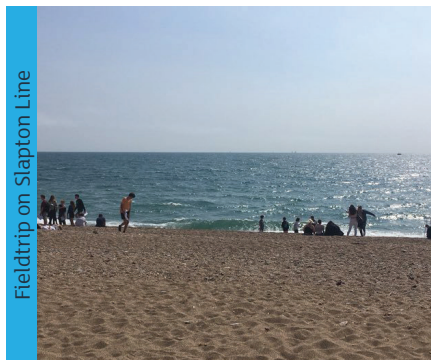


KEVICC Newsletter Autumn Term



Surf Camp in Northern Spain



Fieldtrip on Slapton Line



Students perform at Glasdenbury

Brilliant GCSE Results

There was a real buzz at KEVICC on Thursday 23rd August as Y11 students came to collect their GCSE exam results, following an exceptionally busy exam season. Our pupils took new GCSEs across all but a couple of subjects. The new exams are graded from 9 to 1, with grade 9 awarded to recognise exceptional performance above the old A* grade. The new exams meant students sat more papers than ever before.

The College's results were strong again and built upon last year's success, especially with the very highest grades of 9 and 8. "This year we managed an amazing 47 grade 9s, and we had to keep reminding students that these grades are rarer than hen's teeth and substantially more difficult to obtain than the old A* measure!" said Alan Salt. "Only our English and Maths teachers had experience of what it took to get a grade 9 as their new GCSEs were examined last year, so for those of us teaching other subjects it was great to see so many students rise to the challenge and hit these top grades".

But the day was not all about the very top grades, with overall performance up on last year and the teachers celebrating with students who had made great progress to get grades across the results range.

"An indication of our good all-round performance was seeing 65% of students get 5 of their GCSEs, including English and Maths, at grades 9-4" continued Alan Salt, "But as a comprehensive College we're so pleased with some of our students for whom passing a range of GCSEs at grades 1-3 represents a great achievement, just as much as the nearly 20% of grades at 9, 8 and 7.

Whatever the grade, so many students' results represented the fruits of lots of effort from students, parents and teachers. "This year we were talking as staff way back at the start of the year about how many students were committing to extra sessions at lunchtime and after school", Alan Salt explained. "When you've got classrooms full of students staying after school on dark Fridays in January, and teachers running those sessions, you know you're going to see the results come the summer".

The College were also not comfortable with the emphasis nationally on describing grade 5 as a "strong pass" and 4 as a "pass". "Describing grades as 'pass' or 'fail' is pretty meaningless when you've students for whom a 2 may represent a huge achievement and the outcome of years of hard work". Well done to you all.



Enriching students' learning



Art, culture, language and surfing

Our students had the opportunity to visit Northern Spain in July to take in the language, culture and art, as well as a good dose of surfing and paddle-boarding. Arriving in Ibarangelu, the students took in the richness of the San Juan de Gaztelugatxe, the Guggenheim and the beautiful village of Elanxobe.

Laga Beach was the location of the surf camp. A real highlight of the academic year in 2018, we hope to make this trip an annual offer to our community of students.



University visits

Our Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit a range of universities in the summer term including Oxford, Southampton, Cardiff and Bath. Ensuring our students make informed choices post-16 is a key priority for us.

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