

# Scott Medical & Healthcare College Newsletter



December 2025



Dear Parents/Carers,

Throughout the Christmas term, our schedule has been packed with a wide variety of enriching activities that have enhanced our students' educational journey. From engaging talks, workshops and trips, every day has offered valuable learning opportunities.

This term was particularly festive thanks to our 12 Days of Christmas celebrations. Students and staff enjoyed decorating the Christmas tree with handmade baubles, lively DJ sessions, Christmas-oke, Reindeer Relays, festive films, silent discos, and staff competitions — bringing energy, creativity, and plenty of holiday cheer to our campus.

Among other highlights were our collective efforts in supporting Remembrance Day and Children in Need, demonstrating the compassion and community spirit that define our school.

As we close this term, we look forward to continuing these exciting events in the New Year, fostering a dynamic and enriching learning environment for all.

Best wishes,  
**Anita Frier, Headteacher**

## Rainbow Flag Award

We are delighted to announce that SMHC has been awarded the Rainbow Flag Award, recognising our commitment to creating a safe, inclusive environment where LGBTQIA+ young people can thrive.

Over the past year, staff and students have participated in workshops, training sessions, and a campus-wide inclusion audit, reflecting on how to embed inclusive practices across all subjects.

Rhianna and Kathleen, Year 12 students, said: "We have been part of The Power of Us inclusive lunchtime club for several years, and attending an open student discussion workshop is just perfect to hear our voices and support each other." They added, "We are an important team."

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## POET LAUREATE CHRISTMAS POEM

### Christmas

Snow hushes streets in silver light,  
Windows glow warm against the night.  
A kettle sings, the fire hums low,  
Old stories drift like falling snow.

Presents wait with patient cheer,  
Wrapped in hope for those held dear.  
Laughter spills, soft bells chime,  
Love feels generous with time.

Outside, the world slows down its race,  
Inside, hearts find gentler space.  
And in this pause, both bright and calm,  
Christmas leaves its quiet calm

**By Sophie, Poet Laureate**



## Students visit Auschwitz

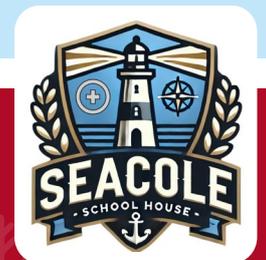
Six of our Year 12 and 13 students were selected for the Lessons from Auschwitz project, an incredible opportunity run by the Holocaust Educational Trust to help young people understand the history and impact of the Holocaust.

During the one-day visit, students toured both Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau with guidance from a Holocaust Educational Trust expert and a local historian.

In the evening, students took part in a reflective ceremony, where Year 12 student Ben read a poem written by a Holocaust victim.

Rhianna reflected: "The ceremony was particularly my favourite part - lighting candles to shine light in the darkness of Birkenau is something I'll never forget."

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



## 12 Days of Christmas!

This year's 12 Days of Christmas brought a wonderful burst of festive cheer to the college community. Students and staff enjoyed a packed schedule of activities, from decorating our Christmas tree with handmade baubles to energetic DJ sessions, Christmas-oke performances, and a lively Year 9 Basketball vs Netball match.

Highlights included our fun-filled "Hide and Geese" challenge, the festive House Christmas Film, the Reindeer Relay, and a brilliant Christmas Just Dance! session in the Main Hall. Staff got competitive in a volleyball match, while Year 11 enjoyed their Christmas Dinner and Prom Launch. Christmas Jumper Day, silent discos, and fantastic musical performances from Richard Pinn added even more festive spirit.

We rounded off the celebrations with our Christmas assemblies, bringing everyone together to reflect on a busy term.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part — and to those who supported our charity buckets throughout the 12 days. It was a wonderful way to end the term!

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE...](#)



## Max's Royal Navy Journey

Former student Max has begun an exciting new chapter in the Royal Navy after completing a challenging 10-week basic training programme.

Max said, "I'm now studying basic Weapons Engineering theory at HMS Collingwood until September 2026 before moving to Scotland for Submarine training. Being on the Fast-Track programme, made possible by my strong GCSE results, gives me the opportunity for quicker promotion within the Royal Navy. I owe a lot to Scott College for helping me achieve this."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE...](#)



## Remembrance Day 2025

Our school community came together for a heartfelt Remembrance Day commemoration, honouring the bravery and sacrifice of those who served in the World Wars. In the lead-up to the event, students and staff worked on creative projects to raise awareness, including a poppy display and a beautiful poppy dress from the Art Department. The Diversitas Team also crafted Black Poppy roses to recognise the contributions of Black, African, and Caribbean communities during the war.

On Friday, the whole school gathered on the blue astro pitch for a moving service led by Mrs Frier and Mr Oakes. Our Poet Laureate, Sophie, opened with an original poem, followed by the two-minute silence at 11:00 am. Head Student Ava, House Captains, and a CCF representative then laid poppy wreaths in remembrance.

A special highlight was the parade of students from the CCF, RAF, Army Cadets, Sea Cadets, St John Ambulance Cadets, and Scouts, standing proudly as symbols of courage and service.

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

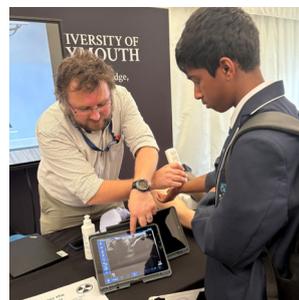
## Students Explore the World of Health and Social Care at the University of Plymouth

Our Year 10 students had an incredible opportunity to explore the world of Health and Social Care at the University of Plymouth's inspiring showcase event! From hands-on activities to eye-opening talks, they discovered the amazing variety of careers within the sector and learned about the many exciting pathways leading to university-level study. It was a day full of inspiration, curiosity, and future possibilities!

Johan said, "I am really interested in going into Radiography, so having the chance to use a Doppler to see all the muscles and tendons in my arm was incredible!"

Isla added "Getting the chance to deliver a baby on a training dummy was such an amazing experience! It's made me even more excited about becoming a midwife one day."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE...](#)



DIARY DATES

**Year 11 Parents Evening**  
Thursday 8th January

**Holocaust Memorial Day**  
Tuesday 27th January

**Campus Sixth Form Open Evening**  
Thursday 29th January

**High School Musical Jr Production**  
Tuesday 10th - Thursday 12th February

## Alumni Spotlight: Matei – University College London



Former Scott College student Matei describes his medical degree at University College London as “challenging but enjoyable!” Now in his third year, he continues to thrive as he learns from leading experts, gains hands-on experience in whole-body dissection, and deepens his growing interest in neurology.

After meeting several neurosurgeons and discovering a fascination with the brain, Matei chose to extend his course to six years so he could study neurology in greater depth. He has also embraced life in London, joining societies, making new friends from around the world, and enjoying the diverse experiences university life has to offer.

Matei credits Scott College for helping him reach this stage in his journey. He explains that the support he received - particularly with the demanding admissions exams - played a key role in helping him secure a place on one of the most competitive courses in the country.

*“I’m doing things I never dreamed I would do, and I’m living my best life. Studying medicine is tough, but it’s absolutely worth it — and I’m so grateful for the support that helped me get here.”*

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE...](#)

## Reminder SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING THURSDAY 29TH JANUARY

### Students Meet the Livewell Mental Health in Schools Support Team

Our Year 9, 10 and Sixth Form students recently met the Livewell MHS Team to learn about the vital support they provide for young people across Plymouth.

The team explained how they help students and work with schools to promote a Whole School Approach to emotional wellbeing. They also gave students an insight into careers in mental health.

Year 13 student Eva said, *“The talk highlighted the importance of recognising early signs of mental health issues and how the team supports young people in schools. I enjoyed learning about the work they do and how we can get involved.”*

[READ THE FULL STORY...](#)



## Trangia training for our Silver DofE Students

Our Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh students showed great skill and determination during a recent recapping session, cooking up delicious meals on the trangias.

A special mention goes to Henry, who impressed everyone by preparing a full eggs Benedict, complete with sauce – using his very own egg poaching kit!

The session highlighted not only the students’ cooking abilities but also their growth and teamwork since completing their Bronze Award last year. We are really proud of our young people and their continued development in the DofE programme.



# CLUBS

## SPRING 2026



**Scott**  
Scott Medical and Healthcare College

### EVERYDAY

#### MORNING FOOTBALL

*Who?* All years | *Where?* Green Astro  
*When?* Before School

#### BREAKFAST CLUB

*Who?* All years | *Where?* KS4 Canteen  
*When?* 7.45am

#### CAMPUS RADIO CLUB

*Who?* All years | *Where?* EB17  
*When?* Break A & B

### TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

#### SCHOOL PRODUCTION

*Who?* All years  
*Where?* Theatre (Main Space)/PA1 & PA2  
*When?* 3-5pm

### TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

#### STEAM

*Who?* All years  
*Where?* SDCC - CT1 (Tuesday)  
SMHC - FF03 (Wednesday)  
*When?* After school

#### FITNESS

*Who?* Years 7 & 8 | *Where?* FT1  
*When?* After school

#### SIXTH FORM GYM

*Who?* Years 12 & 13 | *Where?* FT1  
*When?* Wednesday Week A  
Tuesday Week B  
3.10-4pm

### THURSDAY

#### DoF CLUB BRONZE

*Who?* Years 9 and 10 (will have pre-signed up)  
*Where?* KS3 Canteen  
*When?* After school

#### DoF CLUB SILVER

*Who?* Years 9 and 10 (will have pre-signed up)  
*Where?* KS3 Canteen  
*When?* After school Week B

#### E-SPORTS

*Who?* All years | *Where?* CT3  
*When?* After school

#### RUGBY

*Who?* All years | *Where?* Green Astro  
*When?* After school

#### BOYS FOOTBALL

*Who?* All years 9 & 10 | *Where?* Blue Astro  
*When?* After school

#### BENCHBALL

*Who?* Years 7, 8 & 9 | *Where?* Sports Hall  
*When?* After school

#### FITNESS

*Who?* All Years | *Where?* FT1  
*When?* After school

#### MEDIA CLUB

*Who?* Years 7-10 | *Where?* VA5  
*When?* After school

#### eSPORTS (ROCKET LEAGUE)

*Who?* All years | *Where?* CT3  
*When?* 3-4pm

### MONDAY

#### BASKETBALL

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

#### ARGYLE COMMUNITY TRUST FOOTBALL (GIRLS ONLY)

*Who?* All years | *Where?* Green Astro  
*When?* After school

### TUESDAY

#### READING CLUB

*Who?* Years 7-9 | *Where?* Library  
*When?* Break A

#### POWER OF US LGBTQIA+

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

#### TEXTILES CLUB

*Who?* All years | *Where?* VA2  
*When?* After school

#### NETBALL

*Who?* All years | *Where?* Sports Hall/Courts  
*When?* After school

#### BADMINTON

*Who?* All Years | *Where?* Sports Hall  
*When?* After school

### WEDNESDAY

#### ART & CLAY ART

*Who?* All years | *Where?* VA3  
*When?* After school

#### GIRLS FOOTBALL

*Who?* All years | *Where?* Green Astro  
*When?* After school

#### DODGEBALL

*Who?* All years | *Where?* Gym Zone  
*When?* After school

#### EPQ DROP IN SESSION

*Who?* Sixth Form | *Where?* SMHC SF07  
*When?* Break B

#### BIOLOGY INTERVENTION

*Who?* Yr 13 Biologists | *Where?* SC13  
*When?* 4-5pm

### MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

#### LIBRARY

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

### FRIDAY

#### CCF

*Who?* Years 10-13 (Invite only)  
*Where?* Off site  
*When?* After school

#### FURTHER MATHS

*Who?* Year 11 (top maths sets only)  
*Where?* MA6  
*When?* 3-4pm

Care to Learn, Learn to Care

# SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

## Online Safety Over Christmas: Important Guidance for Families

With the Christmas holidays approaching, many children will be spending more time online—whether through new devices, gaming, or social media. As the UK continues to strengthen online safety rules and age-verification expectations under the Online Safety Act, this is an ideal time for families to support safe and positive digital habits at home.

### Talk About Online Expectations

Children often hear mixed messages from friends or social media. Remind them that many platforms have 13+ or 16+ age limits to protect wellbeing and privacy. Encourage open conversations about what they do online and reassure them that they can always talk to you if something worries them.

### Set Up Devices Together

If your child receives new technology this Christmas, set it up side-by-side by checking:

- Privacy settings
- App downloads requiring parent approval
- Location sharing turned off
- Age-appropriate content filters
- Safe chat or messaging settings

This helps children understand how to protect themselves online.

### Create Simple Family Rules

Agree on:

- No secret accounts
- Keeping social media profiles private
- Not chatting with strangers
- Thinking before posting photos or personal details

Consistency across siblings keeps expectations clear.

### Be Aware of Online Risks

More holiday screen time can mean increased exposure to:

- Cyberbullying in group chats
- Fake accounts or strangers in games
- Pressure to share personal information
- Harmful or inappropriate content
- Online scams disguised as competitions or gifts

A simple message that can help build trust:

“If anything online makes you feel uncomfortable, tell me—you won’t be in trouble.”

## Where to Get Support

If you need help or advice:

### CEOP

Report serious online concerns

### NSPCC

[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

### Childline

Support for children (0800 1111)

### Report Harmful Content

[www.iwf.org.uk](http://www.iwf.org.uk)

### School Safeguarding Team

[safeguarding@sdcc-smhc.net](mailto:safeguarding@sdcc-smhc.net)

[talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net](mailto:talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net)

## A Positive Digital Christmas

By discussing online use, setting up devices safely, and staying connected to your child’s digital world, families can help ensure a safe, enjoyable, and confident online experience over the festive break.

*Have a safe Christmas!*

*Mr Kelly and the Safeguarding Team*

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

**[talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net](mailto:talk2us@sdcc-smhc.net)**