

5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

## This Week's News

- Opening of The Elizabeth Lee Building
- Ten Tors Success
- Progress Evening Review
- Wellbeing Fayre
- Activity Week

### Key Dates:

May

8<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday

11<sup>th</sup> – Official Opening Elizabeth Lee Building

26<sup>th</sup> – last day of half term

## The Opening of The Elizabeth Lee Building

The return to College from the Easter holiday was a very exciting one for all students and staff as we took ownership of The Elizabeth Lee Building on Green Close. The building was funded as part of the Priority Build Project for schools costing close to £13,000,000. We are delighted with the much needed investment, which has been nearly ten years in planning and took two years to build.

Over that time several staff have worked tirelessly to ensure the building provides the best learning and working environments for both students and staff. We are also extremely pleased to offer the building up for community use.

The building houses classrooms for humanities subjects, ICT suites, three Drama studios, a theatre, a library, Food and Nutrition classrooms, Design Technology rooms, Science labs and our Key Stage 3 Achievement Hub. All with state of the art facilities, including up to date technology.

We officially open The Elizabeth Lee Building next week during which students will take part in workshops with The Royal Marine Band and also Le Navet Bete Theatre Company.

We will share photos of the event in our next Parent and Carer news, however, you can view a tour of the building on our YouTube channel here: [Tour of Elizabeth Lee Building](#)

## Ten Tors Success

Our Ten Tors teams headed out onto Dartmoor last weekend to compete in the Ten Tors challenge. Three teams completed and were a credit to their families and the College. A huge congratulations to all the students who have taken part in the training as well as the event. We would like to thank our community volunteers who have given up their time to support our students. A big thank you to Mr Turner, Mr Stanier and our Ten Tors staff who have spent months coordinating the training programme as well as the events themselves. We are extremely lucky that we have staff who volunteer their time so selflessly. We could not be more proud of all the students who put themselves forward for the challenge.



Please see below for more photos and details from Mr Turner.

## Progress evening Review

During this academic year we have continued to host our Parent and Carer Progress Evenings online. We are reviewing this option as we would like to invite parents and carers onsite to meet with staff face to face. Please complete this form to let us know your opinion on Progress Evenings remaining online or returning to face to face: [Progress Evening Review Form](#)

## Activity Week

A reminder that all Activity Week final payments must be made via Squid by the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. If you need to discuss your payment, please email [activitiesweek@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:activitiesweek@exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk).

## Parent and Carer Questionnaire

Please take a few moments to complete our [Parent and Carer Questionnaire](#). We really value your feedback and use it to further improve all aspects of the College.

## Reporting Absence

To report absence please visit the Contact Us page of our website [here](#). We are no longer using the form to report absence

## Vacancies in College

We have a number of **new vacancies** advertised on our website: [Here](#)

Posts Include:

- Lead Practitioner for English
- Cover Coordinators
- Evening Caretaker
- Peripatetic Music Teachers
- Casual Supply Teachers
- BSL Inclusion Worker
- Meal Time Assistants

Not seen a job for you? Use our Talent Pool form to join our mailing list should appropriate career opportunities arise:  
[Exmouth Community College - Join Talent Pool \(exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk\)](https://exmouthcollege.devon.sch.uk)

## Student Success

### Year 13 Chemists Take Silver and Bronze

Year 13 Chemistry students Alberta Sprague and Kirsten Waller have achieved Silver and Bronze awards in this year's Royal Society of Chemistry International Chemistry Olympiad. This year saw more than 11,000 students attempt this extremely challenging 2-hour exam based activity. Students were required to apply their knowledge and understanding to many real-life chemistry examples. Securing silver and bronze awards put Alberta and Kirsten in the top 30% and 70% of this prestigious group respectively, and they deserve huge congratulations for their effort and resilience in undertaking this on top of all their other commitments.





## Ten Tors

The popularity of the Ten Tors programme has increased significantly over the last few years. In October last year we had over 60 students from Year 10 and 11 sign up to join us for an initial navigation skills session in school, followed by a walk on Woodbury Common where they were able to put those skills in practice.

Between November 2022 and March 2023 the students undertook several day expeditions on Dartmoor and with each the distance, weight they were carrying and technical difficulty gradually increased. The students became more independent in their ability to route plan, navigate, and manage group morale. There were several classroom sessions in between the day expeditions where we were able to teach more advanced navigation skills, first aid and kit care. We were so impressed with the grit and determination that this cohort demonstrated throughout the first stage of training.

At the end of March we moved on to the second training stage and introduced the first weekend expedition which included the first of two wild camps. This is always a big step up from the day walks but, despite heavier packs, a much longer route and some inclement weather, the students remained remarkably strong. They had been given a session at school where they were taught how to efficiently set up camp and prepare food and this experience paid dividends when the heavens opened just as we arrived at camp. We were really impressed with just how much care they took of each other, helping others to get their tents erected and making sure everyone quickly got a hot meal.



ready.

When the event weekend arrived we had already been up to Dartmoor to set up a basecamp so that when we took the students up there on the Friday it was all ready for them. We had three 35mile teams and one 45 mile team. The teams had been given their route allocations and spent the Friday afternoon carefully refining their route plans and checking kit. We cooked them dinner and they retired to bed early in preparation for the 5am wakeup call. On the Saturday morning, fuelled by porridge and sausage baps, we walked them up to the start line along with 2400 nervous and excited participants from all over the South West. The cannon fired to signal the start of the event and off they went on their great adventure.

On the Sunday morning we could not have been prouder to see all of our teams to arrive back into the camp to such a hero's welcome, and all of them in such good spirits. Thousands of spectators lined the walk in to cheer our teams on in those last few hundred yards.

We are so proud of all of our amazing Ten Tors participants, and all of those students who trained with us along the way.

