

Friday Focus

Friday 8th May 2026



Yesterday was the start of the formal examination period for Year 11 students with the German exams. GCSE exams are a major milestone for any person in their life journey and I know many of the students cannot believe that they are finally here. Nevertheless, overall there is a sense of excitement amongst the students at the moment rightly so, given they have all worked so hard for them.

The first whole year exam is English literature on Monday. In preparation, the English department have decorated the walls where students queue for the canteen with quotes to remember and in the hope they will jolt a few memories.

I am incredibly proud of our students who are taking part in the Ten Tors event this weekend. The dedication they have shown is phenomenal. It is an incredible achievement to get to the start line, let alone finish the event. Thank you to Mr Barnett, Mr Parker, Mrs Dean and Mr Tyler for giving up your weekends to prepare students to the expedition.

Thank you to those parents who are sharing the achievements of our students outside school. It is always wonderful to see what interests and activities students take part in in their own time. One of my favourite questions to ask whilst manning the dinner queue on a Friday is "what are you doing at the weekend". Often I get a reply of 'staying in bed' but I do also hear some amazing things. Well done to Katie and Izzy who took part in a football tour to Belgium representing Plymouth Argyle. To win both of their fixtures away from home is incredible. Well done also to all of the students who represented the school in athletics this week at Exeter and Braunton.

Principal's Breakfast

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

Ash: Caitlyn Eustace. Showing outstanding effort and success, day after day. Being a shining example of the Oke Way.

Beech: Esme Kite - for her outstanding approach to learning.

Oak: Heidi Way working with the nursery. Ms Hazlewood the headteacher could not speak more highly of Heidi and how she is doing with the nursery students.

Elm: Felix Boyson - for his fab approach to all of his mocks and for consistently meeting expectations



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.



Reminder!

Reporting Absences

You can contact the College to report absences by Email using:

attendance@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

When reporting an absence please ensure you are specific about any illness rather than simply stating 'unwell', 'under the weather' or 'not up to it'.

It is imperative you contact the College using the email above. Please do not inform a teacher or tutor.

Following an absence we ask that you keep in touch every day until your child returns. UNLESS the College has agreed otherwise. Please note that if a reason for absence is not provided or the reason is not for an accepted, authorised reason your child will automatically be issued with an unauthorised absence mark.

Why Is Attendance Important?

- We care about your child's education
- Poor attendance will have a negative impact on your child's learning
- We want our students to make the most of their experiences in school

What Do I Do If My Child Is Unwell?

- Please ring the school EACH DAY our child is ill
- If you have not contacted the school, we will contact you for a reason for absence
- If we are unable to get in touch, school staff may visit your home

If your child is unwell and you are unsure if they should stay off school, the NHS have a helpful website for determining whether children should stay at home. Use this QR code.



Attendance Matters

0 Days off School	100%	Perfection
2 Days off School	99%	Excellent
5 Days off School	97%	Good
10 Days off School	95%	Slight Concern
20 Days off School	90%	Concerned
30 Days off School	85%	Very Concerned



Special Educational Needs
& Disabilities

Climbers for the Day

The Neurodivergent group had a fabulous trip to Clip and Climb in Exeter on Wednesday morning. This trip was very kindly funded by Okehampton United Charities. It was a positive morning and gave the key stage 3 and 4 students an opportunity to get to know one another in a different environment. The thirty students had a great day climbing the various walls. The instructor assigned to us for the day was an ex Oke College student and provided an opportunity for our current students to think about the wealth of possibilities available to them beyond school.

Each student welcomed the challenges at the different levels and even raced against students and staff, (Unfortunately no staff won)! All in all, it was a great experience for our students and we would like to thank Okehampton United Charities for funding it!

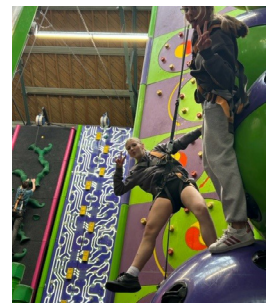


This is what our students had to say:

- *"It gave a positive impact on the students and their wellbeing"*
- *"It was really fun it made me socialise with like minded people"*



- *"The stairway to heaven was fun the way it wiggled"*
- *"It was amazing because I went to the top of the wall"*
- *"It was my second time there and I thought it was fun because I got to climb"*



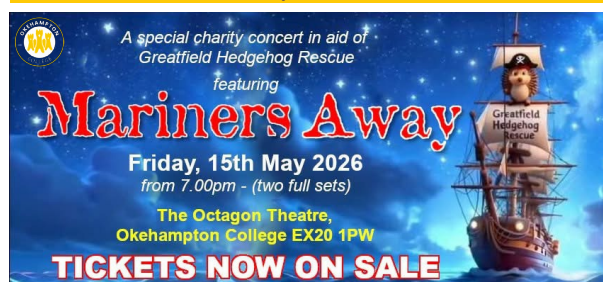
Football Tour to Belgium

Congratulations to Year 8 students Katie Hooper and Izzy Steward travelled to Belgium for the bank holiday weekend on a football tour with Plymouth Argyle. They played two fixtures against Belgium teams SK Eernegem and KSV Bredene and they were victorious in both!

It was a fun packed weekend, with a visit to Cercle Brugge Stadium to watch the men in a play off game against Zulte Waregem, a visit to Brugge, bowling and much more!



Charity Concert



Book Tickets here →



Friday Focus

**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**

KEY DATES

- 25th May 2026 - 29th May - Whitsun Half Term
- 1st June 2026 - All students return
- 11th June 2026 - Sports Day
- 24th - 25th June 2026 - College Welcome Days
- 6th - 10th July 2026 - Enrichment Week
- 16th July 2026 - Last day of Summer Term
- 17th July 2026 - Staff inset day
- 27th - 31st July 2026 - Big Step Summer School New, Year 7s

Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

Telephone: (01837) 650910

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

AFTER SCHOOL APR-JUN

Tue 3:30pm
Bootcamp
Gym
Zumba
Parklands

**OCRA**

Thur 3:30pm
Tennis
Tennis courts
Football
All Weather Pitch
No late bus

**OCRA**

Fri 4pm
Netball
All Weather Pitch

**OCRA**

#THRIVEhive

Visit our THRIVEhive
A signposting hub
for advice
& support


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

**CLICK HERE**



USEFUL LINKS

Term Dates





Letters Home





Enrichment Programme

WWW.


Okehampton College

**CLICK HERE**