiences and more performers! Over fifty students from across all year groups performed, including the school band, choir and smaller groups and soloists. We also welcomed pupils from Newton Poppleford Primary school to perform.

We had over 10 students working on the tech team to help the night run smoothly and they did an incredible job keeping the show going without a hitch. Audiences were also treated to the return of the staff band rocking to 'Tina Turner's "(Simply) The best" with Mrs Shepherd, Miss Hughes, Mr Jenkins, Mr Osbond and Mr Rose.

It was great to see so many students and families setting up on the grass with chairs and blankets to enjoy the show. We also had a Pizza van, ice-cream, crepes and bao buns made by GCSE Food Technology students, as well as a number of students with stalls to fundraise for Camps International. It really was the perfect evening in the sunshine to enjoy some food and music and end the term on a high note! Thank you to everyone who came along and well done to all involved!



### Music Lessons for Primary Students

This half term the College has launched a new initiative with the East Devon Music Centre. This is a brand-new scheme between the Sidmouth College Music Department and the Devon Music Education Hub which will seek to broaden access to music making for primary school children by offering them fully funded, free tuition for a year for three groups: String Group, which will give free violins and violin lessons to 20 students for a year, Rock Project, which will set up and train 2 rock bands from scratch and Music Tech, which will teach 10 children how to use computer music technology including the new state of the art recording studio that has been set up in the last year.

Mr Morgan, the Head of Music at Sidmouth College said "the whole ethos of the music department is about getting the tools of music making into children's hands so they can explore, celebrate and develop their innate musicality. Securing this funding from Devon Music Education Hub means we can make this happen for students in the wider Sidmouth community, which is an exciting prospect!"



## Devon and Torbay Music Education Hubs





## Year 13 Prom

On Wednesday 28th June the Year 13s said goodbye to the College in fabulous style, with their very own Prom at Woodbury Park. It was lovely to see them suited and booted and celebrating their time at the College with tutors, teachers and Heads of House. It was a night to remember!

Good luck to the Year 13s, you have been a remarkable year group that it has been a pleasure to have at the College. We wish you all the best in the next steps of your life!

A big thank you to Sarah Hall Photography for taking stunning photographs of our students on the seafront!





## Photography Visit

During the penultimate week of term Year 10 GCSE Photography students took part in a photography workshop with incredible photographer Justin Quinnell.

The group spent the day trying out experimental photography techniques to produce pinhole photographs, Turmeric and light photography and camera obscuras.

The results were fantastic and students had a lot of fun using new techniques as well as learning from such an excellent photographer.



## Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze and Silver Award

It has been a busy year for our Duke of Edinburgh staff and students. This term saw our Silver group complete their final expedition on Exmore. Well done to those who has finished the Silver DofE. They will be awarded with their certificates next year.

We would also like to congratulate Jack, Matthew, Emily, Tom, Yasmin, Gracie, Harry, Jack, Lily, Alastair, Lucas, Mia, Jacob, Maddie, Henry, Milly and Summer on completion of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award; a fantastic achievement, well done.

We look forward to another year of Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and awards next year where we hope students will go for Bronze and Gold Awards.

