

## Ten Tors

Another fantastic weekend was spent on the moor last week supporting our students taking part in Ten Tors. It was almost perfect weather conditions and that combined with the commitment of our students, meant that parents and staff had to dash up on Sunday to see them through the finishing line late morning. It is always a pleasure to see students faces as they walk through the corridor of supporters, spotting their proud families as they go. Well done to all the students who took part in Ten Tors this year and the staff and parents who have supported it. Leo Biles our Outdoor Education Instructor will provide a further insight into this below.

Sammy Crook

Last weekend was another successful Ten Tors Challenge with 3 teams from Tiverton High School taking part. There may be many challenging walks in Britain today, but Ten Tors is still alone in catering solely for young people and is believed to be the largest and most challenging event held nationally. The Ten Tors Challenge is limited to 2,400 individuals (four hundred teams of six teenagers).

18 students from THS took part in the challenge which involves walking over the rough terrain of Dartmoor and visiting ten nominated tors or check points in under two days. The teams must be self-sufficient, carrying all that they need to complete their route and stay out over-night safely. The year 9s and 10s navigated the 35 mile distance whilst the year 11s completed the 45 mile distance.

The weather this year was ideal for walking, the strong winds on the Friday evening before the event slowly died down, and as the weekend progressed the skies cleared for a sunny finish. All 3 of the teams finished between 1118 and 1230 on the Sunday.

Training walks start in October and increase in duration, distance and number until the event in May. The students put in a huge amount of effort during the event, but equally so during the training phase. The commitment and perseverance that the students have shown throughout the training this year has been admirable and they, along with their parents, should be very proud of what they have achieved. All 18 students are now part of a group numbering around 100,000 people who have taken part in the Ten Tors Challenge since it started. One of the Directors of Ten Tors once said that "at the core of every person who has taken part is sown a seed of certainty that they can take on whatever might come their way, deal with it, and emerge stronger because of it." Well done to all who took part!

### 45 Team finished 1222

James Onley-Gregson  
Charlie Warne  
Rhys Gamlin  
John Heard  
Nathaniel Britton  
Noah Buckley

### 35A Team finished 1230

Peggy Hookins  
Ben Broomfield  
Benjamin Kettleborough  
Lucais Harrison  
Melissa Kelland  
Rebecca Hyde

### 35B Team finished 1118

Alex Smith  
Guy Cridland  
Samuel Trick  
Michael Bailey  
Daniel Hancock  
Jack Aldridge



Special thanks must go to the staff and volunteers who gave up their time to help train and supervise the students this year: Chris Blaxland, Zak Bennett, Catherine Britton, John Milne, Steph Brown, Andy Pritchard, Ray Bibby, Dave Elsworth, Dan Scott, Jo Taplin, Ellie Harcombe, Tomos Emmanuel and Harriet Greatrex.

Many thanks are also due to the servicemen and civilians who continue to run the Ten Tors Challenge, and who provide the essential safety net.

## Outdoor Education recognition



The school would like to recognise the contribution that staff and volunteers have made to Tiverton High School on our Outdoor Education trips over the last few years. We would like to lead with an award that Chris Blaxland received from the army in recognition for his services to Ten Tors over the last 25 years.

Chris has supported Ten Tors at Tiverton High School as a volunteer for 25 years, 5 of these years as team manager. Over the years his knowledge, enthusiasm and humour have been invaluable to the 300 plus students he has helped trained. Chris is a stalwart member of staff when it comes to Ten Tors training, and on the few occasion he has missed a training walk his absence is felt by both staff and students alike; not just the bad jokes, but the wealth of experience he has to offer.



Whilst training students in the Brecon Beacons this year Chris calculated (as a maths teacher does) all the training that he has assisted or led on, and that he has spent an entire year of his life training students from Tiverton High School for Ten Tors.

Outdoor Education at Tiverton High School allows students to experience success outside of the traditional curriculum. Students can test themselves personally against both the environment and the demands of the activities on offer. The environments range from week long trips to the Lake District and North Wales to weekends on Dartmoor or the Brecon Beacons with activities including camping, rock climbing, walking, canoeing, kayaking, scrambling and mountain biking.

More often than not, these experiences are facilitated by the help of staff and volunteers. It is through their generosity in giving up their own time at weekends, evenings and sometimes holidays that we are able to run these trips.

The help that is offered ranges from guiding students across Striding Edge in the Lake District, to cooking 30 plus jacket potatoes for Ten Tors teams; advising on navigational issues when lost on Dartmoor or handing out spare gloves to the student that forgot theirs.

Perhaps the expedition which best captures the level of support and commitment that these staff and volunteers provide was the Three Peaks challenge in 2012. Students were joined by staff from Heathcoat fabrics to raise £25,000 to fund a new minibus for the school. Staff and volunteers spent 4 days travelling to Scotland, The Lake District and Snowdonia to climb Britain's three highest peaks, Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon. This simply wouldn't have been possible without the support of staff and volunteers which ensured their travel, accommodation and most importantly food were all catered for, not to mention walking every step of the way alongside them.

The following people have often gone above and beyond in helping students achieve success on Outdoor Education trips over the last few years. We would like to recognise the significant contribution they have made by presenting them with a THS Outdoor Ed badge as a thank you from both the school and the many students that have been able to access the opportunities we have offered.

### Staff:

Simon Tong , Chris Blaxland , Chris Dwyer , Catherine Britton, Liz Ford, Annette Alsopp and Georgina Doeller

### Volunteers:

Dave Elsworthy, Ray Bibby, John Milne, Andy Pritchard, Chris Gregson, Ivan and Sue Godfrey, Lily Blaxland, Gary Ford, Pete Bennett

### Student:

Charlie Warne

## Exmoor Challenge

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April, four teams of four intrepid explorers left Tiverton High School to take part in the annual Exmoor Youth Challenge. For the uninitiated this is an annual event organised by the Rotary Club of Exmoor and open to students from Years 6 – 11. The route covers 16 miles of stunning Exmoor countryside, and takes in a variety of terrain, from open countryside and farmland to picturesque rivers and steep rolling countryside. There is a set time limit, in which the teams of four must complete each leg before being allowed to continue to the next checkpoint. There were nearly 600 walkers on the Moor over the weekend, an astonishing effort by children so young.

After several training walks around some of the most stunning parts of Exmoor, the first training walk took in Lynton and Lynmouth and the second a loop of Exmoor taking in Withypool and finishing at Monsey Hill Gate; taking in some stunning scenery along way, the school entered four teams this year and as ever competition for places was high. On the day all of the walkers did extremely well; they were a real credit to themselves and to the school. Despite a few teams getting 'geographically challenged' three of the four teams completed the Challenge, with one team having to be extracted from the moor due to being significantly behind time. Disappointing as this was for all, there will always be a chance next year to put this right.



Well done to our senior team who came second overall, a stirring effort chaps.

A big thank you to all the staff who supported us on the training walks, the parents of all the walkers, and the walkers themselves. I hope to see many of them back again next year.

Chris Dwyer



## Mayor Choosing Ceremony

It was a proud day for THS on Monday when 5 students attended this ceremony that dates back over 200 years. Firstly the students saw democracy in action with the election of the Mayor, Councillor Burke and his Deputy for the year, Councillor Slade.

Caitlin Pritchard (Y11) ended her year as Mayor's Cadet, representing the Sea Cadets. She has carried out her duties in an exemplary manner during her year in office. Caitlin then put herself forward and was accepted for another role as Mace Bearer for the Town Council. She will be the youngest person ever to fill this position. Toby Place (Y11), representing the Army Cadets, then took over the role for this coming year. We are sure he will be as successful as Caitlin has been.

Bryony Keane and Matthew Baker (Year 7) then presented the Mayor and Lady Mayoress with flowers and gave a short speech. They were selected to represent the school as they had the highest number of class chart points in the year group. Sena Pektemiz also attended and was proud to see her grandfather elected as mayor.



## Upcoming events

17th – 20th July 2017  
Activities Week

**REMINDER ALL OUTSTANDING BALANCES ARE NOW OVERDUE.** If you have any problems with payment, or are unsure if money is still owed, please contact the Accounts Office as soon as possible to discuss.

## Well done to our dedicated Year 11s

We have witnessed some fantastic attendance at our Year 11 revision sessions, with 104 students attending at least one session this week which is 44% of the Year 11 cohort. The percentage of spotlight students attending one or more sessions is 56%.

A special well done goes to our highest attending students Will Goffey and Charles Mogford who both attended 7 sessions, James Onley-Gregson and Josh Goodwin who attended 6 sessions and Toby Heard, Gareth Higgins, Abbie Richardson and George Stone who all attended 5 sessions.

**Well done to everyone who attended – keep it up!**

**REMEMBER**  
High awareness  
+ high action  
= exam success

## JOB VACANCY - PART-TIME SCHOOL RECEPTIONIST

21.25 hrs per week Term time only – 39 weeks per year + 5 non-pupil days  
£8.36 - £9.21 depending on experience  
Closing Date: Midday Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
Interview Date: Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May

We are looking for a part-time school receptionist to be the face of the school between 12.30pm and 4.45pm Monday to Friday, 39 weeks per year (term time + 5 non-pupil days). We are seeking someone who has excellent communication skills, able to deal with phone calls and parents/visitors confidently and in a calm and friendly manner, and has a high degree of attention to detail. The role is very busy and varied, and the successful candidate needs to be able to work under pressure during busy periods. The receptionist role is key as it is usually the first point of contact for enquiries and visitors to the school. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed and encouraged, please contact us on 01884 256655 to arrange this.

**For further information or for an application pack please telephone Meg Hepworth on 01884 256655 or email [mhepworth@tiverton.devon.sch.uk](mailto:mhepworth@tiverton.devon.sch.uk).**

## Bowled over by Girls Cricket

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May the U13 and U15 Girls' cricket teams played their first tournament of the season at St Lukes. The girls arrived excited and ready to show the other schools how it's done. The U13s started the tournament taking on a more experienced Dawlish side but showed that practice had paid off, taking a narrow victory by two runs. They then went onto play St Peters the most formidable of opposition and batted well giving the opposition a challenging total to beat. Yet again Tiverton came away the better side on the day. Their last game was against St Lukes whose bowling left our girls with little options of where to place the ball but Emmie Curtis and Lauren Buckingham batted like superstars and kept the 6s coming in.

The U15s on the other hand faced St Peters to start with, who make up a majority of the Devon side, but held their own against some beautiful bowling finishing with a loss but learning a lot. They then faced Sidmouth where our batters saved the day with Emily Trump's strong variety of shots and power clearing the boundary line time after time. Finally they faced St Peters B team where the girls really showed what team work is all about and their slick fielding gave the St Peters girls no chance of getting runs. The girls finished on a high with Lissy Parsons and Ruby Toogood batting to take the win.

### Results

U13  
THS 50-48 Dawlish  
THS 60-47 St Peters  
THS 51-62 St Lukes  
Player of the Tournament- Emmie Curtis

U15  
THS 19-86 St Peters A  
THS 32-88 Sidmouth  
THS 52- 45 St Peters B  
Player of the Tournament- Lissy Parsons

