NEWSLETTER

SOUTH DARTMOOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND SIXTH FORM • SPRING TERM 2025 • ISSUE 11



Spring Term Newsletter

Bringing you all the latest news from South Dartmoor Community College

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Welcome



This morning, I gave out my Headteacher's award to a young person whose energy was enough to power all the lights in Devon!

The hall full of students and staff buzzed with the positivity he was emitting. He made us feel good and we left with a grin on our faces and a spring in our steps. Combined with the news, photographs, celebration and information in this newsletter, I reflect upon the fact that it is often not what we do but who we are that makes the real difference. It is exactly who we are as a school community that makes me so very proud to work here with our wonderful students, staff and parents. Our values shape this and how we come together as a community. We strive to be true to ourselves and each other, valuing knowledge and learning; we are respectful and kind, we endeavour to treat others as we would wish to be treated ourselves, and we always try to be the best we can be. Across the school, I see examples of this daily.

For the first time in my career, I have been involved with UCAS applications with Year 13s. This term, offers have been flooding in from universities, apprenticeships and jobs. It has been a huge privilege to be a part of this – there is little that is more rewarding than supporting students to get to where they want to be so they can continue on their paths of who they are and will become. The Year 12 students begin this process in earnest after half term, and it is marvellous to work with them, each and every one. Year 11s are just the dream! The pressure upon these young people in the next few weeks is considerable, yet they are approaching it sensibly, maturely, and with huge integrity. It is a pleasure to lead them. This afternoon's bowling trip will be a highlight for me, I am sure. Year 10s are making excellent progress, for example, with outstanding maths results, and seemingly taking it all in their stride. Year 9 have chosen their options with maturity, and Year 8s and 7s continue to be a pleasure to teach and to be with in all respects. They are fabulous young people who want to get it right, be happy and do their best; that is essentially who they are. They are a credit to you as parents/carers and we remain grateful for your support.

Wishing you a very Happy Easter and hopefully a warm, sunny, relaxing break.

Jen Veal
Executive Head Teacher

Student Council

Our amazing Student Council have been working hard this term to find ways to improve and enhance the school.

Through whole school surveys, they have collected invaluable insights about what the students want in their school.

Students requested the reintroduction of sanitary products in toilets. South Dartmoor has partnered with the Red Box Project, and we are proud to say that we now offer a variety of free sanitary products in all girls' toilets, as well as multiple access points around the school site.

South Dartmoor's fantastic library has flourished under our new librarian, Mr. Badham-Doyle, with new activities set up for breaktimes and the introduction of designated quiet areas to ensure peaceful reading. The Student Council also raised the idea of having more access to reading materials, particularly for students with dyslexia. We are pleased to unveil a new 'dyslexia-friendly' section of the library, with a variety of specialist reads now available.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to the Student Council and all the staff members who support the work they continue to do.

The Red Box Project
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Red Boxes are located in:

Girls' Toilets
Main Reception
Medical Room
Mrs. Hammond's Office

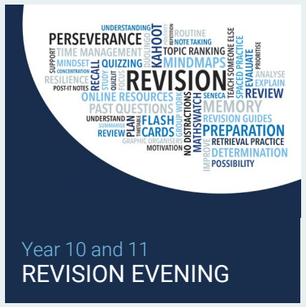


Year 10 and 11 Revision Evening

Thank you to all the families who attended our Year 10 and 11 Revision Evening.

The event included revision guidance, exam tips, coursework information and subject specific talks aimed at maximising exam success.

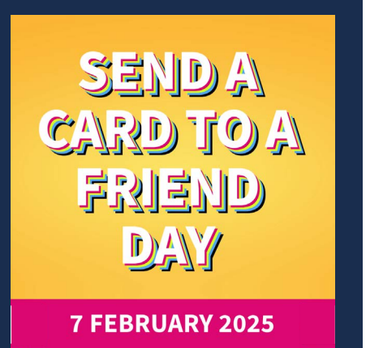
For those who couldn't make it, there is a wealth of revision information on our website.



National Send a Card to a Friend Day

National *Send a Card to a Friend Day* was celebrated on 7th February.

At SDCC, we recognise the importance of friends and value the support they provide - whether it's listening, helping with studies or standing up for each other. All students were given cards to write in, offering a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their friends and thank them for always being there.



Science Grant

The Friends of South Dartmoor Association (FOSDA) are delighted to announce that, following a grant of £1,000 from The Armourers & Brasiers' Gauntlet Trust, the Science Department has been able to purchase an incubator and probes.

These will make a fantastic difference and will be used by all of our students to enhance their Science learning. We extend our heartfelt thanks to The Armourers & Brasiers' Gauntlet Trust for their generous support.







Year 9 Options Evening

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Year 9 Options Information Evening, we are grateful to parents/carers for attending and supporting.

Through a mixture of assemblies, taster lessons and face-to-face meetings, Year 9 students were supported in choosing subjects that ignite their passion for learning, challenge them to be the best they can be and support their future careers and aspirations.

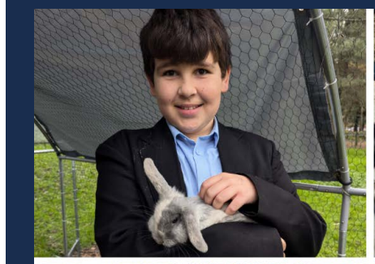


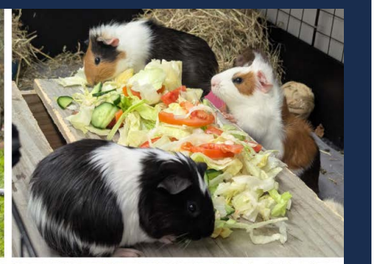
Tesco Stronger Starts

An enormous thank you to the Tesco Stronger Starts initiative and everyone who voted for us!

The support that Tesco has pledged for our project, which is designed to support the mental health of our young people through engaging with our Husbandry initiative, is invaluable in ensuring many more students can access this provision.

If you were unable to support us through the Tesco blue token scheme but would still like to contribute, there are many other ways to engage with SDCC and the Husbandry programme. If you have any gardening equipment that you would like to donate, please get in touch. We especially need tools and potting equipment to furnish the polytunnels as we embark on our very first growing season!









Stronger Starts. TESCO Every little helps

Year 8 and 9 Peer Mentor Training

Students in Year 8 and 9 completed their peer mentor training this term.

Soon, they will be providing support to their peers in looking after their mental health. During the training, students learned about the impact of the 'stress bucket'.

The training was delivered by the Mental Health in Schools Team, who are also delivering an awareness session for parents and carers on Monday 12th May, 4-5pm in the Sixth Form Centre. We look forward to welcoming you!



On the Buses!

The pastoral team joined students for the journey home, aiming to promote positive bus behaviour and safe travel.

The team also had the opportunity to engage with the community. Ms. Ford, our newest team member, checked in with the driver to ensure everything was running smoothly.



World Book Day

Our Year 7 students had an enchanting experience during World Book Day!

They delved into the world of Harry Potter with a spellbinding Potions Masterclass in Science and even got to meet one of their literary heroes!









HPA and Masterclass Sessions

South Dartmoor Community College launched its 2025 Scholars' Programme this term for Year 7 students (High Performing Academy) and Year 8 students (the Masterclass Sessions).

The programmes aim to enrich the curriculum to enhance students' learning in an enjoyable and scholarly manner.

The Literary students had an exciting start to their journalism journey by interviewing Pat Hagan from the Daily Mail. With his 40 years of experience, Pat shared invaluable insights into journalism, leaving the students eager to produce their own newspaper.

In PE, students focused on Speed, Quickness, and Agility (SAQ) training. They engaged in various drills, including the Illinois Agility Test, ladder work and footwork exercises, all aimed at enhancing their performance.

The STEM students participated in the Beat the Flood Challenge, where they learned about climate change and rising sea levels. They designed and built model houses to withstand flooding, testing their creations with a simulated flood. This challenge highlighted their creativity and problem-solving skills.

Humanities students debated what makes a 'great civilisation,' starting with a study of a famous Roman legal trial. They developed criteria for judging civilisations and researched the Greeks, Egyptians, and Romans, showcasing their curiosity and insight.

In Performing Arts, students explored local mythology and created new stories inspired by the school grounds. They began developing music, drama, and dance pieces to tell these stories, which will be performed at a local venue later this year.

Lastly, Geographers delved into rewilding, discussing its importance and the various stakeholders involved. They debated the reintroduction of the lynx to the UK, considering different perspectives and honing their critical thinking and empathy skills.

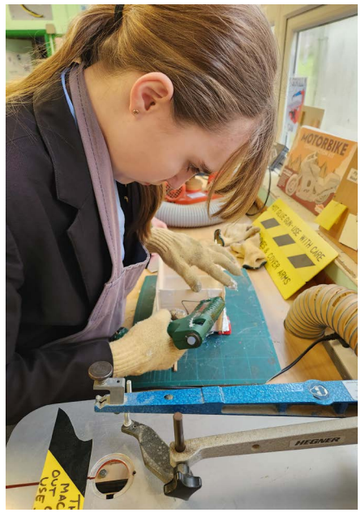
















Formal Award Presentations

Students came together at the end of term to celebrate each other's wonderful achievements.

Students were nominated for a number of different awards, including subject, tutor and Head of Year nominations. The final presentation was the Headteacher's award. Each award winner also received communication home to celebrate their achievements.











REACH PROGRAMME

REACH Programme

This innovative curriculum enrichment initiative for Years 7-9 continues to bring immense joy and enthusiasm to our school community.

The REACH programme offers a diverse range of activities designed to broaden students' horizons and develop their skills. Students have embraced these opportunities with open arms, exploring new interests and building confidence along the way.































Ten Tors Training: Rising to Every Challenge!



Ten Tors training this term has proven to be a true test of resilience and determination for our incredible participants.

With snow and ice rendering the high moor inaccessible for a training walk, the team embraced a fresh challenge by tackling a brutally tough section of the South West Coast Path in Brixham. This alternative route was as spectacular as it was demanding, earning high praise from Ethan, a former 55-mile participant, who declared, "If they can do that, they will smash the event!" Despite some sore feet at the finish line, everyone performed brilliantly.

Later in the season, participants took full advantage of a break in the storms to venture back onto the moor.

A frosty start did little to dampen spirits as teams eagerly pulled on their walking boots and set off. The day unfolded under increasingly sunny skies, with countless miles walked, rivers crossed, and bogs (mostly) avoided.

> *"Despite some sore feet at the finish line, everyone performed brilliantly."*

The participants have now progressed to their camp training and are doing a fabulous job. Their first camp at Mount Kelly College, kindly hosted by Simply Outdoors, brought new challenges with icy Dartmoor frosts forming on their tents overnight. The next day, the 35-mile participants took to the trees for team-building activities, supported by last year's Ten Tors Trek fundraising. Meanwhile, the 45-mile and 55-mile participants took on their second day of walking under beautifully bright skies, and their satisfaction at reaching the finish was evident.

As the event draws closer, the training continues to increase in challenge and intensity. We can't wait to share more of their journey with you!





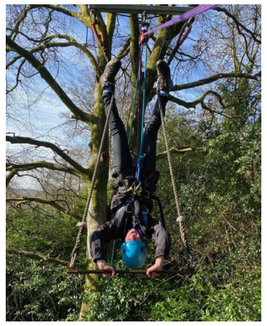


















Ten Tors Trek Team

The Ten Tors Trek team have been busy raising money to support outdoor education opportunities for students at South Dartmoor.





The group took to the moors in glorious sunshine and biting winds, enduring two days of walking and navigating in preparation for the full 35, 45 or 55-mile distance.

The event is organised and hosted by the Ten Tors SDCC volunteers, and takes place after the students' event. We think it is safe to say that this brilliant team now has a whole new perspective on the challenge!

It's not too late to donate to their JustGiving page, or you could even take part yourself next year!

Forest School

In their forest school sessions, students have been learning rope work, tying knots and understanding their uses.

Other activities have included tool work, cooking treats like pizzas, toasting marshmallows and holding the rabbits. They have also been building and developing the area, as well as making clay pots, bug hotels and bird houses.

Students have also learned to light fires, whittle sticks and make hot chocolate. They have practiced washing up, drying up and putting things away, along with climbing, hanging and balancing.

These activities have helped students build confidence and self-esteem, fostering teamwork and resilience.










Apprenticeship Opportunities

An apprenticeship is a paid role that provides hands-on work experience while studying for a formal qualification.

If you are interested in apprenticeships, you will find more information here.

It is a good idea to look at company websites for apprenticeship opportunities, for example Princess Yachts or Babcock's.

Useful websites to find apprenticeships include skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk and www.gov.uk/apply/apprenticeship You can create an account on this government website and save your search.

For apprenticeships in the construction and trades sector, keep an eye on this Building Plymouth live Padlet of vacancies.

Year 9 Careers Visit

This term, students in Year 9 had a talk from Jenny Rusk from the ASK apprenticeship programme. She discussed. apprenticeships, career ideas and different courses, including T Levels.

Jenny also spoke to students in Year 13 who were exploring apprenticeship opportunities.

Students in Year 12 have started to consider their next steps. They attended an assembly led by a former student about apprenticeships and participated in a UCAS exhibition in Exeter.



Understanding Labour Market Information

Labour Market Information (LMI) is a combination of data, statistics, research and practical experience about the world of work.

LMI looks at:

- What jobs are available in your area – this includes industry types and earnings.
- What type of opportunities are available and routes to employment and/or education.
- Apprenticeships and Trainee placements
- Future trends - how the job market and workforce is likely to change i.e. growth industry.

You can find out more information about the current Labour Market in Devon here.



Year 10 Lino Portraits

Fine Art students in Year 10 have been getting to grips with some exciting processes with stunning results.





Year 9 Artwork

Students in Year 9 have been looking at what it means to be a graphic designer and what an important role experimentation and drawing has. Take a look at some of their cool work!



Work in Progress Exhibition

Our Year 13 Fine Art, Graphics and Photography students were fortunate to be invited to showcase their 'Work in Progress' at the wonderful Field System Gallery in Ashburton.

Mark and Milly at Field System have long supported the arts in education and have been wonderful to work with throughout the years. The Art team was so proud to see so many students attending their exhibition to show off their fantastic work!
If you didn't catch the show before, we will be hosting an exhibition on the college site alongside exam outcomes in the summer term.





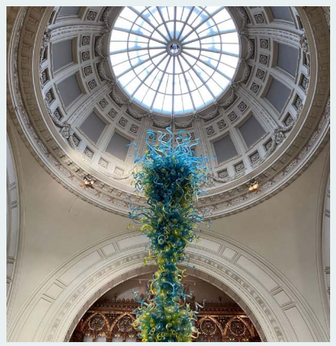


V&A London Trip

The Art Department took the Sixth Form Fine Art, Graphics and Photography students to the V&A in London to help kickstart their exam process and bring some inspiration into their work.

The NAOMI exhibition was a breathtaking addition to the day, and the students were a credit to the college throughout, soaking up everything that was to be seen.





POP-UP Photo Exhibition

Our A Level and GCSE photographers were invited to showcase their work at the Newton Abbot Photographic Club exhibition alongside other local schools.

It was inspiring to see the creativity of local photographers and students from nearby establishments.



Photography Alumni

SDCC is proud to celebrate the achievements of two talented alumni, Daniel Dayment and Dan Webb, who have excelled in the field of photography.

Daniel Dayment fell in love with the outdoors while doing his GCSEs and participating in Ten Tors at SDCC. He has developed a wonderful portfolio of work, exploring our landscape and the people living and working here. He has also turned his photography talents to documentary photography and has been published in many newspaper articles and books as well as online. If you'd like to see more of his work, take a look at his website: www.danieldayment.co.uk

Dan Webb has always had a keen eye for detail and now he is impressing others with his brilliant photography skills and having a blast along the way. Miss Upton caught up with him when he was out photographing stunning cars across the moors, and Dan has kindly shared some of his images from the day with her. If you want to see more of his work, check out his website: www.danwebbphoto.co.uk

If you would like to find out more about GCSE and A Level Photography, speak to a member of the Art Team.







Year 9 Drama

This term in Drama, Year 9 students have drawn inspiration from Malorie Blackman's novel *Noughts & Crosses*, exploring the story, its characters and key themes.

After watching clips from the BBC adaptation, they analysed and evaluated the story's design elements, then experimented with special FX and stage makeup to recreate bruises, burns and cuts tied to key plot points within the story.

Using makeup, paints, liquid latex, moulding wax and homemade fake blood (golden syrup and red food colouring), students have honed their skills and achieved some impressively realistic results!











Live Sessions

Thank you to everyone who supported Live Sessions 2025! Students from Year 7 to 14 performed, with many SDCC music alumni in the audience.

The programme featured a wide range of genres and some amazing originals by The Juliettes. Well done to all the performers!


















BRIT Awards Performance

We were thrilled to watch former South Dartmoor student Amy Jaggs perform at the BRIT Awards 2025.

Amy played keyboard for Jade Thirlwall, who won Best Pop Artist.
During her time at SDCC, Amy studied GCSE, BTEC and A Level Music and recently graduated from the Guildhall School of Music. She has been performing with some amazing artists, and we cannot wait to follow her future successes!









Music Exams

We are thrilled that six Key Stage 3 students have taken piano exams this term.

Students in Years 7 and 8 took piano Grades 1–4 and achieved fantastic results. We are fortunate to have a large team of instrumental teachers who visit South Dartmoor and support music-making. If you are interested in taking lessons or learning more, please email Mrs. Lewis: rjlewis@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk



Easter Concert

The stage and hall were filled for our annual Easter Concert which featured musicians aged 9 to 18, as we welcomed our Primary Music Centre members onto the stage for the first time this academic year.

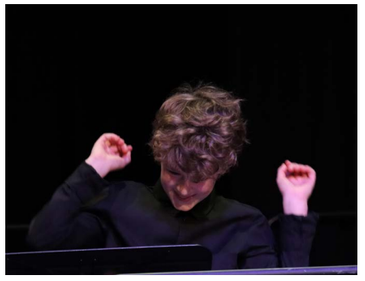
The evening was supported by FOSDA, who are working hard to raise funds to support SDCC. It also showcased our new mirror ball, purchased by FOSDA, which brought much joy to both performers and audience members!

Thank you to everyone who performed and supported the concert. We are already looking forward to our next event!







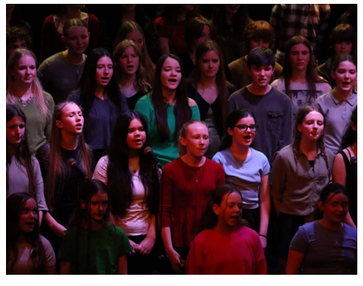




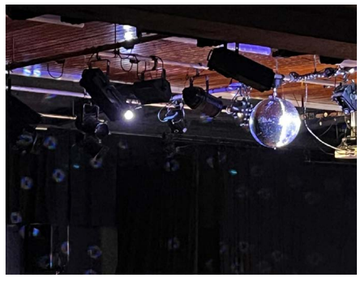














Buckfast Abbey Visit

Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies students were warmly welcomed at Buckfast Abbey.

They spent the morning on a guided tour of the Abbey and participated in deep thinking activities in the education area. A big thank you to our hosts for the warm welcome and the enriching experience they provided to our students.







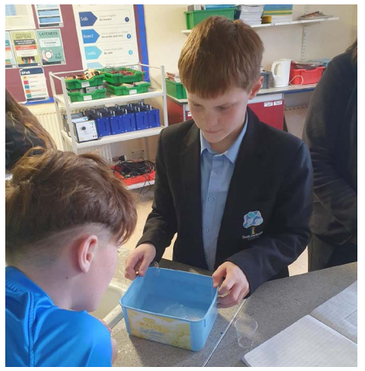




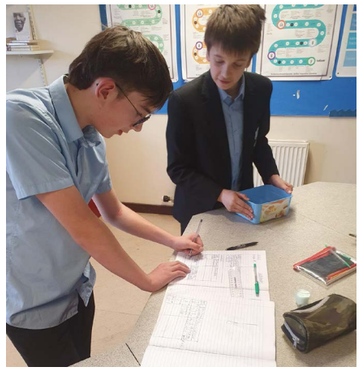
Science Week

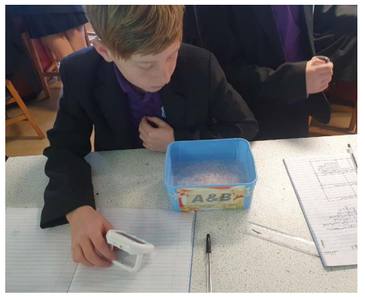
The Science department celebrated the British Science Week theme *Adapt and Change*. They organised a week of exciting activities for Year 7 and Year 8 students, offering hands-on experiences to explore scientific concepts and their applications.

The week began with a spectacular launch event in assemblies, featuring the 'dragon's fire' chemical change experiment. Students were captivated by the carbonate and acid rocket demonstration, and they created bath bombs to learn about chemical reactions and precise measurements. They also explored evolution, making bird feeders and studying how organisms adapt to their environments.













Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

Congratulations to Sixth Form student Izzy for earning the Silver Award in the prestigious Cambridge Chemistry Challenge!

Last summer, Izzy participated in this national contest, which bridges the gap between A Level and a degree. The competition challenges students with university-level questions, providing a glimpse into higher education chemistry.

Izzy's impressive performance placed her in the top 20% nationally. Well done, Izzy!



A Week to Remember in Sestriere

February half term saw an incredible adventure for SDCC students as they embarked on the highly anticipated Ski Trip to Sestriere, Italy.



What a week it was! With clear skies, bright sunshine and warm temperatures, the students were treated to an unusual but amazing February weather experience; yes, dealing with heat stroke in February! It wasn't quite the snowstorm we had envisioned, but the students embraced the perfect conditions with admiration and enthusiasm, adapting to the heat and making the most of the fantastic slopes and scenery.

The progress our students made over the course of the week was phenomenal. From those mastering the blue runs for the first time to others navigating challenging black runs and skiing all the way over to France, every student showed exceptional growth. Their skills soared as they embraced every opportunity with confidence, supported by their peers and the fantastic staff team.

"The students embodied Truth, Respect, Equality and Excellence at every turn"

As always, our school values were front and centre during the trip. The students embodied Truth, Respect, Equality and Excellence at every turn, whether they were on the slopes, taking part in snowball fights or enjoying the evening quizzes. Their impeccable behaviour and positive attitudes ensured the trip was a smooth and enjoyable experience for all involved. In the words of one student: 'I have had the best week ever!'







The journey to Sestriere wasn't without its challenges. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the outward journey took over 27 hours. But the students remained upbeat, showing incredible patience and maturity. Their attitude throughout demonstrated their remarkable resilience and determination to make the most of this opportunity.

"It was clear that this trip had left an indelible mark on our students."

The action-packed week continued with five hours of skiing every day, while lunchtimes were alive with snowball fights and even an impromptu game of snow cricket. The evenings were just as exciting, with quizzes hosted by Mr. Malone and Mr. Barnes, testing everyone's knowledge and bringing out the competitive spirit of the group! Students even squeezed in some souvenir shopping and a trip to the cinema, ensuring that every moment was packed with adventure.

The excitement didn't stop there! During their time in Sestriere, the Women's World Cup was being set up just as they were preparing to leave. Students had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the time trials and the first heats of the competition. They also had the chance to experience the village setup and meet some of the world-class skiers. What an extraordinary experience for all involved!

As they bid farewell to the slopes

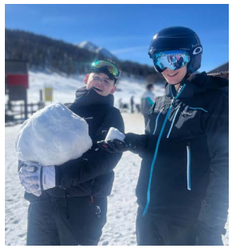






















and headed home, it was clear that this trip had left an indelible mark on our students, not to mention some physical war wounds on staff! The trip was summed up by one student's heartfelt words: “I don’t want to leave. This has genuinely been the best week of my life!” Indeed, it was a week they will never forget.

A massive thank you to our fantastic staff team who gave up their half term to make this trip possible: Mrs. Avery-Wright,

“I don't want to leave. This has genuinely been the best week of my life!”

Mrs. Hutchings, Miss Upton, Mr. Malone, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Penhale, Mrs. Mason, Ms. Lethbridge, Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Wills. Their dedication and commitment to our students made this trip a resounding success.

And, of course, thank you to the parents who entrusted us with their children.

The SDCC Ski Trip 2025 to Sestriere was a week of sunshine, progress and unforgettable memories; a true testament to the spirit of our school and the resilience of our students. Watch this space for Italy 2027!










A Day of Learning and Sunshine

On a beautiful sunny day, our Year 11 Geography students embarked on an exciting field trip to Dawlish Warren. The trip was a perfect blend of hands-on learning and enjoying the stunning coastal scenery.

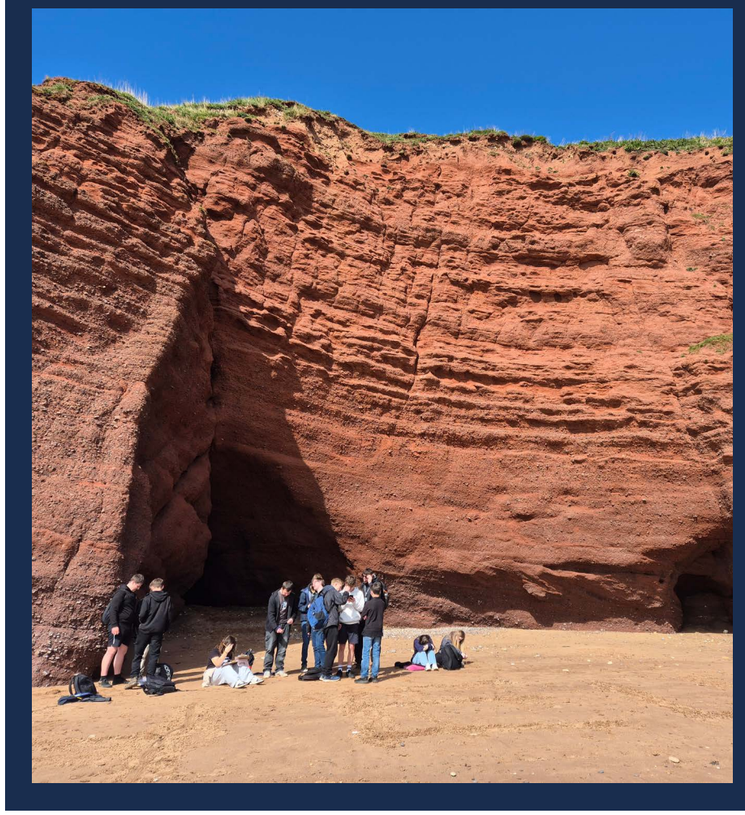
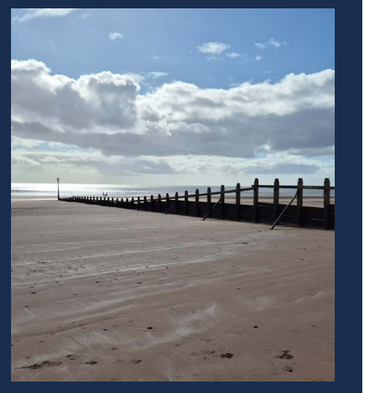
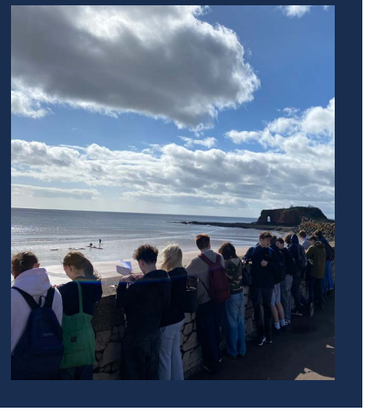
With the tide on our side, the students were able to measure the groynes effectively, assessing their role in preventing longshore drift.

The primary objective of the trip was to evaluate the effectiveness of the groynes in stopping longshore drift, a crucial process in coastal management. The students diligently took measurements, made detailed field sketches, and conducted bi-polar surveys, honing their fieldwork skills in the process.

Beyond the technical aspects, the living coastline of Dawlish Warren served as an excellent tool for refreshing their knowledge on coastal processes. The students revisited concepts of erosion, transportation, and deposition, observing firsthand the landforms created by these dynamic processes.

Overall, the field trip was a resounding success, providing the students with valuable practical experience and reinforcing their understanding of key geographical concepts. The sunny weather and cooperative tide made the day even more enjoyable, leaving everyone with a deeper appreciation for the natural world and the importance of coastal management.

We look forward to more such enriching experiences in the future!

Devon Schools Cup

Year 8 students completed their first game in the Devon Schools Cup away to Millbay Academy.

It was a close affair, heavily influenced by the rain and wind from the Plymouth coast, resulting in a low-scoring game. SDCC emerged as 1-0 winners, thanks to a late goal from Ollie D.

The Players' Player of the Match was awarded to Alfie M. for his fantastic defensive display against Millbay's quick attacking front line. Mr. Malone's Player of the Match was Ollie D., who scored the crucial goal and played positively throughout the entire game. Well done, everyone!



Year 8 Football

Year 8 footballers played a friendly against ISCA Academy.

Everyone played brilliantly, and the team came away victorious with a 3-2 win. Well done, everyone!



South Devon Cup

Year 7 played against Newton Abbot College and Year 8 played against Dawlish College in the South Devon Cup.

In Year 7, Joe H was Player of the Match for his outstanding defensive efforts, and Mr. Malone's Player of the Match was Alex H for captaining the side well, controlling the game and scoring a goal from a very impressive free-kick.

Year 8 Player of the Match was Joe H, and Mr. Malone's Player of the Match was Seth S. There were also strong performances from Jack B in midfield, Alex H, who played a year up, and Adam L, who made some good stops in goal.





Rugby Cup Final

U15 Rugby Team completed their rearranged South Devon Cup final game against Torquay Boys Grammar School.

The boys started the game very positively, forcing Torquay into some mistakes and managing to score a couple of tries, making the score 28-10 to Torquay at half-time.

The second half was a tighter affair compared to the first. SDCC came out fighting and restricted Torquay very well during the second half. Some incredible individual efforts in attack, mixed with relentless defending, saw SDCC win the second half. However, they came up short overall, losing 40-27, but were commended on their ability to react positively in the game by all in attendance.

The group has been an absolute credit to the school throughout this tournament, showing their dedication and resilience within the sport, and they have made us incredibly proud. Well done!



CTECH Rugby

Congratulations to our Sixth Form CTECH students who proudly represented Newton Abbot Rugby Club against Crediton RFC.

It was great to see them play such a physical game, and emerge victorious!

This will also serve as valuable evidence towards their CTECH units next year.

Keep up the excellent work, team!



CTECH Sport

Our CTECH Sport students kicked off their client sessions this term, starting with fitness testing.

We are so fortunate to have such amazing facilities, especially on days as beautiful as this!



Emergency First Aid Qualification

Sixth Form CTECH students successfully completed their Emergency First Aid at Work qualification.

This nationally recognised course covered essential life-saving skills, including CPR, AED use and common medical emergencies.

A huge thank you to the team at iQualifi, who were fantastic in tailoring the course to align with the CTECH specification. In addition to the core content, they provided valuable training on common sporting injuries and how to respond to them effectively.

It was a highly informative and engaging session, equipping our students with vital first aid skills that could make a real difference in emergency situations. Well done to everyone who took part!









Taster sessions

Year 9 students recently had the opportunity to take part in GCSE PE and CNAT taster sessions, giving them a real insight into what it is like to study PE at the next level.

These sessions covered realistic course content, allowing students to experience the depth and challenge of examination PE.

It was fantastic to see so many enthusiastic participants and we look forward to welcoming and supporting the next cohort on their journey!



KS2 FunFest

A fantastic morning was had at the Dartmoor School Sports Partnership KS2 Funfest festival! The students learned lots of new games to share with friends during playtimes.

They rotated around in mixed school groups with our brilliant Year 9 SDCC Sport Leaders. Activities included Pickleball, parachute games, shooting challenges, cup stacking races, cup pong, Twister, Molky, and elastics/French skipping. The event concluded with a brilliant game of Chaos Tag!









Let's Dance

The Dartmoor School Sports Partnership annual dance celebration at South Dartmoor, 'Let's Dance 2025', was a fantastic event that showcased a high standard of dance and passion for performing.

The participants performed two shows to sell-out audiences with such confidence, making the event truly incredible. A big thank you to all the staff involved for their enormous efforts in preparing the students to perform and celebrate dance across the sports partnership.













Primary Body Language 2025

The annual Dartmoor School Sports Partnership Primary Body Language show, *B Inspired*, celebrated the work of local artist Becky Bettesworth.

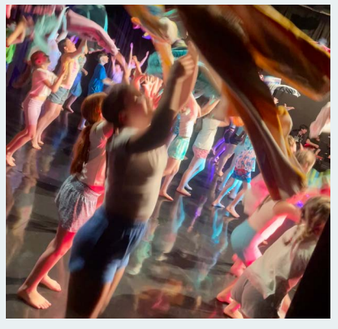
Seven pieces of her artwork inspired teachers and students to create dances and it was wonderful to see everyone working together and embracing the theme. The event also included art and music workshops, with students creating origami hearts and singing *Thank You for Being a Friend* in the finale.

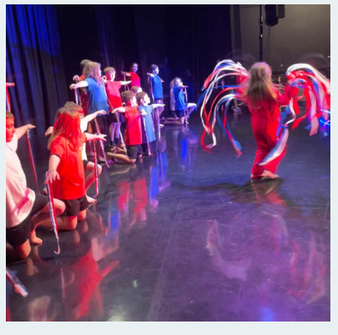
The performances were unique and imaginative, and students performed with such focus and passion. The show left lasting memories, encouraging everyone to dream big and live life full of joy, wonder and love.

Thank you to Becky Bettesworth and the big team of people who made it all possible, and well done to everyone involved!

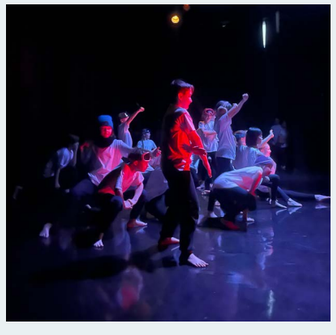












Discuss and Discover Meetings

Mrs Slater has thoroughly enjoyed meeting our Year 11 Sixth Form applicants as part of the application process.

The group meetings have been fuelled by the Sixth Form Bean Bar which was enabled by our fully trained in-house Year 12 and 13 baristas, and they have enabled applicants to ask valuable questions about their subject choices and to better understand all that our Sixth Form is able to offer them.

Applicants will meet with Mrs. Slater in the near future to confirm subject choices and to receive their conditional offers.

Do not miss your chance to join our Sixth Form in September 2025. Further information is available on our website.



Sixth Form Awards

The Year 12 and 13 awards ceremony celebrated students who embody our core college values.

These awards show how these values shape our community, and the students nominated have demonstrated these values, inspiring us all to strive for better.





Travelling Safely

It is a fairly common ambition for young people to take a ‘gap year’ between college and further study to go travelling; the appeal of venturing out, seeing new places and meeting new people can be irresistible.

The challenges can be significant though, and travelling tends to work best when well-prepared. Year 13 students had the opportunity to think more carefully about how to plan and live through an extended time away from home. Mr. Richards spoke to them about how to stay safe, be sensitive to customs and practices in other cultures and know what to do in emergencies. The aim is to have fantastic experiences, safely and respectfully.



UCAS Exhibition 2025

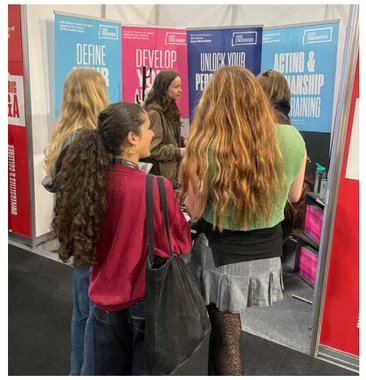
Year 12 students were a credit to the college during this year's visit to the UCAS Exhibition at Westpoint Arena in Exeter.

It was a pleasure to see them engaging with hundreds of 'vendors' from a wide variety of higher education providers, asking insightful questions and taking the lead in shaping their futures. Students commented on the positive impact of the event, saying it made them feel more confident about making big decisions as a result of feeling informed and inspired.

We look forward to further supporting Year 12 students with their next steps as they continue their journey through our Sixth Form.

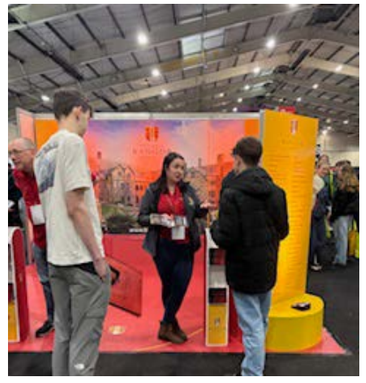






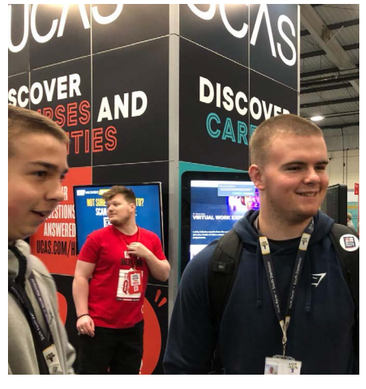












New Staff

Meet the new members of staff who joined South Dartmoor Community College in the Spring Term:



Kirsty Abercrombie
Curriculum Lead for MFL

Having recently moved from Leicestershire, I am excited to join South Dartmoor Community College and become part of the local community. With 18 years of experience teaching languages, including 8 years as Head of Languages, I have shared my passion for French and Spanish with students of all ages.

Two years ago, I started a language business offering Spanish movement and music classes for children and adults.

As a parent of three young children, life is always busy, but I love the adventure it brings! When I'm not juggling family life, I enjoy spending time outdoors, cooking, baking, and sharing good food with family and friends.



Krista Ford
Head of Year 8

I am really excited to join the Pastoral team at South Dartmoor Community College as the Head of Year 8. I graduated from the University of Plymouth with a degree in Social Work, inspired by my own family and the positive adult influences I looked up to during my secondary school years.

Since graduating, I have gained further experience at a local SEND school and then became a Family Support Advisor at two local primary schools. It has been lovely to see how the students have grown since leaving primary school.

Outside of school, I have a passion for walking and visiting historical sites, learning about the history that surrounds us.

Happy Easter!

The staff at South Dartmoor would like to wish you all a Happy Easter.

The new term starts on Tuesday 22nd April 2025, and we look forward to welcoming students back.



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