

Friday Focus

Friday 30th January 2026



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



For the last couple of months, I have diligently sat by my phone at 9:30 on a Monday morning waiting to see if a call would be put through to my office from

Mrs Dalton on reception. This week, that call

finally came and I spoke with the lead inspector from Ofsted. Although the team of inspectors were in school for two days, it very much is a three day inspection with every member of staff preparing for Ofsted on the Monday. Thank you to all the parents who sent in warm messages of good luck and to those who completed the Parentview survey.

It is a new Ofsted framework and the report will look very different. There are no longer any overall grades, but a scorecard which looks at different areas. I cannot discuss this until the report is published, which I hope will be before the Easter break. I would like to thank our amazing staff who were simply fantastic over those two days and also our students. The inspecting team spoke to me about how polite, friendly and courteous our students were and that was wonderful to hear.

Year 11 Next Steps

Thank you to the parents who came to our next steps evening for Year 11 students on Wednesday. It was a great opportunity for students and parents alike to meet local post-16 providers to find out about what Year 12 can look like for them.

Behaviour Culture

Our behaviour policy is built around positive relationships and behaviour. We want to make sure that students and members of staff can work positively with each other to build a cohesive culture of belonging. On occasions though, some students make mistakes. This is ok; this is part of growing up and we can accept that and move on. We have sanctions in place as a deterrent and to help all students see the difference between right and wrong. When sanctions are not accepted by students it can leave us with very few places to go as a school. Students absolutely cannot ignore the appropriate instructions from members of staff, and any students who do will have stronger sanctions put in place. This is to make sure that the school runs safely for all staff and students and that it is a place where young people can thrive.

Next week

Coming up next week we have vaccinations for Year 9 and Year 10 Parents' Evening. We look forward to seeing you face to face next Thursday.

Principal's Breakfast:

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

Ash: Oliver King - For continually exceeding expectations and really invested in his learning.

Beech: Matthew Tyler - for consistently demonstrating an outstanding attitude to learning.

Oak: Edith Ewens – for moving tutors and making such a positive start

Elm: Emilie Jayne Banbury - for representing the Oke Way in everything she does!

Medical & Dental Appointments - A friendly reminder



We know medical and dental appointments can't always be helped - but if you can, please try and book them outside of school hours.

If your child does need to leave during the school day, no problem - just let the school know in advance, and please send them back as soon as the appointment's done so they don't miss too much learning.

Don't forget to send them in with an appointment card or letter so we can update our records properly.

Thanks so much for your support - it really helps us keep things running smoothly!

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.





Join the Okehampton Youth Council!

Following this week's assemblies, we're inviting students aged 10–18 to get involved in shaping the future of our community by joining the Okehampton Youth Council. The Youth Council was created to give young people a real voice in local decision making, provide opportunities to influence change, and help strengthen connections with the town they live or study in.

If you're passionate about making a difference, representing your peers, or getting involved in community projects and events, we'd love to hear from you.

Find out more or request an application form by emailing: youthcouncil@okehampton.gov.uk

News from Creative Arts

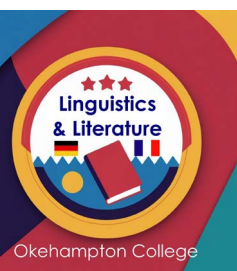


The Creative Arts Team are proud to announce that our College Choir has been invited to perform alongside International musicians Eimear Quinn, Jim Causley and Dublin Brass in March.

The Monday night concert will take place as part of a three day series of concerts which travel from Bristol Cathedral, through Chagford and then finish in Truro Cathedral. The concert is scheduled for Monday the 16th of March and details of tickets can be seen on the poster.

Secondly, in support of local charities, we are proud to be hosting a fundraising concert for The Greatfield Hedgehog Rescue in collaboration with 'Mariners Away'. Tickets for this event are available on eventbrite and can be accessed via the [website link here](#)

Recommended Reads

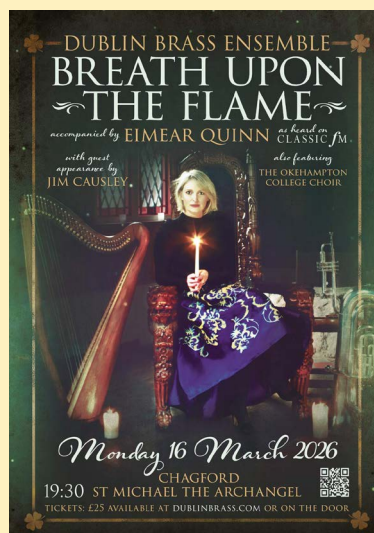


Week 3 of our recommended reads:
Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine - Gail Honeyman

Our recommendation for today comes from Nikki Lloyd from our SEND department. This is a novel about a social misfit with a traumatic past who becomes enamoured with a singer, whom she believes she is destined to be with. This novel won the 2017 Costa Debut Novel Award.



Please zoom in to view images in full



Friday Focus



FREE TRIAL SWIMMING LESSON DAY
SATURDAY 31st
FREE Trial Swimming Lessons!

For Infants, Children & Adults!
Try a lesson, meet our teachers, and build confidence in the water!

CONTACT US TO BOOK YOUR SPACE!
... Spaces are limited - First Come, First Served! ...

01837 659154
We can't wait to see you in the pool!

KEY DATES

- **5th February 2026** - Year 10 Parents' Evening
- **16th February - 20th February 2026** - Half Term Holiday
- **23rd February 2026** - Year 11 Mock Exams start
- **25th February 2026** - Macbeth Performance Year 10 & 11
- **5th March 2026** - World Book Day
- **5th March 2026** - Year 7 Parents' Evening
- **19th March 2026** - Year 8 Parents' Evening
- **23rd March 2026** - Year 12 external Exams start
- **3rd April 2026 - Friday 17th April 2026** - Easter Holidays
- **20th April 2026** - All students return for Summer Term

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



CLICK HERE

Please zoom in to
view images in full



Whisper Report
Anonymous Reporting Form

PROBLEM?
Whisper it!

If you have a problem or concern in school or at home, you can report it to a member of staff anonymously.

To: 07860 021 323
OKE123 [+ your message]

When To Report...

- You or a friend are being bullied
- You are concerned for a student's welfare
- A student, member of staff, or parent has behaved inappropriately
- You need to talk to someone about a problem
- Suggestion for changes or improvements in school

Report via SMS or visit:
<https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/oke123/>

Powered by Whisper

SWGfL
Safe. Secure. Online



CLICK HERE



Blue Sky FOSTERING
20 Years of Outstanding Care, Building Brighter Futures.

Changing lives through fostering

Do you have a spare bedroom and are able to provide a loving and stable home environment that will change the lives of children and young people in the area.

Could you foster in Okehampton?
Call us on **0800 035 6499**

We need short term, long term and parent & child foster carers

www.blueskyfostering.co.uk

Ofsted Outstanding Provider



#THRIVEhive

Visit our THRIVEhive
A signposting hub for advice & support

QR Code: www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk/Thrivehive/

Topics covered:

- Online Safety
- Careers
- Substance Misuse
- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Young Carers
- Positive Relationships
- Local Information
- LGBTQ+
- Exams & Studying
- Anti-Bullying
- Health & Prevention

USEFUL LINKS

Term Dates



Letters Home



MENU



Enrichment Programme

WWW.



Okehampton College

CLICK HERE