

Student editor Pearl Dare in Year 11 writes:



Autumn has brought with it not just Hallowe'en and its pretty colours, but also the fear of those great big spiders that have led me to tape conkers to my ceiling, doors and windowsill, in the hope that the myths are true about their deterrent effect. I can also vouch for the fact that we, in year 11, are really looking forward to the mock GCSE exams ... well, not really, but how bad can it be?!

The summer holidays are now just a distant memory, with the original excitement of getting to see your classmates disappearing under the waves of homework that – with the new digital system that KEVICC have introduced – makes it impossible to leave any homework undone with any of the good old 'the dog ate my homework' excuses. I'm sure we teens can think of something if we put our minds to it. Dog ate my laptop?

This half term we have had a visit from local MP Sarah Wollaston and, with the news of the Google virtual expeditions opportunities, I'm personally looking forward to going to Robben Island (where Nobel Laureate, and former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 18 of the 27 years he served behind bars) with my Religious Studies class for an hour or two.

Zumba will also be entering our PE classes, which I've not so wisely signed up for, considering I'm about as athletic as a potato. Who knows ... maybe it will introduce me to a new life of exercise?

Local MP Sarah Wollaston came into the College last month after an invitation from our Sixth Form to come and discuss the result of the 'Brexit' decision. The students had put on a lively debate just before the referendum, and were keen to follow it up by talking to the local MP.

Firstly, students from years 7-12 were able to take part in a question and answer session, and wide-ranging questions were put to her: about Brexit / the open (or otherwise) movement of people / fracking / the Government's attitude towards refugees / the camps in Calais / Grammar schools and more.

The Sixth Formers later quizzed her in depth about these topics and others such as nuclear disarmament / youth unemployment / social change ~ and had done research beforehand so they knew what her voting record was on each topic when it was discussed in Parliament.

Our students found the debate informative and interesting – we hope and think that Sarah Wollaston did too!



## Google Pioneer Program: virtual expeditions in the classroom

Imagine exploring coral reefs or the surface of Mars in an afternoon! With Expeditions, teachers can take students on immersive, virtual journeys - guided tours of places from all over the universe. These expeditions are comprised of virtual reality panoramas and are led by a guide or teacher. **When the Geography Department read that this academic year the Google Expeditions teams would be visiting selected schools around the UK, they never dreamed that KEVICC might be chosen as one of the lucky ones. But they were delighted when they were!** The team are visiting KEVICC at the beginning of November and will bring a complete Expeditions kit, with everything the teachers need to bring their classroom to life and take their students on journeys to virtually anywhere.



We were very impressed with the standard of the work submitted by Eliza Algar in our History Castles project, and she is pictured with the shield awarded to the overall winner.

She said: *I spent some time trying to decide on my theme and eventually I decided to research Medical Remedies in mediæval times. I enjoyed the research because some of the remedies were ridiculous, yet fascinating.*

*I made a booklet with my favourite recipes for cures to ailments - many containing herbs and sugar for a cough or headache. Not so nice remedies would be to take a snail and rub it on a burn or scald, but this actually does work and 'snail gel' is still used today in modern medicines.*

*My favourite recipe is one for gout:*

1. First take an owl and pluck it clean and open it.
2. Clean and salt it.
3. Put it in a new pot; cover it with a stone, then put it in an oven and let it stand till it be burned.
4. Mix it with boar's grease and anoint the gout herewith.



After a very moving trip to visit the WW1 Battlefields in France earlier in the year, our History Department was delighted to be able to acquire one of the 19,240 figures created by artist Rob Heard to commemorate every British soldier who died on first day of the Battle of the Somme in 1916. Rob spent six months handcrafting each of the 12-inch figures.

Each figure took on its own form as they were wrapped, twisting and bending into their own unique shape. They were poignantly wrapped and bound in a shroud, every one hand-stitched by Rob, who recited out loud the name of each soldier as he finished their shroud. All but one of the symbolic shrouds were laid out at Northernhay Gardens in Exeter, and the final one was added during a ceremony held to mark the moment when troops first went 'over the top' at 7.30am on 1 July 1916.

Rob said: *The idea was to physicalise the number - to illustrate the enormity of the horror which unfolded.*



Students in years 7-11 have a termly Curriculum Enrichment Day when usual lessons are replaced by other opportunities to enrich the curriculum teaching. Our year 8s spent a recent CE day researching the history of KEVICC, with particular reference to the 50th anniversary of its becoming a Comprehensive, and finding out more about those whom the Houses are named after. After using books, the internet and interviewing staff, each group of students put together a presentation, given to the whole of year 8, plus invited staff – with a surprise guest, former Principal Stephen Jones.

Don't forget to contact us if you have memories of years spent at the school: phone Polly Morrow 01803 869216



### Dance classes for 5–13 year olds on termtime Saturday mornings

Our Dance department has launched dance classes in three sessions (according to age and experience) on Saturdays. These creative dance classes offer young dancers the opportunity to use rhythm and movement to express ideas through

their bodies, and to develop self-confidence and social skills in a relaxed and fun environment. For more information, please contact Sarah McInally in the Dance Department: smcinally@kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk or leave a message with KEVICC Reception.

# KING EDWARD VI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

6th Form Centre

# & kennicott

contact us on **t 01803 869200** or visit us at **www.kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk**

King Edward VI Community College is a Co-operative Trust School

