

Scott Medical & Healthcare College Newsletter



October 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of this half-term, there is much to celebrate. We are delighted to be part of the top-performing trusts in the UK, and especially proud to be named the top-performing non-selective school in Plymouth—a true testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and staff.

This half-term has featured a fantastic array of trips and activities. Highlights include our annual campus clubs fair, the announcement of our new Poet Laureate, Isabelle, and Poetry Champion, Sophie, as well as the kickoff of our production of *Oliver Jr.* Additionally, our Year 12 and 13 students have enjoyed various trips, including visits to King's College London and the UWE Bristol and UCAS Fair.

In addition, we've been actively marking important occasions such as World Mental Health Day and Black History Month. Our students have engaged deeply with discussions and activities focused on these significant topics.

We are also excited to introduce our new house system, where students will belong to two houses: Nightingale and Seacole. Mrs. Harvey, our House Coordinator, has done a fantastic job working with our newly appointed house captains to design the logos and select charities for each house to fundraise for.

As we look ahead, we anticipate the next half-term to be just as bustling and rewarding!

Best wishes,
Anita Frier, Headteacher

MEET OUR NEW POET LAUREATE. ISABELLE. AND CAMPUS POETRY CHAMPION. SOPHIE!

We are delighted to announce that Isabelle, our talented Year 10 student, has been crowned the new Poet Laureate following a rigorous competition with exceptional entries from all year groups. Additionally, Sophie, our gifted Year 11 student, has been named the new Campus Poetry Champion and will collaborate with the Poet Laureates, offering guidance and support to inspire students to explore poetry and self-expression.

Isabelle, our new Poet Laureate said, "I am truly honoured to be voted to be our schools poet laureate for this year. I look forward to seeing what I can bring to Scott College."



Isabelle's Poem: All Because I Can Count

Take a breath,
Count to five.
Count, count, count
Count to survive.
5 things you can see:
my reflection in the mirror,
that flickering light,
the open bathroom door,
my messy hair
and my glasses on the sink.
4 things you can feel:
these itchy tights,
this claustrophobic collar,
my mascara too chunky
and this skirt that would look good in teal.
3 things you can hear:
my heavy breathing,
the chatter that seems so distant yet so close
and my racing heart as if I'm in fear.
2 things you can smell:
the scent of my perfume
and the smell of the hand soap left over in the school sink
1 thing you can taste:
the taste of lemon from the cake I got in the canteen
0 seconds to think clearly
0 seconds to look in the mirror and pull myself together.
I'm still counting
The seconds until I suck in another breath
The seconds I wash my face in the sink and pull myself back-
Just count!
The numbers never change
Counting all the same.
10 breaths in 10 breaths out
Back to reality
All because I count.

[CLICK HERE TO READ ISABELLE'S STORY...](#)

[CLICK HERE TO READ SOPHIE'S STORY...](#)

Exploring Human Anatomy at King's College London

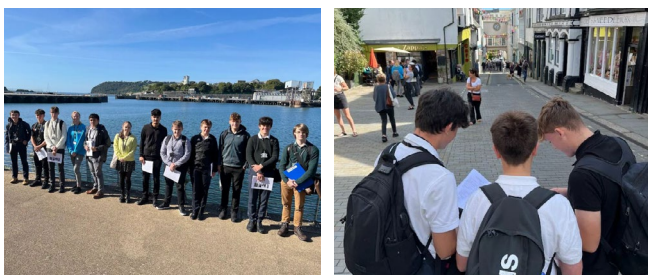
At the end of the summer term, a group of students set off before daybreak for an extraordinary day at King's College London's Dissection Room.

This unique educational experience allowed the students to engage with material far beyond the classroom. They heard from Dr. Paul Johns, BSc BM MSc FAcadMED FRSB FRCPath, NHS Consultant (Pathology) and Reader in Clinical Neuroanatomy, who explained the brain's structure using medically donated specimens.

In addition to their deep dive into neuroanatomy, the students also explored preserved human cadavers housed in the dissection room.

Reflecting on the experience, one student remarked, *"What an incredible day! This was such an amazing experience, and I learnt so much!"*

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE...](#)



SIXTH FORM GEOGRAPHERS VISIT MILLBAY AND TOTNES

Our Sixth Form geography students had the chance to step outside the classroom and explore the real-world geography of Millbay and Totnes. The trip was designed to help them understand the concept of "changing places" and see first-hand how different areas adapt to economic and social shifts.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE...](#)



UWE BRISTOL AND UCAS FAIR

Our Year 12 students had the chance to visit UWE Bristol, where they had the opportunity to explore university life and tour their different departments including: Business, Engineering, and Medicine.

They also attended the UCAS fair at Ashton Gate, where they connected a range of universities and apprenticeship providers.

The trip was both inspiring and productive, giving students valuable insight as they plan their future career paths.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE...](#)

EXPLORING THE WELSH COASTLINE

Our Year 12 biology students from across the campus travelled to the far western tip of Wales for a biology field work course, contributing to the practical component of their A-level studies.

They spent an incredible week at the Dale Fort Field Studies Centre, discussing the balance of ecosystems, becoming patient crab catchers, and some even became dedicated bee rescuers to help the local bee population.

Reflecting on the trip, Dr. Wright commented, *"The students were outstanding. Spending time with such an amazing group of young people was a real privilege for all involved."*

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Campus production of 'Oliver Jr' announced



The Oliver Jr rehearsals are off to a fantastic start, with over 100 students from both schools involved both on and off stage. Throughout this first half-term, the cast has been working hard on choreography for "Food Glorious Food" and "Oom-Pah-Pah," attending four rehearsals a week—choreography on Mondays, acting on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and singing on Wednesdays.

Students of all years are showing great dedication, and impressive characterisation is already emerging. Mr. Bond's choreography sessions are full of energy, bringing the songs to life, while Mr. Bullard and Mrs. Clift focus on blocking the acting scenes. Meanwhile, Mrs. Yarwood and Mr. Harewood are perfecting the vocals, making "Food, Glorious Food" look and sound amazing.

With so much enthusiasm and teamwork already, it's shaping up to be a brilliant production. We are so excited to watch the final show in February.

Keep an eye out for more updates and how you can purchase your tickets.



Inspiring Talk by Chiropractor Dr. Jonathan Clarke

We had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Jonathan M. Clarke, a chiropractor, who delivered an inspiring and engaging talk to students in Years 9 through 12.

Dr. Clarke introduced the students to the world of chiropractic care, explaining how it focuses on the neuromusculoskeletal system, including bones, nerves, muscles, and tendons. He talked about how gentle adjustments to the spine can relieve pain and improve overall health.

Dr. Clarke also discussed how the body heals itself and emphasised that chiropractic care works alongside other treatments like physiotherapy and GP support. He also shared information about the Scotland College of Chiropractic (SCC), where a new professional degree is offered to train future chiropractors.

During the Q&A, Year 10 student Grace asked "Where is the worst place you have had to treat a patient?". Dr. Clarke's humorous response sparked laughter and some wincing from the audience as he humorously described the experience. Emma said, "He was so funny, I loved listening to him. It felt like he was telling a story."

Dr. Clarke's engaging style, funny stories, and valuable health tips made the talk a hit—one Year 12 student even said, "That was the best speaker ever!"

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE...](#)



Celebrating Max: Our Summer Placement Star!

We're thrilled to celebrate one of our outstanding Year 11 students, Max, for his exceptional summer work experience at Babcock International in Plymouth. During his placement, Max had the opportunity to explore the inner workings of one of the UK's leading engineering companies.

Over the course of the week, he toured warships, visited a variety of workshops, and even had the chance to sit in on high-level meetings with senior staff.

Reflecting on his time at Babcock, Max said, *"The whole experience was really eye-opening. I enjoyed exploring the different areas of work that Babcock offers, from engineering to shipbuilding, and I'm incredibly grateful to the staff for making it such an insightful and inspiring week."*

Inspired by his time at Babcock, Max has already started making plans for his future. He shared, *"I'm applying for an apprenticeship in electrical fitting at Babcock this November. I'm hoping to begin my apprenticeship after completing my GCSEs."*



Year 13 Student Millie Shines in Nuffield Research Placement

This summer, Millie took part in the prestigious Nuffield Research Placements at the University of Plymouth, working with Dr. Subhan in the Health Faculty, assisting with data processing for a project titled *"Investigating the acute effect of transcutaneous vagal stimulation on physiological parameters in healthy subjects."*



Alongside students from across the city, Millie also developed a poster to present their findings. Her dedication and hard work earned her a Gold CREST Award!

This experience was life-changing for Millie, inspiring her to reconsider her degree plans. She now hopes to study Biomedical Science, a path she hadn't considered before the placement.

World Mental Health Day

In honour of World Mental Health Day, students participated in special assemblies focused on the importance of mental health and wore yellow accessories throughout the day to show their support.

The more people who stand out and show up, the more comfortable young people will feel about talking to someone if they are struggling.

Remember: There are always staff in school to talk to, however you are feeling, it matters. Talk 2 us is available for students to raise any concerns or worries.

talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net



DIARY DATES

SDCC Remembrance Service
Monday 11th November

Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams
Monday 25th November - Friday 6th December

Sixth Form Parents Evening
Tuesday 17th December

You can also reach out to **YoungMinds** at www.youngminds.org.uk who are there to support young people and their mental health.

Campus Clubs Fair



Students from all-year groups came together for our annual Cross-Campus Clubs Fayre. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as students explored a variety of extracurricular activities, signed up for their top choices, and got to know the staff behind each club.

Our clubs cover a broad spectrum of interests. Whether you're into sports, performing arts, visual arts, English, Maths, IT, or cooking, there's something for everyone.

For those with unique hobbies, we also offer special interest clubs. Pokémon fans can get involved in the Pokémon Club, while students seeking a peaceful and creative outlet can join the Mindfulness Club.

Other clubs that sparked interest amongst students include the Diversity Club and the LGBTQIA+ Club. These groups provide safe and welcoming spaces for students to connect, share experiences, and build a sense of community.

As clubs begin, we're excited to see students engage in these incredible opportunities.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE...](#)



Celebrating Black History Month 2024

As Black History Month 2024 unfolds, our school community comes together to celebrate the invaluable contributions of black individuals to British society. This month offers a vital opportunity to recognise the rich history, vibrant cultures, and significant achievements of black people, who have played a crucial role in shaping the social landscape of the UK.



To support our commitment to recognising these trailblazers, we have organised a variety of educational activities throughout the month. Students from all backgrounds have engaged in lessons about influential black figures in history. Learning about their struggles and triumphs serves as a source of inspiration, fostering empowerment and self-belief within our student body.

Black History Month is not just about education; it's also a celebration of the diverse cultures and traditions that enrich our community. As part of our celebrations, students have had the opportunity to explore different cuisines, tasting dishes from various cultures.

Additionally, we have set up presentations on screens around our school, showcasing the lives and achievements of notable black individuals.

Together, we can amplify their voices and ensure that their stories continue to inspire and drive progress in our society.



NEW HOUSE SYSTEM

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new House System, which brings the introduction of two new houses: Seacole and Nightingale. This exciting initiative will foster a sense of community and healthy competition across the school. A special thanks to Mrs. Harvey, our House Coordinator, who has worked closely with our newly appointed house captains to design the vibrant logos and select meaningful charities for each house to support throughout the year.

What is the House System?

In our new system, every student and staff member will belong to one of two houses—Seacole or Nightingale. Students, through their tutor groups, and staff will work together to earn House Points, which will contribute to various rewards throughout the year. Points will be tallied every two weeks and added toward a total at the end of each term, culminating in exciting rewards and recognition for the winning house.

How can students get points?

- 100% weekly attendance
- 100% Sparx completion
- Participation in clubs and activities

We look forward to seeing the enthusiasm and teamwork that Seacole and Nightingale will inspire in our school community!



Nightingale House Captains
Jack and Rhianna



Seacole House Captains
Joshua and Nicole



Watch out for more updates on our social media channels!

NEW SPORTS FACILITIES

Our new expansion of sporting facilities is well underway here at Scott Medical and Healthcare College and Stoke Damerel Community College.

As part of the city's ongoing investment in sports facilities, a brand new, 2G sand pitch will be installed for both school and community use with modern flood lighting to ensure that it can be used all year round for hockey.

Meanwhile, a smaller rubber-crumb 3G surface will also be built for use for football and contact rugby training will replace the standing 20 year-old artificial surface.

An improved grass playing pitch is also part of the overall offering.

The plans complement the work already underway to transform the former Brickfields Sports Centre into a new community health and wellbeing hub that will be operated by the Argyle Community Trust.

Over the past six months, the Council and it's partners have been working with representatives from the hockey community to identify a new site for the sport in the west of the city with our campus selected as the best location.



Councillor Sue Dann, Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Sport, Leisure and HR, said: *"The plans for these new facilities look really impressive and will provide a fantastic base for numerous sports from across the city."*

Dan Cole, Senior Assistant Headteacher, from SMHC/SDCC Campus, said: *"We are thrilled to announce continued investment with the building of our state-of-the-art sports facilities on the campus. These facilities will allow us to build upon our current PE and sport provision within the College, whilst also offering opportunities that extend far into our local community. We are excited to watch the impact of these facilities and how they help to inspire and empower our students and the wider community to reach for new heights of excellence. Together, we are building a brighter and more promising future for all."*

[CLICK HERE TO READ OUR RECENT UPDATE...](#)

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

Safeguarding your young person over the Half-term break

Vaping Update:

Our ongoing efforts to educate students and prevent vaping have resulted in a noticeable reduction in the number of vaping incidents within the college. We are committed to fostering a safe and healthy environment for all students, and part of that commitment includes addressing the risks associated with vaping.

During the week of October 7th, all vapes that were confiscated during school hours were sent to the police for testing. The goal is to analyze the chemicals contained in these devices, particularly those purchased illegally by young people.

This will enable us to expand our educational efforts and gain deeper insight into the broader community challenges related to the illegal sale of vapes and the potential risks involved.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing support as we tackle this important issue together. Your involvement is crucial in helping us maintain a safe environment and ensure the well-being of our students.



App Aware: Chill Panda - mobile app to improve wellbeing

Discover how to relax, manage stress, and boost your overall well-being with Chill Panda.

This innovative app helps you track your heart rate and provides personalized activities designed to match your current state of mind. These activities include calming breathing exercises and gentle physical movements to help you refocus and ease your worries.

Chill Panda is completely free to download from both the App Store and Google Play. The app is compatible with mobile devices equipped with a camera, making it easy to use anytime, anywhere.

It is a great way to take the first step toward a calmer, more balanced life with Chill Panda today!



TALK 2 US

Talk 2 us is available for students to raise any concerns or worries.

talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net

Collection of students after school

Please be considerate when collecting your child/children from school.

Please abide by the following: If parking in the City Business Park car park, please ensure you use the designated parking bays and the one-way system is adhered to.

Please do not: park on double yellow lines, in front of driveways or obstruct bays.

We have a role to play to support our community. Please be considerate and courteous of other people, recognising that people live and work within the local area.

Thank you for your cooperation.

CLUBS

AUTUMN 2024



Scott
Scott Medical and Healthcare College

EVERYDAY

CAMPUS RADIO

Who? All years | *Where?* TBC
When? Break A & B

SPARX SUPPORT

Who? Y9-11 | *Where?* GF04
When? Break A & B

MONDAY

ROCK CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* PA 2
When? 3-4pm

SIGN LANGUAGE

Who? All years | *Where?* GF01
When? Break A

PRODUCTION DANCE

Who? All years | *Where?* PA1
When? 3.10-5pm

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

BADMINTON CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* Sports hall
When? Break A

MONDAY, TUESDAY & FRIDAY

BASKETBALL/NETBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Sports hall
When? Break B

TUESDAY

SDCC SINGERS

Who? All years | *Where?* PA4
When? 3-4pm

DIVERSITY

Who? All years | *Where?* GF01
When? Break B

RUGBY

Who? All years | *Where?* Astro/Central Park
When? 3.10-4pm

FOOTBALL

Who? Year 9 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

TEXTILES: DIY FASHION

Who? All years | *Where?* VA2
When? 3.10-4pm

DIGITAL AMBASSADORS

Who? All years | *Where?* CT2
When? 3.10-4pm

MONEY MATTERS

Who? Years 9-13 | *Where?* EB12
When? 3.10-4pm

ECO COUNCIL

Who? Years 9-13 | *Where?* EB15
When? Break B

PRODUCTION ACTING

Who? All years | *Where?* Theatre
When? 3.10-5pm

MODERN BRITAIN

DEBATING CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* EB10
When? 3.10-4pm

THE CONTEMPORARY MUSIC CLUB

Who? Years 9-11 | *Where?* PA2
When? 3.15-4.15pm

POKEMON

Who? All years | *Where?* CT1
When? Break B

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

FITNESS SUITE

Who? Years 9 & 10 | *Where?* Fitness Suite
When? 3.10-4pm

WEDNESDAY

NEEDLE POINT

Who? All years | *Where?* Ma9
When? 3-4pm

NETBALL

Who? All years | *Where?* Netball Courts
When? 3.10-4pm

BASKETBALL

Who? Year 9 | *Where?* Sports Hall
When? 3.10-4pm

ART AND CLAY CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* VA3
When? 3.10-4pm

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* VA1
When? 3.10-4pm

PRODUCTION SINGERS

Who? All years | *Where?* PA2
When? 3.10-4.30pm

THURSDAY

KEYBOARD CLUB

Who? All years | *Where?* PA2
When? 3-4pm

CHILD DEVELOPMENT REVISION SUPPORT

Who? Years 10 & 11 | *Where?* GF01
When? Break B

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Who? Year 9 | *Where?* Astro
When? 3.10-4pm

STEAM

Who? All years | *Where?* CT1
When? 3.10-4pm

PRODUCTION ACTING

Who? All years | *Where?* Theatre
When? 3.10-5pm

PRODUCTION DIGITAL MARKETING

Who? All years | *Where?* CT3
When? 3.10-4pm

FRIDAY

FURTHER MATHS

Who? Year 11 set 1s only | *Where?* TBC
When? 3-4pm

Care to Learn, Learn to Care