

Friday Focus

Friday 16th October 2026



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Thank you to all of the parents and students who attended our Key Stage 4 success evening on Wednesday. Thank you too to Mrs Howard, Miss Ackerman, Mr Rodgers and Dr Kelly for leading the evening and sharing how best to revise for the forthcoming mock exams. Dr Kelly spent time at the end of the evening talking through the connection between attendance to school and achievement in GCSE exams. It is an obvious connection but the data that he produced from previous Okehampton College students is clear - Attendance during the examination period is paramount. There will be no study leave this year and Year 11 students are expected to attend all lessons during the examination period. The time table will also be amended to allow time for students have last minute revision, delivered by subject experts, before examinations.

It has been an exciting week for some of our students; Our Gold Duke of Edinburgh students undertook an expedition this week, over three days, on Exmoor. Well done to all! Students in the Okehampton Army Cadets visited London and took in the sights, including Buckingham Palace and Downing Street. Some cadets also received promotions in Wellington's Office which is normally only reserved for high ranking officers - this was a huge honour! Congratulations to our Year 11 drama students who have now completed their dress rehearsal for their exams. I know how much effort has been put in to this and we are all very proud of you.

Half term is approaching and I know some parents may use this time to update school uniform. Please make sure all uniform follows our policy which can be found on our website [click here](#). All uniform should be worn as intended. This includes skirts which must be unrolled.

Do remember that the best way of getting in contact with school around pastoral issues is either to email your child's tutor or use house email addresses
ash@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
beece@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
elm@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
oak@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
Please do not use the admin email address as it will take longer for the message to reach the correct recipient. For attendance issues or reporting absence please email attendance@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk.

Principal's Breakfast

Congratulations to the students listed below. To celebrate they are invited to have breakfast with the Principal next Friday.

Ash: Leeland Lewington - for an excellent start to Year 10, consistently demonstrating the Oke values in all aspects of school life

Beech: Will Everett - for an exceptional start to Year 9

Oak: Meghan Vern for excellent attendance

Elm: Isla Egford - for being selected for the Devon Youth Development Programme for Cricket



Eco Warriors Win!

I am very proud to announce that the College Eco Warriors recently came second in the Butterfly Conservation Devon Schools Award, winning £25 to spend on conservation equipment. I am delighted that their hard work and dedication to conservation of butterflies and moths has been recognised and I hope we can enter more of these competitions in the future. Well done to the Eco Warriors! (Pictured is our handmade butterfly feeder).

Mrs Ewen



OKEHAMPTON COLLEGE PTFA

AGM

MONDAY 26TH OCT 7PM

THE LONDON INN

All Welcome

What is an AGM?
The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is where we share our plans, look back on the year, and elect our committee members.

Why it matters...
Your support helps us raise funds, create opportunities and make a real difference to your children's college journey.

Together we can support our children in college



PE Inter-House Competition - No. 1

We will be kick starting our PE inter-house competitions this year with cross country. This will take place next week during PE lessons (students will not require different PE kit).

All students will be able to take part. Points will be awarded for representing their houses along with extra points based on their places during the event. Bonus points will also be available for students who show outstanding effort and resilience during our runs. It is always fantastic to see those students who have the resilience and drive to excel in an individual sport, along with those students who can apply their fitness from team sports, into cross country.

Along with this being an inter-house competition, it will also be the trials to represent the College at the upcoming Exeter District Cross Country Championships. We will be taking eight of the best runners in each age category to compete at Blundells school. This is the first round of the school cross country pathway. Overall there are a number of competitions where, if successful, the best students in Devon will go on to represent their county at the South West and National cross country championships. Our age categories are - Year 7 & 8 Boys & Girls, Year 9 & 10 Boys and Girls, Year 11 Boys and Girls.

Any Year 10 or 11 students who would like to take part in the Exeter District schools competition should come to the PE office during a break time to speak to the PE department.

SEND Clinics:



Special Educational Needs
& Disabilities

If you would like a conversation with a member of the Okehampton College SEND Team please book an appointment at one of our SEND Clinics. They take place every other Thursday. You can book an appointment, using the same procedure we use for parents' evenings. Please follow [this link to book an appointment. SchoolCloud - Okehampton College](#) or use the QR code.



COMPUTER SCIENCE ANAGRAM QUIZ

Unscramble the anagrams to reveal key Computer Science terms and concepts!

THINK YOU'RE UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

Correct answers earn **HOUSE POINTS!**

ALGORITHM
VARIABLE
BINARY
NETWORK
DEBUG
FUNCTION

QUIZ LINK:
[Computer Science house Quiz - Fill in form](#)

SCAN QR CODE:

GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY QUIZZING!

CLICK HERE

A Christmas Carol

boxclever
THEATRE

Year 10 & 11

24th November 2026

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
CHARLES DICKENS

We suggest a voluntary donation of £6 payable on school gateway, if you are able. All year 10 and 11 students will be attending the performance on this date during lesson time.

We are a Dartmoor Dynamic Landscapes Champion School!



We are delighted to share an exciting opportunity through the Dartmoor Dynamic Landscapes (DDL) Champion Schools Programme, a project running from January 2026 to Summer 2029 for schools located within the Dartmoor area and gateway towns. The initiative aims to help young people connect with the unique natural environment on their doorstep while supporting learning, wellbeing and personal development.

What is a DDL Champion School?

A DDL Champion School celebrates its connection with Dartmoor National Park and actively promotes outdoor learning opportunities for students. Through partnerships with local organisations, schools gain access to enriching experiences that help students learn, explore and thrive outside the classroom.

Benefits for Students and Schools

As a Champion School, students could benefit from:

- A Dartmoor Discovery Day.
- Outdoor activities led by specialist DDL partners.
- Opportunities to join the Bike It Moor project, encouraging active travel and access to green spaces.
- Newsletters highlighting local events, walks and family activities.
- Potential grant funding to support travel into Dartmoor National Park.
- Resources for schools to deliver their own outdoor learning activities.
- Improved health, wellbeing and connection with nature.
- Opportunities for students who find traditional classroom settings challenging to succeed and develop confidence outdoors.
- A greater understanding of the local landscape and the importance of living within a National Park.

Amazing Partner Organisations

Students may have the chance to work with a range of expert organisations, including:

- Dartmoor National Park Authority - Guided walks, conservation projects, farm visits and learning about Dartmoor's rivers, peatlands and historic tin mining heritage.

- Westcountry Rivers Trust - Hands-on citizen science activities, monitoring river health and testing water quality.
- Walk Wheel Cycle Trust - Active travel initiatives through the Bike It Moor project, helping pupils develop confidence in walking, cycling and exploring green spaces.
- Woodland Trust - Tree planting, woodland learning and river restoration activities.
- Emergency Exit Arts - Creative workshops linked to community festivals across Ivybridge, Okehampton and Princetown.

Why Outdoor Learning Matters

Research consistently shows that spending time outdoors can improve physical health, wellbeing, resilience and engagement with learning. The DDL Champion Schools programme provides exciting opportunities for students to develop new skills, build confidence and create lasting connections with the natural environment around them. We look forward to sharing more information and opportunities with students and families as we engage with this exciting programme.



Please zoom in to view images in full



Devon Educational Psychology Service

Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries – Information for Parent Carers

The Devon Educational Psychology Service (EPS) is running group sessions which aim to reduce worrying in children and young people. The sessions can help parent carers develop skills that can be helpful in managing worries and supporting school attendance.

Programme Details

- **Duration:** Six sessions, each 90 minutes long
- **Schedule:** Delivered over seven weeks (six sessions with a one-week break)
- **Participants:** Parent carers (children do not attend).
- **Where:** Online via Microsoft Teams.
- **When:** Sessions will be held within typical school hours. We will contact parent carers with dates and times if we are able to offer you a place.
- **Start dates:** We are running groups starting in November.

Who Can Join?

We are offering sessions to parent carers of children who are concerned about their child's attendance and anxiety around school. The programme is designed for parent carers of children between 5-12 years of age, but it can be adapted for older children. The programme can be adapted for parent carers of children with SEND. We will work with you to help you get the most out of the sessions.

Spaces on the programme are limited, and we may not be able to offer everyone a place. We will be happy to talk this through with you via the contact details below.

How to Join?

To request a place, parents need to complete an online form which can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/w13eSag9a9>

For more details or questions, contact the educational psychology service using this email address: educate.assistanteducationalpsychologist@mailbox@devon.gov.uk

We are accepting requests until 23rd October.



Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries



CLICK HERE

Devon County Council, Room L60, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter, EX2 4QD

General Enquiries: 01392 383000 Website: www.devon.gov.uk

Friday Focus



OCRA Holiday Club

Get ready for the BEST holiday ever!

Join our Holiday Club packed with games, crafts, sports, and a featured activity every day including!

- How in the Park sports!
- Trampolining!
- Art projects!
- Nerf!
- And more!

Sport, Art, Activities!

Sign up today

Book Now for OCTOBER Half Term

All-Day Ticket
8.15am-5.30pm
Pavilion in the Park

Day Ticket
9.45am-3pm
Parklands Leisure Centre

www.ocrasport.org.uk/holidays

CLICK HERE



PTFA Okehampton ASFC **SE SONIC FIREWORKS**

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Sunday 1st Nov

On the football field outside the Pavilion

GATES OPEN 4.30 **DISPLAY 5.30** **FOOD VENDORS** **PAVILION CAFE OPEN**

NO SPARKLERS **£7 PREBOUGHT** **£8 ON THE NIGHT** **UNDER 4's FREE**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM RED LION BAZAAR, DONALDS AND OCRA PAVILION

CASH ONLY

Please zoom in to view images in full



OKEHAMPTON OTTERS

FREE TRIAL!

JOIN US FOR OUR 2-LANES TASTER SESSION OVER HALF TERM!

FREE TRIAL - ALL WELCOME!

Wednesday 28th October
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
At Parklands Leisure Centre, Okehampton

COME MEET OUR COACHES & SWIMMERS!

CLICK HERE



OKEHAMPTON COLLEGE PTFA

HAMPER RAFFLE

DONATIONS WANTED!

We are collecting donations for our annual hamper raffle.

Please pass donations to your tutor, Miss Teixeira, or Reception.

The raffle draw will take place at the Edwardian Evening

THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER

#THRIVEhive

Visit our THRIVEhive
A signposting hub
for advice
& support



www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk/Thrivehive/



KEY DATES

- **Wednesday 21st October**- Exeter College Drop in Session (Year 11 Room 677)
- **Friday 23rd October** - Non-Pupil Day
- **Monday 26th - Friday 20th October** - Half Term
- **Monday 2nd November** - Exeter College Drop in session (Year 11 Room 677)
- **Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January** - Christmas Break

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Telephone: (01837) 650910

Email: ash@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
beech@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
elm@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk
oak@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk



USEFUL LINKS—CLICK TO VIEW

Term Dates



Enrichment Programme



Okehampton College



Attendance

How to use

