

# Welcome to Okehampton College

## NEWSLETTER



Whilst I know we have been in regular contact with you over the last few weeks regarding the fire in the canteen, I would once again like to Thank You for all your support regarding this over this half term. The process has taken longer than we had hoped, but the cleaning and decontamination works in the kitchen and dining area have been completed as planned this week. The electricians will be on site from Monday with a view to completing their works next week. I can now confirm that the main kitchen and dining area will be open from Monday 24 February, so there is no need to provide packed lunches from home. We may, initially, be restricted in the range of meals we offer, but there will be hot and cold meals available from this date. I am still tremendously grateful to the Co-Op for their support on that day as their response highlights the importance of community in a town such as ours.

During the course of this half term there has been some tremendous sporting success. The U13 and U15 boys are Indoor Cricket County Champions and we have displayed their pictures in our reception area. The Year 10 boy's rugby team are District Champions and have made it to the County Final having beaten West Buckland in the Semi-

Final last night. The Year 7 girls football team entered the National Competition which started with 256 teams and they progressed to be in the final 32 teams. The U13 Girls Indoor Cricket teams both got through to the West Devon Final and played each other with the A team winning and progressing to the County Finals in March. The majority of the girl's rugby team representing the DMAT at the National Schools 7's tournament at Rosslyn Park in March are from Okehampton College. Mari Baldwin and Zoe Bennett won the Southern Region Table Tennis Qualifier recently and will progress to the English National Schools final next month. We are very proud of all the achievements of the students in the college and I would be delighted to hear of other successes outside of school so that we can celebrate them here.

In our current drive to raise cultural capital within the College, there are 2 major trips happening during the half-term break. We have a group of students travelling to the United States and a group of students travelling to India. I hope that everyone has a fantastic time and gains a great deal from their experiences.

This morning Year 11 had an assembly with Izzy Rowlands, a Year 12 student. Izzy was keen to draw their attention to the need to feel occupied during the long summer break after the GCSE's. She made some suggestions including joining the National Citizen Service and it might be that you would like to take the opportunity to discuss this with your Year 11

child. As I pointed out to the Year 11 students this morning the exams are 9 school weeks away, this can be a very pressurised time for students so please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any support. They will be receiving their mock exam results on Tuesday 3 March.

Thank you to the parents of the Year 11 students who attended the Positively Mad session after school last week. We will be doing more work on revision after the half term holiday.

Finally, thank you for your feedback regarding the KS3 reports that went out earlier this term. The feedback has been invaluable as we look to ensure that the new reports are beneficial to parents. We will be communicating further on this matter next half term.

It just remains for me to wish all the students an enjoyable break, we look forward to seeing them again on Monday 24 February.

Derrick Brett  
Principal



A few pictures from "Fire Day" and the sandwich

## Book

### Competition

Local bookshop Dogberry and Finch recently ran a competition to design a bookmark, the theme was to represent 'How does your favourite book make you feel'.

We had lots of art students in KS3 enter and 3 of them were successful in gaining a prize.

2nd Place received a £10 book voucher and Runners up both received a 15% discount voucher.

We also were presented with a copy of the beautiful book 'the Lost Words' by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris for our school library.

Well done to all those students who entered and to our 3 students who were selected to have their designs made into bookmarks.

And don't forget your World Book Day vouchers you receive on Thursday 5th March can be used in store at Dogberry and Finch bookshop.



#### What do our TEENAGERS think about Health and well-being in Okehampton?

If you are considering going into a career in Health Care, or working as a medical professional you may be interested in finding out about our local PPG.

Our local Patients Participation Group (PPG) is keen to involve local teenagers in Health and Well-being

in our area.

To determine how much interest there is in Health and Well-being within College, we are going to host an information session for students on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30pm. If you are in years 10, 11, 12 or 13 come along and find out more, and see if you can make a difference to your local community. Tea, coffee and refreshments will be available.

Make sure your voice is heard, don't leave it to the adults! Any questions or further information please speak to Mrs Luckhurst



## Amazing Apprenticeships

Year 11 Parents Evening  
'Apprenticeships Information' drop in -  
5<sup>th</sup> March

Karen Crosby from Careers South West will be available in our Reception area throughout parents evening. She will be able to guide students and parents through a range of apprenticeship information, and direct individuals to specific opportunities. If an apprenticeship is a maybe for you, do take the time to ask questions and find out more.

We had hoped to organise bookable slots for this event, but this will not be possible. Students keen to secure an apprenticeship, when they leave us, may wish to put their names down for workshop sessions which will take place with Helen

Kidney from Careers South West after half term.

Alternatively, if you do wish your son or daughter to participate in an **Apprenticeship workshop session** e-mail [jluckhurst@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:jluckhurst@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk).

Please note places are limited.

Online information on apprenticeships can be found within the 'Parents pack' <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2010/01/Parent-Pack-January-2020.pdf>

Hard copies of this document can be requested by e-mail from Mrs Luckhurst.

**Apprenticeships are now available in a wide range of job sectors. All the listed companies currently offer apprenticeship schemes, click on the links to find out more.** <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/> even more organisations involved on the weblink.

#### Enrichment week Payment Schedule:

Please ensure payments are up to date and inline with the schedule below.

Installment 3 due on 29 Feb 2020  
Instalment 4 due on 31 March 2020  
Intalment 5 30 April 2020  
Spaces are still available on Roman Holiday, Feeling Fabulous and Lets go Wild. Contact Curriculum Support for more info.

## HEALTH INFORMATION

The college work with a Community Safety and Safeguarding Specialist for the South Hams and West Devon Councils.

They shared this link that you might find useful as parents.

Advice on infection prevention and control for Novel coronavirus <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-infection-prevention-and-control>

# SPORTS UPDATE...



## Cross Country

Having finished in the top 16 within Exeter and East Devon,

11 Okehampton College students represented the College at Devon Cross Country Championships held on 18th January at Stover School. Following this competition we have 4 students who qualified to represent Devon in the South West championships which were held at Bournemouth on Saturday 8th February. We had some fantastic results, with a chance of more students being selected for the South West competition. The top 7 finishers have automatically qualified for the South West event, with more discretionary places available. The Devon championships involved students representing the 4 areas of Devon (North, South, East and West), each race contained approximately 64 athletes in each event/age group.



## Cricket

A massive well done to Okehampton College U13 Girls

Indoor Cricket Teams. Both the A & B teams were undefeated in the West Devon U13 Girls Indoor Finals Day (30/1/20) until they met each other in the final game. Congratulations to the A team to were the eventual winners. Both teams had excellent wins over Tavistock College and Ivybridge College A & B teams.

Mr Harris will now pick a squad to represent West Devon and Okehampton College in the U13 Girls Indoor Cricket County Finals in Exeter in March.

Well done and thank you to all involved. Thank you also to Ann-Marie Presswell for organising and Tavistock College for hosting. It was an excellent day of cricket.



## Hockey

On Wednesday 5th February, our Key Stage 3 Hockey players travelled to St Peters in Exeter where we had a fabulous evening of hockey. Our B Team won 17-1 and our A team drew 3-3. Thanks to everyone who played did so with enthusiasm, commitment and positive team work. Well done to all and keep developing those hockey skills.



## Football

Congratulations to the Post 16 5 a side football teams who competed in the Exeter and District 5 a side tournament.

It was a close thing for the Y13 team who were winners after a penalty shoot-out vs Wells in the final! Congratulations are also due to the Year 7 Girls Football Team. They have all been outstanding this year and have managed to reach the 5th round of the National Cup. Below is a report written by the team Captain.

'This is the first year Okehampton College have had a girls football team that has competed in competitions and we have made it all the way through to the 5th round of the U12 National Cup. On Tuesday 14th January, we played St Cuthbert Mayne in the 4th round of the cup. Despite the heavy rain and strong winds we managed to win the game 3-0 We are now in the last 32 teams left in the competition and face Eggbuckland Community College away in the 5th round. We are all very thrilled (including Mr Collins) on how far we have come, we hope we will go even further into the competition!'



## NETBALL

Congratulations to our Year 9 and 10 netball teams who

travelled away to QE on Tuesday 14th January. They played against QE's Year 10 and 11 girls and were triumphant in both matches. Year 9 won 14-2 and Year 10 won 15-3. On Tuesday 4th February here we held a Year 9 & 10 fixture against Mount Kelly. The girls played magnificently on a cold windy astro. Year 9 had a smashing match beating Mount Kelly 23-12 and Year 10 had an extremely close game, that went to and fro throughout the match, but they managed to dig deep and had a victory 22-20. Well done to all the girl's involved, they conducted themselves fantastically well, and were resilient in cold netball conditions!



## NETBALL

Thursday 13th  
February, saw 2

Year 7 girl's teams play St Peters yesterday afternoon away. The A team drew 8-8 and the B team won 10-8. This was an away fixture played outside, so all students did terrifically and showed resilience in tough matches in cold conditions, still coming out successful. Thank you to Mrs Colton for taking them.



## Athletics

Well done to Year  
7 and 8 Indoor

Athletics Teams who recently competed at the West Devon Championships. The A Team won the event and now go on to the Devon Finals on 27th February.



## Table Tennis

Congratulations  
to Mari Baldwin

and Luke Bennett who both came second in the Devon Schools Under 16 Table Tennis Championships.



## Rugby

Well done to the Year 10 Rugby Team who won against a strong West Buckland Team in the semi final of the Devon Cup, 5 - 12. Prior to this West Buckland had been unbeaten for the last 2 years!

## Growing Plot to Cooking Pot - A New Project -

We understand about living on a budget but we also want to eat good, wholesome food. Unemployed? On benefits? Recovering from ill health? Then this new project from Harvest Workers Coop could be for YOU!

**HARVEST WORKERS' COOP**  
**A NEW PROJECT FOR THE NEW YEAR**

**GROWING PLOT**      **COOKING POT**

**PRACTICAL SKILLS  
FOR SUSTAINABLE  
AND AFFORDABLE FOOD**

Unemployed? On benefits?  
Recovering from ill health?  
Then this could be for YOU!

**FREE SESSIONS**

Click here to find out more at the Harvest Workers Co-op Website



## Breakfast Celebrations

Over the last week we have celebrated the excellence of some of our students who continually make an excellent contribution to our College community through their attitude and conduct.

Every tutor has nominated 2 students and each house has shared a celebration breakfast to acknowledge the positive contribution made by everyone. This is something we hope to do on a regular basis as a small token to show our appreciation to our students who are unassumingly amazing every day.

## What an Achievement!

So far since Christmas our students have earned a whopping 63,375 achievement points between them.

Ash – 12,450

Beech – 13,169

Elm – 13,018

Maple – 12,233

Oak – 12,389

These will be added to the Interhouse Competition totals, which currently stands at

Beech 1st - 45pts

Elm 2nd - 44pts

Ash - 3rd - 39pts

Maple 4th - 34 pts

Oak - 5th 31 pts



# Safeguarding

## What we do:

There is a dedicated team of staff at Okehampton College who have extra training to deal with safeguarding and welfare, it is also part of every member of staff's duty as well. All staff here have training every year to support them to support students with their safeguarding and welfare.

Where things are going wrong for a child then we work hard with families and other agencies to improve things for that child.

We also focus on educating students about how to keep themselves safe, and hold assemblies on different aspects of safety at least once a term. This year students have had assemblies on Online Safety, and Exploitation and Radicalisation. We also have outside speakers and theatre companies who come and deliver to students on a range of topics, the most recent being a focus on County Lines for Year 9 students. We can offer or signpost extra support for students who are young carers, who have experienced trauma or bereavement or who are in Care. We can also support families through the 'Early Help' framework, where additional services or support are required.

## What you can do:

Encourage your child to talk to you about things that worry them as part of your normal family routine. Monitor their use of the internet and social media. Report things that

concern you – all social media sites have a reporting option.

Encourage healthy sleeping, eating and exercise routines.

Take your child to the GP if you have concerns over mental health as well as physical health.

Seek advice online – there are lots of really helpful websites that tackle many of the common issues that pre-teen and teenagers go through. Visit the college's website – you will find our Safeguarding Policy plus other useful information on our website.

Who you can contact in school Your first point of contact is your child's tutor then Student Progress Leader. If you are unsure who your child's Student Progress Leader is, then please contact the college or ask your child.

If you have concerns about the safeguarding of your child or another young person then please contact one of the Safeguarding Team on 01837 650910 Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Charlie Edwards Child Protection Officers – Mr Caleb Stevens, Mr Lee Easton, Mrs Kelly Hoggins, Mrs Dawn Weir, Mrs Jo Teixeira, Mr Sean Freeman, Mr Neil Sproats (Post 16), Mrs Sue Simmons (Reserve)

In an emergency anyone can contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 155 1071 or the police on 101 or 999.



## Child Protection

**Our Safeguarding Team:**  
If you have any concerns regarding the safeguarding of children please speak to any of the safeguarding team members listed below



Mrs Casbolt



Mr Easton



Mrs Edwards



Mr Freeman



Mrs Hoggins



Mrs Offer



Mrs Lake



Mrs Simmons



Mr Stevens



Mrs Teixeira



Mrs Weir

Contact: extension 222 or 227 or external line 01837 650914  
Additionally the Senior Leadership Team and Student Progress Leaders (Heads of House) are also level 3 safeguarding trained to support both staff and students.

### Other Senior Contacts:

MAT CEO - Daryl Chapman MAT Vice CEO - Hazel Fox  
Chair of Trustees - Ian Courtney MAT Director of Safeguarding - Jane Lake  
Federation Chair of Governors - Tara Skeaping Federation Safeguarding Governor - Gavin Jordan



For more information please see the Safeguarding page of our website, which also has a copy of our Safeguarding policy.  
www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk  
If you have any immediate, significant concerns about the safety of a child and it is out of hours, please phone the Police on 101 or 999.

## Learning Support



SENDCO – Miss Karen Moore  
TA Team Leader – Mrs Linda Hoare

The Learning Support Faculty provides support for students with additional needs and those pupils identified as needing different or alternative educational provision who may be at SEN Support or have an EHCP.

If your child is having difficulties with their learning and you would like some help, advice and support, please contact us on 01837 650910.

## Term Dates

February 2020	Mon 24 Feb	All Pupils Return
March 2020	Fri 27 March	Last day of Term
	Mon 30 March - 13 April	Easter Break
April 2020	Tues 14 April	All Pupils Return
May 2020	Fri 8 May	May Bank Holiday
	Mon 25 - Fri 29 May	Half Term
June 2020	Mon 1 June	All Pupils Return
July 2020	Fri 17 July	Last Day of Term
	Mon 20 July	Non Pupil Day
	Tues 21 July	Non Pupil Day

**Principal:** Mr Derrick Brett

**Vice Principals:** Mr Andrew Finney

Mr Craig Griffiths

Mrs Nichola Offer

**Assistant Principals:**

Mrs Charlie Edwards

Mrs Berni Hachipuka

Mrs Tracey Nethercott

Mr Neil Sproats

*Our school values a good partnership between school, parents and pupils to ensure the best outcomes for your children. As part of our commitment to do this, our half termly newsletter provides an important link to news and events happening in the school which may affect you or your child.*

*By sending our newsletter electronically, we can communicate with you efficiently, and meet our obligation to safely and effectively run our school for the benefit of pupils and parents alike. We will always manage your data responsibly and will never sell your data.*

*If you would like to find out more about how we use data, please read our Privacy Notice at [www.dartmoormat.org.uk/policies-and-documents](http://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/policies-and-documents)*