



Easter NEWSLETTER

A few words from Mr Mee -

As we approach the Easter break, I want to take a moment to celebrate the many successes across our Sixth Form. Over the past term, we have seen outstanding commitment to learning, excellent progress in lessons, and a real sense of maturity and leadership from our students. Whether in the classroom, through enrichment activities, or in the wider life of the school, you continue to represent the very best of what our Sixth Form stands for.

This is a time to recognise how far you have come. Many of you have balanced academic demands alongside wider responsibilities with resilience and determination. That effort does not go unnoticed. So a massive well done!

The Easter break now offers an important opportunity. It is, of course, a chance to rest, recharge, and spend valuable time with family and friends. Taking time to re-energise is not a luxury; it is essential.

A refreshed mind is far more effective than a fatigued one.

However, it is equally important that students do not lose sight of the goal ahead. A Level examination's begin in May for our Year 13 students and PPE mock examinations start in June and this final stretch is crucial. I encourage students to strike a careful balance over the holiday where they build in time for rest but also maintain a structured approach to revision. Small, consistent efforts now will make a significant difference in the weeks ahead and ensure students come back after Easter refreshed and ready to go. Success at this stage is not about last-minute effort, but about steady, focused preparation.

As always, we are incredibly proud of our sixth form and what they go on to achieve, and I have no doubts in my mind that students will continue to achieve great things and transform their lives.

I wish you all a restful and productive Easter break.



We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Brook for his support with Sixth Form.

As he moves on to his next chapter, we are truly grateful for everything he has done for our school community and wish him every success in the future.

Thank you

Sutton Trust Fullbright US Programme

We are delighted that one of our year 12 students is one of 150 students who have been selected to take part in the Sutton Trust Fulbright US Programme 2025. He is attending an introductory residential from 31st March to 2nd April at the University of Nottingham further residencials will be taking place later this year.



Work Experience 13th July 2026 to 16th July 2026

Students need to secure a placement and record this on their Unifrog platform. Work experience is so valuable and helps you think about teamwork, communication, initiative, skills you learned and what you learn about yourself.



Year 13: UCAS Offers and Student Finance and Financial Planning.

Students discussed university options for 2026/27 entry, including the critical process of choosing Firm and Insurance offers.

To ensure our students feel prepared for independent living, Next Step South West delivered a detailed assembly on Student Finance and Budgeting. This talk covered:

- How student finance, grants, bursaries and loans work.
- Student loan repayments.
- Practical tips on how to manage money and afford to live at university.

This session left our Year 13 students feeling informed, prepared, and excited for the next chapter of their education.



Loughborough
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Year 12: Oxford Insight and UCAS Preparation

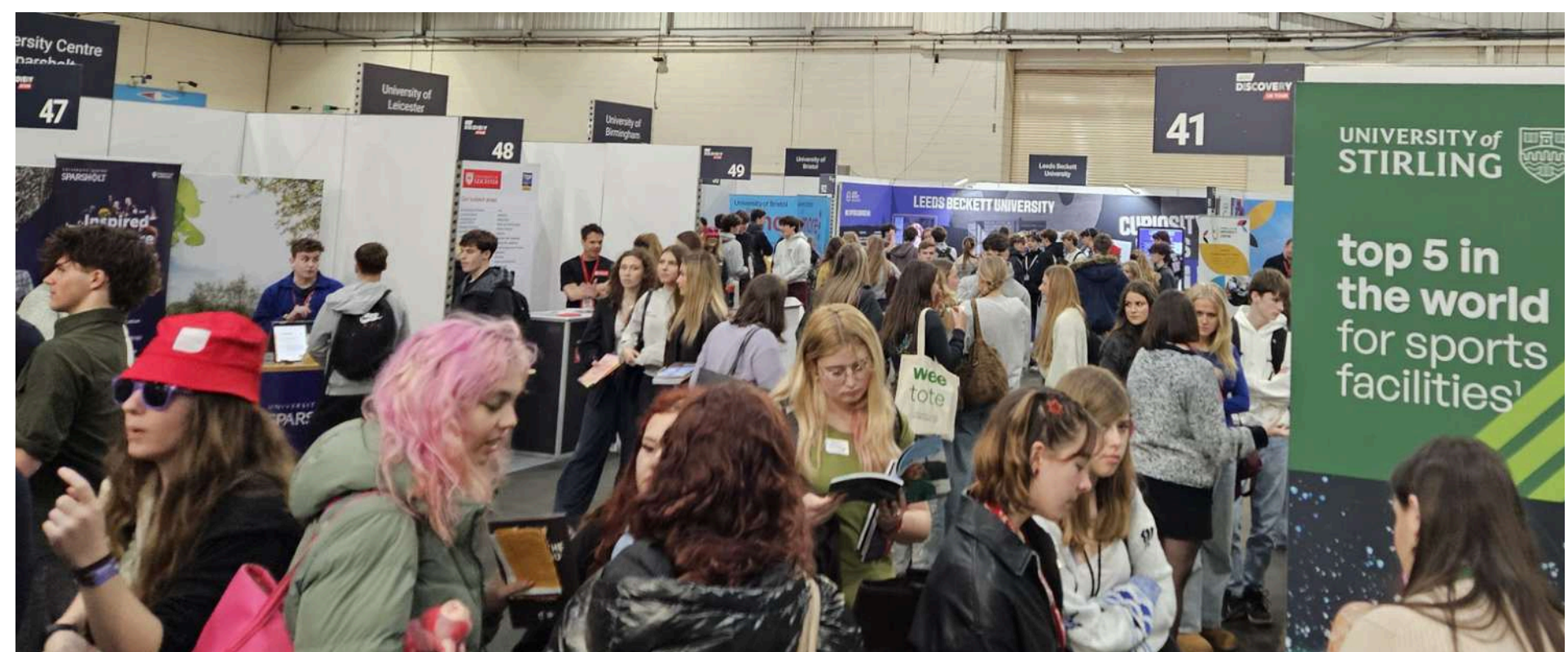
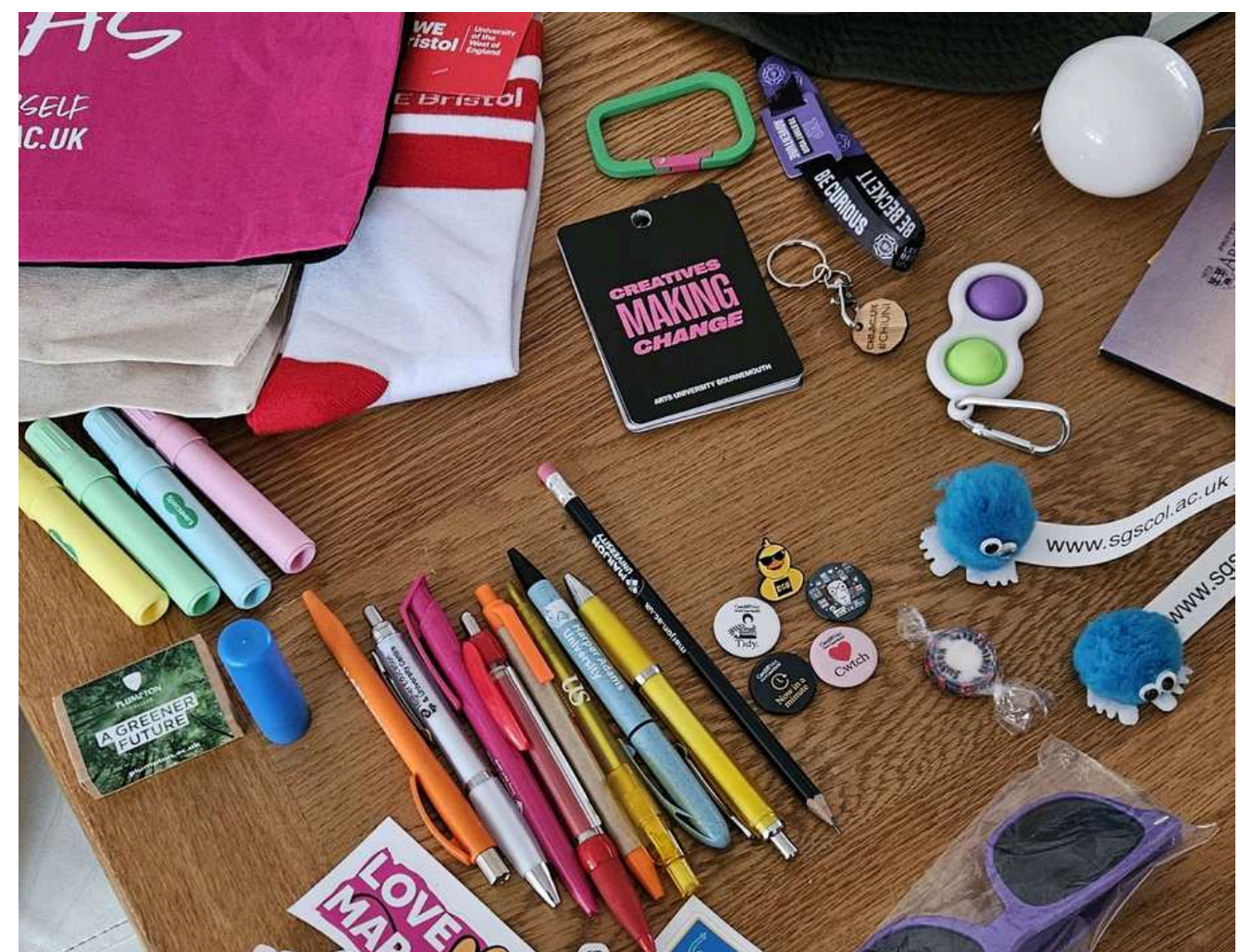
It has been a busy and productive time for our Year 12 students as they begin to turn their attention toward post-18 options. Through a series of tailored assemblies and expert talks, students have received invaluable guidance on taking the next steps in their educational journeys.

Exploring Life at Oxford University

Students attended a specialised assembly dedicated to applications and life at the University of Oxford. This session provided a realistic insight into University Life. Students were encouraged to think about super-curricular activities—exploring their subjects beyond the school curriculum—to prepare for competitive applications.

Exeter UCAS Discovery Event

Prior to attending the Exeter UCAS Discovery Event, we welcomed Next Step South West to deliver a preparation talk to all Year 12s. The session provided advice on how to make the most of the exhibition, engage with university representatives, and research various courses effectively. Next Step South West highlighted how to use the UCAS Hub to research options before the event, ensuring students can make informed decisions about their potential future pathways.



A Level Biology Heart Dissection

A Level Biologists: Future Heart Surgeons in the Making!

Scalpels ready. Gloves on. Deep breath...

This week, A Level Biology students stepped into the world of medicine as we carried out one of the most exciting practical's of the course - 'the heart dissection.'

For a moment, the classroom wasn't just a lab...it was an operating theatre.

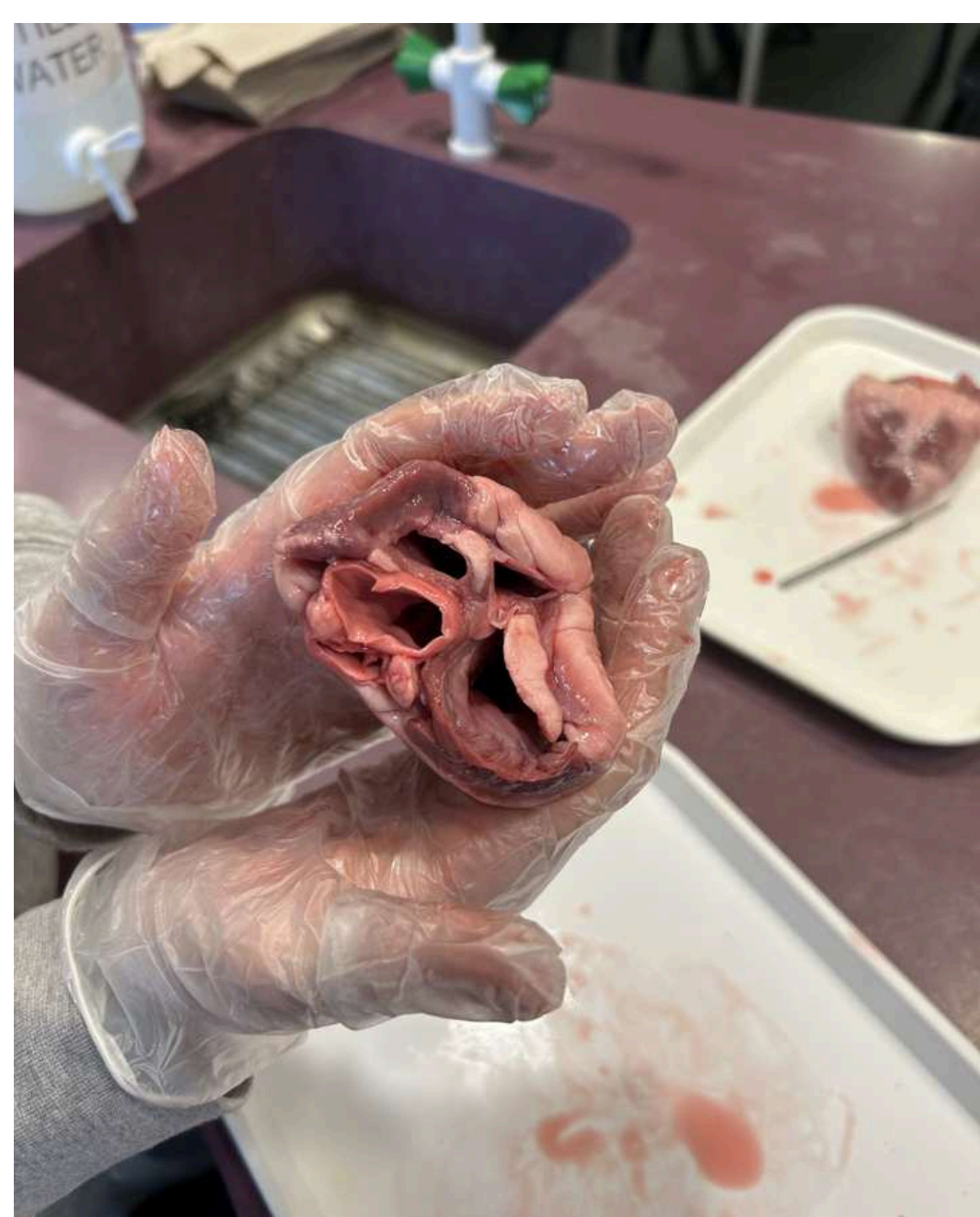
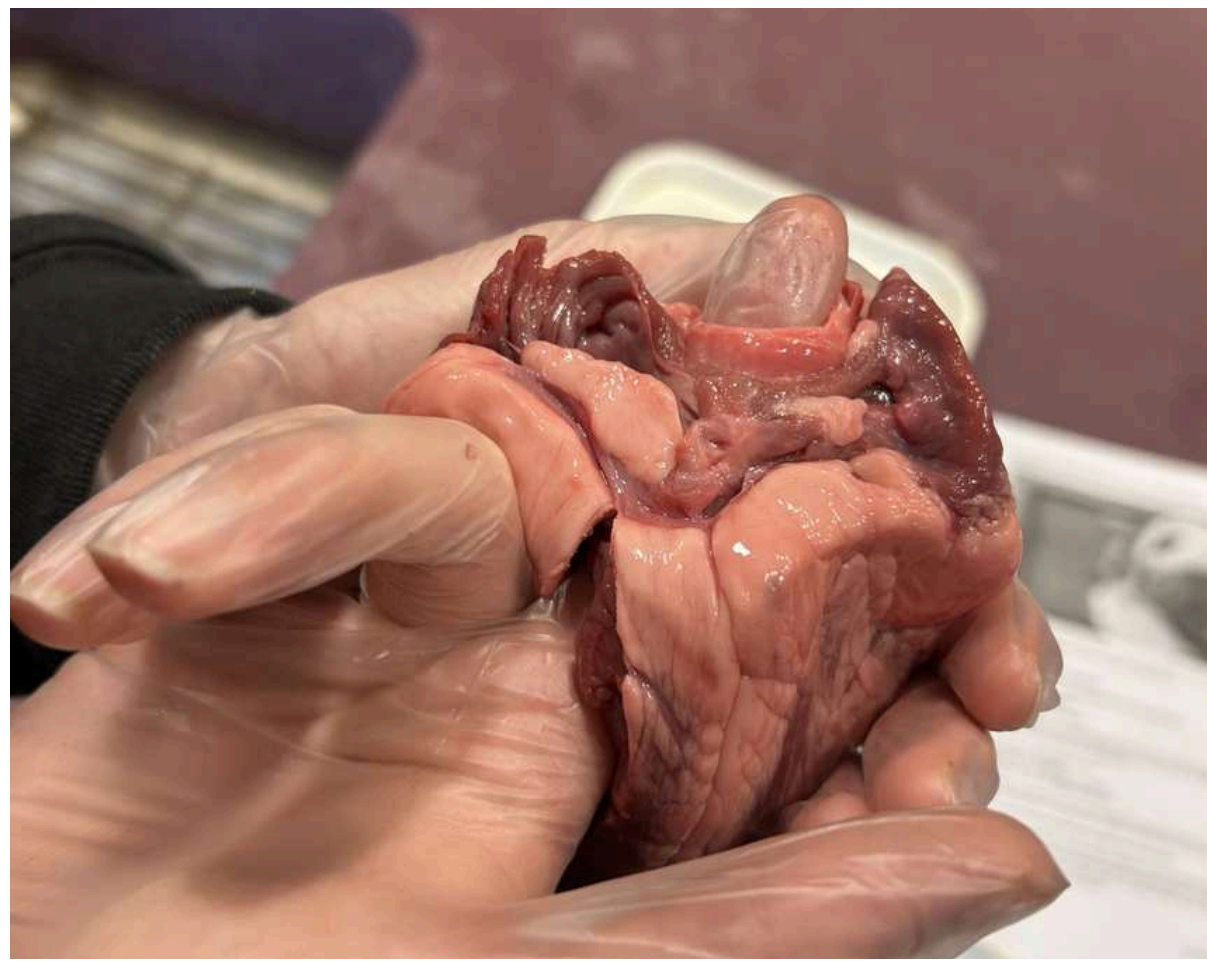
Why dissect a heart?

It's one thing to label a diagram in a textbook; it's another thing entirely to see the real structure up close!

Students identified the chambers, examined the valves, blood vessels and compared ventricular wall thickness — bringing the cardiac cycle and blood flow to life in a way no diagram ever could.

The operating theatre may have been a classroom this time - but who knows where they'll be in ten years?

Dr Holmes





Staff Charity Football Event

On Friday 27th March the school community came together for a special charity football match. As part of the Easter handover we saw headteachers Martin Brooke and Tom Goodman go head-to-head, each captaining a team made up of staff from across the school.

The event was organised by two dedicated Sixth Form students Lillie and Sienna, whose hard work and initiative made the afternoon such a success. Their efforts helped bring the whole school together while raising money for Plymouth Heartbeat, a charity that holds special significance for the school community.

You can find the link below for the highlights of the event.



Year 12 Reading Mentor Programme



Some of our Year 12 students have kindly agreed to support younger learners in Years 7 and 8 through regular reading sessions. This initiative is designed to help students develop into confident, fluent readers while also fostering a genuine enjoyment of reading.

Twice a week, Year 12 volunteers meet with their assigned students to listen to them read and provide encouragement in a calm, supportive environment. These sessions focus on building key reading skills such as fluency, accuracy and expressive delivery, helping younger students to grow in both ability and confidence.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 12 students for their commitment and enthusiasm. Their contribution is not only enhancing literacy skills but also strengthening our school community.



Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to the following students who won awards at the end of this term, they won them for being incredible and for always being **P**repared, **E**ngaged, **R**esponsible, **K**ind:

Liam Gallagher
Rosie Denham
Darcie Bassett
Lottie Poole
Michael Nguyen
Roxy Isa
Jack Matthews
Rhiannon Sadler
Katie - Marie Cartlidge.

As well as a handshake and a certificate from Mr Brook they also received an Amazon gift voucher.
Well done all

Year 13 Lesson 6's

To support our Year 13's in the run up to their final exams teachers are offering lesson 6's to run through assessments from the Exam Ready Room, look at exam techniques and revise the course content. We highly recommend all students should be attending these lessons and if they are unable to they need to speak to the teacher before hand.

Week A

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Biology English C Geography - HNG Politics - JRS	Chemistry English A Sociology	Art History Maths Photography Physics Politics - TBN Psychology	Art Photography

Week B

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Biology English C Geography - ABS Politics - JRS	Chemistry English A Sociology RE - MLR	Art History Maths Photography Physics Politics - JRS Psychology	Art Photography

Tutor League

Each week Tutor Groups gain points for the tutor league, these points are earned by their attendance, Up Learn hours, Golden Tickets, Quiz Scores and application forms completed (Work Experience / UCAS / Apprenticeships). There are also one off events like applying for Age UK Volunteering and the Pelican of London.

The current standings are

13 DGE	13 BME	13 CGW	13 NHS	
100	86	76	61	
12 RPS	12 SLE	12 ECE	12 DBD	12 MPE
103	102	97	96	81

Our Sixth Form Leadership Team

Wow! That has been a stressful term.

We have all had our offers in from universities and apprenticeships, excited to move on from Lipson but definitely feeling the pressure. Our mocks have given us a chance to see our improvements and have a taster into what it will be like in the summer.

At this point we can all tell that we are all feeling the same way but the important thing is that we have the support to get us through it. Remember don't stop now, you've come too far to give up.

There's still exciting things coming up, with our charity match, leavers BBQ and our night at fuel. Think of the relief this summer!

We would all like to say how much Martin brook will be missed. He's taken us from year 7 all the way through, doing this journey together. We all wish you good luck and the best in the future.

Good luck year 13, keep going!



Attendance

Attendance in Sixth Form is vital to students' academic success, personal development, and preparation for life beyond school. Being present and punctual ensures students fully engage with their learning, build strong study habits, and make the most of the support available to them. We are extremely proud that our overall Sixth Form attendance currently stands at an impressive 93.2%, which reflects the commitment and maturity of our students. Students are expected to arrive by 8:38am each day. If students are not able to attend due to illness or any other valid reason Parents must email sixthform@lipson.plymouth.sch.uk or contact student services, or alternatively message in via the My Child At School App.



UpLearn

UpLearn has become an increasingly valuable tool for our sixth form students, offering a structured and engaging way to master challenging subjects. Designed with exam success in mind, the platform uses short video lessons, interactive questions, and personalised study paths to help students build confidence and close knowledge gaps effectively. Many students have found it particularly helpful for A-Level revision, as it breaks down complex topics into manageable steps and reinforces learning through active recall. With its focus on independent study and measurable progress, UpLearn is a great resource for anyone looking to stay on track and achieve their academic goals.

Key Dates

- 20th April** Age UK Cohort 3 Volunteering starts
- 4th May** May Bank Holiday
- 11th May** First External Exams
- 15th June** Year 12 PPE
- 18th June** Final External Exams
- 19th June** Year 13 Leavers BBQ Celebration
- 24th June** Year 13 Leavers Celebration Evening
- 1st July** Year 12 Crash Investigation Session
- 6th July** INSET Day
- 13th July** Year 12 Work Experience
- 14th August** Results Day (0830-1130)

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