

Welcome to
Okehampton College

NEWSLETTER



I am sure that you will all be aware of the incident which took place last week adjacent to the College grounds. The situation was very serious and was handled extremely well by the emergency services. The College's evacuation procedures were followed to the letter by students so that we were away from the building and everyone was accounted for very quickly. In the end we were evacuated for about an hour and 20 minutes and students conducted themselves exceptionally well during this time. It is a relief that such a serious incident resulted in no casualties and that everyone was safe and well.

It is also necessary for me to confirm the sad news that Edwin Davis died on April 27 2018 after a long valiant battle with mental illness. Ed was a valued colleague, an outstanding individual and a good friend to us all. He will be greatly missed. I know that Ed was well liked and respected by the students of the College and that they will find the news both shocking and distressing. We hope to speak to all of them on Monday and Tor Support will be in attendance for anyone who may need their support. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Year 7 and Year 8 students enjoyed a PSHE workshop which integrated music with the important message of online safety and protection against cyber bullying. Feedback from students was that despite the original band being unable to attend, the substitute was very good and the message was delivered in an entertaining manner.

Last week auditions took place for Matilda, a 20-minute version, which will be performed later during the summer term. Please look out for further details and tickets for these performances.

The next Parents' Evening for Years 7 and Year 10 will be taking place on Thursday 10 May. Please do take this opportunity to meet with your children's teachers and discuss their progress.

The first written paper for the Year 11 exams is on the 14 May. Details of the timetable for Year 11 students during the course of the exam period have been shared with students and will be available on our website.

Our girls U13 Cricket Team came second in the West of England Indoor Cricket Finals Day beating Millfield School on the way. We are very proud of their success. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mari Baldwin for her selection to represent England Schools at the British Senior Schools Table Tennis International which is being hosted by England. We wish her every success.

Derrick Brett
Principal



Exam Information:



The French GCSE speaking exams run from 8 – 11 May The written exams start on Monday 14 May until 25 June.

Cashless Squid Accounts:

Message for Year 11 and Year 13 Students:

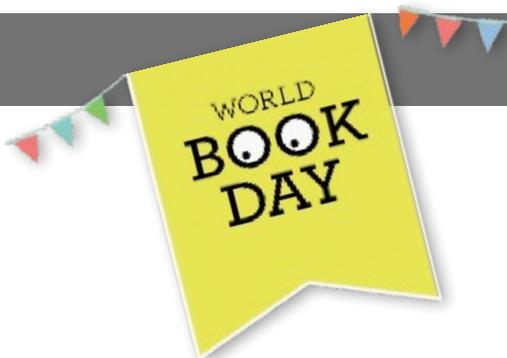
As you may soon be leaving Okehampton College please remember to manage your Cashless Catering account sensibly. You **must not** allow your account to become overdrawn. Please see the Catering Manager if you wish your balance to be transferred to a younger sibling. If you are staying on into Post 16 your balance will automatically transfer at the beginning of September.



Year 8 Beliefs and Values Trip

On Thursday 19 April 50 Year 8 students visited Exeter Mosque, Exeter Synagogue and a variety of other churches in the High Street. Whilst at the mosque, pupils were fortunate to see the main prayer hall and witness one of the 5 daily prayers. The Synagogue visit was engaging and interactive as pupils learnt about Jewish practices around birth, adulthood, marriage and the family whilst visiting the 3rd oldest synagogue in Britain. Each activity complimented the Year 8 curriculum and prepared them for starting their GCSE topic on Christianity in Year 9. All students were a credit to the College and thoroughly enjoyed learning about the diversity of religious faiths in Exeter. It was a pleasure to spend the day with such a lovely group of pupils.

Miss Cookson



WORLD
BOOK
DAY

The College was full of fun and interesting characters on World Book day, despite having to reschedule due to the Snow Days. As you can see from the photo below, members of staff also entered into the spirit.



Outstanding Cricket Success!



On Tuesday 17 April the Under 13 Girls Indoor Cricket Team travelled to The Rose Bowl in Southampton for the West of England Indoor Cricket Finals Day. There were 8 counties involved in the day and Okehampton College were representing Devon - having won the Devon title back in February. It was an early start, with a 05.30 departure from College. After a long journey the competition started. The standard of the opposition was unknown. Our U13 Girls were in a group with the winners of Hampshire, Wiltshire and Wales. After the morning games, they ended up second in the group therefore qualifying for the semi final in the afternoon, beating Hampshire and Wiltshire along the way. The semi final was against the infamous Millfield School from Somerset - they had won their group in the morning. Against the odds our girls performed incredibly well and beat Millfield which set up the final! At the end

of the day we did lose the final, nevertheless it was a fantastic achievement and great effort from all involved.

The team comprised of: Alicia Stebbing, Sophie Howell, Chloe Dennis, Anna Crome, Louisa Lynn, Flo Hassell, Lily Jones, Erin Pengelly, Casey Plaskett. The medals were presented by Charlotte Edwards (the former England Ladies Captain)

Apprentice Opportunity

Level 3 Lab Technician Apprentice Rothamsted Research

A fantastic opportunity for a promising scientist to join Rothamsted Research in the department of Sustainable Agricultural Sciences at North Wyke (Devon) as an Apprentice Laboratory Technician.

Annual wage
£12,500.00

Working within a small team of specialists, you will be trained to follow standard operating protocols relating to:

Working week
Monday-Friday 8.30am - 5pm
Total hours per week: 37.00

Working and safety in a laboratory, familiarity with scientific equipment (from pipettes to analysers), general laboratory procedures such as weighing chemicals, making solutions, aliquots, preparing media, using autoclaves, and recording procedures in a laboratory notebook.

Apprenticeship duration
24 months

This is a level 3 Lab Technician Apprenticeship with day-release training at Bicton College to achieve a B Tech in Applied Science. The post holder will assist with routine analyses of soil, water and ruminant feed samples in the analytical chemistry laboratories. In addition, they will work in the microbiology laboratory, where their work will cover molecular microbiology techniques, extraction and purification of DNA for onward analysis to the preparation of media for culture based microbiology.

Possible start date
01 Sep 2018

Date posted
14 Mar 2018

Apprenticeship level
Advanced Level Apprenticeship

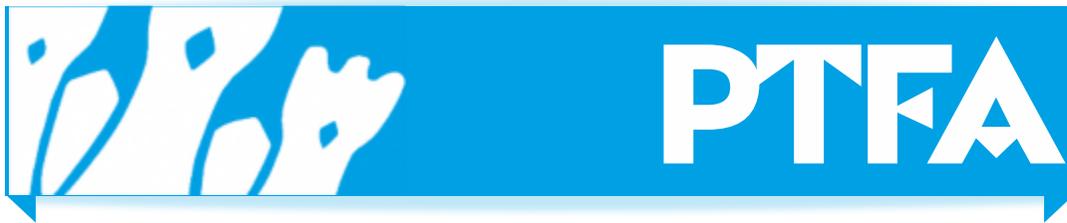
Reference number
VAC001374412

The role holder is expected to carry out the duties listed below and any other duties reasonably required by the line manager or Institute, commensurate with the grade and level of responsibility for this post.

More details:

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-250655>.



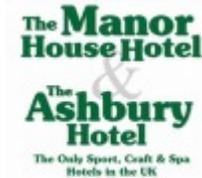


Here at Okehampton College we have a very successful but small PTFA.

The PTFA plays an important part of College life and provides the extra funding different departments in the College need to buy equipment or resources that are not supplied through the normal school budget.

Unfortunately for such a large College we have a tiny number of teachers and parents on our committee. We only meet 6 times a year. We have two annual events and one biannual event so there's not too much to commit too. We welcome new ideas and are a very friendly bunch. If you would like to register your interest please feel free to email us at - CCHAP@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Get involved!
Make a difference!



The Rotary Club of Okehampton are hosting two charity golf days at Ashbury Golf Hotel at the kind invitation of Simon and Joan Essex.

The two days are Wednesday 9 May and Wednesday 11 July 2018.

The PTFA are involved with the golf day on May 9. We would like to thank Simon and Joan Essex for allowing this to happen.

If anyone is interested in participating in the golf day this can be done in two ways.

- 1) As a player - £30 per person, which includes green fees, lunch on arrival, buggy hire and prize giving buffet.
- 2) As a sponsor - Holes are available for sponsorship at £50 per day, signage can be arranged.

For any information on the golf days please contact Mrs Sarah Watts on 01392 823974 or email: sarahwatts@sky.com

Any support you can give the golf day on the 9 in particular will reap dividends for the PTFA and the Okehampton Argyle Football Club, the other beneficiary on that day.





The Dartmoor Federation comprises:

- Boasley Cross Primary School
- Bridestowe Primary School
- Exbourne Church of England Primary School
- Lydford Primary School
- Northlew & Ashbury Parochial Church of England Primary
- Okehampton College

JOB VACANCIES

The Dartmoor Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS disclosure is required for all posts.

Job vacancies at Okehampton College

Post: Teacher of Mathematics

Job Term: Permanent
Start Date: 1st September 2018
Hours: Full Time
Salary: TPS
Closing date: 16 May 2017

Post: Director of Teaching and Learning: English and Media Faculty

Job Term: Permanent
Start Date: 1st September 2018
Hours: Full Time
Salary: TLR1b (£9,472)
Closing Date: 14 May 2018

Post: Subject Leader - Biology

Job Term: Permanent
Start Date: 1st September 2018
Hours: Full Time
Salary: TLR2a (£2,667)
Closing Date: 14 May 2018

Job vacancies at LYDFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Post: Teaching Assistant (Level 2)

Location: Lydford Primary School, part of The Dartmoor Federation
Job Term: Temporary
Start Date: As soon as possible
Hours: 26.25 hours per week (term time + non-pupil days)
Salary: £8.90 per hour
Closing Date: 9 May 2018

Post: Meal Time Assistant Assistant (Level 2)

Location: Lydford Primary School, part of The Dartmoor Federation
Job Term: Temporary
Start Date: As soon as possible
Hours: 5 hours per week (12:15 – 13:15 Monday to Friday, term time only)
Salary: £8.90 per hour
Closing Date: 9 May 2018

We also have a vacancy for an **Admin Assistant based at Highampton Primary School** – if you are interested please visit our website www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk for details. This post is temporary for the Summer term, pending a permanent appointment.

All schools in The Dartmoor Federation/Multi Academy Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

An enhanced DBS disclosure is required for the above posts.

For further information and to request an application pack please email recruitment@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk or downloaded from the College website. www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk. Alternatively click on the College logo below to go straight to the website.



Special Offer : Tickets £5 for all Okehampton College students - if booked in advance

A SUMMER CONCERT WITH THE HALDON STRING QUARTET



Rebecca Allnatt - Cello Steve Banks - Violin Lindsay Braga - Violin Andrew Gillett - Viola

FRIDAY 18TH MAY 2018
BRATTON CLOVELLY PARISH HALL EX20 4JT

Concert Programme

Mozart - 'Hunt' Quartet K458
Imogen Holst - Phantasy Quartet
Interval
Pärt - Summa
Dvorak - 'American' Quartet

Tickets: £10 (16yrs and under) £5.

01837 871696 or e-mail
brattonclovellyfestival@gmail.com

Doors and Bar open 7pm.

Concert begins 7.30pm.

Interval Refreshments available.



For more info visit www.brattonclovellyfestival.com or follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/brattonclovellyfestival

CRICKET


CHANCE TO SHINE
Spreading the power of cricket

Near you



Belstone Cricket Club Junior Training –

Friday evenings during May & June, Starting 4th May at 18.00-19.30
Rew Meadow, Tongue End Lane, Belstone EX20 1RB
Everyone welcome from 8-18, 'first timers to developing cricketers'
ECB coaching provided, £10 subscription/colt
Contact Matt Dennis 07813898863/01837 840144

News from our
Print Workshop

Keeping an eye out for Blue Tits this Spring



The Carbon Capture programme provides more than just cleaner air and landscapes. As we plant more trees we create more habitats for native wildlife, even rare and endangered species.

One particular species of bird to keep an eye out for this Spring is Blue tits. Blue Tits can be seen all year round across the UK. We start to see more of them at this time of year as they are starting to build their nests ready for the breeding season. Records have shown that most blue tits start to build their nests towards the end of March but it can be as early as January or as late as May.

The females build the nest using an array of materials from moss, hair, feathers, leaves and even spider webs. Nests are cup-shaped and blue tits often make use of man-made structures for their nests such as holes in walls or nest boxes. Typically 10-12 eggs are laid, usually in April or early May. It is thought that blue tits time laying their eggs with when there will be an abundance of green caterpillars for their chicks to eat when they hatch.

Learn more about Blue Tits' migration patterns, fledging times and what actions to take if you find a baby Blue Tit at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Bovey Tree Planting

Spring got off to a great start for Carbon Capture as a team of local Carbon Capture printers joined forces with the Woodland Trust to plant trees at Pullabrook Woods in the Bovey Valley.

The team, 30 strong, were not afraid to get their hands dirty as they began the day by clearing away brush, debris and rubbish; before planting 800 native saplings and new hedgerow at the Woodland Trust site. The volunteers were treated to locally produced fresh pasties and soup before completing the day's planting.



Foraging in March: spring's edible plants

Spring has arrived and the woods and hedgerows are bursting with early spring greens.

So here's a quick taster; check out these edible wild plants - always take a good field guide with you and please follow the Woodland Trust's sustainable foraging guidelines.

Chickweed (Stellaria media)

Chickweed is an overlooked but underrated weed with cleansing and healing properties and is packed full of vitamins and minerals.

How to use it: its tender leaves can go in salads with lemon and olive oil dressing. Blend into homemade pesto, or use to liven up fish or chicken. The tiny white, edible flowers make a pretty salad garnish.

What to look for: it's a tough, creeping annual common throughout the UK on waste ground and in gardens. It's abundant throughout the year from spring to late autumn. Look for its small, white, star-like white flowers. Look for it from February.

Dandelion (Taraxacum officinale)

The name of this plant literally means lion's tooth (dent de lion) probably referring to its jagged leaf edges. It's long been associated with folklore and herbal medicine and is probably best known for its diuretic effect.

How to use it: all parts of this slightly bitter plant are edible, both raw and cooked. Add young leaves to salads, sandwiches or pies. Flowers can be used in many dishes from risotto to omelettes, for decoration and to make beer and wine. Unopened buds can be marinated and used like capers. Roots can also be thrown into stir-fries or added to vegetable dishes or try making dandelion coffee by drying then grinding the roots.

What to look for: really common, easy to identify and found almost everywhere. Young leaves from the centre of the rosette are best - the dark outer leaves may be too bitter. They first appear in February.

Learning Support

SENDCO – Miss Karen Moore
TA Team Leader – Mrs Linda Harding

The Learning Support Faculty provides support for students with additional needs and those pupils identified as needing different or alternative educational provision who may be at SEN Support or have an EHCP.

If your child is having difficulties with their learning and you would like some help, advice and support, please contact us on 01837 650910.



Exam time Breakfasts

Some of our Year 11 students do not go to the main hall for their exams and will need to go to different locations around the school to sit their exam, which can feel isolating

Learning Support has secured funding from the PTFA again this year to provide a light breakfast for students who do not sit their exams in the main hall.

Exams start on the 15th May!

Eligible students will receive a letter inviting them to Learning support from 8.30am when they have a morning exam.

This gives students a chance to meet other students and calm any nerves

Eating breakfast is proven to improve exam

Learning support staff will be on hand to make hot drinks, answer any last minute queries, check exam timetables and help students locate exam rooms

NB: Breakfast Club runs as usual for all other students.



Okehampton
United Charities
Funding for the Community

Okehampton Autism/ADHD Support Group

A friendly group offering peer to peer support,
information sharing and signposting for carers of
school aged children with an
Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) or ADHD

join us at the Ockment Centre,
North Street, Okehampton 10 - 11:30am

Thursday 11th January 2018

Thursday 8th February 2018

Thursday 8th March 2018

Thursday 10th May 2018

Thursday 14th June 2018

Thursday 12th July 2018

All welcome. Refreshments provided.

For further information please contact

Community Links SW CIC

info@communitylinks-sw.co.uk

07808 523111



Okehampton
United Charities
Funding for the Community

Okehampton College Autism Support Group

A friendly group to allow students to meet and
talk.

To discuss issues which are important to you.

To provide support and information.

To raise awareness of Autism.

Dear _____

The first meeting at the ECO Hub

9th May at 1:20pm until 2:20pm

It would be great to see you there

Child Protection

Our Child Protection Officers are:

Mrs Charlie Edwards
Mrs Nick Stoneman
Mr Sean Freeman

If you have any concerns regarding the safety and well-being of any student, please feel free to contact one of our Child Protection Officers.

During holidays anyone can contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 55 1071 if they have a concern about a child or young person.

Child Protection and Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Please contact a Child Protection Officer if you have any concerns about a young person's safety or well-being.

Telephone our Direct line number:

01837 650914

Or via college switchboard: 01837 650910

Click on the newsletters here  to go to the College Newsletters Archive



Click on the icons to go direct to our Enrichment programme listing the Extra Curricular activities.

Year 11 Graduation: Qualifying Criteria

A satisfactory approach, or better to learning in most subjects

95% Attendance or Better

600+ points to graduate!

Start with 600 points

How Points Are Won

Reason	Points Won
Revision Session Attendance	+1
Bonus Points	+5
Uniform Check	+5
Sports Activities & Clubs	+1 per session
D of E / Ten Tors	+20
Student Voice eg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House Captain • Student Council • Mental Health Ambassador 	+15

How Points Are Lost

Reason	Points Lost
Behaviour Memos	-1
Ready 2 Learn	-3
Tutor Report (2 weeks)	-10
SPL Report (2 weeks)	-15
Isolation (per day)	-20
Exclusion (per day)	-20
Truancy	-5 per lesson



CLASS OF 2018

Dates for your diary & forthcoming events

May 2018	Thursday 10 May	Parent's Evening Year 7 & Year 10
	Monday 7 May	May Day Bank Holiday
	Mon 28 May - Fri 1 June	Half Term
June 2018	Monday 4 June	All Pupils Return
	Thursday 21 June	Last Year 11 Exam (Individual exam dates for students tbc)
	Wednesday 27 June	Yr 11 Graduation Fair (by invite only) 2-3.20pm
		Graduation Evening for students and parents
July 2018	Friday 29 June	Year 11 Ball
	Tuesday 24 July	Last Day of Term
	Wednesday 25 July	Non-Pupil Day
	Thursday 26 July	Non-Pupil Day
	Fri 27 July - Fri 31 August	Summer Holidays
Autumn Term 2018-2019		
September 2018	Monday 3 September	Non-Pupil Day
	Tuesday 4 September	Non-Pupil Day
	Wednesday 5 September	All Pupils Return
October 2018	Friday 19 October	Last Day of Term
	Mon 22 Oct - Fri 26 Oct	Half Term
	Monday 29 October 2018	All Pupils Return
November 2018	Friday 23 November 2018	Non-Pupil Day
December 2018	Friday 21 December 2018	Last Day of Term
	Mon 24 Dec - Fri 4 Jan 2019	Christmas Holidays
Spring Term 2019		
January 2019	7 January 2019	All Pupils Return
February 2019	Mon 18 Feb - Fri 22 Feb	Half Term
	25 February	All Pupils Return
April 2019	Friday 5 April	Last Day of Term
	Mon 8 April - Mon 22 April	Easter Holidays



Okehampton College

"Nothing but the best is good enough"



Assistant Principals:

Ms Joanne Gibson

Mr Andrew Sweeney

Mrs Nichola Offer

Mrs Jo Payne

Mrs Vicky Thornton

Principal
Mr Derrick Brett

Federation Business Manager
Mr Alan King



www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Tel: 01837 650910

Email: admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk