



# South Dartmoor Community College

Executive Head teacher | Mrs J Veal  
Balland Lane | Ashburton | Devon | TQ13 7EW  
01364 652230 | [www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk](http://www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk)



*Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.*

03 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to the second half of the summer term and it feels like summer might finally have arrived! I hope you were able to have a lovely half term break and your child has returned to us rested and ready for learning.

## General Election

Starting next week, students in Years 7 to 10 will have assemblies about Democracy, Government and the main parties' manifestos. This will lead up to a hustings event for each year group, followed by our very own SDCC election. We are fortunate to live in a country where we have a democratic process to decide who governs us and that there is equality in who can vote. We take our responsibility to educate our young people in these matters very seriously, while also hoping to generate much debate and have some fun too! Do get involved at home and ask your child what they have learnt and what they think and understand about government policies and / or parties.

## The College Farm

Work started over the half term in readying our site for our new outdoor learning area. We have begun creating the learning spaces (one for fine weather and one for not so fine!) and mapping out the areas that will be given over to horticulture and small animal care. If you are able to support us in this endeavour in any way, do please contact Emma Gallagher (Deputy Headteacher [egallagher@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk](mailto:egallagher@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk)). We have already had tremendous support for this project and I am grateful to everyone who has donated tools, pledged money or animal food and given us positive feedback. We aim to use this provision not only to educate our young people about husbandry but also as a space to support mental well-being.

## Exams and Assessments

Students in Years 11 and 13 continue to take their national exams; there is a little over two weeks left now. They have all impressed us with how well they have coped. It is a stressful time for them all, but they have been marvellously strong and positive. We are very proud of them. Younger students too have not only been very considerate and supportive to our older ones, but also have their own set of exams and assessments to contend with. Although these will not count towards any final grades, we do not underestimate that they can be challenging and can cause worry. As with the older students, we are very proud of the way in which they have approached these assessments so far. Year 10 'mocks' begin shortly; we are confident that our Year 10 cohort will take these in their stride, using this opportunity to begin to prepare for the real things in twelve months' time. As with all assessments, they serve to help us identify gaps in knowledge to enable us to deliver the curriculum effectively and they give you an idea of how well your child is doing. Reports are due to be with you later this month.

## Important dates

Below are some key dates for you for the remainder of this academic year:

05 June	-	Year 7 SEND Surgery
13 June	-	Year 8 SEND Surgery
19 June	-	Last GCSE Exam
20 June	-	Year 11 Leavers' Assembly (8.40 – 11.30 am) & Prom (6.00 to 10.00 pm)
28 June	-	Careers Fayre
21 June	-	Last A Level Exam
01-05 July	-	Art Exhibition (5 – 6 pm)
04 July	-	Summer Gala Concert (6.30 pm)
05-06 July	-	DofE Expedition

Cont/d ...

- 08-12 July - Reports Home Years 7-9
- 08 July - Sports Week
- 11 July - Open Evening (Year 5)
- 15-17 July - Work Experience Years 10 & 12
- 15-17 July - Reports Home Years 10 & 12
- 17-19 July - Activities Days Years 7,8 & 9
- 19 July - LAST DAY OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR**
- 15 August - A Level Results Day
- 22 August - GCSE Results Day

Kind regards



Mrs J Veal  
Executive Headteacher

Truth Respect Equality Excellence