

Friday Focus

Friday 18th September 2026



Every morning I try to be on the doors to welcome students and this morning felt particularly good. Students were smiling and replying good morning to both myself and Mrs Skelton. And it was great to see that students are well versed in having their Yondr pouches ready for checking as they enter.

In last week's Focus both myself and Mr Corkell wrote about the connection between high attendance to school and achievement in the classroom. This week, attendance to school is still strong, but only 69% of students still have 100% attendance to school. Tutors are making phonecalls home to discuss how we can work together to improve attendance. If there are any barriers to your child attending school please let your child's tutor know.

This week we launched our extra curricular clubs. There is a huge wealth of experiences on offer. New for this year is Farm Club run by Mr Parker. Annie rehearsals are also happening and I cannot wait to see the performance in the spring. Please note that late buses are now only available on a Tuesday evening.

Next week we have our annual sponsored walk on Friday. Don't forget to give consent via School Gateway for your child, if you haven't already done so. Thank you to Mr Barnett for organising it and also to our Key Stage 4 students who are acting as marshals this year. We also have our Danish visitors in school and they will be joining us on the walk.

Principal's Breakfast

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

Ash: Scarlett Bishop - A really positive start to Year 7, with outstanding conduct and excellent attendance. You consistently demonstrate a positive attitude to learning. Keep developing your resilience and confidence when facing challenges

Beech: Rosie Kelly for a fantastic start to the beginning of Year 7 and embodying the Oke Way.

Elm: Mikey Smith for a positive start to Year 11

Oak: Ellie-Mae Hibbert making such a positive start to the term even through some tricky situations



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Art in Science House Competition

Periodic Table Art in Science Competition

Create artwork inspired by an element or elements in the periodic table.

You could:

- Design a logo, a badge or a postcard for the Science faculty using the element symbols of the Periodic Table.
- Create an animal inspired by an element (e.g. Neon as a glowing jellyfish)
- Produce a collage showing where an element can be found in everyday life (drinks cans, food, or furniture)
- Design a superhero or villain based on an element (e.g. "Captain Carbon")

The competition will run all next week, so get your entries to your science teacher by Friday 25 September. House points will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

Come and see for yourself



You are warmly invited to
Okehampton College Open Evening

on
Wednesday 30th September 2026
4:15 - 6:30pm

Join us for presentations and tours at 4:30pm, 5:00pm and 5:30pm
(booking is essential)

Open Mornings :

- Tuesday 6th October 9.15am • Wednesday 7th October 9.15am
- Thursday 8th October 10.15am • Monday 12th October 9.15am
- Tuesday 13th October 10.15am

Use the QR code to secure a place for your preferred presentation.

Contact us by email or telephone to book an open morning:

- Tel: 01837 650910
- email: admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk





Ross Corkell
Assistant Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Let's Talk Safer Families: Supporting Parents in a Changing World

As parents and carers, we all want to keep our children safe, healthy and happy. Yet navigating the challenges young people face today can sometimes feel overwhelming. From online safety and social media to healthy relationships, exploitation and emerging risks, it can be difficult to know where to turn for trusted advice.

That is where Let's Talk Safer Families can help. This free programme provides expert-led online sessions designed to give parents, carers and professionals the knowledge, confidence and practical tools needed to support children and young people in today's world. The platform offers guidance rooted in local community safety intelligence and aims to help families understand risks without causing alarm.

This term's programme includes a range of engaging sessions tailored to different age groups, including primary-aged children, pre-teens, teenagers and young people with SEND. Topics cover areas such as online safety, healthy relationships, exploitation awareness, digital influences, and strategies for maintaining positive communication with young people.

The sessions are delivered online, free of charge, and are designed to be welcoming and accessible. Whether you are looking for advice on how to start difficult conversations, better understand the digital world your child is growing up in, or build confidence in supporting their wellbeing, there is something for every family. We strongly encourage all parents and carers to take advantage of this valuable resource and explore the upcoming events programme.

Find out more and book your free place here:

www.letstalksaferfamilies.org/events/

By working together and staying informed, we can help create safer, stronger futures for all our children and young people



Okehampton Primary School PTFA
Okehampton College PTFA
&
Okehampton Primary PTFA

Coffee Morning

Charter Hall

Saturday 19 Sept
9.30am - 12noon

Get in touch
if you'd like a stall

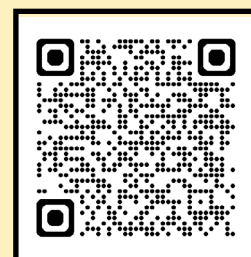
✉ Okehamptoncollegeptfa@yahoo.com

Cakes Raffle

SEND Clinics:



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.



#THRIVEhive

Visit our THRIVEhive
A signposting hub
for advice
& support



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



KEY DATES

- **Thursday 24th September** - Meet the Tutor Evening
3:30-6:00pm
- **Friday 25th September** - Sponsored Walk
- **Wednesday 30th September** - Open Evening
4:15-6:30pm (bookings essential)
- **Tuesday 6th October** - Open Morning 9.15am
- **Wednesday 7th October** - Open Morning 9.15am
- **Thursday 8th October** - Open Morning 10.15am
- **Monday 12th October** - Open Morning 9.15am
- **Tuesday 13th October** - Open Morning 10.15am
- **Friday 23rd October** - Non-Pupil Day

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

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Email: ash@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

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USEFUL LINKS—CLICK TO VIEW

Term Dates



Enrichment Programme



Okehampton College



Attendance

How to use

