



5 December 2025

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the penultimate week of term, we are excited to celebrate the successes of our students during next week's End of Term Celebration Assemblies. These awards are not just tokens of recognition, they represent the dedication, resilience and hard work that each student has invested throughout the term. From Star Student nominations for outstanding effort in lessons, to Personal Development Awards and the impressive achievement of 100% attendance, these milestones highlight the commitment that drives success.

Educational research consistently shows that strong attendance is the single most important factor in academic achievement and those who have attended every day have given themselves the best possible foundation for future success. As the Department for Education reminds us: *"Students who attend school regularly are more likely to experience positive academic achievement, engagement and wellbeing, as well as better health and economic outcomes after leaving school."*

We are immensely proud of all our students and grateful to families for their support in making these accomplishments possible.

Looking ahead to next term, let us make 100% attendance our shared goal. Every day in school matters, each lesson builds knowledge, confidence and opportunities for success. Together, we can ensure every child thrives.

Exceptional Opportunities for All

The College continues to encourage students to engage with a wide range of enrichment and leadership opportunities. Last evening, we were delighted to host our largest-ever Camp International Information Event, with an overwhelming number of families in attendance. Following the success of last year's expedition to Cambodia, it is inspiring to see so many students eager to take part in such a worthwhile adventure, helping others and giving back to the wider community.

Congratulations to Elin Stone, one of our talented Year 12 students, who took the initiative to invite our local MP, Rebecca Smith, into the College for an interview as part of her Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Opportunities like these, supported by our wider community, play a vital role in developing the character virtues of our students. It was particularly special when Rebecca Smith was able to meet with our Girls in STEM Group to celebrate their recent success in the Greenpower Racing Challenge.

Academic Excellence and Preparing for 2026

This week we welcomed Declan Farrell, our newly appointed Assistant Principal and Director of SEND. Mr Farrell spent the day at the College getting to know staff and students. He will officially join us on Monday, 5 January 2025 and we look forward to benefiting from his expertise as an experienced SENDCo.

On Monday, 8 December 2025, we launch our Finish Line Year 11 timetable updates following Examination Series 1. Thank you to all staff, students, and parents/carers for playing your part and supporting these important adjustments to refine teaching in the New Year.

Finally, as always, if you need support or advice, please contact us at icc@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Hutchinson
Principal

Respect ■ Aspiration ■ Integrity ■ Compassion