

## Welcome From The Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers

September has whizzed by in a flash and we are now approaching the end of the first half term. Autumn is very definitely in the air and the nights are drawing in. We continue to live through uncertain and unsettling times yet I continue to be warmed by the resilience of our young people and the dedication of staff.

Students have done a brilliant job of adhering to the new ways of working and the zoning of the college site, I am sure that we will continue to face new challenges as a result of Covid but I am equally sure that we will also continue to navigate the best possible course by working as a team and supporting each other.

Despite the restrictions we all now live and work under, life at Dawlish College continues to be rich and varied. We have been able to hold a successful 'meet the tutor' and information evening for our new Year 7 intake as well as a well-attended Year 11 information evening; Mrs Bukowski has shown in excess of 80 Year 5 and 6 families around our site in her new socially distanced tour; staff and students are regularly engaged in a range of exciting extra-curricular activities; the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award has been launched to Year 9; year group competitions for reward trips are up and running and we've only really just got started.

Whilst we work tirelessly to keep staff and students as safe as possible we are also determined to still 'do school'. Our students' experiences of and memories about their school days will outlast the shadow of Covid and so we continue to strive to offer them every opportunity possible.

Rachel Wickham  
Headteacher

### What's on:

2 November	Start of Term
24 November	Year 10 Parent Support Evening
27 November	Non-Pupil Day
3 December	Year 7 Parent Support Evening
7-17 December	Year 11 Pre-Public Exams (PPE)
18 December	Last day of Term
4 January	First Day of Spring Term

## Student Of the Term

We are delighted to announce our first Student Of The Month! Staff have been asked to nominate students who they feel have made an outstanding effort this month academically and in all aspects of college life. Here are a few of the comments from staff which formed Izzy's nomination:

*Such a keen and enthusiastic student who is also not afraid to ask for help – a delight to share the classroom with.*

*Izzy is a thoughtful student who always gives 100% in both Mathematics and Citizenship. She is a force for good in class!*

*She is unfailingly cheerful and polite, she contributes in a mature way in class and, more than this, she tries to help other students wherever possible.*

*She has consistently been in the top 10 E-praise students of the week and is just a lovely young lady who is, and will be, an asset to the school.*

*Izzy is a bubbly personality who livens up a classroom. She always has a smile and often helps other pupils. She has coped so well with starting here after quite a big move.*

*A pleasure to teach – she joins in so enthusiastically and positively to all our discussions. She smiles her way through a lesson and her book always shows a great effort – I have only taught her for a few times but her outstanding attitude to learning has shone through! Well done Izzy!*



### News Round Up

#### Running Club

This term has seen the beginning of Friday night running club, a fantastic way for both students and staff to burn off some energy and head into the weekend! We start at approximately 3:15 and run for about an hour. So far we have had several keen runners from year 7 and 8 as well as members of staff.

We have been focussing on running with good form and learning to improve our pacing and endurance. The running club itself has a mixture of runners from beginners to



seasoned track runners and everyone in between. All students have been excellent in committing to the sessions with 100% focus, be it sprint intervals, timed endurance pyramids or 400m, 800m and 1600m best efforts. In just a few short weeks it has been lovely to see commitment, leadership and resilience in the young runners. A special mention has to be made for Isla for showing strong leadership skills and confidence in the warm up, using her knowledge of human physiology terminology such as gastrocnemius (calf muscle) to explain what we should be stretching and why. Furthermore, Charlotte doubled the duration in which she can run consistently, putting some amazing debut 800m times down on the track. It's been lovely to

share my passion for running and see the students (and staff) really give it their all on the fields. Finally, thank you to all the staff that have volunteered to help out and the ones that have attended. It is really appreciated.



#### Science Prize Draw

The long awaited science prize draw has taken place. During lock-down we were blown away by the effort and commitment of a lot of our students to their studies. In recognition of their efforts we began a prize draw that students were entered into, on a weekly basis for being the most active student on Ezyeducation at key stage 4 or being nominated by their science teacher for outstanding effort.

The jar quickly filled up with the names of students that had impressed us, and had to be replaced with a larger jar and then again with an even larger one.

We are proud to announce the winners of the draw which took place on Friday 16th October. First prize went to Hannah in Year 8, Becky in Year 11 won second place and Lauren of Year 11 won third place.

A very big well done to all students who were entered into the draw. The winners will be contacted to find out what type of voucher they would like and prizes will then be given out in assembly.



#### Bird Feeders Galore



Mrs Parr and a group of Year 10 students have currently been focusing on encouraging more birds onto the college site to help assist with winter survival. The students have made a selection of bird feeders which are now hung in the College garden. The mix is bird feed and gelatine. Students have thoroughly enjoyed getting their hands dirty preparing these feeders and the results are stunning! One said "It is so easy to do and has so many benefits." Why not try making a few over half term?

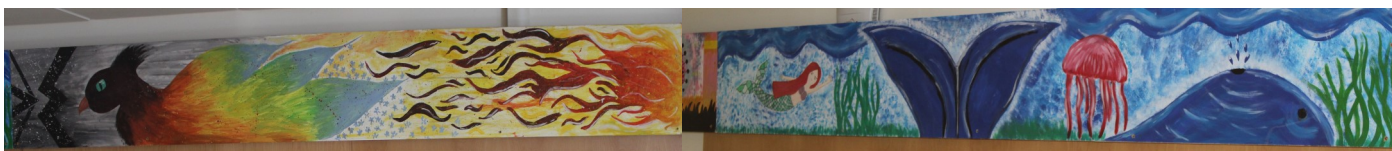


#### Art Club Doughnut Makers!



Meanwhile in Art club students from Years 7,8 and 9 are designing and making giant doughnuts using a range of media. They have taken their inspiration from artist Peter Anton. Mrs Lithgow and Mrs Parr think the work in progress looks amazing and we look forward to seeing their finished work.

We are also pleased with the artwork which now adorns the library. Designed and created by students as part of last year's Art club, the work certainly adds some colour and excitement to the library!



## Virtual College Awards July 2020

In July, staff were asked to nominate students in their subject areas who has shown outstanding effort and achievement. Normally these prizes are presented at our annual Prizegiving evening. This time, however, staff sent a short video to the student, explaining why they had awarded the prize. We were delighted by the responses from students and their families. A few comments are here:.



*Oh my goodness my mum and I are sat in tears together after watching these videos. I am so grateful for these awards.*

*Thank you for the amazing news, I am over the moon with it. I have taken this opportunity over lockdown to give my lessons my full attention without any distractions, obviously it has paid off and my efforts have been noticed. Can't wait to come back to college in September.*



*Thank you Mrs Bukowski- this was a really nice email to receive! I hope you have a good summer break. Thank you to all of you for pulling out all the stops during lockdown, and for just being brilliant. Take care*



*Thank you so much for letting me know. Such a shame we can't do the usual evening presentation evening. But at least this way we can keep the video instead as a memory*

*Thank you so much for your email. Lily has continued to work hard throughout the last few weeks so we are very proud of her and really pleased she has won the Geography award.*

## Book Reviews

We are delighted to receive some reviews of new (and old) books currently in the library from students across all years. If these make you want to read more, why not pick up a copy of the book from the library, or even write your own review to share!

### Book Review

Name .....Bethany

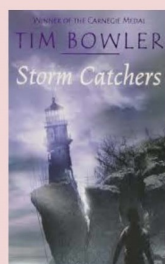
Title of Book      Storm Catcher  
Author              Tim Bowler

#### Brief details of Plot

This is about a girl called Ella who is left in the house with her little brother. She gets scared and hears something that she imagines could be a kidnapper and she runs off to find out what it is.

#### My Opinion of the book

I really like this book because it is just my style. I would really recommend it to someone who like sort of scary stuff. It would be good to curl up and read on a stormy night!



### Book Review

Name .....Katie

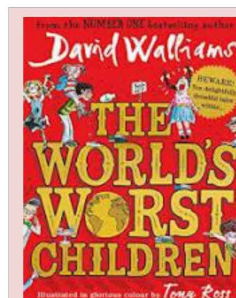
Title of Book      The World's Worst Children  
Author              David Walliams

#### Brief details of Plot

This book tells you about 10 different children and all their habits - (Five beastly boys and five gruesome girls! ...)

#### My Opinion of the book

In my opinion this book is very funny and not hard to read. It should be enjoyable to any age and I think lots of people will like it. I particularly found Peter the Picker funny as its about a boy called Peter who picks his nose and gets into loads of different trouble.





### Getting To Know You

Joe Hornsby joined us in September as Key Stage 3 Science Co-ordinator, having moved from Cambridgeshire. The students wanted answers to the following questions:

#### Where were you born?

I was born in Blackburn, Lancashire but growing up I lived in a town called Accrington famous for its football team Accrington Stanley due to a milk advert from the 1980s...

#### Do you prefer tea or coffee?

I am a massive coffee addict, I have a "posh coffee machine" at home and at work I use my portable aeropress coffee maker daily. If I run out of coffee (a really sad occasion) I will settle for tea... but only if it is Yorkshire tea, as it makes a proper brew.

#### What football team do you support?

Growing up I used to watch Blackburn Rovers on Saturday afternoons with my Dad. Nowadays I keep an eye on them through the season, but find I am too busy to watch matches regularly.

#### What do you like about working at Dawlish College?

I really enjoy teaching the students at Dawlish, a cliché but true. I love the enthusiasm that students have shown for my subject and how friendly students are. I come home from work and I feel like I am making a difference, which is really rewarding. Furthermore, I love seeing the wide variety of extra-curricular clubs that students can choose to do and seeing the students engaging with enrichment activities provided.

#### What are your hobbies?

I love running and riding my bike. I enjoy nothing more than being out on the coastal path, on a trail, at parkrun on a Saturday morning or riding my road bike around Dartmoor. When I am not doing that, I am usually walking my dog or finding new National Trust places to visit.

#### Tell us one fact we would be amazed to know!

This year I cycled 127 miles in a round trip from Teignmouth through Exmoor and back with a good friend as part of a virtual challenge called the Nello 100 to raise money for Force Cancer Charity.

See Joe's article on running club in this edition!



## PE News



Huge congratulations to our new sports ambassadors: Fergus, Chloe, Billy, Tayler, Hannah, Lucy, Ruby and Isla.

These eight students applied to be a sports ambassador during the summer term when the world was in lockdown!

These students have worked extremely hard and applied themselves

in exceptional circumstances. They will be delivering sports festivals for primary schools and running tournaments within the college when the world hopefully returns to some normality. Thank you to William Power for his sponsorship of the ambassadors. Well done everyone who applied and good luck to the new team!



## The Last Word....

"When I first thought about secondary school, I thought it would be really big and I would get lost all the time, but after a week or two you know the place really well. Also the staff and teachers are really nice. My favourite subjects so far are PE and Drama. We never did drama in primary school and it is really fun. There is also a wider variety of food in the canteen and it is really tasty."

Issy. Year 7