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# Dates for 2022 PARENTMEET

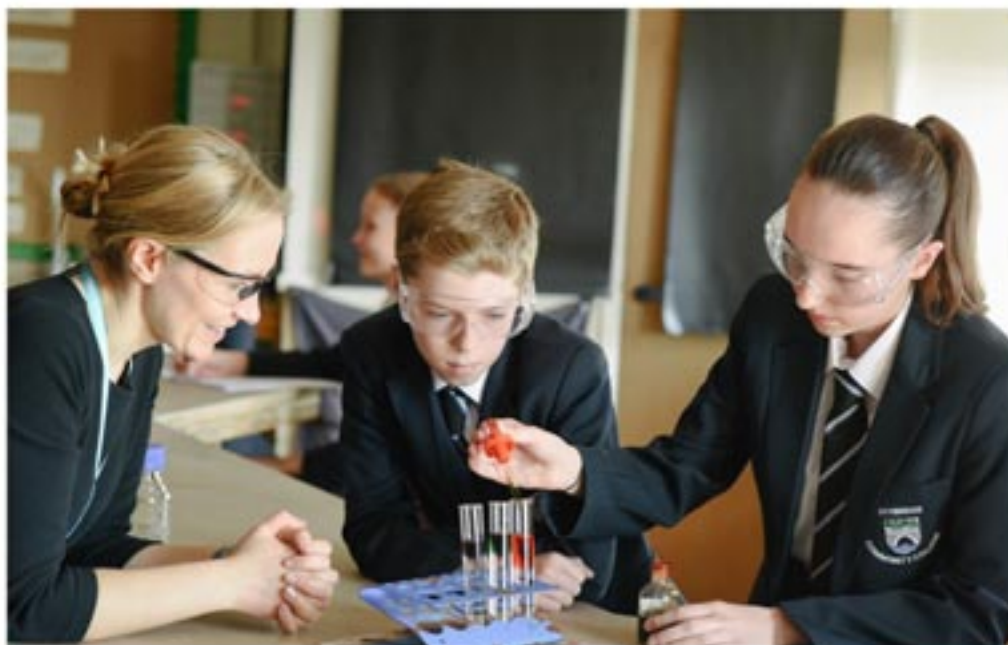
• Thursday, 19 May 2022

# PARENT FORUM

• Thursday, 9 June 2022

5.00pm – 6.15pm

For further information and to book  
a place on the next meeting please  
visit the College website  
[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)



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# THE COLLEGE ECHO

IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ISSUE NO. 88 SPRING 2022



NATIONAL SPORTING SUCCESS

CELEBRATING SCIENCE WEEK







# Welcome to Ivybridge Community College



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For more information on any of the news articles please visit our website:  
[www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk](http://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk)

It is with great delight that we celebrate such a plethora of student achievements and successes over the past term. This edition of the College Echo truly showcases what makes Ivybridge Community College a special place to learn. Students from across the College have immersed themselves back into our Enrichment Programme and we welcomed the return of our live music, drama and dance performances.

Please enjoy sharing the numerous sporting successes and curriculum opportunities that so many of our students have been actively supporting, such as the Sustainability Group and the charity events, which include fundraising for the people of Ukraine.

Thank you to our governors, parents and carers for their continual engagement and support, enabling staff to provide the best possible chances for students to flourish within and beyond the College day.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newly appointed Deputy Principal, Tim Cresswell, who was appointed at the start of the Spring Term. Mr Cresswell is an experienced Senior Leader and teacher of Science and will be leading on the Teaching and Learning developments.

Enjoy the Summer Term ahead and I very much wish our Year 11 and 13 students all the very best of luck as they embark on their examinations and future successes.

Very best wishes

**Rachel Hutchinson**  
Principal

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## Term Dates 2022/23

Please refer to the College website for upcoming events

<b>Summer Term Starts</b> <b>May Day</b> <b>Half Term</b> <b>INSET Day</b> <b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Summer Term 2022</b> Monday, 25 Apr 2022 Monday, 2 May 2022 Monday, 30 May 2022 - Friday, 3 Jun 2022 inc Monday, 4 July 2022 ( WeST Secondary Schools) Friday, 22 Jul 2022
<b>Autumn Term Starts</b> <b>Half Term</b> <b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Autumn Term 2022</b> Monday, 5 Sept 2022 Monday, 24 Oct 2022 - Monday, 31 Oct 2022 inc Friday, 16 Dec 2022
<b>Spring Term Starts</b> <b>Half Term</b> <b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Spring Term 2023</b> Wednesday 4 Jan 2023 Monday, 13 Feb 2023 - Monday, 20 Feb 2023 inc Friday, 31 Mar 2023
<b>Summer Term Starts</b> <b>May Day</b> <b>Half Term</b> <b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Summer Term 2023</b> Tuesday, 18 Apr 2023 Monday, 1 May 2023 Monday, 29 May 2023 - Friday, 2 Jun 2023 inc Friday, 21 Jul 2023

If you have an article celebrating a student's achievement, please complete the 'Submit a news article' form located on the College website under the 'contact us' tab - <https://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk/>







**Ivybridge Community College students with WCSQM Director, Miranda Perry, at Houlton School, Rugby.**

## College News

1

### World Class Schools Reaccreditation Project Assessment

Ivybridge Community College students were invited to join with students from two other schools across the country in a joint project as part of the College's World Class Schools Quality Mark reaccreditation process. The students, namely, Millie, James and Martha in Year 12, and Ciaran, James and Alice in Year 11, were given two weeks to prepare the project, which was to create innovative, attractive and environmentally friendly outdoor and indoor spaces, incorporating the Houlton School values.

On Thursday, 17 February they travelled to Houlton School, in Rugby, where they met together as a team to complete their project, of a display mural to show the values of their hosts, Houlton School. The students will find out the results of their project during April. This challenging real-life project gave students a unique opportunity to not only develop and demonstrate their World Class characteristics, but to enjoy a much-needed return to the social development, work experience and collaboration opportunities students have missed out on over the past two years.



Miranda Perry, WCSQM Director, once again welcomed the Ivybridge Community College students, "We have a saying at World Class Schools, when Ivybridge Community College arrives, we know everything is going to be alright!"

Miss Hanton, Assistant Principal, said "We are so proud of how our students conducted themselves so considerably and professionally throughout the project. We were delighted to have such glowing feedback from teachers at Houlton School, who were highly impressed by how supportive our students were with the younger students. It has been an exciting and exhausting two weeks for our World Class team, and we look forward to hearing the results next month."

"It was a privilege to work with my fellow students for the World Class Schools day in Rugby. Not only did I meet like-minded individuals who are driven and have resilience, but I was also able to get a taste of the opportunities ahead of me due to my efforts.

Overall, the World Class Schools day helped me realise my potential and has given me confidence for any future endeavours that I pursue." Millie, Year 12. Year 11 student, Alice added, "It was an amazing experience and I'm very glad I had the opportunity to go and work with lots of new people."



## Sweet Charity!

Staff and students have brought in more than 150 empty confectionery tubs for a fundraising initiative organised through the College's Key Stage 3 Office, raising essential funds for charity. The tubs will now be collected from the College and recycled by local company, DCW, with all profits being donated to Dartmoor Zoological Society and Mind.

Coral Jonas, who is the Chief Operating Officer of Dartmoor Zoo and also a governor at the College said, "Thank you so much to Ivybridge Community College staff, students and parents, for taking part in our latest fundraiser for Dartmoor Zoo. By collecting the tubs you have helped Dartmoor Zoo with their £4,500 a day running costs, contributed to the development of new enclosures to take part in vital conservation programmes, and you have given us the chance to continue more research into animal welfare. On top of that you have kept reusable plastic out of landfill. Last year these plastic tubs were made into our new benches around the Zoo as well, so please look out for them if you visit."

Emily Almond, DCW Business Support Manager, commented, "A huge thank you for supporting our Recycle and Raise scheme this year. The value of the benches we get from the extrusion process will be the total amount raised for the charities and split equally 50/50 to Dartmoor Zoo and Mind. I cannot thank you enough for the support you've given to our Recycle and Raise project, and I hope you'll be able to join in again next year too."



## 2 News



## Governors' News

Richard Peachey, Co-opted Governor, Michael Saltern, Chair of the Governing Board, and Coral Jonas, Safeguarding Governor and Co-opted Governor attending a Standards and Expectations strategic meeting on Thursday, 10 February 2022 at Ivybridge Community College.

## Pen Portrait - Michael Saltern

Michael is the Chair of Governors at the College and Director of WeST, where he is Chair of the HR and the Remuneration Committees.

He spent his career in the Civil Service, working initially for the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and later succeeding agencies. He then moved to the Ministry of Defence, serving as a Higher Executive Officer. In his last post prior to retirement, as the Business Manager at Ilford Park Polish Home, Stover, Michael found himself in a culturally unique and challenging environment steeped in history. He was awarded the Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland in 2005 by the President of Poland for his services to Polish veterans, who served under British command during the Second World War. Michael was also awarded the Silver Cross by the Polish Catholic Mission and Pro Memoria Medal by the Polish Consul General.

Michael is in his twenty-seventh year as a governor of the College and previously was Chair of Governors at Manor Primary School. He has lived in Ivybridge for forty-four years and devoted himself to the community, serving on the Ivybridge Town Council for thirteen years and the South Hams District Council for twenty years.

He has held the offices of Town Mayor from 1994-96 and Chairman of the District Council from 2004-05, and served as an Executive Member at South Hams for a decade holding key portfolios, and was Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 4 years.

Michael previously sat as a Non-Executive Director within the DCH Group for nine years, and also served as the South Hams representative to the Police and Crime Panel for Devon and Cornwall for five years to January 2017. Michael currently serves as an Independent Advisor to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall.





## Experiment Excitement for Primary Pupils

In February, the Year 5 class from Ugborough Primary School visited the College's Science Department where they were able to thoroughly explore the States of Matter through scientific experimentation.

This special Science investigation was kindly led by Mx Barry, Head of Physics, ably assisted by Sixth Form students, who all helped brilliantly with the practical experiments.

Morven, in Year 13 explained, "From the outset the Ugborough Primary School pupils were very keen to delve into the idea of the particle models, and even the model of the atom, and showed an extreme fascination with the world of Science. As the day continued the pupils themselves took part in experiments and it was clear to everyone present that their willingness to learn and experiment, as well as their initial fascination surrounding Science, had steadily grown. The pupils showed great excitement with the experiments, and were readily asking questions about the incredible world of Science."

Jack, a Year 5 Ugborough Primary School pupil, said, "We did lots of fun practical experiments and learned new Science skills. We did flame tests that looked like Floo Powder from Harry Potter. The electrocuting a pickle was fascinating. Overall it's probably the best Science lesson I've done. I'm now less nervous and more excited about joining Ivybridge Community College. Mx Barry was amazing, fun and active. The Sixth Form students helped with the practicals and made me feel grown up."

"The Year 5 pupils wowed us all with their enthusiasm, their good manners, and most of all their scientific curiosity and love of learning! They were a joy to host." Richard Barry, Head of Physics.



## News 3

### Paralympian David Hill Inspires Students

Paralympian David Hill visited the College in January, to provide the first part of the Active in Mind programme and also deliver a presentation to the Years 7 and 8 Gymnastics and Netball Academy students.

The Active in Mind Programme is designed to help improve students' emotional wellbeing and resilience, develop their character traits and life skills, improve their leadership and employability skills, and tackle inactivity and physical wellbeing.

David delivered the first part of this programme to a selected group of students (from Years 7 to 10), who will help mentor younger students. The training was made possible thanks to funding that the College applied for.

Jeanette Green, Physical Activity and Sport Coordinator at the College, and Active in Mind Programme Lead, said, "It was a great day and all students enjoyed the presentation from David Hill on his life, including his successes and challenges as an athlete."

In addition to discussing the eight key areas that could help improve their wellbeing, the students heard how, at 15 years old, David was the youngest member of the team to go to the 2004 Athens Paralympics, competing in the 100m backstroke. He returned with a buzz of excitement and enthusiasm to go to the next Paralympics and trained hard to achieve his goal. David shared and discussed with the students the need for commitment to training, eating healthily, sleep and how valuable his support network was in helping him to achieve his dream.



### Goodbye and Good Luck

At the end of the last term we said goodbye to Kelly Olive, one of the College's Deputy Principals and a teacher of English, who left us to become one of Her Majesty's Inspectors for Ofsted. This inspiring opportunity is a testament to her hard work and professionalism.

We wish her every success in this role and are extremely proud of all that she has achieved.



## Students Enjoy Team Building and Orienteering at Killerton

In January, Year 7 students enjoyed a day of orienteering, team work challenges and den building at the National Trust's Killerton estate, in Exeter.

Two teams from the College joined other schools to participate in the activities, which were organised by Active Devon and the School Games Organisers.

Jeanette Green, Physical Activity and Sport Coordinator at Ivybridge Community College, said, "This was a fun and rewarding activity for our students, who enjoyed the chance to develop their teamwork skills, improve confidence, build friendships with peers, and engage in physical activity in a safe environment."

It was a lovely day in the fresh air and sunshine. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the day, leaving positive remarks on the comments boards after the event."



## 4 News

### College Alumni Selected for Women's U18 England Rugby

Former Ivybridge Community College student, Hannah Sams, has been selected to play for the Women's U18 England Rugby Team. Hannah started playing at U10, with Ivybridge Rugby Club, and then continued her development here at the College and with Kingsbridge Rugby Club, where she is currently in the U18 Team. She has also played for the Devon U15 Team.

In September, Hannah joined Exeter College. She trialled for the Academy and the Centre of Excellence, which is linked to the Exeter Chiefs, and was accepted onto both. She was then offered a place on the Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE) scholarship program, which identifies players with national potential. As a result, she was invited to attend the England Women's Rugby trials at a training day in Reading, and a camp in Birmingham, where she played for England South in the North v South final selections match. From that selection process, she has now been chosen for the upcoming England U18 matches.

Matt Shepherd, Head of Rugby Academy at the College, and Nick Kerswell, Rugby Academy Coach, have both been heavily involved in developing Hannah's rugby progression. Mr Kerswell has coached Hannah since she started playing at U10, with Ivybridge Rugby Club, and it was in fact both Hannah and another student starting at the College, that prompted Mr Kerswell to start the Girls' Rugby Academy.



Hannah said that she is "proud of the progress I've made from Primary School Tag Team captain, coming through the College programme, my club and county achievements, to where I am today. I'm grateful for the support, belief and encouragement that my coaches; Mr Russell, Mr Kerswell and Mr Shepherd, have given, and had in me over the years, and I hope I can do them proud in my upcoming matches."

"Even from a young age, Hannah's passion and desire for rugby was always clear. She is testament to the fact that if you stick with something you can succeed at it. She was a great role model to other students during her time at the College, more often than not my volunteer for demonstrations, and can now be an inspiration to those starting out in the sport. I wish her all the best, keep listening, keep learning and keep in touch."

Nick Kerswell, Rugby Academy Coach.

Matt Shepherd, added, "During Hannah's final year at Ivybridge Community College she was heavily involved in our Elite Rugby programme. With her skill level and application to the game I am not surprised that she has made the step up to the International Rugby scene. I am excited to hear about the progress that she makes and I am sure she will make the impression that she deserves. I would like to wish Hannah the very best of luck."



## Safer Internet Day 2022

The theme for Safer Internet Day 2022, was 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. Safer Internet Day celebrates young people's role in creating a safer internet, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers. In order to mark this day, and following on from the success of last year, we once again invited guest speaker Sharon Girling OBE, to run a series of educational talks at the College. Sharon Girling is a former law enforcement officer with extensive experience in developing and initiating national and international entities responding to child abuse. She initiated the policing of child abuse on the internet in the United Kingdom developing the concept for the national unit, the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).

Through the course of the day, Years 7 to 11 took part in a live, interactive, virtual presentation led by Sharon and tailored to their Year Group and age. They were asked to take out and explore the settings on their mobile phone as part of this activity. The aim of this session was to increase awareness of their vulnerability online and to give them practical advice that they can immediately act upon. We would like to think that every child left this session feeling safer. One student commented that, "The session with Sharon was really useful. I had never heard of the 'what3words' app before but want to use it to keep me safe and let people know where I am."

"It was a pleasure to welcome Sharon back for a second year. As always, Sharon and her team keep up to date with the latest ways to keep safe on the internet, whilst still embracing everything it has to offer. The staff and parent sessions were enlightening, and made us aware of the latest apps our children are now using," said Nina Kyprianidis, Deputy Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead.



## News 5

### Student Council – Taking Ownership of Discussions and Actions

The start of the Spring Term was a perfect time to raise the profile of our Student Council. There was an overwhelming amount of interest from students, which was fantastic, and we have been keen to ensure that the representatives take real ownership of the discussions and actions.

Claire Warne, College Director, said, "I have been so impressed with the maturity that the representatives have shown and with the topics that they want to discuss. Our first project was ensuring that all students felt that their opinions mattered in response to the Government requested Ofsted research surrounding sexual harassment in schools. We were keen to give everyone a voice and so we sent an anonymous questionnaire to all students, and received over 1300 responses!

The College was contacted by BBC Radio Devon, regarding our proactive approach to this subject and, as a result, I was interviewed on Breakfast BBC Radio Devon with Gordon Sparks. The interview highlighted the need for schools nationally to be having a proactive approach to sexual harassment in schools."

As a result of the questionnaire responses, the College is dedicating a week to responding to this with students through our Tutorial Programme and we look forward to sharing these with parents too. The Tutorial Programme has been devised by our students to ensure that this really is focusing on their needs. It is clear that the initial work needs to be making students feel comfortable in reporting issues of this nature. We look forward to sharing our progress in the next copy of The College Echo.



### Donkey Hoaty - Back in the Saddle!

Many thanks to Isla S in Year 7 for taking Donkey Hoaty on his first overseas trip for 2 years. Donkey accompanied Isla to The Canary Islands and is seen here perched on a wall overlooking the sea.

Questions to find out:

What ocean are The Canary Islands in?

The islands were named by the Romans after an animal, but it was not a type of bird. Find out what animal it was?



## Writing Poetry Can Be a Great Tool for Maintaining Mental Wellness

A clear mind comes from the expression of thought and writing is a great vehicle for our thoughts. It can be a self-healing process and one that includes the local literary community around you – sharing your work and interacting with other writers can help you to clear your mind and better understand your thought processes, as well.



Studies have shown that expressive exercises can lower stress hormones, by helping you to experience, express, and release thoughts and feelings that were never allowed to have a voice.

### Night at the Hospital

*In the bleak greyness of the hospital room  
Accompanied by the sharp twang of the linoleum  
A boy lay resting, shrouded in darkness and gloom  
This cell his own private auditorium.  
So, to taunt madness, the boy began to sing  
He sang old lullabies, ones he could not fully recall  
The melody danced from his room and reverberated  
down the hall.  
A man the boy could not remember awoke from the noise  
But the man remembered, the voice he recognised  
as the boy's.  
The stories in the lullabies told of sleepy dragons and  
things many would find absurd  
But the man, the boy's father, cherished every word.*

Year 11 student

## 6 Mental Health and Wellbeing

### Students Demonstrate Carpentry Skills at Challacombe Farm



On Tuesday, 11 January, Year 9 students Iwan, Riley, Harley and Taylor, had the opportunity to visit Challacombe Farm, Yelverton, where they helped to make some bird boxes.

Dru, a co-founder of the Dartmoor Pony Heritage Trust, who also accompanied the students during the day, was very complimentary of them saying, "The young people we took to Challacombe Farm were engaged from the second they stepped off the minibus. Having met Richard, our guide, on a previous visit to Bellever they were relaxed in his company, yet eager to get going. Richard showed us a rich tapestry of history laid out in the ancient field systems and old tin mining remains. It was difficult to really grasp how hard previous generations had toiled on this land, but we tried. We walked on and listened to the story surrounding Challacombe Farm, looking forward to meeting Mark, the current farmer and guardian of the land at Challacombe.

When meeting Mark, the students were all able to listen, follow instructions, and work together and with a sense of humour thrown in. These are the transferable skills which will follow them into future employment. A group of exceptional young men, aware that mental health is as important as physical health."

Mark, who has recently been on BBC2's, 'Hugh's Wild West' with Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall talking about the wildlife in the Westcountry, worked with the students on the bird boxes and said, "The lads did a great job making the bird boxes, taking real care to make sure they were solid and watertight. Hopefully they'll be able to return later in the year, when with luck Spotted Flycatchers or Redstarts will be raising a brood of chicks in them".

Riley added that he, "really enjoyed making the bird boxes with Mark at Challacombe Farm, he was really friendly. I am hoping when my bird box has been put up in the tree I will be able to return to see if any birds are nesting in it."



Paula Lomas, a teaching assistant who accompanied the students said, "The bird boxes that the student's made will be used to encourage birds, particularly in the spring and summer, who had overwintered in warmer climates such as; Spotted Flycatchers and Redstarts. They worked as a team and showed off their carpentry skills with some amazing results."





# The Importance of Humility and Mutual Respect

Former Ivybridge Community College student, Jack Howitt, shared his life journey since leaving the Sixth Form in 2018, with the whole College community in an Assembly and live virtual Q & A session during Mental Health Week.

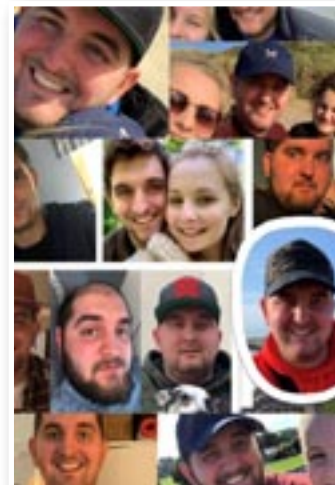
Jack talked students eloquently through the medical science behind his 2019 diagnosis of Stage 4 Cancer, leaving him with a 3-5% chance of living more than 5 years, and a 12-18 month average survival rate from diagnosis. He also talked about the difficult times he had finding the drive and resilience to test his mental and physical limits.

Reflecting on his former self, Jack reminded students to always be humble and share mutual respect with everyone. Sharing how the support of his family, friends and CrossFit community are his strength to keep persevering, in training, and in re-learning to move his limbs in order to swim, run and cycle and pass the challenges set in order to qualify as a Triathlete for the 2024 Paralympics.

Amy Pearce, Assistant Principal, said, "Jack is an inspiration to our whole community. He has my utmost respect and support in the challenges he faces ahead. We hope to help him raise enough money to make his Paralympic Triathlete dreams become a reality."

We will continue to follow Jack's journey and hope to help him raise money to support the sponsorship required to enable him to achieve his goal through his determination to live with cancer and live life to the full.

For further information on Jack's journey, or to help him with his fundraising, please visit his gofundme page: <https://gofund.me/8db6e6bf>. You can also follow him on Instagram - jackrehab\_.



## Mental Health and Wellbeing <sup>7</sup>

### Supporting Children's Mental Health Week

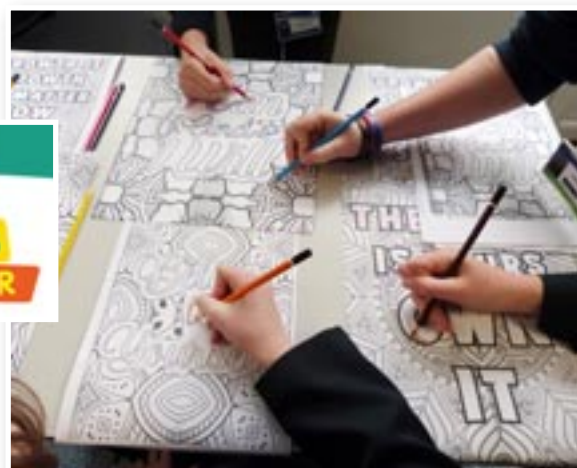
During Children's Mental Health Week, 7-11 February, the Anti-Bullying and Equality Ambassadors at Ivybridge Community College have led on a variety of projects to spread understanding and provide support to their peers.

The students organised an awareness and support stall, ran a bake sale and developed a wellbeing hub to support the journey of others towards improved wellbeing. The wellbeing hub is planned to continue throughout the academic year to dispel the stigma of mental health and provide a safe space to unwind and relax. The Anti-Bullying and Equality Ambassadors are also embarking on Wellbeing Lead Training to further support their College community.



Natallia, in Year 13, commented, "I have been an Anti-Bullying and Equality Ambassador since Year 11. I believe that it's so important to promote good mental health, especially with younger students. Having people who you can go to for help is essential in these times." Twm, a Year 7 Anti-Bullying Ambassador, said, "In College we should work together to try and make sure everyone is okay by showing respect for other people's emotions and feelings. By doing this we will have a College where everyone is kind, happy and inclusive." Floyd, in Year 7 added, "Working with friends and peers alike we always have fun with ideas, and the mental health stall was about understanding each other."

"This year for Children's Mental Health Week we wanted to focus on 'kindness' - to ourselves as well as to others. Nurturing relationships and friendships is a big part of a person's happiness. To help encourage this, we offered a lucky dip of 'kind acts' that students took part in and shared amongst their friends." Kelly Atkin, Wellbeing Keyworker.



## Character Values Shine Through

In April, Ivybridge Community College students in Eimir Shore's Year 7 Tutor Group sold homemade cakes and beautiful handmade jewellery, with the purpose of raising money for Ukraine.

Sofia, Lucy, Oscar and Twm organised the cake baking and jewellery making, with help from other students in their Tutor Group during the break time sale.

"After our assembly on Ukraine, and the work we have done in CPSHE, I just felt that our Tutor Group needed to do something to help all of the people who are suffering in Ukraine. I love baking so making the cakes was fun," said Sofia. Lucy added, "One of my hobbies is making jewellery and I thought that it would be a nice thing for other students to buy some earrings or bracelets knowing that the money will go to a good cause."

"I am most definitely the luckiest Tutor in the College working with such caring students who wanted to raise money for the people of Ukraine," said Mrs Shore, "The students have followed our College virtues of **Charity** and **Ambition** organising the cake and jewellery sale themselves, raising £200 for this worthy cause."



## 8 Character Education

### Supporting Local Community Charities at Christmas

Students and staff have contributed to making last year's donations, to help local people in crisis, the best ever. In the weeks leading up to Christmas they brought in to their Tutors specifically requested food items and small wrapped gifts.

"A huge thank you to everyone who has helped with the most generous Food Bank and Watermark donations. What a great demonstration of the character virtues of **charity** and **empathy** shown by students, staff, parents and carers who have yet again

demonstrated their outstanding compassion and generosity to the local community. We have never had quite so many items donated. The impact that these donations will have had on some families and individuals will be immense and it has been a fabulous demonstration of the true meaning of Christmas." Helen Ryder, Head of Human Science and Wellbeing Lead.

### Students Recognised for Promoting Character Virtues

Students from Years 7-13, who have completed commendable work for **charity** since January last year, were given commendation certificates for their efforts and were encouraged to continue their wonderful work.

Charitable work included volunteering for local businesses and youth groups, taking part in fundraising events and individual acts of kindness.

During the last term, students at the College completed many charitable acts including: Tutor Group Random Acts of Kindness, Christmas Book Donations, Ivybridge Foodbank collections and we continued to support the Mind and Dartmoor Zoo charities through the collection of plastic tubs over the festive period and right up to the end of February 2022.

Amy Pearce, Assistant Principal said, "As a part of an Assembly at Christmas time students across the College shared their charitable work this year to date with me. I feel so privileged to have read the incredible work they undertook in 2021. Our Charity Ambassadors are a credit to the College."

The Learning Resource Centre collected book donations for their Christmas Tree display. Staff and students donated books wrapped in green Christmas paper and the librarians made a wonderful book Christmas tree. The donated books were then distributed as Christmas gifts.





## The Importance of Remembering...

Year 9 students attended a Holocaust Educational Trust Webcast virtual talk from Holocaust survivor, Eva Clarke BEM, held in the Learning Resource Centre. This is an annual webcast that marks Holocaust Memorial Day, on 27 January, and allowed the students to join schools from all over the country to listen to Eva Clarke's story.

It is important to note that this generation will be the last generation to be able to hear directly from survivors of the Holocaust, which makes this an increasingly rare but important opportunity.

Adam White, teacher of History said, "The 40 students were absorbed by the powerful testimony of Eva Clarke from the outset, with many students raising important and insightful questions. Students listened attentively as Eva told her story which displayed for us both her personal **courage** to share it; but it also contained moving individual acts of **resilience**."

Following the webcast, students were given the opportunity to discuss and write down their thoughts. "Eva and Anka's story is truly inspiring, it shows determination, courage and the power to overcome trouble," said Evie. "It has inspired me to learn more about the Holocaust and share my knowledge about it with the younger generation," added Daniel. "The Holocaust Memorial interview was very informative about the true reality of a survivor from the concentration camps," commented Sebastian. "We are all different, but this does not give anybody the right to dehumanise," said Leela and Mia. Sam added, "We should be very grateful for the stories passed down to us, so that we may pass them onto others."



## Character Education

9

### The Resilience of a Ten Tors Walker

Ten Tors participants are, some may say, a breed of their own, and after a break of two long years the Ten Tors Challenge has at last emerged from the COVID-19 mist. They find that Dartmoor has an attraction that draws them back time and time again to test their personal **resilience**, which during their training is more than likely to be tested on numerous occasions.

Preparation is key, and it starts the evening before a training walk, when students need to show that they can prepare everything for the next day. On the morning of a walk, students need to be up early, some having to tape their feet that will be tested to the maximum during the day, eat a healthy breakfast, and be at the College by 7.30am.

During the day itself, adaptability is required in abundance, from contending with whatever the weather throws at them, keeping together as a group and staying on time. They also need to have the ability to notice when others may be struggling and needing assistance, overcoming problems that might occur during navigation, and carrying their heavy rucksacks up those seemingly endless hills.

By using their personal **resilience** students build consistent habits to prepare and manage periods of particular stress that they will probably come across during their Ten Tors training. This gives them the ability to not only overcome setbacks during this time, but also prepares them for similar events in their future life.

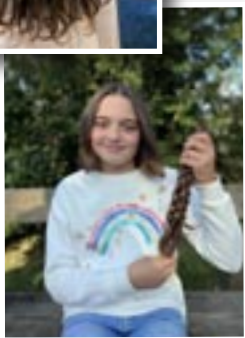


Andrew Mitchell, teacher of Mathematics and Head of Outdoor Education, said, "It is fantastic to see students return for their next challenge, especially after a particularly difficult day on the moor. Each experience helps them to increase their **resilience**, tackling whatever the moors throws at them."

### Individual acts of kindness

Year 7 student, Maya, had grown her hair last year especially to donate it to the Little Princess Trust **charity**. She said, "I wanted to donate my hair because I saw someone doing it online and it inspired me to do the same thing. It seemed so simple and easy to help somebody just by having my hair cut so I decided to grow it for another year. I really wanted to help girls with no hair because they had gone through chemotherapy because of cancer. I felt bad that I had such long hair and they had none."

My mum helped me to set up a fund-raising page and I managed to raise £412 and my hair was sent to the Little Princess Trust. I was so happy and I felt really good because I did a good deed."





10

## Sustainability Group

### Pen portrait – Vicky Stancombe

I am a French, Spanish and German teacher who joined Ivybridge Community College at the start of 2020. My interest in sustainability and environmental issues began around 15 years ago when I spent time in Sri Lanka and witnessed the impact the climate crisis was having on the local communities and wildlife. These issues became more pertinent to me when I had children of my own and became more aware of the drastic changes they were observing around them and reflecting on how these generations will pay the price for the lifestyles we lead now.

During lockdown, I started sewing my own clothes, which led me to research how our garments are made, what they're made from and how our need for disposable fashion has impacted our planet. I am passionate about tackling the climate crisis and am so excited to see how we can build Ivybridge Community College to be a force for positive change in the community.



### Sustainability Group leading the way in Community Improvement Schemes

In January, the College's Sustainability Group, organised a beach clean at Mothecombe Beach. Vicky Stancombe, teacher of Modern Foreign Languages, who suggested the idea said, "I wanted to offer an initiative in which we could contribute positively to the preservation of our local environment and raise the visibility and profile of the College's Sustainability Group within the local community. Our students care a great deal about our environment and it's so important that the surrounding towns and villages can see our efforts to garner support. I decided to run the beach clean at Mothecombe for exactly this reason.

We had a fantastic turnout with 38 staff, students, friends and family. They all helped pick up discarded and washed up rubbish, including plastic buckets, food packaging, drinks cans, fishing waste and even a fin from a paddle board. One teacher found a plastic dinosaur toy which now has a new owner, my 6-year-old son! In total, we collected around 20kg of waste. We can all take better care of our environment and lobby businesses and the government to make sustainable and positive changes to attitudes and processes. I am hoping to run another beach clean in the near future and community improvement schemes closer to home in Ivybridge."

Evie, in Year 9, said, "I found the beach clean to be fun and educational. It shows us how vulnerable our environment is and how we must protect it. The amount of plastic we found startled me, it shows what we are doing to our home and opens our eyes to the harsh reality. On another note I enjoyed the fresh air and looking at the beautiful scenery of the beach."

"I really appreciate the Ivybridge Community College Sustainability Group's efforts with their fantastic beach clean. It is very encouraging to see this generation's commitment to protecting our local environment." John Mildmay-White, owner of the Flete Estate.





## Sustainability Group 11

### Staff and Governors 'Dig In' with Tree Planting Initiative

In March, as part of National Science Week, the College's Sustainability Group held a tree planting event. What better way to celebrate the week's theme of GROWTH than by planting 400 trees on the College grounds. There was a fantastic turnout, with students joining over thirty staff and governors, with members of the Senior Leadership Team also rolling up their sleeves to help out. Mrs De Freitas even came in on her day off! John Shellard, Head of Applied Sciences, who led on this event, said, "It was gone 5.00pm by the end of the planting session, so on behalf of the Sustainability Group we would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who gave up their time."

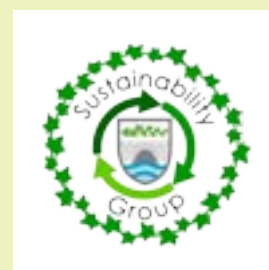
The trees were offered by the Woodland Trust as part of their 'Tree's for Schools and Communities' initiative that hopes to plant 50 million trees across the UK. The aim is to promote the long term benefits that afforestation offers. On a global scale it can help with reducing the extremes of climate change, on a national level it can increase biodiversity, and at a local level we hope to improve the aesthetics of the site and give wildlife food and a habitat in which to live.

### Students are Fantastic Role Models

As part of British Science Week and the theme of 'Growth', the Sustainability Group organised a tree planting workshop at MacAndrews Field, Ivybridge, in conjunction with local community environmental charity 'Parklife SW' and Stowford Nursery.

Vicky Stancombe, Sustainability Group lead at the College, said, "The workshop was an incredible success and our students showed themselves to be amazing teachers to their Nursery School pupils. They supported the 25 young children to learn about the important role trees play in our environment; producing oxygen, producing food and how they support the biodiversity of the ecosystem. Everyone learned about the correct process of planting a tree, using a spade safely to make a hole, and the importance of getting the roots firmly beneath the ground. The students and children met many worms along the way, which we made sure made it back into the soil."

The Parklife SW volunteers, and the staff and parent volunteers from Stowford Nursery, commented that the Ivybridge Community College students demonstrated exceptional maturity, patience and kindness to the Nursery children. Mrs Roach, Stowford Nursery teacher, said that she "commended the students on the fantastic way they interacted with the Nursery children. They really were fantastic role models throughout the workshop."







#### Star Artist

Louis, Year 9

Nominated for his fantastic acrylic study of a bee and flower which were produced as part of his 'Natural World' project.

#### Star Photographer

River, Year 9

Nominated for excellent compositional skills within his photoshoots and consistently making an outstanding effort.



#### Star Fashion student

Arabella, Year 10

Nominated for exceptional use of experimentation and innovation within her textiles work, consistently making an outstanding effort.

## 12 Creative Arts



### University Taster Day for Textiles Students

In February, Sixth Form Fashion and Textiles students had a fantastic opportunity to visit Plymouth College of Art and take part in two workshops. They spent the morning in the Printed Textiles Department where they explored screen printing; learning new skills of how to print in large scale repeat. The afternoon was spent in the Costume Department, developing initial design skills and draping over mini mannequins.

The day was fun filled and gave the students an excellent insight into university level ways of working led by industry professionals. The students have used the skills that they learnt to enhance their current projects.

"We learnt a lot of new and interesting skills using equipment we've not used before."

"Gave us lots of insight in to how you might approach the beginning of a project at university."

### College Textiles Alumni Inspires Students

In March, the College welcomed former student, Jess Strain, who is a textile designer, founder of sustainable accessories business Ovrblom and Innovate UK funding awardee, to talk to A Level Fashion and Textile students.

Jess gave an outstandingly inspiring presentation that was relatable and encouraging for our textiles students. She presented her final degree show designs, current industry designs and shared so much invaluable information and industry tips which gave our students a new energy to take forward to their final A Level projects.

Afterwards, students said that Jess gave an, "inspiring presentation and made me excited for university." "Encouraged me to think outside of the box." "Sparked more ideas for experiments; the options for experimentation in textiles is endless. Jess really pushed boundaries in her designs."

Jess commented, "Ivybridge Community College was such an important place to me where I began creating my first ever pieces of fashion and textiles, so it's fantastic to see the incredible standard of work that the students are putting out."





## Art Taster Sessions a Success

Students in Year 8 were given the opportunity to experience first-hand what it would be like to be in a GCSE Art lesson to help them choose their options.

They were treated to expert tuition from our experienced staff who ran sessions in painting a night sky based on artworks by Van Gogh, and clay masks inspired by African masks and patterns using modelling and sgraffito techniques. Much fun was had by all and some super outcomes were created.

Well done Year 8!

"It was brilliant, I loved working with clay."

"I learnt how to paint a gradient and I was really pleased with what I made."



## Creative Arts

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### 'Cut and Reveal' Photography

Year 9 Photography students have been putting their Photoshop skills to the test to create beautiful digital collages inspired by the artist, Abigail Reynolds. Reynolds is a Cornish Artist who merges found photographs together to create three-dimensional collages. Her work is known for its fascinating geometric patterns and juxtaposition of nature and man-made structures.

Exploring shape, colour and three-dimensional form, students have created eye-catching pieces reflecting the local Devon landscape.

Well done Year 9 Photographers!



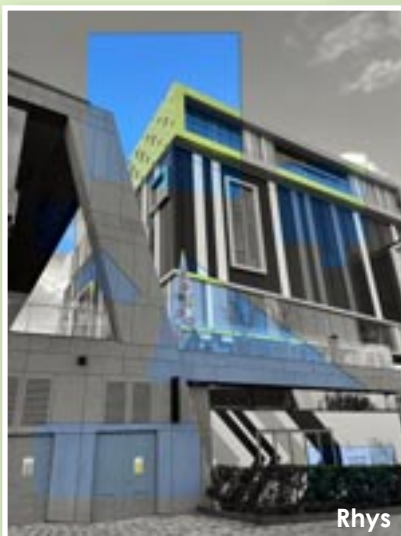
Maya



Dylan



Eloise



Rhys



Tom C-B



Tom B



## Royal Navy Career Opportunities

In January, Year 13 Public Services students welcomed CPO Richard Tremain, who delivered a Royal Navy Careers Workshop. The Sixth Form students were joined by Year 11 students, who are currently considering studying the Level 3 BTEC Public Services Course.

Year 13 Public Services student, Sasha, who attended the presentation, said, "CPO Richard Tremain, a Navy Careers Advisor, spoke about the vast amount of opportunities available, such as travelling the world and taking part in sport, and the different corps to join, giving examples from each. He was very informative, and gave clear, understandable answers, including personal stories where relevant. He was very friendly, polite and down-to-earth, and overall gave a great presentation. The students at the presentation really gained from it, as although you can access the information on the Royal Navy website, when it is given to you in person you have the opportunity to ask questions and get immediate answers."

Following on from the presentation, Poppy Kirkup, teacher of PE and BTEC Public Services said, "The students were able to develop their knowledge and understanding on the role and purpose of the Royal Navy, the life of an officer, and explored various naval services and career pathways. They also gained very valuable knowledge on the entry and selection processes. The students thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and were engaged throughout. We are looking forward to welcoming Richard back to the College in the future."



## 14 BTEC Public Services

### RAF Workshop Inspires Students

RAF Corporal, Scott Wyatt, delivered a workshop on career pathways and life in the RAF to the Year 13 Uniformed Public Services students in March. Scott, who specialises in recruitment and selection, delivered a fantastic presentation which discussed rank structures, recruitment information and various careers. It was great to get an insight into his experiences within the RAF, which included sport and travel opportunities.

Year 13 student, Rhys, who attended the presentation said, "It was great to hear about Scott's own career within the RAF and the amount of different careers the RAF offer."



### Police Demonstrate Career Variety

Also in March the students were visited by Inspector Rob Byers, Sgt Olly Barrett and Detective Sgt Sarah Ronayne (CID), who advised on careers and pathways in the Police Force.

Following the presentations, Year 13 students Sasha and Drew commented, "It was great to get new information about careers and opportunities available within the police force," adding, "Having a detective in the presentation to gain knowledge of a different aspect of policing, in addition to front line police officers, gave us another insight into role options."

It was a fantastic opportunity for students to not only understand the pathways into a policing career, but to also experience how this differed between the visiting representatives, and the journey they had gone through to get to where they are now.

### RNLI Water Safety Presentation

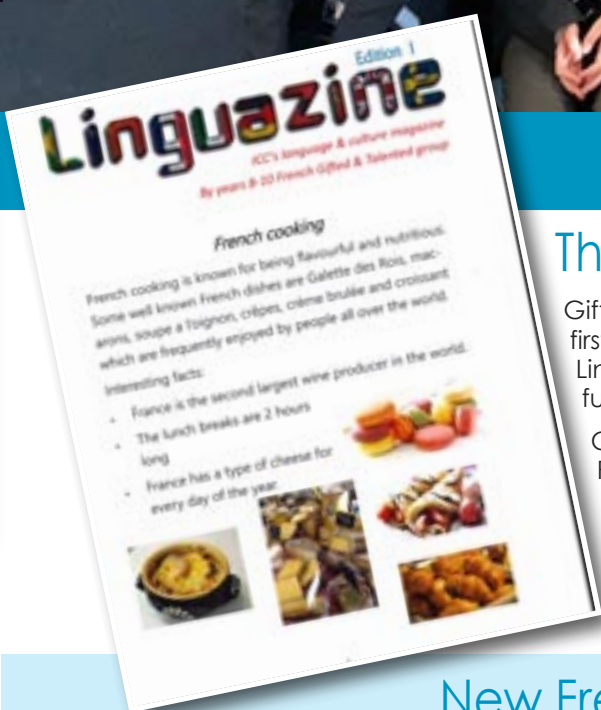
Christopher Turner, an RNLI Water Safety Adviser and Youth Education Presenter, visited the Year 13 Public Services students, in February.

Tom, in Year 13, said, "Mr Turner from the RNLI came in to educate the class on water safety, career and volunteering opportunities. It was very informative as he discussed areas of water safety we had not considered before. This was a great experience as it educated us on staying safe whilst also showing us possible career opportunities."

Poppy Kirkup, said, "Christopher covered various areas regarding water safety and discussed how the students can keep safe within their local areas. The students found the live rescue footage by the RNLI interesting, as they could see the role of the RNLI, how important they are, and how different their rescues can be."







## Modern Foreign Languages

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### The Linguazine - an MFL Masterpiece!

Gifted and Talented Language students in Years 8 to 10 published the first ever edition of their new Language and Culture magazine 'The Linguazine', in December. In this first Christmas edition there are recipes, fun facts, silly jokes, news stories and interviews.

Copies can be found in the Learning Resource Centre and College Reception. The next edition will appear full of Easter fun, puzzles, interviews, stories and facts from around the world.

"I've enjoyed creating the Linguazine", said Matthew in Year 8, "because it helps people who don't necessarily have a love for languages get an insight into other cultures."

### New French Pen Pals

Ivybridge Community College's French Gifted and Talented students in Years 8, 9 and 10 were delighted to receive replies to their first pen pal letters.

Thanks to a long-standing link set up by Alex Pitcher, MFL Resources Assistant, students at the College and students from Collège Saint-Joseph, in Caen, have started a new pen pal letter exchange, organised by Nicky Merrison, teacher of Modern Foreign Languages, and Madame Halley.

Students were excited to see the "super-neat French handwriting" and "amazing English" in the letters from their French pen pals.

Year 8 student Seren, said, "I'm really excited to have a pen pal and it's great to get to know someone from another country." While Isabelle, also in Year 8, added, "I was thrilled and impressed to see how fluent my pen pal was in English." "I think having a pen pal will help me with my French writing for my GCSE, and it's great to get to know someone in France." Jude, Year 10.

The College's Gifted and Talented group have created a video tour of Ivybridge Community College in French and will be sending it over so that their new French friends can take a look at life at a school in England. In return they will receive a video talking about life in a French collège. The students look forward to forging friendships and learning plenty about French life and culture.







## Dartmoor Zoo

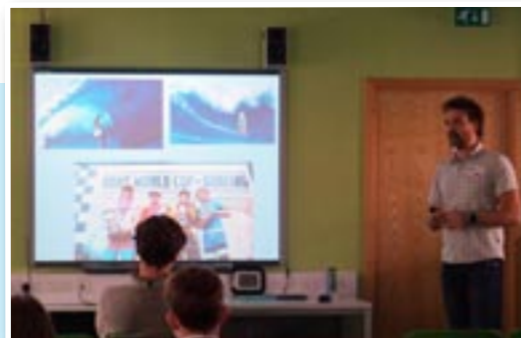
Coral Jonas, the Chief Operating Officer at Dartmoor Zoological Society spoke to students about animal conservation, the work that Dartmoor Zoo carries out and the importance of species protection for increased biodiversity.

Coral, and her colleague, Francesca, brought with them a bearded dragon and a snake. They discussed both species' key physical features and how they have both adapted to survival in their natural environments.

## Coastal Science

Dr Tim Poate is a Senior Research Consultant for the School of Biological and Marine Sciences at the University of Plymouth. He is a coastal scientist with 14 years of experience in coastal research, fieldwork and consultancy.

Dr Poate presented to students on wave transformation, storm impacts and coastal processes, the impact of this across the South West as well as around the world. He has travelled the world and visited many amazing coastal destinations (New Zealand, Maldives to name a few), using a wide range of advanced technologies to assess the impact of coastal processes. He also shared with students his love of the South West coastline and the ocean. He is an active member of Surfers against Sewage and organises the bi-annual Ivybridge Erme River clean.



# 16 British Science Week - What Amazing Experiences!

## Filham Park Veterinary Clinic

Veterinary Surgeon, Alan Johnson, is a former Ivybridge Community College student and did his work experience at Filham Park Veterinary Clinic. He joined their team in July 2018, after graduating from the Royal Veterinary College in London.

Alan carried out a suture workshop (technique used to stitch up animals) with students and answered a variety of questions relevant to those interested in working with animals.



## Paramedic Workshop

Jon Green leads the BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science programme at the University of Plymouth. He is also a practicing Registered Paramedic with a specialism in Clinical Research.

Jon ran a practical based workshop around resuscitation in cardiac arrest, the clinical processes involved, and the development of the underlying evidence base. At his workshop he brought some very realistic dummies for students to practise the steps in an emergency on, and students also had the opportunity to look around the training ambulance which was parked on site.



## Marvellous Bath Bombs!

Naturally Gorgeous Cosmetics is owned and run by Leoni Adams, a Marine Biologist, based in Plymouth, Devon. With a passion for the ocean, and a background in science, the

company was started to provide a solution to a plastic-waste-free skin and hair care routine. Focusing strongly on natural, nourishing ingredients, shampoo and conditioner bar recipes have been developed, trialled and refined.

Leoni delivered a workshop to students on how to craft their own bespoke bath time masterpiece using natural ingredients. All students made at least two bath bombs using a range of kitchen ingredients, essential oils and coloured powders. The results where outstanding and the workshop mixed chemistry, creativity and a whole lot of fun.

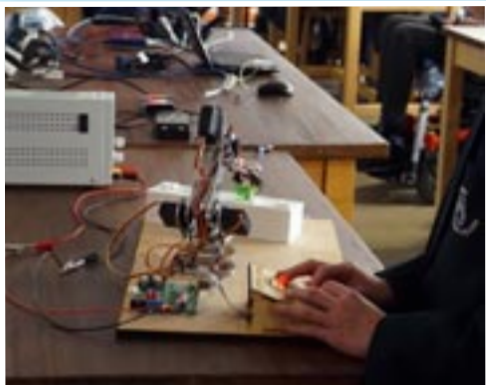




## Pyrotechnics Display!

Dr Rob Lowry is an Associate Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Plymouth and an accredited Pyrotechnic Firer for Alchemy Fireworks. He has always been passionate about Science and the fun of practical Chemistry. He wants to "blow away" the image of scientists as intellectuals who don't have any fun!

His pyrotechnics display was amazing, as he has a lot of experience having acted as a scientific adviser for several television production companies.



## Understanding Robotics

Dr Mario Gianni is an Associate Professor of Robotics at the University of Plymouth, School of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics. His knowledge and expertise mainly focus on the design and development of models and methods to solve complex problems in Robotics.

Dr Gianni ran a workshop on how to assemble some robot components to make a robot capable of moving.

# Celebrating a Host of Science Opportunities

17

## SEADREAM Education

Dr Juliette Jackson is the founder of community interest company SEADREAM: Science and Engineering around Devon, Research Education And More!

Dr Jackson joined us to discuss the importance of shark protection, their breeding habits, whilst bringing in the topic of loan sharks. Seadream makes 'money, debt, loan sharks and earning' an inspiring topic. She laid out the facts about sharks and other predatory species, that, like loan sharks, coerce their prey, are sly and sinister, and target struggling victims. Dr Jackson brought a display of shark eggs, shark skulls and teeth for students to observe.



## An Insight into Nursing

Dr Kevin Hambridge is a Lecturer in Adult Nursing and the Associate Head of School at the University of Plymouth. He delivered a practical session on key roles that nurses carry out as part of their every day job role, including: assessing respirations, establishing oxygen saturation, monitoring a pulse and taking a temperature.

Students gained insight into the different job roles within nursing and left with a plethora of information and goodies from Plymouth University.

## Propagator Workshop

Endsleigh Garden Centre kindly donated some wild flower seeds, vegetable seeds and compost. Students enjoyed getting 'green fingered' by making their own propagator to take home.



These pages give a snap shot of the many wonderful activities organised by the College's Science Department offered to students during British Science Week. Please visit the College website for further information about all the activities, including additional presentations to students by, among others:

Dr Sean Elias, Oxford University; Professor Nessa Carey, former Senior Lecturer in Molecular Biology at Imperial College, London and Dr Richard Brock, Lecturer in Science Education at King's College, London.

Highlights from the week also included workshops led by College staff on Feeding Axolotls, Rat Dissection, Plasma and many more.



## 18 STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

### Greenpower - A Driving Force for Girls in STEM

Ivybridge Community College is delighted to be taking part in the Greenpower Electric Vehicles Challenge.

This national competition is organised through the UK charity Greenpower Education Trust. The Trust inspires young people around the world to excel in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through a unique challenge: to design, build and race an electric car.

Craig Jewell, teacher of Physics at the College, is championing this initiative through his weekly Girls in Science Club. He said, "As an update to the first progress report, we are delighted to have now secured the bodywork specialists company, Quantum, to manufacture the body work pieces. The girls, through attending the weekly club, have now finished all but the motor, which means that we are close to a working car. So far they have succeeded in carrying out: complex fixings, wiring, cutting pieces to size, and learning all the tricks of the trade they can from the volunteers from Western Power Distribution and Quantum whenever they are with us. The girls have put every component together, with only supervision and advice from specialists. It is 100% their car and they know the most about how it works."

One group of students has now prioritised building data from the competition to come up with a race plan, and are currently coming up with suggestions for improvements to the vehicle. They are looking into ways of collecting data from their own build so they can monitor it mid race."

### Energy Analyst Inspires Girls in STEM

Ivybridge Community College was delighted to welcome Grace Millman, an Energy Analyst at Regen, who presented to twenty-five Year 9 and 10 girls about a variety of topics, including: looking at green energy, the future of the national grid, how we will generate electricity, and what it is like to be a woman in a STEM field.

Grace has recently acted as lead analyst on Regen's Distribution Network Future Energy Scenario (DFES) work, which assesses the uptake of various technologies at a distribution level. She is also the hydrogen sector lead and has developed Regen's model for analysing the uptake of hydrogen electrolyzers for future net zero scenarios.

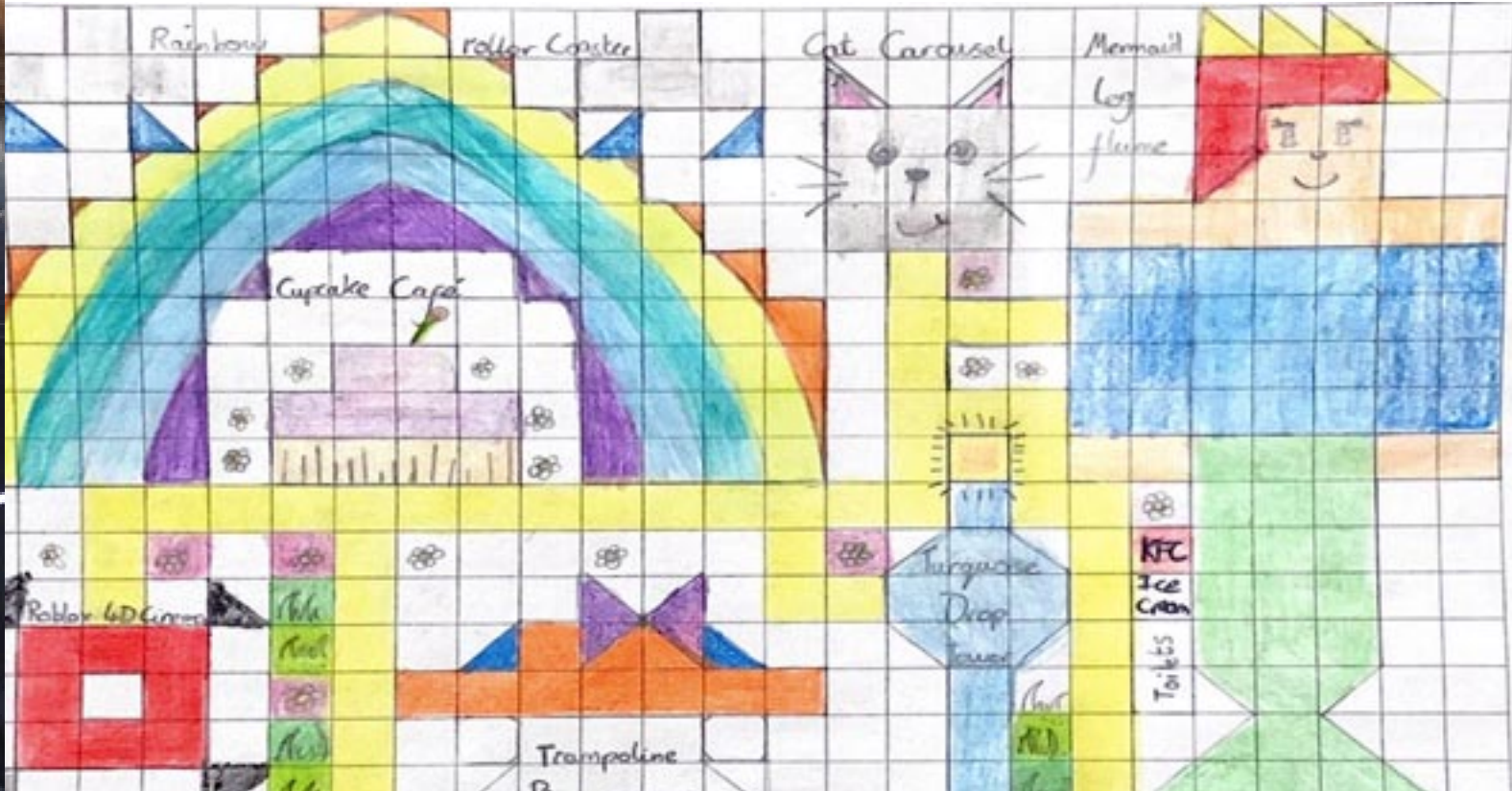
She graduated from the University of Exeter in July 2020 with a first class MSc in Mathematics with Climate Science.

Craig Jewell, teacher of Physics, said, "Grace is especially interesting as she is a woman in a developing STEM field in what will be a huge area for careers in the future. I

contacted her and asked if she would be willing to give the talk as she is a young member of a local renewable energy business, working in a field that the girls are interested in, and has her schooling days as a recent memory." Craig continues, "The girls were brilliant and asked many interesting questions, both about being a woman in STEM, and the future of the grid. We were all excited by the idea of building floating wind turbine farms as a genuine project for renewable energy, as it seems to us brilliant and ridiculous in equal measure! I will definitely be arranging additional future presentations for the 'Girls in STEM' group."







## Mathematics 19

### Celebrating the Theme Park Transition Task Winners

Students in Year 7 celebrated the judging of the Theme Park Transition Task that they had completed prior to joining the College last term. Their task was to design a Theme Park and work out the cost of creating it. The students were encouraged to incorporate features about the things they enjoy and their interests. The design of the park had to include a mixture of 3 surface types and at least 2 different types of rides, with the overall cost of the area not exceeding £12,000. A list of available items and their prices were given and they were also offered the option of adding an item that they would like that was not on the list, but they had to use their mathematical skills to come up with a reasonable cost estimate.

Alison Sarson, Lead Practitioner of Mathematics who helped to judge the entries, said, "I was absolutely amazed at the high standard of work from our new Year 7 students. There were some extremely creative and artistic individuals and I loved looking through the Theme Park designs. Annabelle was the overall winner, and she won 2 tickets to Splashdown. She had fantastic workings, creative shapes and a colourful design."

### Racing into Mathematics

In March, Year 8 students who had been nominated by their Mathematics teachers for their effort in class, as well as their Home Learning, were invited to attend a 'Racing to School' event held at Exeter Racecourse. 'Racing to School' is an education charity that aims to inspire young minds through the provision of free, interactive and healthy outdoor educational events staged at racing venues.

The students spent time learning about a horse jockey's diet and creating a varied, but restrictive, 800 calorie diet, as well as comparing it to their own diet, and a competitive cyclist's diet of nearer 5000 calories. Other activities included estimating how many race days are held annually, and they enjoyed the Mathematics about how the race course makes money on non-race days. Learning about the different measurements used by the horse racing industry, including how the handicap weights work and how this keeps each race exciting. They also learnt about the jockey's equipment, and how they could save weight for their races.

They had an opportunity to look at the race card for the day, and watched two races. This was the highlight of the day as the students stood close to one of the jumps. Charley and Jessica both really enjoyed the whole day, particularly the actual races, and they felt inspired to try harder with their own horse riding lessons.

The students who attended the day had a really enjoyable experience with comments including: "The Racing to School day at the racecourse was amazing." "I really enjoyed finding out how much Mathematics is actually incorporated in riding." "I enjoyed adding up the calories and watching the horse's race. I also enjoyed converting lengths into different forms."







## Afternoon Tea Delights!



Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students lesson topic of using a range of raising agents to create an Afternoon Tea.

## 20 Design and Technology

### Students Shine through Cookery Skills

Year 9 Food Preparation and Nutrition GCSE students have been put through their paces since the beginning the course. The classes give the students the opportunity to shine in a practical environment.

Kylie Lufungula, teacher of Food and Nutrition said, "The class is currently working through a Best of British module where students have been learning about assured standard schemes and food provenance. They have churned their own butter,

practised some intricate knife skills and participated in a fish, chips and mushy peas challenge. The students worked really hard with the planning of the dish and some were able to translate that to plate presentation."

Nina Kypranidis, Deputy Principal said, "It has been really fantastic to see such a great uptake of the GCSE Food and Nutrition course this year, with an extra class running in Year 9.

I am so pleased that students at the College are taking a keen interest in both learning practical cooking skills alongside gaining a more in depth knowledge about what constitutes a healthy diet."



### Stylish Beans on Toast!

Year 8 students interested in studying Food Preparation and Nutrition at GCSE were invited to a GCSE Taster session held earlier this term.

The students were given a 'Baked Beans on Toast' challenge, whereby they were only given one slice of bread and 100g of baked beans, and then had to food style them.... with some amazing results!







## Learning Resource Centre

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### The Magical World of Harry Potter

Thursday, 3 February saw the return of Harry Potter Day in the Learning Resource Centre, and every seat in the library was taken as there were a whole host of enchanting activities to take part in. There were 'sortings' quizzes, worksheets and word searches. Together with 'Pin the Scar on Harry Potter' and a 'Potter photo booth' with plenty of props. It was a wonderful day celebrating the on-going passion for Harry Potter and the magical world J.K. Rowling created over 20 years ago.

"It has now become a tradition in the Learning Resource Centre to celebrate Harry Potter Day. Every year it gets bigger and better and the students absolutely love everything about it. Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the day. From the excitable girls dressing up, to the mammoth task Luke had 'sorting' students into houses. It was a fabulous day made all the more special by our student's enthusiasm. Roll on next year!" Sara Hull, Learning Resource Centre Coordinator.

Year 7 student, Olivia said, "Harry Potter Day has been amazing. I am definitely going to the next one!" and her sister Rosie added, "The LRC was full of smiles and Harry Potter Magical fun." The day was summed up by Amelia, in Year 7, who said that it was the, "Best day at school EVER!! It was full of fun. I'm looking forward to next year!"

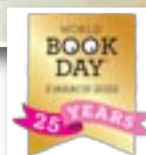
To coincide with Harry Potter Day the Learning Resource Centre ran a 'Magic' Short Story Competition. Congratulations to the winning entrants - Luke, in Year 8, Rebecca, in Year 9 and Tilly in Year 12.

### World Book Day celebrated in Style!

World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to escape into the world of books. This year, staff were invited to dress as their favourite book character, and this they did with great enthusiasm! With participants dressing up as the 'Cheshire Cat' and 'The Hundred Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared' to name but a few.

Lucy Pitcher, Director of English, said that she was "seriously loving World Book Day this year, and being back with my amazing team who always go the extra mile". Students were in agreement, adding, "It's great seeing the teachers dressed up, as some are really good."

The Learning Resource Centre also held a 'Get Caught Reading' competition where staff and students were asked to take a photograph of themselves reading in the most peculiar places. The submitted entries were then displayed and voted on. The winning entrant was Year 7 student, Amelia B, who was photographed reading her book whilst hanging upside down in the garden, winning her a sweet selection and a book token prize.







Theatre  
Royal  
Plymouth

22

## Performing Arts

### Mamma Mia! Theatre Treat for Performing Arts Students

Performing Arts students from the College enjoyed a night of entertainment in January, when they visited Plymouth's Theatre Royal to watch Mamma Mia!, the romantic musical based on the songs of Abba. For many of the Drama, Dance and Music students, this was their first time stepping back into the public theatre following closures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dance teacher Hannah Mattinson, who organised the trip, said, "We had an absolutely fabulous evening and our students made me so proud. They conducted themselves wonderfully and it was very clear they were the loudest singers and most energetic dancers!"

The students came away inspired and energised by the musical, looking forward to the Performing Arts activities during Enrichment Week.

### Drama Workshop Ignites Imagination

In March, the Drama Department invited practitioners from MED Theatre, Moretonhampstead, to deliver a devising workshop exclusively to Year 8 students. This workshop was designed to expand the students' creative skills and practical approaches to dramatic collaboration, giving them an experience of focused learning that is exciting, engaging and enriching.

Mathilda Langdon, teacher of Drama, said, "Students came alive listening to a moorland ghost story and recreating the investigation into mysterious murders. I wasn't sure if we had a room full of talented future actors or the makings of scrupulous detectives!"

"I really valued the creative independence we were given and how in the session we weren't told exactly what to do so we could use our imagination in responding to the poem stimulus." Year 8 student.



### Drama Students Enthused by World Premiere Production

GCSE Drama students in Years 10 and 11, together with Drama students in Year 9, enjoyed a night of entertainment in February, when they visited Plymouth's Theatre Royal to watch the World Premiere of the new theatrical production of The Da Vinci Code.

Head of Drama, Stephen Ellis, who accompanied the students said, "This was a visually spectacular production, with a rich array of theatrical conventions and techniques to inspire our students in producing their own work. Also, theatres have been closed due to the pandemic, so we're reminded how great it is to be able go back into the theatre after too long away!"

The students were also very enthused by the production, commenting, "A stunning production!", "I couldn't believe the pace and the excitement of it!" and "Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity!"

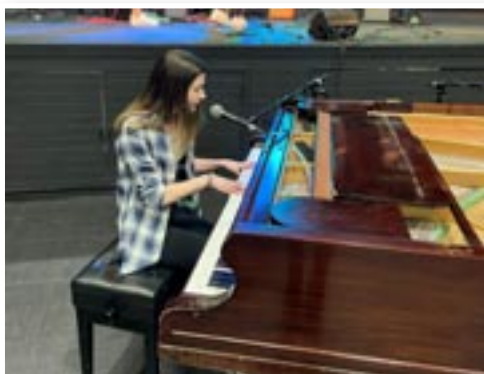




## Performing Arts

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### Live Performance Showcases True Musicianship



RSL Music students in Years 12 and 13 were tasked with putting together a performance to a brief of Barriers, Borders and Boundaries. This formed part of their External Core Unit: Rehearsal Skills and Live Music Performance, for their course. The students were responsible for organising and planning the event, the logistics, set up and sound check on the day, as well as the performance itself and derig afterwards.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions of the past two years it was incredible to see our talented students perform to a live audience for the first time since the College's last public performance, which was in December 2019.

The performances included a mixture of solos and band performances, and highlighted a wide range of musical styles from Indie Rock, to French Ballad and Ska Pop to New Wave, featuring multi-instrumentalist Imogen on the piano, electro-acoustic and electric guitars, and vocals, Casper on the

guitar and vocals, Jacob on the bass guitar, Nathan on the drums, and Leah on the piano and vocals.

The students were very pleased to have had this opportunity to perform at the College, with Casper commenting, "It was great fun and I have learned loads, from how to construct a set list to how to improve the songs within a band." Nathan added, "I personally really enjoyed the whole process and am now looking to doing gigs on a regular basis." Imogen has also commented on the lack of performances over the last couple of years and the impact it has had on them as musicians making "performing together feel more exciting and a key motivating aspect throughout the entire process". Jacob said how this performance has helped him to improve in confidence, and Leah really enjoyed the opportunity to perform as a band for the first time in a few years.

"The students have worked extremely hard to put on such an incredible live music performance, taking this beyond the parameters set by their assessment criteria and turning this into a full-scale event for the audience to enjoy. It was done with accuracy, artistic flair and to a professional standard, setting themselves up for a career in Music. This was a true, high-quality 'graduation' performance highlighting their musicianship, performance skills and stage presence. The audience were in awe, singing, dancing and cheering 'encore!' Really well done!"  
Katya Padlyevs'Ka, Head of Music.



## 24 Performing Arts

### The Return of Appreciation of Dance

The annual Appreciation of Dance performance returned on Monday, 14 March and Tuesday, 15 March, with work showcased from Key Stages 3 and 4 Enrichment, GCSE, A Level and RSL courses.

The dancers performed to a full auditorium, with nearly 40 dance pieces, lights, costume and music. Some might say that Dance at Ivybridge Community College has never been more appreciated than when the College's dancers took to the stage once more.

A Level dancer, Sofia, said, "I've always found Appreciation of Dance an enjoyable show, but performing the show after such a long break due to COVID-19 was an even more amazing experience. It was exhilarating and the adrenaline rush was crazy."

The compere for the evening was Year 13 student, Olivia, who also performed in the show. She said, "My experience was quite emotional, as it was my last dance performance at Ivybridge. It was an amazing evening. I loved the show and performing for an audience. Thank you to all the teachers and students for making it a great night."







## Performing Arts 25



Hannah Mattinson, teacher of Dance, said, "For two days, the Performance Hall at Ivybridge Community College buzzed with talent, passion and the most incredible creativity. It was wonderful to watch and be involved in, with outstanding commitment and resilience from students, making the performances even more remarkable with many dancers battling through COVID-19 isolations, rehearsing from videos at home at various points in the run up to the show, and working hard to make sure the performances were slick and polished."

The desire of our students to perform has never wavered over the past two years, and we are so incredibly proud of every individual who shared their talent and love for what they do on the stage."



Dancers at Ivybridge Community College can look forward to many more wonderful opportunities to perform in the future.





## 26 Rugby

### Senior Rugby Academy Elite Team are National Finalists

The College's U18 Boys' Rugby Team ended the season as runners up in the AOC National Premier League Final. The match took place in front of a 1,000-strong crowd at Sandy Park, home of the Exeter Chiefs. It was the culmination of an impressive run of matches, which saw the College's talented side reach the final of the National Championship. Unfortunately, the nail-biting final saw them narrowly defeated by Exeter College.

The majority of the match was heavily in Ivybridge Community College's favour, with the team keeping most of the territory and possession. However, despite an excellent performance, they were unable to clinch the points they needed for the victory.

Tom Brown, College Director, said, "Despite finishing runners up, every player should be immensely proud of the way in which they played. They worked hard, never gave up, and performed with skill and intelligence. Our boys showed true sportsmanship at the end of the game and held their heads high. It was also wonderful to see the huge impact that the event had on the College as a whole. 300 spectators came along to watch, including students, teachers, Senior Leadership and governors. The Ivybridge Community College family was certainly out in full force to show our boys support. This demonstrated the true meaning of The Ivybridge Way."

### Portugal Youth Rugby Festival

At the beginning of the Easter break, two Ivybridge Community College Rugby Teams travelled to Lisbon in Portugal to compete in the Portugal Rugby Youth Festival, with both the girls' and boys' teams finishing in third place in their respective tournaments.

Nick Kerswell, coach of the Girls' Rugby Academy, said, "It is the first time we have run an international trip since the start of COVID-19, and also the first time we have taken a girls' team. Our students played exceptionally well and it was a fitting reward for both teams to take third spot in the tournament. The Youth Rugby Festival is a wonderful celebration of the sport," added Nick. "It's enjoyable, well organised, has a high standard of play and is a positive experience for the players."

Led by team captains Joe, in Year 10, and Megan, in Year 9, both teams produced excellent performances. The boys narrowly missed out on the final, not only scoring more points than all the other teams in the competition, but also conceding the least.

Tom Brown, College Director and Academy Coach, said, "Our students showed wonderful support for each other throughout the tournament and we are hugely proud of the way they represented the College. They demonstrated immense pride and exemplary conduct. We look forward to taking both age groups to Lisbon again in 2023."







## Girls crowned U15 Rugby 7s Champions

Ivybridge Community College's U15 Girls' Rugby Team was crowned champions at the prestigious Rosslyn Park HSBC National Schools 7s tournament in March. They were also the first ever Girls' Rugby Team from the College to play at the venue.

Following the game, Nick Kerswell, Science teacher and Girls' Rugby Coordinator, said, "Six games, unbeaten, and a three-try difference in the final score; they had done it! They are the Rosslyn Park HSBC National Schools Girls Rugby 7s inaugural title holders. Ivybridge Community College is the first name on the trophy, and the team to beat in the future. The girls loved the spotlight, cameras, presentations, caps and T-shirts...and Izzy even got player of the tournament!

I think that what makes a winning side is not only what players do on the pitch, but also what they do off the pitch. Their conduct was superb, they embraced the spirit of the whole event, listened intently to their coaches and to each other, and were incredibly humble in victory. Before we left Ivybridge for the competition, I spoke to the girls about the Ivybridge Community College rugby legacy that they would be contributing to. The key messages were: to make sure they do the very best they can, represent the entirety of the team members admirably, and, most importantly, to enjoy and make the most out of this incredible opportunity. I really could not have asked for more." [Please visit the College website for a full report.](#)

## Teams make an impact at National Rugby 7s Tournament

Five teams from Ivybridge Community College made an impact at this year's Rosslyn Park HSBC National Schools 7s Tournament, with the Girls' U15 Team bringing home the winner's trophy (see press release above and cover picture). Rosslyn Park is the most famous and prestigious Schools 7s Rugby Festival in the world, and this year over 850 teams competed in an astounding 2,894 fixtures in the various competitions running over the course of the week.



Tom Brown, College Director, said, "The magnitude of this competition cannot be over-emphasized and the opportunity to highlight what we represent as a Rugby Programme at this competition is invaluable. This tournament allowed us to test ourselves against the very best in the country and the experience itself is one that the students will remember for a long time to come. We are hugely proud of all the students who represented the College at this event. We are particularly proud of our U15 Girls' Team for winning their event, and our U13 Boys' Team who were awarded the 'Fair Play Award' for their performances and display of the 'Values of Rugby'. As coaches we strive for this first and foremost. To be recognised for our fair play is something we are both encouraged by and proud of."



## Cameron's Contribution to College's Football Academy

Former student, Cameron Sangster, visited the College recently and donated more than 50 pairs of moulded stud football boots for use by students on the new artificial grass pitch.

Whilst studying at the College, Cameron played in the Football Academy, joining other members of the Plymouth Argyle youth teams, thereby gaining an advantage by playing together during College training sessions, as well as with Plymouth Argyle FC. After leaving the College he made his Plymouth Argyle first team debut in December 2017, against Oldham Athletic. Unfortunately, he sustained a difficult injury to his ankle and eventually took the decision to concentrate on his business of selling rare football boots to some of the biggest footballing stars around the world. RareBoots4U has seen Cameron supply boots to football players such as Morata, Rakitic, Felix, Aubameyang and other Premier League stars.

The College's artificial grass pitch has recently undergone a major refurbishment, and students are required to wear moulded, studded boots. On hearing this, Cameron donated a number of pairs of boots to the College for the benefit of all students, and in particular those students most in need of some help in affording a pair.

Cameron said, "I will never forget the start that I was given here at the College, as part of the Football Academy. It taught me as much about being a good person as it did about being a footballer, and I am indebted to the staff and the College as a whole for that. To be able to give something back is my way of saying 'thank you', and also my part in supporting someone else's positive experience in taking part and enjoying the benefits of physical activity and sport."

## Easter Camp a success for promising Year 6 Footballers

During the Easter Holiday, Ivybridge Community College Football Academy staff held a training camp for primary school pupils, currently in Year 6, who are due to start at the College in September. The day was a huge success, with a great turn-out and some promising talent on show.

The camp included training and drills in the morning, followed by a tournament in the afternoon where they were split up into teams. The teams were made up of pupils from different schools, giving them the opportunity to integrate and make new friends prior to starting in September.

Dave Leonard, Head of the Football Academy said, "It was wonderful to see so many footballers enjoying themselves and really getting to know each other in their teams. They all worked hard and were a joy to coach. Special thanks go to Charlie, one of our Year 9 Elite Squad players, for assisting with the day and demonstrating his leadership skills. It was very beneficial for the Year 6 pupils to look up to Charlie and see a pathway that they too could follow."







## Gymnastics

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### College dominates SW Schools Floor and Vault Championships

Ivybridge Community College Gymnasts have returned from the first post-COVID-19 Gymnastics Competition with a series of individual and team titles.

The College's Gymnasts, who were competing at the SW Schools Floor and Vault Championships in February, brought home 19 medals, including 10 gold, 5 silver and 4 bronze.

Held at Kingsley School in Bideford, six Ivybridge Community College teams took gold, and are through to the finals in Stoke-on-Trent in May. In addition to the team successes, there were also individual success, with Chloe C taking the U19 Girls' overall title, Jon O and Ben B jointly taking the Boys' U19 overall title, Megan W taking the U14 Girls' overall title, and Herbert B taking the U14 Boys' overall title.

"This is the first competition that our Gymnasts have been in since February 2019," said Helen Reddy, Director of Enrichment and Sports Academy, "so it is wonderful to be competing and giving our students the opportunity to perform again. We didn't have any expectations but we are thrilled with the results and are looking forward to our students competing in the National Finals in May. Despite setbacks over the past two years, we have six strong teams representing the College, so there is every possibility of them achieving national success too."

### Gymnasts qualify for National Acrobatics Championships

A team of Ivybridge Community College Gymnasts has qualified to represent the South West region at the British Schools Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships, in Stoke-on-Trent, in May.

The success follows the competition's first every 'virtual' qualifying process, where schools had to film their Gymnasts' entries and send them in electronically for judges to score their routines.

The following five partnerships made it through to the British Schools finals:

- Abbie E and Amelia L – Under 14 Women's Pair
- Abi N and Taliah M – Over 14 Women's Pair
- Ben B and Amelia B – Over 14 Mixed Pair
- Under 14s Group Team
- Over 14s Group Team

Helen Reddy, said, "After two years without gymnastics competitions, we were determined that a different format wasn't going to stop our Gymnasts, so we set things up internally and videoed all of the routines. It is great to see our Gymnasts back competing again and we are looking forward to them performing their routines in Stoke-on-Trent, in the British Schools finals."

The competition also included a 'straight-line routine' event. This was an internal competition for less experienced gymnasts who haven't yet started to put their moves into choreographed routines. The straight-line routine competition was won by Isla D and Grace M.







## 30 Elite Talent Programme

### Ollie is South West Cyclocross Champion

Year 11 student and cyclist, Ollie Murphy, continued his run of good form over the winter season, winning two races at the Soggy Bottom XC Winter Series at Newnham Park, Plymouth at the end of 2021. In addition to the XC races, Ollie also won all four rounds of the South West Cyclocross (CX) Series, taking the regional title.

Following the regional event, Ollie headed to the National Cyclocross Championships at the Southern Show Ground, near Crawley. An incredibly muddy course was made harder by a poor starting grid position for Ollie. Moving steadily through the field, with mud clogging all the gears, Ollie battled to the finish, covered in mud, to take 17th place in the UK. An excellent result!

"It's great to have such strong results at every race and continue to compete at such a high level," said Ollie. "Although I would have loved to have placed even higher in the National CX Championships, my starting position made this a difficult task. I was extremely proud of the fact that I managed to come through the field, from 69th position at the start, to finish in 17th place."

### England Football Training Camp for Ellie

Talented Year 11 student and footballer, Ellie Sara, is making an impact on the national scene after being selected for another England Women's U16 Training Camp at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre.

The three day event was a preparation camp for the forthcoming UEFA development tournament in Portugal. During the camp, Ellie took part in two pitch-based training sessions, strength and conditioning activities and player education sessions.

Ellie said, "Although I didn't play in the UEFA tournament in Portugal, the camp allowed me to train with the squad until they went abroad. This was a great opportunity for me to show my quality and experience in a high-level training environment. I am starting to feel more comfortable with the environment at this standard and feel I did really well in training," added Ellie, "I am looking forward to the next opportunity as I feel I am improving all the time and building confidence."



### Regional Jiu-Jitsu Competition Medals for Harvey

Last term Year 9 student, Harvey Burgoyne, participated in the All Stars BJJ Jiu-Jitsu Southern Pro Competition.

He competed once in the U46kg weight category, for his age, and achieved a silver medal. Harvey also competed twice in the U46kg for his age, and won his first fight on points, but then lost his second fight to a submission, achieving another silver medal.

Harvey said, "I was confident that I was going to gain a medal, I was hoping for 1st place as I have been training hard and hoped I would do well. I am now sharing my knowledge and training experiences with the younger athletes, coaching them during training sessions."





## Elite Talent Programme

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### Emily takes Gold in National Swimming Championships

Year 13 student, Emily Morgan-Hughes, won her first National Championship title in December, taking Gold in the 200m Breaststroke at the Welsh National Swimming Championships in Swansea, despite being the youngest competitor in the pool.

On the way to winning the title, Emily achieved four personal best times, making finals for all of her races. Her brother, Harry, in Year 11, also swam well at the meet, narrowly missing out on finals for his events. Alongside swimming, Harry is also a member of the College's Elite Rugby Squad.

In February, Emily travelled to Dubai to take part in the 'Diploma in Sporting Excellence' camp, hosted by Hamilton Aquatics, one of the nations' most prestigious swimming clubs.

The trip combined three days of high-performance training, followed by three days of competition in the form of the Middle East Open and Junior Championships (MEOJC).

Emily reported, "It was an amazing experience and one I'll never forget! I learnt many new skills which have helped me grow as a performer and athlete, I'll look forward to hopefully competing for England again in the future!"



### Team GB selection for Year 9 'Octopusher' Isla

Year 9 student, Isla Crocker, has been selected for the squad for Great Britain's Under 19 Underwater Hockey Team to represent Great Britain at an upcoming European tournament in July.

Isla has been playing Underwater Hockey (UWH), also known as Octopush, for the past five years as a member of both the Plymouth Junior Team and the Plymouth Ladies First Team, so she was thrilled when she was invited to become a trialist for the U19 GB Team at the end of last year. Isla now makes the monthly 650-mile round trip to Leeds to take part in intensive weekends of training with the GB squad.

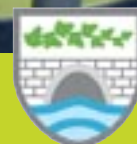
"The training in Leeds is very tough," said Isla, "and we undergo fitness tests such as the underwater bleep test, underwater lengths and how far can you swim underwater around the perimeter of the pool in one breath. We also play games and learn new skills and tactics."

With World Championships held every two years, Isla has high ambitions for the future. She added, "My goal is to train hard and hopefully be chosen for the U19 Team that represents Great Britain at the World Championships in Turkey in 2024."





## Sixth Form



### Supporting the Ukrainian Refugees as a Community

On Friday, 11 March Ivybridge Community College Sixth Form students wore yellow and blue to show their support for the Ukrainian refugees.

Kim Daniel, Sixth Form Personal Development and Welfare Leader said, "The Sixth Form Council championed this initiative of wanting to show our support for the Ukrainian refugees in the most powerful way possible. Students raised £290, which has been paid into the Disasters Emergency Committee fund, and some came to College wearing the colours of the Ukrainian flag. I am very proud of the amount of money which has been raised."

"It is important to keep up with current affairs and to be educated about what is going on in world," said Sixth Form student, Millie. Talitha added, "It was really nice to see the Sixth Form come together and support the Ukrainian refugees as a community."

Jasmine and Ms Daniel agreed on the importance of "empathising with those who are suffering and try to help as much as we can." while Elisha added, "It was a great way for everyone to get involved and start a conversation about an important issue."

### Sixth Form Council Encourage Student Fundraising for Jack

Inspired by Jack Howitt's courageous story, (see page 7), the College's Sixth Form students have set themselves numerous fund-raising challenges. This was launched with an impressive cake sale, which raised in excess of £350.

Kim Daniel, Sixth Form Personal Development and Welfare Leader, said, "This is an astonishing amount for a cake sale. So many cakes were baked by both Year 12 and 13 students; I am so proud of them and the way they have contributed. The Sixth Form Council students and Sharon Terry, Sixth Form Pastoral Leader, were instrumental in making this happen. It has been fantastic to see how the students are getting behind Jack and being so supportive."

The Sixth Form Council has also planned a Tutor Triathlon, starting at the beginning of March. The aim is for each Tutor Group to compete and clock up mileage either by running, swimming, cycling, or walking over a four week period. Each Tutor Group will attempt to raise at least £50, thereby hopefully raising over £1000 through the Triathlon alone.

