



Welcome From The Head Of College

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2018. I've bought a tree (but not decorated it), bought some cards (but not written them) and don't even ask about presents!

This is, as always, a particularly hectic time of year with little daylight and plenty of exhaustion. However, the enthusiasm and passion of our learners continues to amaze and delight me. I know how wonderful my students are but it is always lovely to have that validated by third parties. In recent weeks Year 11 have been commended for their attitude and behaviour by the founder of Maximize (a company that travels the country introducing motivational study skills to students); Year 8 and 9 were held in the highest esteem by Smallpeice Trust and South West Water during the recent STEM day and 100 Year 10 and 11 students represented the College to perfection on their trip to KEVICC to see a production of A Christmas Carol. I have also been out and about this month spending some time at a school in Plymouth and, whilst it was professionally rewarding, I was extremely happy to return 'home' to Dawlish College.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and I look forward to our continued partnership in 2019 and beyond.

Festive Wishes

Rachel Wickham
Head of College



What's on:

- 7 Jan.** Staff Training Day
- 8 Jan.** First Day of Term
- 8-11 Jan** Year 11 Pre-Public Exams (Options)
- 23 Jan.** Year 8 Options' Evening
- 7 Feb.** Year 8 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
- 14 Feb.** Year 11 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
- 15 Feb.** Last day of Term
- 25 Feb.** First day of Term

Working For Others

We are very proud of everyone's efforts this term in supporting others.

We were delighted to hand 71 shoe boxes to The Dawlish Water Rotary Club for the people of Moldova. The shoe boxes, full of vital resources as well as some treats, will be given either to children between the ages of 2-18 or the grandparents who remain just as vulnerable and would like something nice for Christmas. We are very grateful to Gilbert Stephens Solicitors, Exeter for their very generous donation of stationery packs which we were able to include in each shoe box. Our recent non-uniform day for Children in Need raised over £473, whilst a non-uniform day and bake sale earlier in the term raised £473 for The Intercom Trust. Having also raised over £200 for MacMillan Cancer charity at the end of September through cake sales and a staff raffle, we can honestly say we are in awe of everyone's generosity. Well done to students, staff, parents and our community for your fantastic efforts!



A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE SHAFTESBURY THEATRE AND MRS BAILEY FOR THEIR GENEROSITY IN SUPPLYING PRIZES FOR OUR STUDENTS THIS TERM

Congratulations!

The College gardening group was established over two years ago with the aim of supporting students keen to grow and cultivate a range of plants and fruits. As numbers of students interested has grown substantially, the opportunities to extend the range of activities has also grown. This year Nicholas, Leo, Klara, Daniel, George, Malachi, Alex and Jonathan have spent the last two weeks harvesting the crab apples and making crab apple jelly. They are now looking forward to tasting the results!



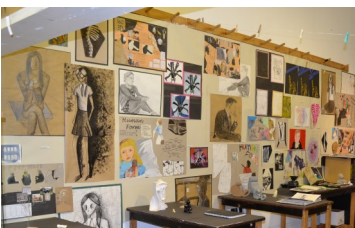
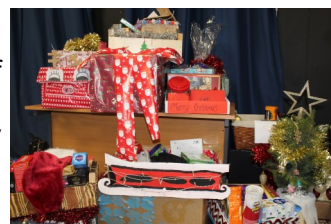
The year 9 and 10 performing arts students have had a very busy couple of weeks! Lisa Hudson, from the Northcott Theatre Exeter, visited us to deliver workshops on Pantomime (oh, yes she did!) and students were able to explore the stock characters of Pantomime and Commedia Del Arte through practical activities before creating our own 'He's Behind You' scene, resulting in much hilarity and loud audience participation. This project culminated in 80 students seeing 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at the Northcott and we even got a shout out from Dame Trotty Trott complimenting us all on our involvement in the show! Our very own Olivia was in the youth chorus, having been successful in the auditions in May, committing to an extensive rehearsal process and she's now at the beginning of a very long run of shows. Well done, Olivia and we wish you all the best!

Congratulations to our CoPE students who have started a twenty-hour work placement at the Strand Centre which will finish in February. The Strand Centre is a Christian led organisation who have many different services working alongside them to support the local community. Our students, Bipana, Sapana, Jack and Josh will be mainly working in the café serving members of the local community, whilst Tyler is based in the office supporting the administration of events. Good luck for the rest of your placement!



Once again, our library was proud to host a book fair to support literacy and encourage student to enjoy reading. Students visiting the library saw a wide range of new books available for sale. With books starting from only £2.99, plus exclusive titles that were not yet available in the shops or at any other fairs, there was clearly a book for everyone! (Even staff members were caught browsing!) The fair ran for a week, linked with other activities and events including quizzes and competitions. Any sales raised meant a donation was provided to the library. We were delighted to raise over £900 in sales of new books during the week. As a result, we were able to order £500 worth of new books for our library, which is fantastic! Well done everyone!

Each tutor group has collected items for hampers, which will be distributed next week. Students were asked to donate items which people would find useful at this time of year, and so we were delighted to receive tins of food, chocolate, packets, cakes and small gifts. Students and families could then nominate someone in the local community who should receive the hampers. These were then delivered by staff and students. Well done and thank you to everyone for their generosity.



We were thrilled by the Year 11 Artwork which was exhibited at a private show last week. Based on the human form, students worked in a wide range of media to produce their final pieces. The end result of their work was stunning and so it was fantastic to see a large number of students, friends and family members at the private exhibition. The work has been seen by all students in the lower school with discussions held about how the work was achieved. Well done to everyone involved.

Congratulations to everyone involved in last week's Christmas concert. The programme which offered a wide range of musical items and a short Drama performance based on *A Christmas Carol*. It was delightful to see so many students involved, demonstrating the talent, hard work, energy and focus of every one of those involved.

Three Year 9 netballers Eva, Olivia and Monique have been doing some netball leadership at Gatehouse with the Year 5s. The girls have been outstanding showing confidence and understanding, they have planned and delivered their own sessions with excellent success. The girls should be very proud of their achievement.



Results 2018

2018-19 saw the first cohort of students sit the new 9-1 science GCSEs with amazing success.

- 100% of separate science students achieved 3 GCSEs at grade 4 or above.
- 40% of students taking GCSE biology, chemistry and physics achieved a grade 9-7.
- 72% of students in the year group achieved 2 GCSEs at grade 4 or better.
- There were 11 grade 9 GCSEs awarded across the year group in science.

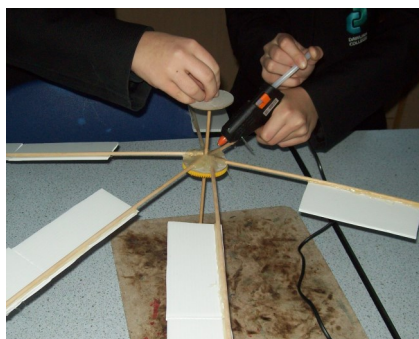
We are extremely proud of the results achieved by the students who showed great maturity in their attitude to learning and their approach to revision

Science Department News

Knowledge Organisers

These are available for all key stage 3 and 4 units through the 'Student' Secure area of the website. Students should be using them to:

- prepare for topics that they are about to study in class
- complete set knowledge organiser homework
- go over topics that they have studied in class but have not fully grasped
- Revise for end of unit tests and PPEs



STEM Days

50 of our year 8 and 9 students took part in a South West Water STEM day aimed at bringing the National Curriculum to life. The students were set the challenge of building a water filtration system complete with working sensors. The students worked in teams and had to cost all aspects of their project with a view to bringing it to market. The students did an amazing job on the day and produced some innovative designs which they presented to the group at the end of the day



NLO Observatory

On Wednesday 28th November thirteen year 11 students took a trip out to visit the Norman Lockyer Observatory at the edge of Sidmouth to learn more about the universe, stars and other astronomical objects around us. The observatory is based on a hill to the east of Sidmouth and is close to the sea to prevent light pollution when observing the night sky, making it an ideal spot for stargazing. Sadly the weather was not on our side, and so the opportunity to use the telescopes was lost. Saying this, the NLO still had a lot to offer. Students were greeted with a range of historic artefacts taken from telescopes, space crafts and other scientific instruments used to observe the universe. Staff and students were both intrigued by the work of Sir Norman Lockyer, the founder of the observatory who we learnt was the first person to suggest that the element Helium existed when using spectroscopy to observe the corona (ring of light) around the moon during a solar eclipse. A tour around the site, visiting historic telescopes in a range of domes, ended in the planetarium where staff and students experienced a life-like clear night sky in which we were able to clearly see the constellations. David Strange, our host, told tales of how the Greeks came to name the constellations, as well as identifying stars, galaxies and other astronomical objects of importance to us. David left us with a challenge to try and spot a near passing comet in the upcoming weeks.

STEM Club

This year the STEM club have embarked on a challenge to produce a model for a renewable energy resource which could potentially be made on a larger scale to produce energy. The group decided to focus on producing wind generated electricity, making and testing model wind turbines. One group has been ambitious enough to make their turbines blades approximately 60 cm in length, giving them the extra challenge of making a mount which will hold their generator as well as not inhibit the rotation of their blades. Another group has produced a simple circuit which attaches to their generator to test the energy supplied by their turbine, the circuit was a success and was able to light an LED while the generator was turning. It is fantastic to see these students making great progress on their wind turbines and we look forward to seeing how the project evolves over the remainder of the year.

Mr Malcolm teaches Creative Media and ICT. Here are the questions the students wanted to ask him:

Getting To Know You

Where were you born? On my parents' bedroom floor, Luton, Bedfordshire!

Do you prefer tea or coffee? Oh, difficult one! Love good coffee and always have one or two before work but drink mint tea during the day.

What football team do you support The mighty Hatters, Luton Town FC. However, since moving down here I have had a season ticket for The Grecians. I love live football and had to choose a club to watch and, to be frank, it was never going to be Plymouth or Torquay!

What do you like about working at Dawlish College? Two things stand out. The togetherness of the College and the way in which everyone works together to make it work well, and the students and their unending questioning and humour!

What are your hobbies? My main hobby is acting and directing, whether it is in straight plays, pantomimes, musical theatre or filming. I love performing and really get a buzz from it. I've worked all over the bay with several societies and touring companies. I've even been lucky enough to have been part of a show which was invited to perform in Dubai.



Sports Round-Up

Year 7 Girls Football

The Year 7 girls have done a fantastic job with developing their football skills. The girls so far have been entered into all Year 8 competitions and have competed brilliantly. In the 7 aside tournament the girls beat St Cuthbert Mayne 3-0, Teign School 1-0, Spires College 1-0 and narrowly lost out to Paignton Community and Sports Academy 0-1. With these excellent scores and some amazing goals from Lily, Chloe and Ruby the girls have progressed through to the county finals in March. Well done girls keep up the hard work. Special thank you also to Alex and Sasha who have coached the girls at their tournaments.

Year 10 Girls Football

The Year 9 and 10 girls performed brilliantly in their first tournaments of the year. The girls continue to improve throughout their competitions with an excellent addition of Katie who performed well both in goal and on the pitch, the attacking excellence of Casey, Magenta and Lauren as well as the strong defence of Issy, Daisy and captain Alex. These girls have more tournaments coming up so it will be exciting to see if they can join the Year 7 girls and progress forwards to the county final.

Year 7 Netball

The netball girls in Year 7 are improving so much and are showing an excellent commitment to training. The girls have come up against some very tough opposition this term but they are beginning to develop a greater tactical awareness and have started to use space really well on the court. The girls are becoming a fabulous team showing amazing sportsmanship and spirit with so much potential, definitely a team to watch!

Year 8 Netball

The Year 8s are a team with so much potential and have been able to really show their improvements at their tournaments where they have beaten Totnes Progressive School and The Spires College and narrowly losing to teams such as Kingsbridge and Newton Abbot College. With some outstanding shooting from Hayley, brilliant movement from Meagan, Emily and Caitlin and excellent defending from captain Ruby and Lucy. The girls have lots more fixtures in the Spring term and hope to continue their success.

Year 9 Netball

The Year 9s have also had success at their tournaments beating The Spires College, St Cuthbert Mayne and Totnes Progressive School. Over the past two years the girls have really developed their passing down court as well as their movement. With excellent shooting from Casey, Monique and Lucy, brilliant movement, passing and control in centre court from Eva, Becky and Olivia and fantastic defending from Lauren, Izzy and Olivia.

