



THE COLYTONIAN SUMMER 2026

CELEBRATING OUR EVENTS, SPORTS AND STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENTS BETWEEN APRIL AND JULY 2026



Keep in Touch with Us

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we reach the end of another academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the school and, most importantly, for entrusting us with the education and care of your children.

The close of the school year naturally invites reflection. We celebrate examination successes, musical performances, sporting achievements, university offers, leadership roles and countless individual accomplishments.



These are important milestones, and our students have every reason to be proud of what they have achieved. Yet education is about far more than a collection of results or destinations. It is, above all, about the person a young individual becomes along the way.

In our final assembly, I reflected on one of the oldest stories ever told: The Odyssey. Although it is often described as the story of Odysseus' long journey home, it is perhaps better understood as the story of a man becoming capable of reaching home. By the time he returns to Ithaca after twenty years, the destination has remained the same, but the traveller has been transformed. That seems to me to capture the essence of education.

Each September our students arrive thinking about timetables, examinations, university aspirations and future careers. Those ambitions matter, and as a selective school we rightly encourage academic excellence, intellectual curiosity and high aspirations. However, our greater responsibility is to ensure that, alongside scholarship, our students develop wisdom, resilience, integrity and compassion.

Throughout this year many students have discovered talents they did not know they possessed. Others have quietly overcome setbacks that few people around them ever recognised. Some of the most significant achievements will never appear on a certificate: learning to persevere when things become difficult; learning to apologise with sincerity; learning to encourage a friend; learning that another person's success never diminishes one's own. These are the qualities that endure long after examination grades have faded into memory.

One episode from *The Odyssey* remains especially relevant today. Faced with the irresistible song of the Sirens, Odysseus does not rely upon his own strength alone. Instead, he asks his crew to bind him securely to the mast of his ship, recognising that wisdom lies not in believing oneself immune to temptation but in understanding one's own vulnerabilities. Every generation faces its own Sirens. For today's young people they often take the form of constant comparison, instant gratification, shortcuts to success and the relentless distractions of modern life. One of the greatest gifts education can offer is the ability to distinguish between what is merely attractive and what is genuinely worthwhile. Knowledge remains essential, but wisdom lies in knowing how to use it.

This year's assembly also reflected on the enduring influence of Homer's work through later writers. James Joyce's *Ulysses* reminds us that heroism is often found not in extraordinary adventures but in ordinary acts of kindness, perseverance and generosity. Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad* encourages us to notice quieter forms of courage, reminding us that every community depends upon those whose contributions are often unseen. Schools are built upon these everyday acts of character. A teacher who stays behind to explain a difficult concept. A student who notices a classmate sitting alone. A member of staff whose kindness transforms a young person's day. These moments rarely receive public recognition, yet they define the culture of a school far more than any headline achievement.

Another central idea running through ancient Greek thought is *xenia*, hospitality and generosity towards others. People were judged not by their wealth or influence but by the way they welcomed and served those around them. It is a timely reminder that knowledge without humility becomes arrogance, and achievement without service risks becoming self-interest. At this school, we aspire to cultivate not only successful young people but good people, individuals whose learning enriches the lives of others.

The Victorian poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson imagined an older Odysseus still driven by curiosity, urging us "to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield." Before finding comes seeking. Before certainty comes curiosity. The finest scholars are rarely those who believe they know everything; they are those who remain eager to ask the next thoughtful question. As the summer begins, I hope our students take time to rest and enjoy well-earned holidays with family and friends. I also hope they continue to read, to wonder, to explore new places, to notice the world around them and to return in September not only refreshed but enriched by new experiences.

The Greek poet Constantine Cavafy, writing about Ithaca, reminds us that the destination itself is not the greatest gift. Rather, it is the journey that shapes us. Every success, disappointment, challenge and moment of joy contributes to the person we become. That is surely the purpose of education and perhaps, last evening, if England had remained focused on the process and not on the destination, it might have been a World Cup Final awaiting the nation!

Whether our students' own Ithaca eventually proves to be a university, an apprenticeship, a profession, a family life, public service or another path entirely, my hope is that they will never believe the destination alone defines success. Instead, may they recognise that the habits they cultivate, curiosity, humility, perseverance, kindness and generosity are what will sustain them throughout their lives.

For some of my colleagues, their journey will take a different path next term. I would like to express my sincere thanks for all that they have done during their time at the school. All have added to the narrative of the school; all will have contributed to the stories that alumni and future alumni will tell. I wish them well in their next steps.

Mrs Cummings (2025)
Ms Killick (2022)
Mr Stephan (2020)
Mr Gregson (2006)
Yula McGowan (2002)
Melanie Lester (2002)
Mrs Swait (2001)

In conclusion, parents, guardians, grandparents and alumni, thank you once again for the partnership we share. The support you provide at home is fundamental to everything we seek to achieve in school, and we are deeply grateful for your confidence and encouragement throughout the year. On behalf of all the staff, I wish you and your families a peaceful, restful and enjoyable summer.

May your journeys this summer, whether near or far, be filled with adventure, discovery and precious time together. We look forward to welcoming our students back in September for the next stage of their voyage.

Thank you, take care and I hope that you have a wonderful summer break.

Tim Harris BA Hons, FCCT, NPQH
Headteacher

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April

- Dean Atta author talk
- Into The Woods production
- Leavers' Concert

May

- National Reading Champions Competition
- Ten Tors Event

June

- A Level and GCSE Art Showcases
- Start of Exam Season
- Year 11 Prom Celebration

July

- Belonging Week
- Y13 Leaver's Celebration
- Sports Day

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

THE BIG PICTURE

WHAT HAS THIS TERM INVOLVED?

310

Number of students joining us
in Year 7 & 12

1080

Total number of students at CGS

49

Days of learning

245

Hours of learning per student
(Y7-11)



ATTENDANCE

95.1%

Whole school average attendance
over the term

Y7

The best year group for
attendance

BELONGING WEEK

45

Number of
trips



17

Number of themes

640

Number of students
taking part

5

Different countries



SPORTING FIXTURES

64

Number of sporting
fixtures this term



WE HAD SUCH A WIDE RANGE OF SPORTING FIXTURES THIS TERM:
FOOTBALL, CRICKET, TENNIS, GOLF, ATHLETICS, ROUNDEERS, AND
EVEN ULTIMATE FRISBEE!

17 vs 47

Home Games

Away Games

A HUGE AMOUNT OF EFFORT GOES INTO THE ORGANISATION OF
THESE FIXTURES SO A BIG THANK YOU TO THE PE DEPARTMENT WHO
HAVE WORKED SO TIREDLESSLY THIS TERM!

CLUBS AND GROUPS

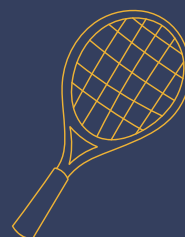
PERIOD 3 $\frac{3}{4}$

77

Number of Period 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ clubs

20

Number of sporting clubs



MUSIC LESSONS

425

Music lessons per week

24

Music Groups/Ensembles

A BIG THANK YOU TO MR BRIMELOW, MRS LESTER, AND MISS
SALTER FOR ORGANISING THESE LESSONS.



DATA SNAPSHOT · DATA SNAPSHOT · DATA SNAPSHOT ·

TOP TERM STORIES

A chance to catch up on our amazing top term stories and an opportunity to read some unseen ones!

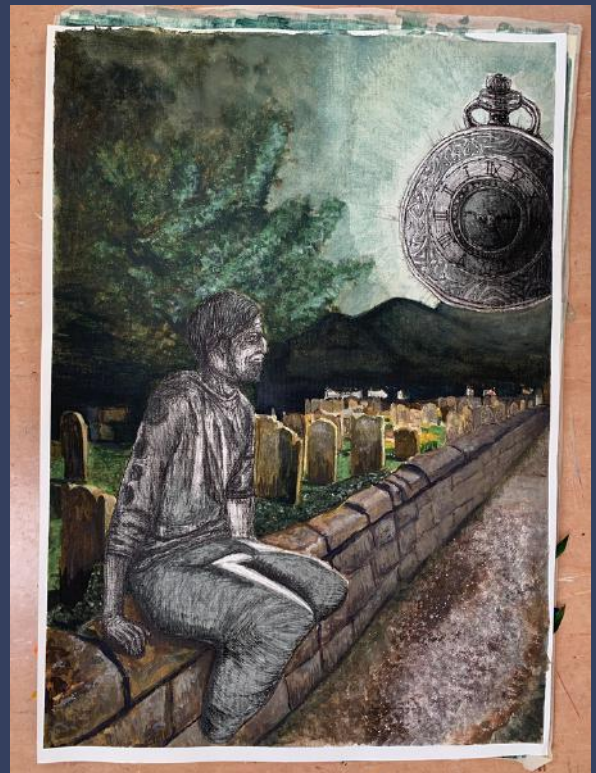


ART

GCSE AND A LEVEL SHOWCASES

We held a showcase of our students' work in June and were so proud to display the hard work, talent, and dedication to their craft.

Take a look at some of the fantastic pieces we had on display for parents and students to browse.





CAREERS

Imperial War Museum

At the beginning of the summer term, seven Service students from across different year groups, accompanied by Mr Finn and Mrs Taylor, enjoyed a rewarding trip to the Imperial War Museum London.

Travelling by train to London Waterloo and walking to the museum in great weather, the group had the opportunity to explore powerful exhibitions and reflect on military history. The visit was designed to support students from the Armed Services community, recognising the unique challenges they can face, and provided valuable opportunities for connection and shared experience. It was a really successful trip, thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.



Year 8 Democracy & Government Morning

At the end of April all of Year 8 were learning more about the nature and functioning of democracy in government, by setting up a Form Parliament and conducting their own debate.

In Tuesday's PSHE lesson they learned about the history of democracy in this country, from the absolute power of the monarchy, through Magna Carte and universal suffrage, to our present system of Parliament.

Then the morning began on Thursday with a talk from Tom Williams of UK Parliament, who explained the structure of Parliament, before students went away to form their own. They were randomly assigned to one of the three largest political parties, and then chose an MP to assume the role of in the debate.

The topic of the debate was badger culling, and after further information from Tom on how a debate works in Parliament, they prepared their speeches and arguments for their party's position.

It was inspiring to see students really engrossed the in the debate - and not just the opportunity to jeer and barrack their opponents! They presented very well-researched and argued positions, and engaged well with their peers. Well done to all of them!



BUSINESS STUDIES

Numatic International Trip

The year nine Business Studies students took part in a trip to see world class manufacturing at Numatic International's Global Headquarters in Chard in June.

In addition to highly informative and interesting talks, mapped to the GCSE Business Curriculum, which focused on sustainability, production and marketing from Operations Director Ed Henry and Andrew Ernill Head of Marketing and Communications, the students had a tour of the factory where they observed both commercial and domestic products being manufactured and made.

They also enjoyed a visit to Numatics' in- house creative studio and on each day our students also took part in a STEM challenge – getting to dismantle and put together the iconic Henry Vacuum Cleaner and answering a quiz on the production processes they had seen. The winning team across the two days achieved putting Henry together in just under a minute.

We are very grateful to Numatic for the bespoke day we have with them and the wonderful team who gave their time to ensure our students had an incredible day.



ECONOMICS

UK Economics Olympiad

On Monday 22 June, five of our Y12-13 students (Kate K, Dominic A-P, Jon C, Cameron K and Charlie W) participated in the national final of the first UK Economics Olympiad, joining only 120 students out of an original 4000 contestants.

On arrival we discovered that only one other school had as many finalists – Westminster School! The event was held at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), part of the University of London. Our students had the chance to hear lectures from Professor Linda Yueh, author and former Economics Editor at Bloomberg, on a framework for analysing and understanding the great economic crashes of the last century, as well as Dr Yannis Dafarmos, Head of the Economics Department at SOAS, on AI and sustainability, before taking the assessments that would determine the top 10 finalists.

After lunch, Kate K (Y13) was announced as a top ten UK finalist, with a chance to present to a panel for the opportunity to join the UK team for the International Final in Athens. We heard further lectures from Soumeiya Keynes, Economics Columnist and podcaster for the FT, on the subject of her new book – How to Win a trade War, as well as Professor Ha-Joon Chang on the importance of pluralism in the study of Economics at university. Kate narrowly missed out on the UK team position, but all of our finalists had an enriching day out!



DRAMA

Into The Woods

At the end of April, the tradition of staging a Sixth Form production continued with performances of *Into the Woods*.

The entire production was produced and directed by Tallulah H in Year 12 as part of her Extended Project Qualification, representing an enormous amount of dedication and hard work. She did an outstanding job, delivering a fun, polished and highly entertaining show.

The musical is a fast-paced and humorous exploration of familiar fairy tales. The cast, made up of students from Years 10 to 12, was expertly supported by a highly capable student technical team. The standard of singing, dancing and acting was excellent, with thoughtful costuming and a carefully designed and constructed set adding greatly to the overall impact.





It was clear that the students thoroughly enjoyed being part of the production, and it was a pleasure to see them working collaboratively while taking pride in something they had achieved together.

Special mention must also go to Eliza W, who designed and made the impressive cow puppet as part of her own EPQ project, and to Freya B, who provided invaluable support as co-director.



Malory Towers Trip

In May, our GCSE and A-Level drama students had the opportunity to take a trip to Bath to see Emma Rice's adaptation of Malory Towers.

The production followed the story of Darrell and her peers during their time at school in Penzance, accompanied by onstage live music, witty jokes and contemporary references to appeal to a modern audience.

The seven actors did an incredible job playing young school children, which was enhanced by hair and wardrobe efforts. The cast really embraced their characters, using many acting techniques that were useful for our students to learn from. The set was simple but effective as it transformed from scene to scene.

Overall, it was an enjoyable production, with lots to take away from it. The techniques and stylised aspects of the show have inspired our students to think outside the box and be creative in their future productions.



Year 10 Drama trip to Exeter University

In June, our Year 10 Drama students were invited to participate in Exeter University's Festival Juice, a very special annual celebration and performance platform highlighting drama students' short works.

They were able to watch a range of second- and third-year work, as well as an MA multi-media performance piece.

The afternoon began with a lunchtime tour of the University's Drama and Film and Media studies studios and facilities, which were impressively resourced with pod-casting studios, gaming rooms (for research purposes) and fully equipped black-out performance studios with sprung-floors.

We saw the props store (with swords and weaponry that were the envy of those in our next whole school production of Wendy and Peter Pan, October 2026) and media equipment room, where we learnt that this one small room had four staff to cater to students who could pop in and out throughout the day to borrow cameras and microphones etc of all shapes and sizes to suit ability levels and the requirements of their work.



A third year, Daniel, led a Q&A with the students about his route from school and the various paths that the degree has taken him on, he also explained the distinctive difference between Drama School and Drama at university, a question often raised in the classroom.

The rest of the afternoon was spent moving between three performance spaces for the JUICE festival itself. Colyton students were impressed with the students' professionalism and how impressive their pieces were that they had created all themselves, in some cases working to an extremely tight timescale. "One part of the day that stood out to me was seeing the student performances because it gave practical examples of the kind of work drama students do."

Our students came away buzzing from a creatively energising and inspiring day, with a stronger and clearer understanding of what studying drama at university could be like and a strong hope that we can further build on this initial connection with the Drama department.



MATHS

Maths primary school team competition

On Friday the 26th of June, several of our Year 12 Sixth Form students volunteered to help run our annual Primary Maths Team Challenge, welcoming teams from local primary schools for a fun-filled day of mathematical problem-solving and teamwork.

Throughout the day, the primary pupils took part in a range of exciting challenges. From Relay and Shuttle rounds to Cross numbers and other team activities, every challenge encouraged the children to think creatively, work together and enjoy exploring maths in different ways.

Our Sixth Form students were at the middle of the event, leading and supporting their own groups of pupils throughout the day. They helped explain each activity, encouraged teamwork, answered questions, helping every child feel confident and included. Their enthusiasm, kindness and leadership made a real difference and helped create such a positive atmosphere.

It was wonderful to see 12 teams from very local primary schools such as Colyton and Beer but also from further afield like Withycombe Raleigh and the Duchy school working so well together in their team.

The feedback from both pupils and teachers was incredibly positive, with many saying how much they had enjoyed the experience and asking if they could come back again next year.

A huge thank you goes to all of our Sixth Form volunteers for giving up their time and representing the school so brilliantly.

Thank you to Mrs Hudson for leading on this, and to Mr Fudger and everyone who helped make the day such a fantastic success.

Ben Y, Paige N, Rowan S, Harry C, Benjamin O, Edward C, Daniel T, Robert M, Ella CD, Aurela N, Emily T, Abigail H, Umi G, Alfred J, Ryan T, Louis S, Aiden S, Lucy S

Written by Toria M and Lottie E (Year 9)



SCIENCE

Diamond Light Source Trip

As a reward for volunteering their time to help run the Hands-on Science activities at the Sidmouth Science Festival and Norman Lockyer Observatory Family Day, 15 pupils in years 10 and 12 travelled to the Diamond Light Source in Oxfordshire for a tour of the world-class research facility.

The Diamond Light Source is one of the most powerful light sources on the planet reaching a peak brightness 10 billion times brighter than the sun. It is used in a variety of experiments along 35 beamlines in a building the size and shape of a stadium. Diamond isn't just a glorified light bulb, the facility is built around a seismically isolated synchrotron (a type of particle accelerator) which accelerates up to 936 electron "packets" to 99.999999% the speed of light. They are then stored in the aptly named storage ring which is 561.6 meters in circumference.

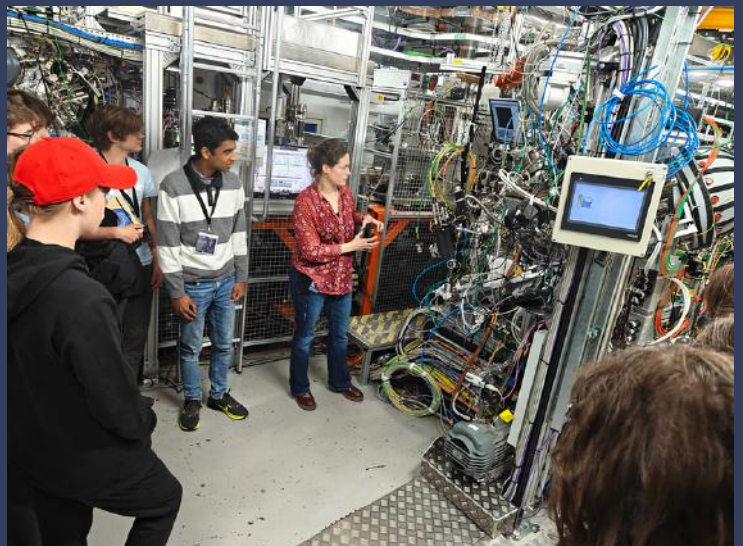
The storage ring isn't really a ring at all and is a 50 sided shape or a pentacontagon each side lined with red and yellow magnets which maintain the beam in straight sections. At each corner there are green magnets which are dipoles and these produce some of the light as they bend the electrons. There are also purple and black magnets which are designed to make the electrons "wiggle" from side to side as they pass through. The bending of the path of the electrons mean that while their speed is unchanged their direction is, so they have accelerated. This causes some energy to be emitted as light, usually X-rays which are funnelled down the beamlines to the experiments.



Over 14,000 scientific publications involve data from Diamond and 90% of experiments are for public investigations while the remaining 10% are private. Such experiments include analysis of the structure of chocolate, scanning a 3.6 million year old humanoid skull, and spectrographic analysis of cells. Each beamline can take upwards of 600 samples per day as the bright yellow radiation sealed rooms feature robots to replace and adjust samples. In order to run an experiment the operator must first select the desired frequency of light after which the sample is struck and the light recorded. The data is sent to the control room where analysis can begin and adjustments can be made. A flash of X-rays from this machine is around 100 billion times stronger than a hospital X-ray, and the wavelength is shorter, meaning resolution is much higher and allows for the discovery of the structure of complex molecules in a similar way to which Rosalind Franklin discovered the structure of DNA (the institute named after her is on the same site). A major example of this is the discovery of the structure of a molecule known as PETase which allows some bacteria to break down plastic waste, the latest research has allowed scientists to improve it for human use, making it as much as 10,000 times more efficient.

The future of Diamond is bright (excuse the pun) a massive £520 million investment has afforded the facility a massive upgrade called Diamond II which will start construction in December 2027 and will be turned back on in June 2029. It will feature a beam that is 70 times brighter and more coherent, improving science, speeding up data analysis, increasing its capacity and leading to 3-5 times faster throughput and improved efficiency. Hopefully some of us will return after this upgrade to contribute to the Science!

By Jonathan H-S, Year 12.



ENGLISH

Year 12 English students explore Thomas Hardy's Wessex

In June, Year 12 English students visited Hardy country to explore the life, work and poetry of one of their A Level set text writers.

The trip began at Hardy's Cottage, the place where Thomas Hardy was born and grew up, where students learned more about his family's humble beginnings and the rural world that shaped so much of his writing. They then travelled to Stinsford Church, visiting Hardy's grave, before ending the day at Max Gate, the house Hardy built following his literary success.

Throughout the trip, students marked significant places and moments with readings of Hardy's poems, helping to connect the landscape, biography and poetry in a much more immediate way. They returned with a deeper and more nuanced understanding of Hardy, his life, his times and the Wessex world that inspired his work.



The Carnegie Celebration Event

On Wednesday 17th June, nine of our keen Carnegie shadowers attended the Devon SLS Carnegie Celebration Event at St Peter's School, Exeter.

At the event, students gave a presentation on a book of their choice from the Carnegie shortlist (our shadowers chose *The Boy I Love* by William Hussey) and watched presentations given by the other nine schools in attendance. At the end, all students voted on the presentation that would most make them interested in reading the book, and our CGS students gained the most votes! A huge well done to the students who took part - Lily A-D, Nell H, Zoe J, Toria M, Annabelle B, Clara G, Claire T, Mylah V and Rowan G-F.

A particular thank you and well done goes to Lily, who wrote the entire script for the presentation. The students were also praised by author Luke Palmer who was at the event, and they had the opportunity to ask him questions about writing and his books. The winner of the Carnegie shortlist is announced next week and all of our shadowers are looking forward to hearing if their favourite has been selected.



MFL

Sagesse, Service, Humilité – Y12 Brittany Exchange

Just before half-term, Ms Hall and Mr Gordon met a group of noisily apprehensive Year 12s at Plymouth's Brittany Ferries Terminal to embark on this year's culture and language exchange with Lycée Félix Le Dantec, our partner school in Lannion, Brittany. Lots (we mean lots) of questions were on their lips... Would the crossing be rough? Which chapter of R-Patt's Twilight saga should they download and watch on the ferry? Is Brittany east or west of Denmark? What actually *is* the difference between a crêpe and a galette? Will the karaoke bar on the ferry have English as well as French dancefloor classics? Does anyone else's partner not have a fridge? No?

Most – if not all – of these questions were answered over an eventful, fun and stimulating immersion into French life. Each of our Year 12s bravely headed off into the relative unknown of their host families' lives, spending the first weekend doing everything from sailing to visiting neolithic sites to hanging out in a tiny local football stadium, chatting away in French.



We managed to visit them all in the primary schools where they were doing work experience, and each time it was clear that they had reached godlike status in the eyes of their young French charges and colleagues. All of them made a fantastic impression, and it was a worthwhile and fascinating experience for them – even for the one Year 12 who came to the realisation that she “really doesn’t like children”. Mark sat in on a maths lesson in Breton and scored highly in a dictée. Ameya marvelled at how well behaved her pupils were. Paige marvelled at how badly behaved her pupils were. Cara discussed her shared Scottish heritage with a 6yo. And Abigail told us about how each day she was being delivered a delicious three-course lunch on a tray. All of them were sent off with adorable pictures and letters from their new fans.

Their French has come on leaps and bounds, not to mention their confidence and resilience. We are very proud of the scholarship, humility and service displayed by this fine band of Colytonians. Bravo!

“An incredibly daunting, exciting and unique experience that gives you so many memories and experiences that you couldn’t get anywhere else.” – Abigail H, Y12

“Great opportunity not too far from home to experience a different culture in a supported way.” – Mark R, Y12



MUSIC

Leaver's Concert

The end of April saw the annual Leavers' Concert. The audience were treated to a veritable smorgasbord of musical delights – among the ensembles, who for reasons of space could not perform in the Spring Concert this year were the Concert Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, Chemble (Chamber Ensemble – pupil-run and pupil-named), the Bassoon Quartet, Cello Quartet (three cellos and piano) the Jazz Band, Jones Combo (improvisation-focused jazz ensemble), The Colytones (what choreography!) and the Senior Choir.

Scattered among them were solos and duets from this year's leavers – Clara O (voice) and Josie B (piano) performed a delicate rendition of Somewhere Only We Know; Alan S (bassoon) and Louis D-B (piano) performed the 3rd movement of Saint-Saëns' Bassoon Sonata; Naomi B performed Bloch's intense and sophisticated Meditation and Processional on the viola and the first half was rounded off with Sam G (bassoon) taking on the virtuosic Hungarian Rondo by Weber.

In the second half we were treated to Amelia P (voice and guitar) and a world premier of her song Guess What, I Love You, Luke H (trombone) and Billy S (piano) performing Mitcham's A Latin Heart, Dylan T (euphonium) playing faster than an euphonist has before in Sparke's Harlequin and final a double bill of Tomas O-R – firstly with unaccompanied Bach on the cello and then with the baritone solo from the Libera Me from Fauré's Requiem.

Well done to all performers and especially well done to all who performed solos – we will miss you and wish you all the best for the future.





OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Ten Tors Event, 9th – 10th May 2026

We are so proud of the achievements of our Ten Tors teams this year. They have been an amazing cohort throughout the training programme and the way they practically flew, with such quiet determination and self-assurance, around their given routes at the weekend, was simply brilliant to witness. Training was brutal in a number of ways, not least because of the distances they had to cover, the terrain they had to negotiate and the weather they had to battle against, but also because we started with over 100 students vying for just 18 places.

The success of those chosen 18 serves as just an example of the success we have had this year in training with such talented and determined students. We could have filled those places three times over and the outcome would have been much the same. We are delighted that some of our students who were not selected in training went on to find places in other teams. We also want to celebrate the success of our students who chose to train with other establishments, and we hope that we have managed to include them all in the results below.

A special mention goes out to William M in Year 12, who was outstanding throughout training but unfortunately came down with a flu bug just days before the event. He had to make the very difficult decision to withdraw on the Thursday before the event and fortunately his place was able to be filled.



Colyton Grammar School Teams

Our first team in on the Sunday morning was our 35-mile boys team. The team was captained brilliantly by Dylan S with responsibility for expert navigation of the route given to Ned C. The remainder of this fantastic team were George H, Daniel C, James K and William L. They were the first team on route J to finish, and indeed one of the first teams on the entire event, clocking in at 09:40.

Next in we had our wonderful 35- mile girls team, who completed route L and arrived in at 11:40, making them one of the fastest on their route and the first all-girl team in overall. Elodie D captained the team superbly and Hattie S is the most incredible navigator. The remainder of this awesome team were Elsie L, Cara H, Amelie L and Eleanor W (who celebrated her 15th birthday on the Friday of the event).

Our final team, with very good reason, was our most incredible 55-mile team. This is only the second 55 team I have put through the event, and I am always a little reticent to encourage them to go for this distance as it is such a massive challenge. This team made it look effortless! They set an incredible pace throughout the event and arrived in at 12:02, over an hour ahead of any other 55 team on their route. Henry M was the one who first approached me about going for 55 and so he became a very natural captain for the team. The rest of the team, all expert navigators, drove them on to such incredible success. They were Joseph C, Alex M, Isaac M, Isaac H and Ben Y.



Students in other establishment teams

James B-F and Michael J had successfully completed their training with us but did not gain a place on our only Year 12 team. Undeterred, they jumped at the chance of joining the Taw Scouts 45-mile team and, despite losing two team members to injury, they led their team into the finish on route T at an impressive 11:08. Another outstanding participant who trained with the Colyton teams was Cameron D. He went on to captain the Exeter District Scouts 35-mile team, with Isaac F also on that team, on route F, finishing at 13:48.

Taylor A and Luke W also trained with the school before gaining places on the Axe Valley Scouts 35-mile team, completing route N at 12:17. Lawrence S, again trained with the school before gaining a place with the Clyst Vale 35-mile team, completing route K at 15:43.

Anwen P, Sophia M and Stanley W were all members of the Exeter Explorer Sea Scouts 35-mile team. They were on route B and finished at 13:41. Noah K represented South West Area Sea Cadets in their 35-mile team. They were on route J and came in at 10:28.

Felix D secured a place with Dartmoor Plodders 35-mile team, coming in a close second on route G, with a very early finish time of 09:35. Sam S and Solomon R participated in the Blackdown Scouts 35-mile team. They were on route M and they came in at 10:30.

It is fantastic that so many of our students trained for and participated in this incredible event. Many thanks to our adult leader team who supporting the teams so well throughout their training and the event itself. Thanks also to the parents for endless trips backwards and forwards to Dartmoor and for all of your support during the event weekend.

The fun does not stop there though as we move from Ten Tors straight into DofE expedition season. Our Outdoor Education provision is fantastic, but it relies on the generosity of our volunteers. If you would be interested in supporting our expeditions, particularly if you have a walking qualification under your belt, please do contact our Head of Outdoor Education, Mr Turner, at jturner@colytongrammar.com.

Many thanks for the pictures sent in with kind permission of parents of the other establishment teams at the event.

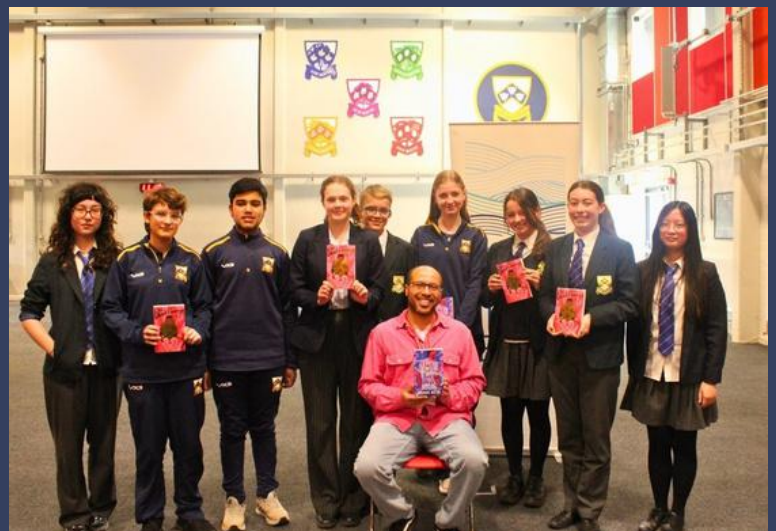
HUMANITIES

Author Visit: Dean Atta

Thanks to the Education and Outreach Team from Budleigh Salterton Literary Festival, we were lucky enough to have award-winning author Dean Atta visit the school on Thursday 23rd April.

Dean held a writing workshop with keen writers in Years 10 and 12, who all produced some fantastic bits of writing that were highly praised by Dean.

Following this, Dean gave an insightful and engaging talk to Year 10 about his career, his books, and inspiration for his writing. It was particularly exciting to have Dean visit the school following his recent BAFTA win for 'British Short Animation' and we hope to host him again at the school in the future!



National Reading Champions Quiz

On Wednesday 20th May, four Year 7 students took part in the National Reading Champions Senior Quiz Final in London. Having won the South West regional heat, Matilda F, Janaki M, Jesse F and Ali C battled it out against 22 other teams from across the country.

They faced 80 questions, with rounds on books they had to read before the competition, as well as general book knowledge rounds such as myths and legends, verse novels and poetry, and a picture round of book characters in fancy dress. They worked brilliantly as a team and came a very respectable joint 12th. This was a fantastic achievement, particularly as they were facing teams that were mainly Year 9 students. A really well done to these four students – we are very proud of them, and they are a credit to the school.



PE

Cricket

Cricket was one of the busiest and most successful sports of the summer term, with boys' and girls' teams competing across Devon Cup, Sisters n Sport, East Devon and county competitions. Across all age groups, the players showed increasing confidence, technical ability and teamwork, resulting in a number of outstanding achievements.

The U13 girls enjoyed a remarkable season. They began by winning their first-ever hardball Devon Cup fixture against Uffculme before progressing confidently through the competition. Success continued in the Sisters n Sport Cup, where strong batting and disciplined bowling secured victories over The Badminton School, although their run ended with a narrow defeat to Stover. The team also excelled in softball cricket, fielding two squads at the Exeter and East Devon Tournament. Colyton A won all of their group matches before defeating Colyton B in the semi-final and St Peter's in the final to become East Devon Champions.

They carried this momentum into the Devon County Finals, defeating South Dartmoor, Teignmouth and St Peter's to be crowned Devon Champions before progressing to the Regional Finals, where they finished as runners-up after a closely contested final decided by just two runs. The girls also claimed the Devon Hardball County Cup with a dominant victory over Torquay Girls' Grammar School, completing an exceptional season as Indoor, Softball and Hardball County Champions.



The U15 girls also enjoyed an impressive campaign. They opened the term with a convincing victory in the Sisters n Sport Cup before progressing to the next round. In the Devon Cup they defeated Sidmouth with an excellent all-round performance to reach the next stage before narrowly losing to Queen Elizabeth School from the final ball of a thrilling contest. At the Exeter and East Devon Softball Tournament, the school was able to field two teams for the first time, reflecting the growing popularity of girls' cricket. Both teams competed strongly throughout the day, with Colyton A narrowly missing out on a place in the semi-finals after two one-run and two-run defeats, while Colyton B recorded impressive victories over Sidmouth and King's to finish third in their group.



The boys also made significant progress throughout the season. The U13 team competed well in both softball and hardball competitions, recording a memorable Devon Cup victory over King's after chasing down 149 in the final over, with outstanding contributions from Pranav, Noah and Om. Earlier in the term they had also secured a hard-fought win over Sidmouth during the East Devon Softball Festival after two closely contested opening fixtures. The U15 boys began their softball competition with a convincing victory over Tiverton before suffering a narrow two-run defeat to Axe Valley and finishing third in their group. Their hardball season saw them progress in the Devon Cup after an excellent 38-run victory over Sidmouth, with Cam D's unbeaten 67 providing the foundation for a disciplined team performance.

Across all competitions, cricket enjoyed an outstanding summer. Success was matched by growing participation, particularly within the girls' programme, with multiple teams competing across a wide range of fixtures. From East Devon titles to county championships and regional finals, the term showcased the continued strength and development of cricket across the school.



Golf

Colyton enjoyed outstanding success at the Devon Schools Golf Championships at Stover Golf Club, where the school was represented by three teams alongside individual competitors.

Competing against 37 schools and more than 120 students from across Devon, Colyton achieved an exceptional set of results, with teams finishing 29th, 19th and, most notably, 1st overall to become Devon Schools Champions.

Congratulations go to Ollie C, Archie T, Ollie P, Dan G, Ollie T, Henry B, Lucy R, Poppy R and Scott R, who all represented the school with great maturity, commitment and sportsmanship.

Following this success, Ollie C (Y13), Ollie T (Y11) and Scott R (Y8) were selected to represent Devon at the England Golf National Team Championships at Woodhall Spa, the home of England Golf. Competing against 33 school teams from across England, the team achieved an impressive joint 17th place finish in a highly competitive national field.

These achievements highlight the strength of golf at Colyton and the dedication of our students, who have represented both the school and the county with distinction.



Athletics

Athletics enjoyed another successful season, with students competing with distinction across a wide range of track and field events. From the East Devon Schools Athletics Trials through to the Devon Championships, athletes demonstrated commitment, resilience and determination, producing excellent performances at every level.

The season began at the East Devon Trials, where Colyton athletes secured numerous victories, podium finishes and qualification places across all age groups. Highlights included new East Devon records for Katie H in the shot put and Elsa R in the 300m, alongside first-place finishes in sprinting, middle-distance, jumping and throwing events. These impressive results led to 21 students being selected to represent East Devon at the Devon Schools Championships – more than any other school in the county.

At the Devon Championships, students continued to excel against the county's strongest athletes. Elsa R (High Jump), George H (800m), Oscar P (3000m) and Katie H (Shot Put) were crowned Devon Champions, while several other athletes secured podium finishes and top-eight placings across a range of events, highlighting the depth of talent within the school.

Our younger athletes also impressed at the East Devon Super 8's competition, competing with enthusiasm and supporting one another throughout the day. Strong performances on both the track and in the field were complemented by excellent relay results, with the girls winning their relay and the boys finishing runners-up.

Overall, it has been an excellent season for athletics. The performances, commitment and sportsmanship shown by all competitors have been outstanding, and the success achieved across every age group reflects the continued strength and depth of athletics at Colyton Grammar School.



Tennis

Tennis enjoyed a successful and competitive season, with boys' and girls' teams representing Colyton Grammar School across Division 1 and Division 2 league fixtures, as well as East Devon and LTA competitions. Throughout the term, players demonstrated increasing confidence, tactical awareness and resilience, with many closely contested matches highlighting the progress made across all age groups.

The season began strongly with an outstanding performance from the Year 9/10 Division 1 boys, who secured a comprehensive victory over Ivybridge by winning all six matches. Their confidence and teamwork set the tone for the weeks ahead, with strong performances continuing across both singles and doubles competitions.

The U13 boys enjoyed an excellent season, recording impressive victories over West Buckland in both Division 1 and Division 2 fixtures. They also competed successfully in the LTA Youth School Tournament, where the Division 2 team secured an excellent group victory, before continuing their development at the East Devon Tournament. Several players progressed to the latter stages of the competition, with Sammy finishing runner-up and Louis and Nicky sharing third place. Another highlight came in a dramatic fixture against Isca, where the Year 7/8 team held their nerve to win a deciding doubles shootout 17-15, securing a memorable 7-6 victory.



The U15 boys faced strong opposition throughout the season and continued to develop with every fixture. Although results did not always go their way, the team competed well in Division 1 matches and the LTA Youth Tournament, with Nathan producing an outstanding singles performance in a 6–0 victory. At the East Devon Tournament, the squad impressed with several strong individual displays, including Ren winning the U15 competition and Samuel finishing third.

The girls also enjoyed a positive season. The U13 team demonstrated growing confidence and consistency, producing competitive performances against Maynard and improving steadily throughout the term. The U15 girls secured an impressive victory over Maynard before narrowly losing a closely fought fixture against West Buckland, where several matches were decided by the finest of margins. Captain Sophia led by example, remaining unbeaten in both her singles and doubles matches.

Overall, it has been an excellent season for tennis. Across every age group, players developed their technical skills, match awareness and confidence, while representing the school with enthusiasm, resilience and excellent sportsmanship. The combination of strong team performances, individual successes and continued improvement provides an exciting platform for future seasons.



Rounders

Rounders enjoyed an outstanding season, with Colyton Grammar School achieving success across all age groups. The U13, U14 and U15 girls all secured East Devon titles, highlighting the strength of the programme and the depth of talent across the school.

The U15 team set the standard, winning the East Devon Tournament after defeating strong opposition from Honiton, Exmouth, Uffculme, King's and Cullompton. Led by Mabel, the team showed excellent organisation, teamwork and composure, with strong batting and outstanding fielding contributing to an unbeaten campaign.

The U14 team followed with a dominant tournament performance, progressing through the group stages before producing an exceptional semi-final and final display to claim the title. Their sharp fielding, communication and consistent batting were key to their success.

The U13 squad also enjoyed a memorable season, becoming East Devon Champions after impressive victories over King's, Axe Valley, Sidmouth and Uffculme. Their determination and consistent performances throughout the tournament secured the overall title.

Across all three age groups, students demonstrated excellent teamwork, sportsmanship and commitment. Winning all three East Devon titles marks one of the school's most successful rounders seasons in recent years and provides an excellent foundation for future success.



East Devon Swim Gala

June saw a fantastic day of racing at the East Devon Swim Gala, with swimmers delivering strong performances across all age groups.

The Junior Boys produced an excellent team performance, with George B taking 2nd in the Individual Medley and 1st in Freestyle, Jasparan LK winning Breaststroke, and further podium finishes from Spike H and George G. The team also secured 2nd place in both the Medley and Freestyle relays.

The Junior Girls achieved an outstanding overall victory. Alice A, Isabel J and Winnie all delivered impressive individual performances, while the team worked brilliantly together to win the Freestyle relay and finish 2nd in the Medley relay. The Intermediate Boys dominated their events, finishing 1st overall. Josh G won both the Individual Medley and Butterfly, Jacob A achieved podium finishes in Breaststroke and Backstroke, and the team won both relay events.

The Intermediate Girls also produced strong individual performances, with Ava achieving 1st in Butterfly and further podium finishes in the Individual Medley and Breaststroke.

Overall, it was a highly successful gala, with Junior Girls and Intermediate Boys finishing 1st, Junior Boys 2nd, and both Junior and Intermediate teams placing 2nd overall. A huge well done to all swimmers for their teamwork, determination and commitment, with special thanks to Ellie T and Sam M for stepping in to support the team on the day.



Football -

U18 Devon Cup Semi-Final – Ivybridge vs Colyton

In challenging, blustery conditions that made flowing football difficult, Ivybridge adapted quickest and went into half-time with a 2-0 lead. The wind continued to play a major role after the break, but Colyton came out fighting, pulling one back to make it 2-1 and shifting the momentum.

Ivybridge responded with a third goal to restore their two-goal advantage, yet Colyton refused to fade. A late surge saw them score again, narrowing the gap to 3-2 and setting up a tense finish. Despite a determined final push and sustained pressure in the closing stages, the equaliser just would not come.

Although the result brought Colyton's Devon Cup campaign to an end, the team can be immensely proud of reaching the county semi-finals and of the resilience and determination they showed throughout the match. Their commitment and character were evident until the final whistle.

A special mention goes to the Year 13 players in what was their final match representing the school. Thank you for your commitment, effort and contribution to football during your time at Colyton Grammar School. You have been excellent ambassadors for the school, and we wish you every success in the future.



U14 Ultimate Frisbee Outdoor Nationals

Both U14 Ultimate Frisbee teams delivered outstanding performances at the Outdoor National Championships, demonstrating skill, determination and exceptional Spirit of the Game throughout the event.

The U14 First Team exceeded expectations in their first ever competition. Starting as the 23rd seed, they won all of their pool matches to move up to 15th seed before progressing through the knockout stages. A final victory over Twycross School secured an impressive 9th place finish — the best possible result based on their starting position. The team showed excellent teamwork, communication and composure, alongside outstanding sportsmanship and self-officiating.

The U14 Second Team also performed strongly against tough opposition. Improving on their initial 25th seed, they finished 23rd overall after competing with determination and resilience throughout the tournament. Their commitment to Spirit of the Game was equally impressive, with excellent respect, honesty and positivity shown towards opponents and teammates.

The event provided a fantastic experience, with the U14 competition running alongside the U17 and U20 National Championships. Both Colyton teams represented the school superbly through their performances, teamwork and enthusiasm, creating a strong foundation for future success. Congratulations to all players involved, and special thanks to Mrs Mattin for introducing this exciting sport to Colyton Grammar School.



National Chess Finals

In June, the Chess A team travelled to the University of Nottingham for the English Schools' National Finals, having comfortably won all of their regional fixtures.

The team made an impressive start with a 6–2 victory over Haberdashers' Adams School, before facing some of the strongest teams in the country. Although Wilson's School proved too strong with a 6–0 win, Colyton responded well against former champions Reading School, with Toby and Joy securing draws on boards one and two, and Aiden achieving an excellent win. The team continued their strong performances with a 3½–2½ victory over King Edward's School, Birmingham, with wins from Joy, Aiden and Shreyas, alongside a draw from Toby. In the final round, Colyton faced King's College School, Wimbledon, finishing with a determined performance and valuable draws from Joy and Toby.

The National Finals provided an outstanding opportunity for the players to compete against some of the strongest school chess teams in the country. Joy, Toby, Shreyas, Aiden, Yuan and Nathanael represented Colyton Grammar School superbly, demonstrating skill, resilience and maturity throughout the competition. Special recognition goes to the Year 9 players, who showed great composure competing in an Under-19 event and gained valuable experience for the future.

Many thanks to Mr Pritchard for his excellent leadership and encouragement, and to Miss Paviour for accompanying the team.



CGS Sports Scholars

The following students have been recognised as a CGS Sports Scholar.

Bronze: Lydia E, Ellie G, Winnie M, Doon W, Otilie S, Reuben HC, Alex S, Charlie N, Noah N-W, Mofe A.

Silver: Rie F, Kathryn G, Mabel S, Katie H, Molly C, Thomas P, Josh G, George H, Akein N.

Gold: Oscar F, Ben M, Isaac P, Alex M, Mathew H, Robert M.

This award is given in recognition of students who have shown outstanding sporting performance and effort throughout the year, alongside a consistently excellent commitment to school training sessions, lessons, and fixtures. It is a significant achievement and reflects not only ability, but also dedication and character.

Our awardees have shown exemplary sportsmanship, humility, and a willingness to serve others, while making a meaningful contribution to both the success and spirit of our school sports teams. Their attitude, work ethic, and behaviour make them an excellent role model within our school community.

The Bronze/Silver/Gold award, presented to students in 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, marks students' continued development and commitment to sport at CGS, and we are extremely proud of their achievements.



CGS Sports Leaders

Colyton's Year 12 Sports Leaders have shown outstanding commitment, energy and professionalism throughout the year, so as a well-deserved thank you for all their hard work, we took the group to Adrenaline Quarry for a day of fun and challenge.

It was a brilliant way to celebrate everything they've contributed — from leading younger students to supporting major school events — and a chance for them to enjoy something memorable together after a year of exceptional effort.



SPORTS DAY

Our 2026 Sports Day was filled with energy, enthusiasm and great sporting spirit from start to finish. It was wonderful to see so many pupils giving their best effort, supporting one another and taking part with such positivity and determination.

A huge well done to everyone who competed. Whether you were running, jumping, throwing or cheering on your teammates, you all played an important part in making the day such a success.

A special thank you to all the staff who helped make the day enjoyable for everyone involved.



YEAR 11 PROM

On Friday 19th June, 140 of our Year 11 students gathered at the Exeter Golf and Country Club to celebrate the end of their GCSE examinations in style.

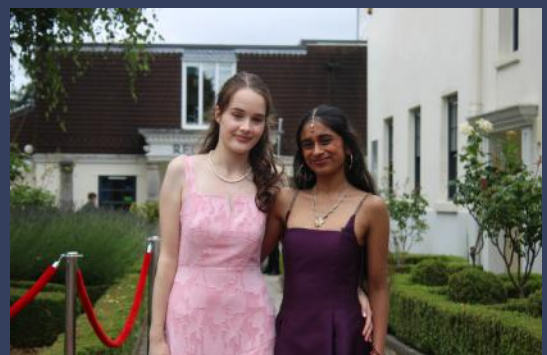
The evening was a fantastic occasion, with students arriving in an impressive variety of transport, including motorbikes, Land Rovers, limousines, Maseratis and even an Ariel Atom. Dressed to impress, our Year 11s enjoyed a wonderful evening of music, dancing, food and celebration, creating memories that will last a lifetime as they marked the end of an important chapter in their school journey.

We are incredibly proud of everything this year group has achieved over the past five years. Their hard work, resilience and commitment have been outstanding, and it was wonderful to see them come together to celebrate their many successes.

We would like to wish all of our students the very best of luck when they receive their GCSE results in August, and we look forward to welcoming many of them back to begin the next stage of their education in Year 12.

In the meantime, we hope everyone enjoys a well-earned rest over the summer and takes the opportunity to relax and celebrate their achievements.

Congratulations, Year 11, and thank you for being such a fantastic year group. We wish you every success for the future.





YEAR 13 LEAVERS CELEBRATION

At the beginning of July we held the Class of 2026 Leavers Celebration event at Sandy Park. It was the year group that gave us so much during their time at school including the brilliant Sound of Music. So, it was 'so long, farewell. Au'voir, auf wiedersehen' to an amazing group of students.

Thank you for everything you have contributed to this school, from the great sporting successes, including finals and semi-finals in netball, football, hockey, and in the world of athletics, to the amazing performances in the Sound of Music and Witness for the Prosecution. From the wonderful art created in the brilliant art department to the beautiful music of the many concerts and performance. This year group also had the most incredible participants in the ten tors event including an incredibly rapid 55-mile team.

The academic success of the group is highly impressive, with a school record number, 25% of the cohort, holding Oxbridge offers (35 offers), and record numbers in the year group holding offers from the most selective UK universities. Two students from the Class of 2026 have places at very prestigious universities in the USA. Arabella R has a place to study at the Rhode Island School of Design, and Billy S has a place at Harvard University. Additionally, Olly M, from the Class of 2025, will also be travelling across the Atlantic as he has been awarded a highly competitive Athletics scholarship to Augusta University, Georgia.



The guest speaker was Dr Riordan Deehan Jackson. Dr Jackson is a former Colyton Grammar School student and is a current medical doctor, and award-winning stand-up comedian.

He left CGS in 2014 and went on to study Medicine at the University of Bristol. While at university he performed stand-up comedy for many years, winning the Chortle Student Comedy Award, taking multiple shows up to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Now fully focussing on Medicine, he has worked as a surgical and orthopaedic doctor in both the UK and Australia, and is now a radiology registrar in Devon. His speech perfectly illustrated the schools core values of scholarship, humility and service as he explained his top tips for a successful life – all delivered with the humour of an award-winning comedian.

Speeches, prizes and music were to be found at the event, but perhaps the best aspect was the time spent chatting, laughing and reflecting on memories made and lifelong friendships developed at school, over a drink and dinner.

A memorable evening! Congratulations, Year 13. Thank you for your years with us. We are immensely proud of you, and we cannot wait to see the world you help create.



BELONGING WEEK

For the third consecutive year, Belonging Week proved to be one of the highlights of the school calendar, offering students a wealth of opportunities to learn, explore, challenge themselves and, most importantly, strengthen their sense of belonging within our school community.

Built around our school virtues of Humility, Service and Scholarship, the week provided students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 12 with memorable experiences that extended far beyond the classroom. Whether travelling overseas, taking part in outdoor adventures, developing new skills or simply spending time with peers in a different setting, students embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and maturity.

This year's programme was packed with exciting activities. Students headed to the coast for surfing in Devon and Cornwall, where many stood on a surfboard for the first time, showing resilience as they tackled the waves and encouraged one another. Others experienced the exhilaration of coasteering, scrambling across rocks, jumping into the sea and overcoming personal fears in a safe and supportive environment.



For those seeking adventure, the Three Peaks Challenge tested both physical and mental endurance, while go-karting, theme parks and water parks provided plenty of excitement, laughter and unforgettable moments.



Many students also enjoyed educational visits to zoos, learning more about conservation and wildlife from around the world.



Further afield, students immersed themselves in the culture and history of Rome and Paris, exploring some of Europe's most iconic landmarks. Other groups enjoyed incredible trips to China and Morocco, experiencing new cultures and volunteering in the local communities.







Back on campus and closer to home, students took part in a range of engaging activities including board games, design and make projects, rocket building and launching, and a variety of local excursions. These activities encouraged teamwork, creativity, problem-solving and communication; while helping students forge new friendships with peers they may not usually spend time with during the normal school day.



One of the standout moments of the week was the Year 8 residential, which once again provided a fantastic opportunity for students to develop greater independence, confidence and resilience.

From scaling heights in the quarry, swimming in mud, working as a team, overcoming fears and celebrating an England win around a radio over dinner, Year 8 did it all with humour and camaraderie.

Our group leader, Dan, told us that he asks to be put with the Colyton group each year because of the way the students behave towards each other, and all of the staff on the trip saw so many examples of the school's values of humility and service that it would be impossible to list them all.

We were very proud of the strengths and bonds the students have developed over the week. Through shared experiences and challenges, they have returned with stronger friendships and memories that will last for years to come.



Throughout the week, students consistently demonstrated a willingness to step outside their comfort zones and embrace new opportunities. Whether climbing mountains, travelling abroad, navigating the sea, launching rockets or simply trying something unfamiliar, they approached each experience with positivity and determination.

Reflecting on the week, one Year 7 student said:

"I was nervous at the start because I didn't know many people in my group, but by the end of the week I had made lots of new friends. It was one of the best weeks I've had at school."

A Year 12 student commented:

"The coasteering trip pushed me further than I've ever pushed myself before. Jumping into the water was scary at first, but once I'd done it I felt really proud."

Meanwhile, a Year 9 student shared:

"Belonging Week is a reminder that school is about much more than lessons and exams. The experiences we've had and the people we've met have made the week really special."

Another student returning from the Aquatics trip added:

"Every time I fell off my board I wanted to get back on and try again. It taught me not to give up, and by the end I was actually surfing!"



What makes Belonging Week so special is that every student experiences it differently. Some discover a new passion, some make new friends, some develop confidence and independence, and others simply create memories that they will cherish long after they leave school. Together, these experiences form an important part of a truly holistic education, helping students grow not only academically, but also socially, emotionally and personally.

The week concluded with our traditional 10km whole-school walk on Friday, bringing students and staff together for a final shared experience and a fitting end to another exceptional week.

We would like to thank all the staff who organised and led activities, as well as the students who threw themselves wholeheartedly into every opportunity. Belonging Week continues to be a wonderful celebration of our community, and after another hugely successful year, we are already looking forward to what next year's adventures will bring. We would particularly like to thank Mr Rowe, Mrs Lea and Miss Salter for their coordination of such an incredible week.





STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Sporting Excellence and Representation

Our students continue to achieve remarkable success beyond school, representing clubs, counties and regions across a wide range of sporting activities.

Lydia E and Rae B enjoyed an outstanding football season with Exmouth United, completing a memorable cup double in May. The team secured the Devon League Cup with a 4-0 victory over Branton before following this with a 2-1 win against YMCA All Saints in the Devon County Cup final, both held at Devon FA Headquarters in Newton Abbot.

Kenji R has demonstrated exceptional commitment to volleyball, attending monthly South West Junior Training U15 sessions since September before being selected for the South West U15 squad in January. At Volleyball England's annual Inter-Regional Championship in Loughborough, Kenji and the South West team produced an outstanding performance to win the tournament and claim gold medals.

Students have also excelled in specialist sports. Enzo M represented his club at the prestigious Flanders International Acro Cup in Belgium, competing against teams from 18 countries. He and his partner delivered outstanding routines, finishing third overall in their category, before achieving an excellent second place at the English Championships the following weekend.

Ottillie D also enjoyed national success in gymnastics, achieving an impressive third place at the English Championships in the double mini trampoline competition. This was a particularly significant achievement in her first year competing in the 13-14 age category and reflects her dedication and commitment to the sport.

Bea H-D also celebrated her football team's league victory with Sidmouth Vikings.



Leadership and Coaching

Noah M (Y7) demonstrated exceptional leadership skills when he coached a newly formed Under-10 football team at a tournament in France.

Taking responsibility for the team throughout the competition, Noah planned formations, organised tactics, managed set pieces, selected penalty takers and created training sessions to prepare the players.

Most importantly, Noah showed outstanding encouragement and positivity throughout the tournament. His leadership had a significant impact, with the team going on to win the competition — an incredible achievement and a testament to his organisation, maturity and enthusiasm.

Performing Arts and Music

Students have continued to excel in the performing arts, with Joey L achieving an excellent Distinction in his Grade 4 LAMDA solo acting examination after performing two monologues and completing an examiner interview.

Joey also performed a principal role as Lewis in the musical *Our House* at Exmouth Pavilion. Across five performances, the production received standing ovations, with the final show selling out. Joey and the other principal performers also helped raise £1,800 for their theatre group through fundraising after performances.

Musically, Sam (Y9) achieved Grade 4 Piano, while Harry M successfully completed his Grade 3 Trumpet examination with Merit. Bea H-D achieved her Grade 5 Violin and Grade 3 Piano with Merit.



Teamwork and Personal Achievement

Joey L was also recognised for his positive contribution within football, receiving the 'Best Attitude' award at the end-of-season presentation for Sidmouth Junior Vikings U13 Raiders. This award, presented from across the whole squad, recognised his commitment, teamwork and approach during his first full season with the club.

Toria M and Lottie E (Y9) represented Exmouth Rugby Club at a special touch rugby tournament at Twickenham Stoop Stadium before the Premiership Women's Rugby Final. Their team, selected by Exeter Chiefs Women, finished third in the tournament and were invited to take part in demonstrations highlighting elite playing tactics, which were featured on TNT Sports coverage. The experience provided an inspiring opportunity to meet professional players and celebrate the growth of women's rugby.

These achievements demonstrate the remarkable range of talents within our student community. Whether through sport, music, performance, leadership or personal commitment, our students continue to represent themselves, their clubs and Colyton Grammar School with distinction.

This list is only a glimpse of the many achievements of our students beyond school. As humility is one of our values, we know that many others have accomplished wonderful things quietly and without seeking recognition. We celebrate all of these successes and are proud of every student's commitment and dedication.



Scholarship Leaders

Over the course of the past year, 25 Year 12 students have completed the CGS Scholarship Leaders programme. To complete the programme, students had to attend a number of research skills sessions, support scholarship in one of their chosen subjects, and complete a Leadership Project. Students have done a huge range of things to support scholarship in the school, including peer mentoring, helping with subject-specific clubs and helping within lessons.

Leadership Projects have been particularly impressive and have included the creation of a school creative writing magazine; inviting in speakers such as Richard Foord, Lib Dem MP for Honiton and Sidmouth; organising mentoring programmes; leading the musical theatre section of the first CGS School Cabaret; taking part in the Lessons From Auschwitz Project, which included a trip to Auschwitz in Poland, and delivering an assembly on this; editing the Sixth Form Academic Journal; running a Physics House Competition; and a variety of other exciting projects.

We have been really impressed with the dedication and diligence that students have shown and would like to thank them for their valuable contributions to scholarship at Colyton.

A huge well done to Alexander G, Alexander M, Amber Y, Amelia G, Ben Y, Berniece W, Blossom H, Edward C, Edward H, Elise P, Erica G, Grace P, Harry C, Henry S, Holly B, Isla H, Jack T, Jacob F, Keshav P, Maria G, Morris M, Rose M, Samit N, Tallulah H and Youkie H!



THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

As we reach the end of another school year, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the members of staff who will be leaving us.

Each person has made a valued contribution to our school community through their dedication, hard work and care for our pupils. Whether they have been with us for a short time or for many years, they have helped shape the life of our school and have made a lasting difference.

We are incredibly grateful for everything they have given and wish them every success and happiness in the next chapter of their journeys.

From everyone at the school, thank you, and goodbye to Mrs Lester, Mr Stephan, Mrs Swait, Mrs McGowan, Ms Killick, Mr Gregson, Mrs Cummings, Mrs Taylor-Hayward, and Mr Dodds.

You will always be a part of our school community.





THAT'S OUR 2026 SUMMER TERM WRAPPED.

HERE'S TO NEW MILESTONES, NEW IDEAS, AND
ANOTHER INCREDIBLE YEAR AHEAD.

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