

Community Fair

Okehampton College are excited to be involved in a Community Fair on Saturday 23rd October 2021 which will be a showcase of the opportunities that are available to engage in within our Town.

The Community Fair will be the coming together of our recreational, support and voluntary organisations in the Okehampton area and will be an opportunity to find out more about what goes on in the town and what you can involve yourself in, whether that is sporting clubs, art/craft clubs, recreational/voluntary groups, or you want more information about support you can receive.

If you are a member of an organisation that would like to be represented at the community fair to take the opportunity to share what you do and recruit new members, please contact community@dmatschools.org.uk

Okehampton College

OkeRail 150 Celebration Weekend

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust have been working with the OkeRail 150 committee and the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership to plan a celebration of the 150-year anniversary of the railway in Okehampton which will involve the community and the children from the schools in the town: Okehampton College, St James Primary C of E School and Okehampton Primary School.

The celebration weekend will be held on 2nd and 3rd October and will involve fun and activities including a family trail around Okehampton town centre, and exhibitions and performances in the Charter Hall on the Saturday and on Sunday 3rd, a reading of the proclamation and a procession through the Town to the railway station. Every Okehampton student will have the opportunity to design bunting which will decorate the Town and some students will design vintage railway posters and produce poetry and newspaper articles, which will be planned into the Autumn Term curriculum.

Melissa Trudgill, Community Engagement Manager and Rebecca Catterall from the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership are liaising with the schools and the OkeRail 150 committee so they can have participation in this Town event and really enjoy both the celebration and consider what life was like in 1871 and the difference the railway made to the people of Okehampton. Melissa said 'it is a real pleasure to work on town events with community groups and local councils, which create lasting links and partnerships between our schools and their community'.



Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust is looking forward to further partnership working with Exeter Chiefs!

Exeter Chiefs Project Rugby is a 12 week programme where we come in during PE curriculum time and deliver rugby themed sessions. This is run for 6 weeks with a block of children, and then repeat for another 6 weeks with a new block of children. Alongside this the Chiefs also run After School sessions on the same day for the 12 weeks, with the last few sessions then running at the local rugby club. The aim of the programme is to help those that would like to transition to a local club. Holsworthy Community College is already booked in with more schools to follow.



This newsletter is printed on paper made from virgin pulp, grown from sustainable sources



Summer Holiday, Activity and Food Programme

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust has been awarded a grant by Devon County Council and are delighted that we can put together a range of exciting and engaging activities including interactive art, dance, tennis, cricket, football and ultimate frisbee. The Trust is holding 4 weeks of the HAF programme different primary school venues and any child from Reception to Year 6, in receipt of free school meals, is eligible to attend.

Week 1	26th to 29th July	Chagford Primary School
Week 2	2nd to 5th August	Bridestowe Primary School
Week 3	9th to 12th August	Bradford Primary School
Week 4	16th to 19th August	South Tawton Primary School

Each day will run from 9:30am to 1:30pm and will be led and run by staff members from our schools and coaches from Okehampton Community Recreation Association (OCRA). A lunchtime meal will also be provided.

You can book your child into these weeks by contacting your school and completing a booking form.

The programme will be fully risk assessed including the continuation of appropriate Covid measures. The event is free for all participants and there is **NO CHARGE** to parents.

It's going to be a fantastic opportunity for children to have fun and adventures during the summer break so we hope to see as many children as possible!

Hello from the Museum of Dartmoor Life in Okehampton!

If you have never been to visit us please come. We are a charity run museum with three floors of exhibits from the Bronze Age when people lived in huts on the Moors to the Romans, Middle Ages, Victorians and the 20th Century, all centered around Dartmoor's history, working life and pastimes. We have several exhibitions in our John Young Gallery every year and when covid restrictions allow we have many fun things for children to do or make. Your museum is not just for holiday makers, it's for local people too and a family ticket for 2 adults and 2 children costs just £13 and you can revisit as many times as you want for free for a year. We also do a 1 adult and 2 children ticket for just £9. If you'd like to encourage your children to visit please go to the Museum of Dartmoor Life YouTube page where we have five fun and educational films to share with you. See what our time travelling curator gets up to in the museum and out on Dartmoor National Park. We look forward to welcoming you.



DARTMOOR MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

Welcome from Dan Morrow, Trust Leader and Chief Executive Officer

Thank you is a small word and yet means everything and so I give thanks to the children, the staff and to our Communities for the immense effort that this year has represented. For the care, the empathy and the compassion we have shown each other. To not give in to cynicism, to keep our hearts and minds open through the most trying of times and to look to how we can serve others and not just ourselves. This is the basis of community; this is the basis of love.

We all have a part to play and in our attitudes and behaviours we seek to lay the footsteps for our young people to follow.

A true hero of mine is the wonderful Gareth Southgate and he has said it better than I could ever manage –

"I know my voice carries weight, not because of who I am, but because of the position I hold. I have a responsibility to the wider community to use my voice and so do the players. It's their duty to continue to interact with the public on matters such as equality, inclusivity and racial injustice while using the power of their voices to help put debates on the table, raise awareness and educate" – Gareth Southgate.



CILM conference

Last month, Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust held a 4-day conference hosted through the Cooperative Institute of Leadership and Management.

The Conference was entitled 'Reclaiming our Cooperative Identity' and was a mix of live and virtual presentations with each day, inviting leaders in schools across the Cooperative Schools Network to facilitate lively discussion. This assisted the Trust in understanding the unique way cooperation can transform our schools and communities and helped to plan the next exciting steps for Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust.

Sarah Jones, Executive Principal, who created the concept of the Conference said 'This was a unique opportunity for our school leaders to draw upon the collective wisdom of the Co-operative Schools network and to frame our future development as a successful Trust. The work we achieved together will enable us to embrace the challenges ahead for education in an optimistic and positive way. I am immensely grateful to everyone who participated, contributed and presented at the four day conference.'



Active Devon

Melissa Trudgill, Trust Community Engagement and Communications Manager has enjoyed working this month with PE Leads from our secondary schools and has been successful in applying for and receiving grants of £5,000 per school for the 'Opening School Facilities to the Community Fund' from Sport England and delivered locally by Active Devon. The grants are specifically focused on assisting schools to open their facilities to the community and are for revenue spend only.

Holsworthy Community College have been able to get funding for netball and football markings and the purchase of 5 table tennis tables which will be used for community use and extra-curricular clubs for the College students; Tavistock College will be using their grant to set up a new junior netball club for community access using the sports hall during times when it is left dormant and to widen the cricket appeal to SEND and disadvantaged students by providing coaching for them free of charge and in an accessible format. Okehampton College are excited to be purchasing new gym equipment and for coaching for some of the most disadvantaged students where an interest in some mixed martial arts has been identified and for catch up swimming lessons for those students who are unable to swim.



In partnership with
Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust

JUST £12 PER CAMP
9:30AM - 3:00PM EACH DAY



- Wednesday 11th August: Okehampton College
Use code OKEHAMPTO110821 to book
- Tuesday 17th August: Tavistock College
Use code TAVISTO170821 to book
- Wednesday 25th August: Holsworthy College
Use code HOLSWOR250821 to book

TO BOOK VISIT CAMPS.EXETERCHIEFS.CO.UK

Enter the relevant code into the 'Promotional Code' box.
Click into 'BUY' and scroll down to find your camp.



All of the children at **Black Torrington C of E School** participated in a drumming masterclass by Allan Kerr from Shumba Arts. Both classes spent a session in the hall learning how to play the African 'djembe' drum through call and response activities and lots of playing. Allan talked to the children about the origin of the African drum, how they are made and how they are used in African culture.



With trips out being cancelled due to Covid restrictions, at **South Tawton Primary** we're bringing the outside in! This half term we have a wide range of enrichment opportunities and visitors: a mobile rock pool, circus skills workshops, an inflatable obstacle course, a visiting zoo, science shows, a storyteller and fencing workshops!



At **Bradford Primary School**, to support their topic of Africa this term Class 2 were lucky to take part in an African art afternoon. They listened to a beautiful traditional story read by Bemba Akyeampong, and then created Ndebele artwork which is popular in South Africa, being used on clothes, accessories and houses. They had a lovely time getting their hands dirty and painting with their fingers!



Last week Year 5 and 6 from **Bridgerule Church of England Primary School** really enjoyed their Outdoor and Active days. They went kayaking in the morning, had a picnic on the beach, went surfing and then finished with chips on the beach. I really enjoyed the whole day – it was great to be outside all day' (Jaydon) 'I was really proud when I stood up on the surfboard' (Holly)



Lydford Primary School and Bridestowe Primary School – Residential 2021

On Thursday 1st July, Year 5 and 6 pupils from Lydford and Bridestowe Primary Schools, headed out to Adventure Okehampton to take part in outdoor activities. Lydford pupils enjoyed cycling + rock climbing + gorge scrambling whilst Bridestowe pupils took on the low ropes + archery + orienteering. After an adventure packed day, they returned to Bridestowe Primary for a socially distanced camp out in the school grounds where they enjoyed some games and toasted marshmallows around a campfire. On Friday morning they all returned to Adventure Okehampton this time with Bridestowe cycling + rock climbing + gorge scrambling whilst Lydford pupils mastered low ropes + archery + orienteering. It was fantastic to see the children enjoying such an enriching experience. A great time was had by all! Thank you to Mr Hill and the staff members that accompanied the children and to those involved in the organisation and catering.



At **Highampton Primary** this term, the children have had the benefit of Show Up's Harriet Davies Drama expertise and have put on an outdoor performance of Hansel and Gretel in our stunning school grounds.



At **Northlew C of E Primary** our key stage 2 children worked alongside Adela Webb, a local artist to create a range of smaller mosaics to place in our spiritual garden, when it is completed. I am sure you will agree that the children's finished artwork looks fantastic!



At **Boasley Cross School**, during the half term break a team of staff and volunteers worked together to improve our garden area. We were helped by so many, amongst them: moving soil (Susan Turner); donation and delivery of tree logs (Sarah and Herbie and Mr Telfer Smollett); donation and delivery of topsoil (Mr Simmons). A huge thanks to all, plus the children who tidied up and tested the logs!! We still desperately need compost, and plants including lavender, hebe, heather and vegetables.



At **North Tawton Community Primary School** we have been very excited to start using the school grounds for Forest School every week. We have been developing balance, strength and confidence on the rope course and zipline; working on problem solving and team work for our den building; planting new trees to grow our forest and exploring the natural environment. Oak class said they enjoy forest school because they get to explore the outdoors; learn how to be brave and have lots of adventures together.



At **Okehampton College** The Sensory Garden is coming along nicely with the students and staff of the Learning Support Faculty making the most of the drier weather and longer days. Wildlife is beginning to enjoy the setting and Year 7 have been busy using the space for Critical Thinking Interventions. The garden has already inspired some students to take photos at home in their spare time.



The children at **Chagford C of E Primary School** have had a great term with swimming, cricket and other activities helping to make the world of school feel more like normal times. We are particularly blessed in our beautiful gardens which a group of parents lovingly maintain. It's glorious sight as you approach the school.



At **Tavistock College** Sixth Former Anna Wilson's latest running challenge had been complete raising an amazing £200 for the MIND charity! Hopefully she will carry on with her running achievements.



At **St James C of E Primary** we have recently held Rainbow Day; this is a day that is annual at St James, that we have held since we have opened, where children spend the day thinking around the topic of acceptance of differences.



*'I am different just like you,
I think I'm sure that you know that too.
I am different with my eyes and ears,
You are fearless and I have fears.
Different is good, you are a star
Stay this way and be who you are'*
Freya, St James C of E Primary
Rainbow Day Poem

A group of **Holsworthy Community College** Year 9 students have been learning about the benefits of being part of a community in Enrichment this half term. As part of their course, they learnt about Holsworthy Foodbank and the work they do to help those in need in our local community. They spent a lesson learning about the foodbank and then approached staff for donations of packets and tins of food to send



to the foodbank. The staff were extremely generous and those who were asked, donated a wide range of products, including: tinned meat products, tinned fruit and vegetables, pasta, rice and instant mash. The final donation amounted to 30.8kg of food!

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO....

HOLSWORTHY YOUTH CLUB OPEN DAY!
COME ALONG TO SEE WHAT THE YOUTH CLUB HAS TO OFFER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN YEAR 6 AND ABOVE

SAT 24TH JULY 1-4PM

- MEET THE STAFF TEAM
- SUMO
- CIRCUS SKILLS
- MUSIC
- CRAFT ACTIVITIES
- REFRESHMENTS AND MORE.....

