

Newsletter

July Issue 19

Keeping you informed



Curriculum Extension Week

Once again, this was a very successful event. I am sure our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and I know from my conversations with staff how impressed they were with the behaviour and positive approach the students displayed throughout the week. Hopefully many new friendships will have been forged and the relationships between teachers and students has, I am sure, been further strengthened. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the staff who were involved in organising and overseeing these trips and for all their hard work and efforts in ensuring the week was as successful as it was.

Work Experience

I would like to congratulate our Year 10 students for a successful work experience week. The feedback I have received has been very positive and I hope that this week gave an insight into life outside of the College and will help motivate and inspire students as they enter their very important Year 11.

Sponsored Walk

Following the success of last year's walk, which raised over £7,000 for various charities, this year's walk will be held on Friday 9th September. The charities we will be supporting are; Devon Air Ambulance, Macmillan Nurses, Water Aid and Exeter Royal Academy for Deaf Education. This is a popular event and I am sure you will encourage and support your children to collect sponsors for these good causes.

Departing Staff

The time of year has come when we say our goodbyes to staff who are leaving us at the end of this academic year. I would like to take this opportunity of wishing them all the very best for the future and thank them for their hard work and dedication towards the College throughout their time with us. We say goodbye to Mr Arnott, Mrs Garnsworthy, Mr Boyce, Mrs Charles, Mrs Hughes, Miss Lewis, Ms Neave, Mrs Ovenden, Miss Parker and Miss Sum.

We have some colleagues who will be leaving us that have worked at the College for a considerable amount of time; indeed, the following have accumulated 128 years of service between them:

Mrs Carn is retiring after 18 years working within our Technology Faculty. She has overseen numerous events and activities which has enabled youngsters to develop their skills and expertise within food and catering. I especially remember when she catered with her students for over 800 participants in the Around Britain Cycle Challenge. This massive undertaking was incredibly

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successful and one which will stay in the memories of so many people for so very long. This was one of many events that showed off our students in such a positive manner.

Mrs Whitehorn is retiring after 35 years at Okehampton College. She commenced as a Maths Teacher, rapidly became Head of Maths Faculty and Assistant Head of Year and was promoted to Assistant Principal alongside her role as Head of Maths in 2010. She will be sadly missed as has been evidenced by the numerous letters we have received from present and past students who hold her in such high regard.

Mr Palmer is retiring after 36 years at Okehampton College. He has worked within our Science Faculty throughout that time and has for many, many years been a Student Progress Leader and been involved in the pastoral work at the College. He has fully immersed himself in the life of the College and has been instrumental in our developments working with schools from many different countries.

Mr Smith is retiring having undertaken 39 years of service. As a Humanities Teacher he was promoted to Head of Faculty and in recent years has been heavily involved in overseeing school trips and enrichment activities.

The impact these colleagues have had on literally thousands of students throughout the years they have been here has been immense. I am sure they will be remembered for a long time to come as professionals who are dedicated to Okehampton College and who always went that extra step to ensure students got the very best opportunities and experiences. We wish them well in their retirement and future ventures. They will undoubtedly be missed by the College but, once again, I would like to thank them all for everything they have done over the years they have been here.

As is always the case, when colleagues leave at this time of the year we appoint new colleagues into the college for September. I will share with you information about them in the September Newsletter but, at a time when recruitment is proving difficult, I am very pleased to be able to say that we are fully staffed for September.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during what has been a very successful academic year and wish you all a very enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming all students back on Monday 5th September 2016.

Daryll Chapman
Executive Principal



Dates for your diary & forthcoming events

Month	Date	Event
August	Thurs 18 th August	AS/A2 Exam Results
	Thurs 25 th August	GCSE Exam Results
Autumn Term 2016		
September 2016	Thurs 1 st September	Non-Pupil Day
	Fri 2 nd September	Non-Pupil Day
	Mon 5 th September	All Pupils Return
	Fri 9 th September	Sponsored Walk
October 2016	Thurs 20 th October	Year 7 & Year 12 Parents Evening
	Mon 24 th Oct - Fri 28 th October	Half Term
	Mon 31 st October	All Pupils Return
November 2016	Thurs 10 th November	Year 10 & Year 13 Parents Evening
	Weds 23 rd November	Year 9 Parents Evening
	Friday 25 th November	Non-Pupil Day
December 2016	Wednesday 7 th December	Year 11 Parents Evening
	Friday 16 th December	Last day of term
	Mon 19 th Dec - Mon 2 nd Jan 2017	Christmas Break
Spring Term 2017		
January 2017	Tues 3 rd January	Non Pupil Day
	Weds 4 th Jan	All Pupils Return
February 2017	Thurs Feb 9 th	Year 8 & Year 12 Parents Evening
	Mon 13 th Feb - Friday 17 th Feb	Half Term
	Mon 20 th Feb	All Pupils Return
March 2017	Thurs 23 rd March	Year 11 & Year 13 Parents Evening
April 2017	Mon 3 rd April - Mon 17 th April	Easter Holidays
	Tues 18 th April	All Pupils Return

Important Information for Parents/Carers:

Please be aware of new safeguarding guidance, 'Keeping Children safe'

Paragraph 117 - Parents/Carers using Facebook, Twitter and other social media to make derogatory remarks about staff is not acceptable under the prohibition on reporting and publishing allegations about teachers in section 141F of the Education Act 2002. Schools across the country are reporting issues relating to the misuse of social media sites. If any such abuse of these sites regarding Okehampton College takes place, appropriate action will be taken.

The Federation Safeguarding and Child Protection policies can be accessed via the College website www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk or a paper copy will be made available upon request.