

Principal: Tina Graham

Milton Lane, Dartmouth, Devon. TQ6 9HW

T: 01803839700 F: 01803231188

E: admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk

W: www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk



21th April 2020

Report to Stoke Fleming Parish Council

As is now the norm Dartmouth Academy maintains and develops involvement with many clubs and societies within Dartmouth and the surrounding areas and also works alongside the six other Primary schools within Education South West.

We have extremely strong links with the Dartmouth Rotary Club. These links involve the annual Food Festival, Young Chef and the Young Photographer Competitions. Pupils of the Academy submitted a record number of entries to this year's Rotary Young Photographer competition and we were also very proud to again host the competition. We had great success with winners in every category.

Our twinning agreement with Britannia Royal Naval College is proving mutually beneficial and Pupils at the Academy are benefitting from this through reward trips, leadership days and work experience. We again attended the BRNC Chapel for our annual Remembrance Service and Officer Cadets from the College were also invited to the Academy's sports day, where they gave a demonstration of the discipline method of fitness used by the Royal Navy to develop co-ordination, physical strength and endurance. The BRNC also invited Dartmouth Academy pupils aboard HMS Tyne for a guided tour and a year 10 pupil was invited to the Christmas Passing Out Parade and recorded the event with a professional photographer, a great careers experience.

There was great participation during lunch times for Science week in March. Secondary pupils had the opportunity perform a rat dissection, have their hands set on fire (safely!!!) and learn fun facts about space through a treasure hunt, while primary pupils took part in a series of experiments to learn how pollution affects our local landscape and marine environment. They took part in the following events: beach clean-up, school clean-up, local businesses recycling fieldwork, materials survey, a shark stomach contents experiment, micro plastic extraction experiments, squid dissection experiment, environmental author Skype interview, Paddle Board estuary clean, a guest speaker from 'Til the Coast is Clear' and hosted a parent drop-in on Friday afternoon!

In Art and Design a large number of pupils participated in our Pilgrim sculpture that is now sited on the Embankment in Dartmouth and they also wrote and illustrated a Mayflower 400 book which will shortly be available to buy. We continue to work with Miranda's Fund, a charitable organisation run by the family of Miranda Benzies to support the Arts. We were also fortunate to have a very talented ex-pupil showing and explaining his university work to year 7 and enjoyed an interesting discussion about careers in game design and digital art. Year 8 have been studying the Tempest and during lockdown have been creating sculptural pieces based on the Shakespearean play. Asia Wheatley sent a photo of her amazing work from her Stoke Fleming garden.

Principal: Tina Graham

Milton Lane, Dartmouth, Devon. TQ6 9HW

T: 01803839700 F: 01803231188

E: admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk

W: www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk



Talking of gardens, you may have seen Hope Elliott on BBC Spotlight. The Stoke Fleming youngster ran a marathon in her garden in memory of her Grandfather and to raise money for Cancer research.

In sports one of our year 10 boys played for Devon RFU u15 schools' team and we are proud to support his passion to play rugby and represent Devon. This will be the end of rugby for this season due to global events but he is aiming for the next level next season with Wales.

We are so grateful for the support of the Dartmouth Music Festival Foundation in funding for pupils to experience a series of individual music lessons. The Dart Music Festival Foundation very generously agreed to fund a series of music lessons for a number of pupils in Key Stage 3. The idea behind the initiative is to allow pupils to experience being taught different instruments by specialist teachers. Members of the Dart Music Festival Foundation Trust met with a number of pupils who were unanimous in their enjoyment of these music lessons. Some notable quotes:

" I didn't know I could play piano, it has been such a fun experience."

" Sometimes I feel anxious at school and this helps me to relax."

" I like that I can express my feelings by playing the piano."

We are grateful for the support of this community group and there is no doubt that our young people benefit enormously.

A quick reminder that we are a RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL at Bronze level and are now working from our silver action plan. We are focusing on the following RIGHTS this year:

Article 28 (right to education)

Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 29 (goals of education)

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Article 12 (respect for the views of the child)

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

You can access further information here:

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/.../what-is-a-rights-respecting-sc.../>

Principal: Tina Graham

Milton Lane, Dartmouth, Devon. TQ6 9HW

T: 01803839700 F: 01803231188

E: admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk

W: www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk



A group of year 8 and 9 pupils visited Exeter University medical school as they are acting as a youth advisory team to researchers and are involved in further developing an increasingly healthy environment at school.

Serin Aubrey from Dartmouth Fine Foods, came in to do a master class in gnocchi with Hospitality pupils and stayed for their pasta practical following from work they are doing on carbohydrates. This is another example of real-life experiences of the workplace we regularly make available to our pupils. Dartmouth Fine Foods also worked with our pupils for our three-course wine and dine evening here at the Academy in the summer. We decorated our restaurant and the Food Festival committee, along with Academy staff and pupils, sold tickets for the fine dining event which was a huge success. We are grateful to these professionals for their support and to the Food Festival committee, the Food Festival is an event we always participate and achieve success in.

All pupils in year 11 had their third interview regarding their progression routes, this time with members of the Dartmouth Rotary Club. Pupils were asked to wear smart business wear and rose spectacularly to the occasion. These individual interviews support pupils in interview and social skills as well as crystallising progression routes. As part of our ongoing Careers programme a team of soldiers presented on the armed forces to years 9 and 10. Pupils carried out a range of command tasks to build team and communication skills. A memorable quote from a year 9 pupil: "That was the best day ever!"

In January the Year Six girls at Dartmouth Academy took part in a Minecraft coding and 3D Painting session run by Microsoft at Ocean Studios in Plymouth. Supported by young professionals from Microsoft's creative department, the girls took on a 'coding quest' to create their own section of the Minecraft game. They also used Paint 3D to bring their 2D drawings to life - they were able to interact with their designs in real-time as part of the Alternative Reality section of the programme. Some quotes from the day:

"I loved making my 3D Hoover!"

" It was brilliant fun."

" I never knew you could have a career playing and making games."

Other notable highlights include year 5/6 enjoyed the opportunity of taking fencing lessons, one talented pupil recently achieving a distinction for grade 6 in acoustic guitar and geographers created an amazing tree for the Stoke Fleming Christmas Tree Festival.

Jordan Gooch, a former Stoke Fleming pupil, and Eloise Green, participated in a personal development expedition to Nepal and had an amazing learning experience. They spent over a year preparing and fundraising to make the trip a success.

The Academy is involved in various annual events, which include the following:

- Lantern making workshops for Candlelit Dartmouth
- Themed Christmas tree Festival in St Peter's Church at Stoke Fleming

Principal: Tina Graham

Milton Lane, Dartmouth, Devon. TQ6 9HW

T: 01803839700 F: 01803231188

E: admin@dartmouthacademy.org.uk

W: www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk



- Summer Exhibition at the Flavel Arts Centre which includes Art and Design and Photography.
- Regularly changing exhibitions at the Doctors Surgery and at Sainsbury's.
- Participation in the Food Festival as well as the Young Chef's Competition.
- Performing at the Dartmouth Music Festival.
- Hosting a festive and fun Christmas luncheon for Dartmouth Caring clients.
- Offering a wide range of opportunities, including foreign and national trips, to pupils during Challenge Week in July.
- Some of our primary age pupils enjoying a residential learning a wide range of new skills through outdoor activities.

We look forward to returning to school and continuing the amazing work that happens in school and with our brilliant links to the wider community.

It has been an honour to be the Principal of Dartmouth Academy for the last 5 years. In September, Emily Simpson-Horne will take over the reins from me as Head of School, while I will maintain a strategic lead as well as being Principal at Kingsbridge Community College. The two schools will continue to work in partnership and benefit all pupils in our settings.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the community during the past 5 years for helping us to support the pupils of Dartmouth Academy to be their best selves.

Kind regards

Tina Graham
Principal