

Off The Record

Top Places To Visit In Devon
the perfect bucket list for
summer

Sir David Attenborough Turns
100
a glimpse into the nature
presenter's amazing work

Which Ice Cream Flavour Are
You?
a short summer quiz!



Summer

No.3

EDITORIAL INTRO



A MESSAGE FROM MS BANKS

Welcome to the summer edition of Off the Record! As another fantastic school year draws to a close, we're delighted to bring you an issue celebrating the creativity, talent and enthusiasm of our school community. From summer-inspired features to reviews, reflections and creative writing, we hope there's something for everyone to enjoy. Thank you to our editorial team and all of our writers, artists and photographers; your hard work continues to make Off the Record go from strength to strength. This edition also marks a changing of the guard as we say a heartfelt thank you and farewell to our founding student editor, Sophia Sutton. Her vision and dedication were instrumental in getting Off the Record off the ground, and her legacy will continue long after she leaves us. We're excited to welcome Isabella Payne as our new student editor, alongside Anna and Anwen from Year 10, as the team continues to grow. Have a wonderful, restful summer, and happy reading!

Message From The Editors

ISSY, ANNA, AND ANWEN



As we proudly release our Summer edition, we are so excited to celebrate another term of creativity, collaboration, and growth within our team. Since the Spring release, we have continued to develop new skills and ideas, while also enjoying the opportunity to work with our loyal editorial team. With themes centralised around travel, adventure, and summer, this edition has allowed us to explore inspiring stories and exciting experiences across our school community. We would like to thank everybody who helped make this magazine possible, from first ideas and drafts to the final printed copy. We would also like to thank Ms Banks for her continued dedication and support to the project! Finally, we are delighted to announce two new official editors, Anna and Anwen, who will be joining for future editions!



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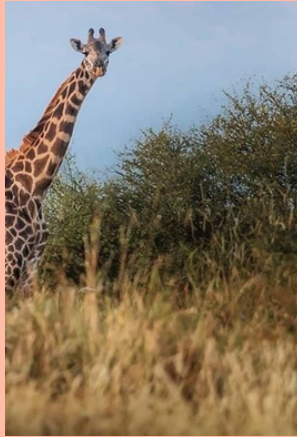
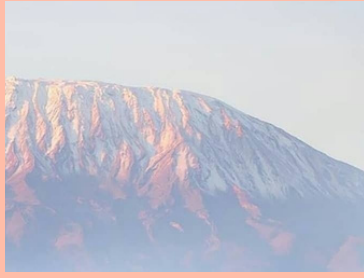
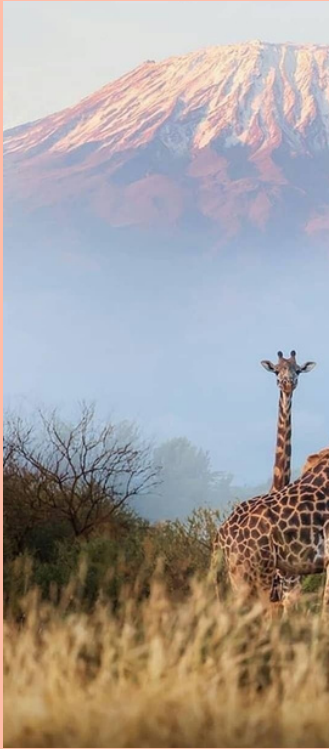
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TEACHER'S TRAVEL GUIDE

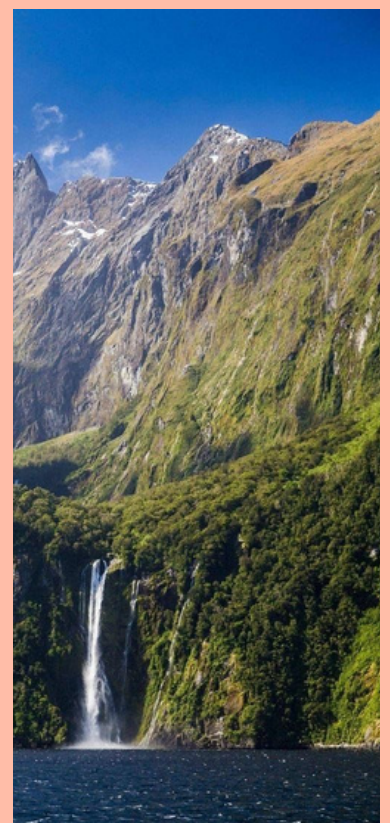
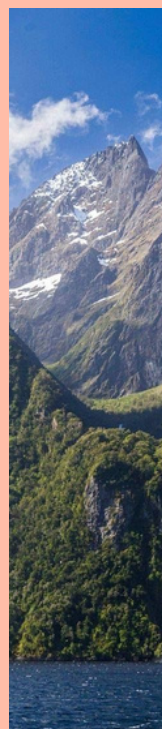


Kruger National Park, South Africa

One of my most memorable trips for sure. Picture sunrise safaris, elephants wandering across grasslands, and lions lounging like they own the place (because they do). Kruger is the kind of place that brings you back to the reality by making you feel a bit lower down the food chain! Watching a rhino charge towards our minibus was certainly one of the scarier moments!

Milford Sound, New Zealand

This is a gigantic fjord on the South Island in NZ. I went here as part of my honeymoon ten years ago and the dramatic scenery was unforgettable. Imagine sailing between cliffs so tall they disappear into the clouds, with waterfalls tumbling down like something straight out of a fantasy novel. It feels otherworldly—quiet, dramatic, and unbelievably beautiful. You half expect a dinosaur to appear through one of the valleys at any point.



— MR MAGEE

Black Sand Beach in Vik, Iceland

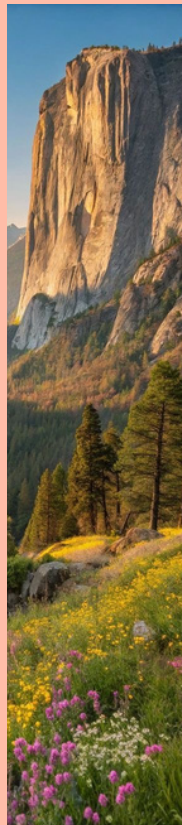
This is not your typical beach trip. The sand is jet-black (made from weathered volcanic rock), the waves crash dramatically in off the Atlantic Ocean, puffins flap awkwardly in the skies and the whole place looks like a backdrop for a Games of Thrones set. There are huge black basalt columns jutting out of the land. A must for any Geography enthusiast!

TEACHER'S TRAVEL GUIDE



Scottish Highlands and Islands

Yes, Scotland can be very wet and windy a lot of the year. But if you catch it at the right time, it is stunning. The rolling green mountains and misty lochs of the Highlands are breath-taking and the white sand beaches of Skye and Mull are very unexpected for Scotland (you'd think you're in the Caribbean). Also Scotland's countryside is open access which means you can camp pretty much anywhere you like - makes for a great adventure.



Yosemite National Park, USA

I saved my favourite to last. I have a large picture of this in my classroom. Think giant sequoia trees, sparkling rivers, and towering cliffs so huge they make you feel tiny. Again, like Milford Sound, it feels like Jurassic World. The views down 'Tunnel View' and towards Half Dome are amazing. It is a perfect place for exploring on foot and camping. Remember to lock your food away at night as there are bears about!

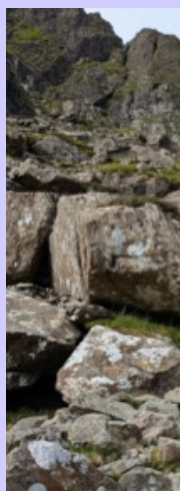
Remember - the best travel experiences don't feature sun loungers or shops!

TEACHER'S TRAVEL GUIDE

– MS BROWN

One of the reasons that I fell in love with languages was the prospect of being able to use them when travelling to new and exciting countries as an adult. I clearly remember seeing a picture of Chichén Itzá in a Y7 Spanish textbook and thinking "I can't wait to go and see that in real life." When I made it there 10 years later as a 22 year old, I was just as blown away as I thought I would be!

Since leaving school I have taken every opportunity to travel and a few years ago I set myself the challenge to travel to 40 countries before 40. The summer after my 39th birthday required a big trip to Central America to tick off 6 new countries in order to make it happen, but at the end of that trip Costa Rica became my 40th country and challenge complete!

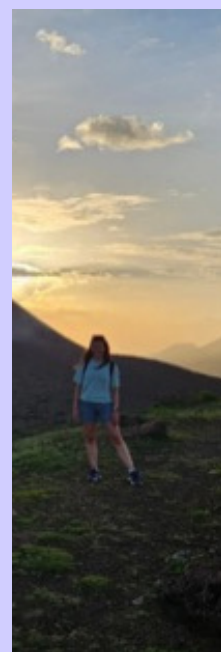
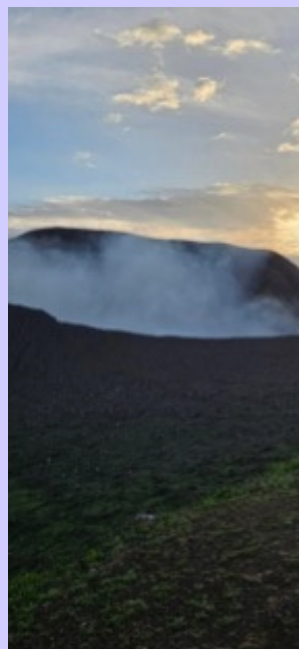


Vietnam

This might potentially be my all-time favourite country that I have travelled to. There is such a variety of places to see, things to do, the people are so friendly and the food is amazing! The cities are so different; from modern Ho Chi Minh to chaotic Hanoi to picturesque Hoi An, the history is interesting and the hiking through the countryside in the north is spectacular and that's before even mentioning the beaches.....!

Guatemala (and Central America in general)

Hiking up the Acatenango Volcano and camping to see the neighbouring Fuego Volcano erupting throughout the night might be my number one travel experience ever. Central America has it all; lakes, volcanoes, beautiful beaches on the Caribbean and Pacific coastlines and cool cities. And I get to practise my Spanish!

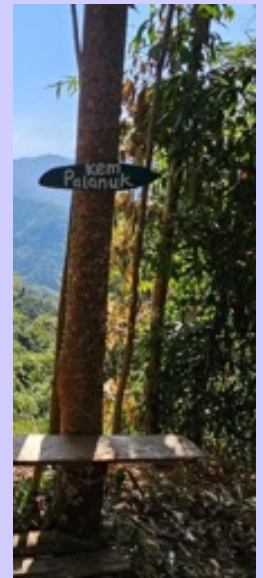


TEACHER'S TRAVEL GUIDE

OFF THE RECORD

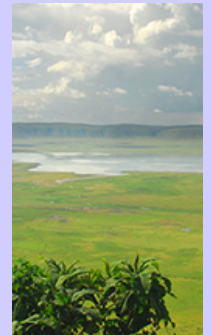
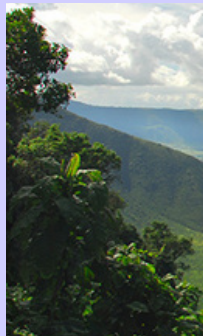
Malaysia

Taking two groups of students on expeditions to Malaysian Borneo has been some of my most fulfilling travel experiences. Seeing students push themselves out of their comfort zone day after day, thrive at being immersed into a new and different culture and building a love for far flung travel makes all the planning worthwhile!



Tanzania

This was the first African country that I visited and I loved everything about it (apart from maybe the food!). As well as a traditional jeep safari, we also did a walking safari, which was unbelievable. I also got my PADI diving qualification at the coast in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean but found that 18 metres below the sea was somewhere I didn't feel totally comfortable!



France

Camping trips to France as a child were my first foreign holidays and fresh baguettes smothered with Nutella still remind me of those holidays! Since then, I have loved exploring this beautiful country and some of my favourite holidays of recent years have been in the French Alps, either hiking in the summer or skiing in the winter and if I could live in Chamonix, I definitely would!

I also need to give a massive shout out to the UK....we live in a great country with so much to experience and explore and I have so much left to see, which I am excited about!

SUMMER COMIC

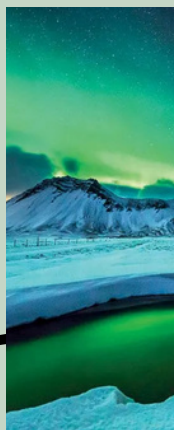
Artwork
and
narrative
by Lucy
Phillips



THE LOOSEMORE LOWDOWN

Describe yourself in three words.

I would hope that people who know me would say: kind, positive and approachable.



What is your favourite country you have visited and why?

This is a really difficult question because I love travelling generally, and I've been very lucky to travel through most of Europe and even through school trips I've been able to visit some brilliant places, including seeing the Northern Lights in Iceland!

However, I think I would probably say America. I am slightly biased because I proposed to my wife in Yosemite National Park many years ago, while we were doing a big tour around the country.

What I loved about travelling through America was the sheer scale and variety of it. People often think first of the big cities and huge skylines, but we also visited beautiful national parks, wide open landscapes and places that felt completely different from one another. I am also a big fan of American football, which probably makes me even more biased -- and possibly a bit of a dork.

Do you have any hobbies?

I would probably describe myself as a failed sportsman turned armchair pundit. Growing up, I played a lot of football and rugby, and there was barely a weekend where I wasn't being driven somewhere to get covered in mud in the name of sport.

These days, I still play occasionally, but I now get a huge amount of enjoyment from watching my children play sport and cheering them on at matches and sports days. I also keep a very keen eye on football and rugby, and will happily watch almost any sport that happens to be on television -- a habit which I think my family tolerates rather than celebrates.

As an English teacher, I also love reading, theatre, cinema and film. Really, I'm a sucker for a good story in any form. I love narratives that connect us to our humanity, and sporting stories can be some of the most exciting of all because they come with real-life drama built in.

I'm also a loyal supporter of Manchester United, Torquay United -- who I go and watch when I can -- and Exeter Chiefs.



Do you have a role model and who is it?

This is a really tough question. When I was younger, I probably would have chosen someone from television, sport, or popular culture. I remember watching *Saved by the Bell* and thinking Zack Morris had it all worked out: he was cool, charming, confident, and somehow always managed to talk his way out of trouble. Then, like lots of young people, I also looked up to footballers and celebrities and imagined that was what success looked like.

As I've got older, though, I think my idea of a role model has changed. I've realised that the real role models are often the people much closer to home: family, friends, colleagues, and the people who inspire you quietly every day. For me, a role model is someone whose advice you trust when things are difficult, and someone whose values you admire.

So I'd say my real role models are my mum and dad, and the friends and family around me who continue to guide, support and inspire me. They may not be able to take a free kick like David Beckham, but they are much more useful in an actual crisis.



What is a tradition you enjoyed at your previous school and would you like to continue it here?

At my previous school, there was a wonderful tradition of running a trip to Stratford-upon-Avon for keen Shakespeare enthusiasts. It had been going for about thirty years, and I was really pleased to inherit it and help carry it on.

We would visit Shakespeare's birthplace, see brilliant theatre at the RSC, explore the Shakespeare properties, and hear lectures from some of the foremost thinkers at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. It was a fantastic opportunity to get beautifully dorky about Shakespeare, theatre and history in a very special town.

I would love, in time, to bring something similar into life here too. There is something magical about seeing students experience great theatre and feel connected to the history behind it.

What is your favourite book and why?

As an English teacher, I find this question almost impossible. It depends on my mood, what is happening around me, and what I feel I need from a book at that particular moment.

I am always tempted to say *The Great Gatsby* because I love Fitzgerald's prose. It is so beautiful and evocative, and I know students here have the chance to study it too.

At the moment, though, I would probably say *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. I've had the chance to teach it to A Level groups in recent years, and the more I study it, the more important it seems. It is hugely bleak in places, but it also shows the need for heart, courage and humanity in bleak times. That message always resonates. It is biting and witty, as well as viscerally uncomfortable, and it shows human beings at both their best and their worst. It is a fascinating novel.

BY FREYA JONES

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH TURNS 100

A GLIMPSE INTO THE NATURE PRESENTER'S AMAZING WORK

So, (Sir) David Attenborough turned 100 recently – or at least, when I wrote this, fairly recently anyway – and so we thought he should feature in this edition, hence this article (well, I mean if we hadn't thought it was a good idea, I wouldn't be writing this, would I?) and given I've basically grown up on his documentaries, I decided I'd give this a go.



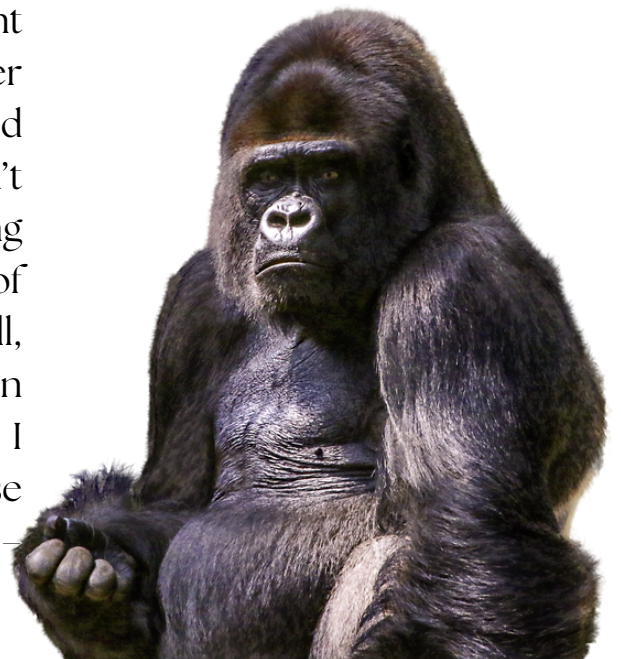
For those of you who don't know who David Attenborough is (I doubt there are many of you, but anyway), he is mainly known for his incredible nature documentaries, but he's done a lot as a climate activist, like a lot. I mean, he inspired a lot of people in that field to go into it, so, in honesty, the state of the world climate-wise would be a lot worse if the original voice-over person (I'm honestly not particularly sure what they're called) of the BBC programme Zoo Quest hadn't fallen ill before filming, and Attenborough hadn't stepped in. Anyway, he's amazing – he's been knighted twice!





Now, as I've said, Attenborough's debut in narrating (that's the word! I think? Oh well - anyway...) started by pure coincidence (crazy how that sort of thing happens, isn't it? Like, I'm sure if these kinds of small coincidences hadn't happened at some point in people's lives, we might not even exist...really crazy. Anyway, sorry for all of these random tangents, bear with me here,) because of Zoo Quest's original narrator (I think it must be the word, I'll use that from here on in, sorry again for these never-ending brackets) falling ill, Attenborough, who actually came up with the concept of the show, I believe, stepped in to present instead. However, before this, he was actually rejected by the BBC when he applied for the role of a radio presenter. Before applying as a radio presenter, he had a job editing children's science books, but he eventually got bored. (I wonder how many books he edited, it would be so cool to have a book literally edited by the Sir David Attenborough, right?)

So, after narrating Zoo Quest, Attenborough went into executive management at the BBC, later promoted to Controller of BBC 2, then promoted to Director of programmes. If all of this wasn't enough, he was extremely important in introducing colour television to Britain (see, another one of those coincidences - if someone hadn't fallen ill, we might not even have colour TV! Can you even imagine still watching things in black and white? I certainly can't). He eventually resigned from these roles, returning to creating his own programmes - and the rest is history, really.



In terms of his work on environmental advocacy, one of the most notable speeches he's made is at COP26 – the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference Of Parties (you can see why they shorten it, can't you?) – and while I can't write the entire speech here, I'll give you some quotes:

"If working apart we are a force powerful enough to destabilise our planet, surely working together we are powerful enough to save it. In my lifetime I've witnessed a terrible decline. In yours, you could and should witness a wonderful recovery."

"Is this how our story is due to end? A tale of the smartest species by that all too human characteristic of failing to see the bigger picture in pursuit of short term goals."

"We are already in trouble. The stability we all depend on is breaking."

"Turn tragedy into triumph."



The speech was an incredibly powerful, a devastating awakening to the reality of Earth's climate – yet also a call to arms, showing that there is truly a light at the end of this tunnel if we can only work together. It was both a beacon of hope and a sharp wake-up call.

Hopefully, that has given you enough of an idea of his speech – there is a lot more, but I can't write it all here. I would recommend you listen to it, though – just search up 'David Attenborough COP26 speech' and either read the transcript or watch a video of it.

Now, to conclude on a slightly different note (I don't really want to leave you guys feeling tragic about the climate), as a celebration of David Attenborough's 100th birthday, LEGO changed their age 'rating' from '4-99' to '4-100'. I say changed, but it was really just a tribute – it only lasted a day. And so, the legend that is Sir David Attenborough has been on this Earth, inspiring us to save it for an entire century

BY RAINE BALL

THE GREAT GATSBY

book review



Now, I'm not particularly sure if this is even in the library, but it's bound to be in there somewhere – even if it isn't, it's part of the English curriculum anyway, so you'll read it in Y9.

I know what you're thinking: why am I reviewing a book on the curriculum? You'll have to read it anyway, so what's the point?

Well, to be honest, these book reviews are just as much about me being able to talk about the books I've enjoyed reading than finding new books you might not have read.

About the curriculum issue, well I get it. Curriculum books, to me, are often inherently boring – I don't like being told what to read.

I like to read it of my own free will. I'm also not much of a classics fan (I say this, but the amount of times I've read Sherlock Holmes... well.) To top it off, I don't particularly like short books. Therefore, when we were told we were going to be reading *The Great Gatsby*, I wasn't too sure. I mean, I was excited – hours of just reading – I love those kinds of lessons. So, the next lesson, when we were about to start reading, I'm not that sure what I was expecting. Not great things, anyway. Instead, when we actually went past the massive introduction that's always in front of a classic book (luckily, we didn't read the introduction – they're never actually written by the author anyway, so they're kind of immaterial) my uncertainties were gone. I was expecting the Shakespearean language of *Romeo and Juliet* (the last thing we'd read in class – if you can call a playscript a book?) but it honestly wasn't hard to understand – my hours of Sherlock Holmes binge-reading probably helps with old book language for me – and it started surprisingly quickly for an old book – once again, I was expecting at least a chapter of setting etc – but for once, it was only a few pages.

The book only has nine chapters – for me, that’s a massive loss, but I know it isn’t for everyone – but given the fact that lessons only last an hour, and they’re scattered across the week (I’ve never had double English, I really hope I have double English at some point next year) so it takes quite a long time to actually finish reading. Anyway, I should probably get to the plot synopsis, shouldn’t I? Now, there are a lot of rather unprecedented twists, so I’ll try not to give the entirety away, but there will be a few spoilers below. Essentially, the story follows Nick, who moves to Long Island after the war (I don’t believe we are told which war, but given the historical context, I assume WW1). Across the lake from where Nick moves, his second cousin Daisy and her husband Tom (who also happens to be Nick’s old roommate at university) live in a rather lavish house – though not as lavish as Nick’s neighbour, Gatsby. Now Gatsby hosts parties every weekend, and a while after Nick moves in, he gets invited. A lot of Gatsby’s guests don’t get invited, they just turn up, so there seems to be some hidden motive behind Gatsby’s invitation.

As Nick goes to the party and speaks to some of the other partygoers, he discovers several rumours about Gatsby and his past, and how he may have come into his wealth. Now, like I said, I don’t want to give too much away, and also, if I write the entirety of the plot here, there won’t be any room for anybody else’s articles, so to summarize, the story follows Nick and all the events that surround him. I mean, I’m not even scratching the surface – I loved this book, full of drama, affairs, incredible twists – you just have to look the bare bones of the story, not the language, to really get what I mean. We watched the film as well, which helped with that.

I will say, as much as I loved the book, as soon as we’d finished, we moved straight onto analysing it (ugh) which was much less enjoyable – still fun though.

To conclude, basically, just because it’s on the curriculum, it’s old, and it’s short, doesn’t mean it’s boring. You just need to look past the language.

RAINBOW *fruit* ICE LOLLIES

Serves: 6

prep time: 20 minutes (+overnight freezing)

Ingredients:

100g of mango (peeled, stoned, and chopped)

2 bananas

400g yogurt

2 kiwi (peeled and roughly chopped)

100g frozen raspberries

100g frozen blackberries

Instructions:

Step 1

Blitz the mango with $\frac{1}{2}$ banana and 100g yogurt in a blender until smooth. Divide between six ice lolly moulds and insert a stick into each. Hold sticks upright in the mould, securing on both sides with tape. Freeze for 1 hour until set.

Step 2

Repeat with another $\frac{1}{2}$ banana, 100g yogurt and kiwi, and pour that over the banana layer. Freeze for another hour until set. Repeat with raspberries, blackberries, freezing each layer before topping with the next. Cover and freeze the lollies overnight. Run under warm water to remove from the moulds.

(Will keep in the freezer for up to two months)



NOTHING **Changes** if NOTHING Changes

Funnily enough,
Nothing changes if nothing changes.
And change, like all peculiar matters,
often unravels without our notice.

You did not travel here
With the acute awareness,
of each inch of height you gained,
Each shiny, small shoe you outgrew
on your way to a new chapter.

Yet you knew true-blue friends
In the years gone past,
Could see the lessons you've waded through,
from the view - only seen
at the end of school.

Which changes happened
between the blink of first clutching a blue ink pen,
and holding it again,
for your last exam?

Which lessons were learned,
after the primary years overturned,
and adolescence squirmed up,
like a startled moth from her cocoon,
Glimpsing the moon, for the very first time.

Soon you'd trade felt tips and hair clips for sixth form and its fine line ink,
And spelling and addition for critiquing theory and avoiding doublethink.
Phonics swapped for flashcards,
filtered out for follow-up mocks,
Sugar papers bleached to past papers,
and the pale, placid colours of picture books blurred to the pinprick print of novels.



Change, with her sleight of hand,
brought you up to flutter in her midst,
The most social butterflies partook in her class,
As did us wallflowers in the nook of her grasp.

Yet as this way comes great change,
So must you in turn,
Don't delay to meet her halfway,
And discern the lessons you've still yet to learn.

For your life is no quadratic to solve,
and cannot be marked in numerics.
Our value won't revolve in spreadsheets or figures,
But involve our capacity to think.

To scrutinise what we know,
and be open to what we don't.
To expect push backs and push back,
Register when to be meek – and when to seek something better,
And realise this fundamental truth:

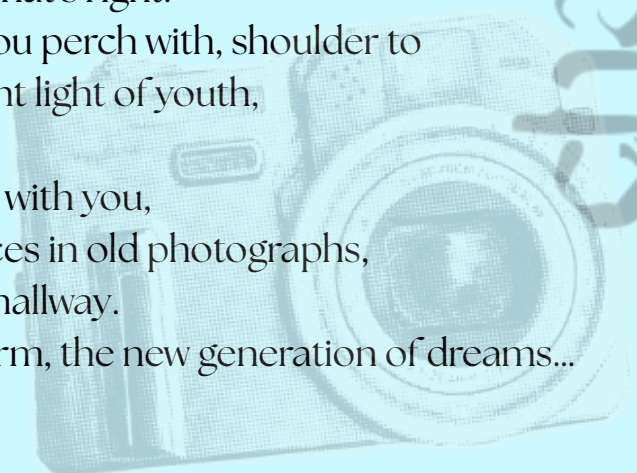
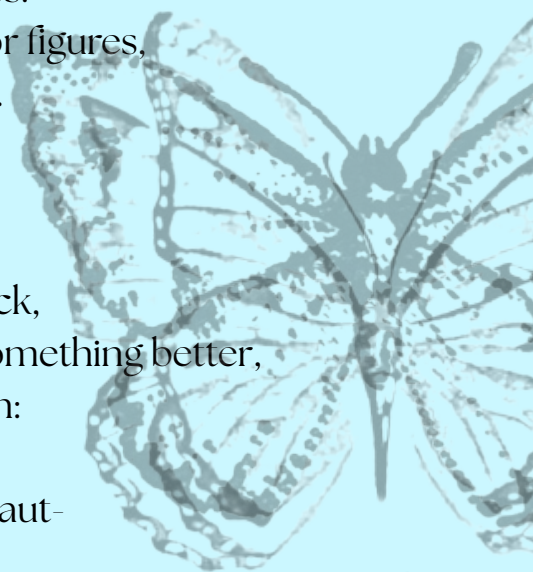
Don't ever reach for the stars,
- unless you plan on being an astronaut-

Reach for pens instead,
Reach for books,
Reach for knowledge,
Reach for chalkboards, clipboards, stethoscopes, and gavels,
For microscopes, wrenches, and the map for your travels,
unravel fabrics and canvases, spin globes, or write,
Study brain lobes, smite pathogens - or undo plight,

and argue for what's right.
And know that these friends you perch with, shoulder to
shoulder, in this bright light of youth,

one day stand with you,
as a past generation, old faces in old photographs,
framed in a hallway.

Absent to the new generation of sixth form, the new generation of dreams...



Changes

So please, set a good example to follow.
Be kind to the Earth, which hosts our every breath,
And hold on to the weight
Of what we owe to each other.

Don't forget this adolescence,
When she turns her face away,
Don't forget this youth in thirty years
When you're peppered with the beginnings of grey
Don't forget what it's like to be 16 or 17 or even 18,
and be lost and adrift in an array of change.

As you set out on the cusp of the next great chapter,
Do me the grace of imagining this, that
You are now in exam conditions -
Though this is an exam unlike any other -
So please, set down your pen,
turn to your neighbour,
listen to the birds,
Speak,
-Do not be silent,
learn to hold your own,
and remember,
That nothing changes if nothing changes.



Nothing

Summer Pictures

A drop fell on the apple tree,
Another on the roof;
A half a dozen kissed the eaves,
And made the gables laugh.
A few went out to help the brook,
That went to help the sea.
Myself conjectured, Were they pearls,
What necklaces could be!

Summer Shower, by Emily Dickinson



photo by Anwen Titford

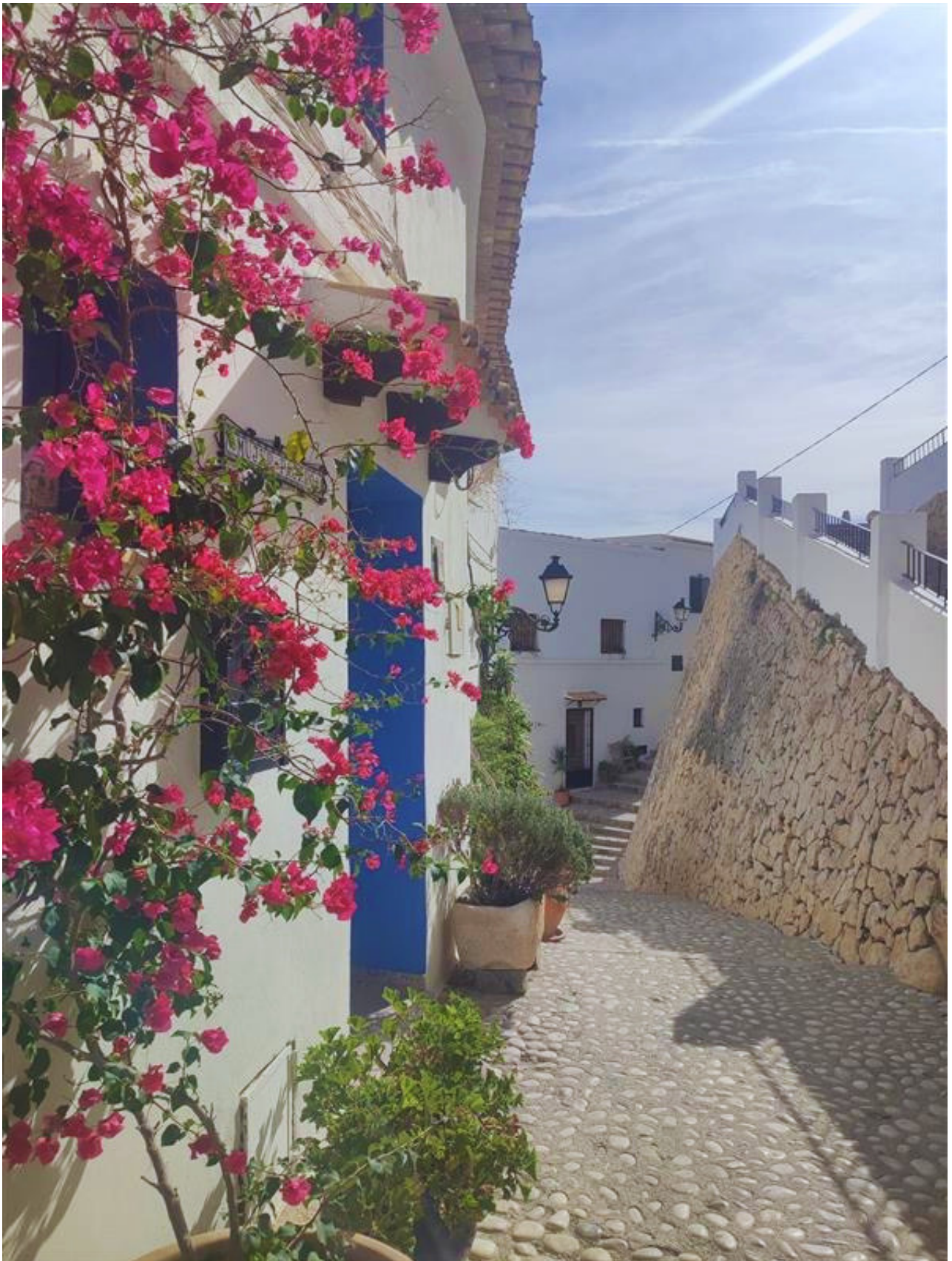


photo by Anna Maddocks

TOP PLACES TO VISIT IN DEVON

Best places for surfing



Bantham

More exposed than Bigbury, Bantham often has great surf. Discovery Surf school both rents out surfboards and runs surf lessons which are especially good for beginners. As well as the surfing, Bantham has Gastrobuses with nice food, a scenic walk across to South Milton and an estuary beach that is brilliant for swimming.

Bigbury-on-Sea

If you are looking to surf at Bigbury, make sure to check the conditions first as sometimes there are very few waves. Despite this, Bigbury is super fun for surfing (Discovery Surf school is based there), picnics, paddling and it has a café. Burgh Island – famously the inspiration for Agatha Christie's *Evil Under The Sun* – is across a tidal stretch of beach and if the tide is in, it is accessible via the Sea Tractor.



Croyde

Known as a surfing mecca, Croyde (North Devon) has excellent surf and many places to hire equipment and book lessons. With lots of hotels and bed and breakfasts, it is better as a stay for a couple of days away for someone from Torquay. Croyde is also home to several pubs and nature walks, one of the most popular of which is the National Trust's Baggy Point.

best places for short walks

· Sharpham estate to Viar Island, Totnes

This is a lovely walk through a forest and along the river Dart with several places that are great for a picnic.



Staverton Station Footpath (near Totnes)



Best places for days out



The Box, Plymouth

The Box is a museum in Plymouth with lots of interesting exhibitions. Some of its main attractions are a life-sized model of a woolly mammoth, a Beryl Cook sculpture trail and a large maritime collection.

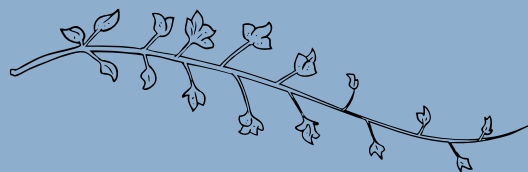
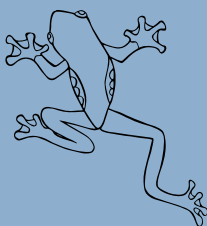


Coleton Fishacre

Once the country home of the D'Oyly Carte family, Coleton Fishacre is a 1920s retreat with a beautiful garden by the sea. The house itself is interesting to explore, decorated in the style of the Jazz Age. The real attraction though is the RHS accredited garden which bursts with tropical plants, weaving paths and glimpses out to sea. There is also a nice walk from Kingswear.

Greenway

The place where Agatha Christie would spend summers and Christmases, there is far too much history and details about this fascinating and beautiful house to fit on here! Greenway is home to several of the family's collections, first editions of Christie's novels and archaeological artefacts. There is a boathouse, gun battery, second-hand bookshop, garden, shop and café. Greenway is also accessible via a ferry from Dartmouth.

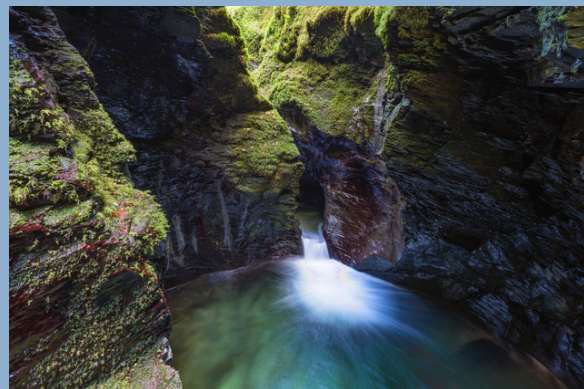


Walks:

- Exmoor
- Dartmoor

A particularly nice walk on Dartmoor is a circuit around Houndtor (the one near Haytor)

- Exmouth to Budleigh Salterton
- Lydford Gorge
- Walk from Maidencombe to Shaldon (warning- very hilly!)





Mothecombe Beach

Mothecombe is a beautiful cove east of Plymouth. Especially lovely in the evening, it is only accessible via a short walk from the car park – where there is a schoolhouse restaurant that also offers barbecues with live music in the Summer. There is also a pop up sauna and hireable teahouse. Please note that it is a dog free beach.

Broadsands Beach

As well as having a couple of cafes, Broadsands is next to several other sheltered, small bays that are also perfect for swimming and paddleboarding.

best places for independent shops



Dartmouth

Also boasting some excellent fish and chip shops, Dartmouth offers a blend of scenic beauty, history and family friendly activities. These include Dartmouth Castle, Bayard's Cove Fort, top seafood spots and several shops and galleries.

Ashburton

A historic stannery, Ashburton is home to antiques, artisan shops and scenic walks. Near to Dartmoor, the town is beautiful and scenic. In May, Ashburton is also hosted a Dartmoor Tors festival, celebrating West Country folklore.

The River Dart

A great place to paddleboard from is behind Totnes astropitch and heading upriver (do not go after heavy rain; the best times are when the current is not strong).

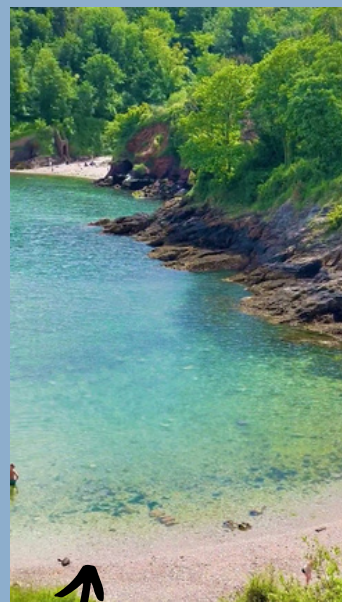
Anstey's Cove

Anstey's cove is a beautiful little beach near the more popular Meadfoot Beach in Torquay.



Churston Cove

The tiny cove we pass on the Sponsored walk just past Brixham, with clear, turquoise water.



Totnes

Totnes highstreet is crammed with small, individual shops that are fun to browse through. On Fridays and Saturdays, there is a market in the square selling all kinds of foods, clothes, antiques and more.

Salcombe

Salcombe offers a mix of independent shop and high-street brands, making it a perfect destination for shopping. It is picturesque with maritime roots, golden beaches and seafood restaurants.



Which Ice Cream Flavour Are You?

Q1: You have 2 hours of free time, what are you doing?

- a) I'm probably somewhere I shouldn't be
- b) I'm sitting in the forest playing an instrument to attract the forest animals
- c) I'm snuggled up with a good book
- d) I'm at a party with my friends
- e) I'm at the beach because it's cool
- f) Digging a hole, for no reason...

Q3: What's your favourite hobby?

- a) Exploring!
- b) I love playing music
- c) I really like playing video games and baking
- d) I like arts and crafts because it's messy and I can make things for my friends
- e) I like to dance
- f) Who's asking?

Q5: Your friend is sad, what do you do to cheer them up?

- a) Do something funny, laughter is the best medicine
- b) Play them some music, it always makes me feel better
- c) Bake them a cake, food always helps
- d) Listen to them and try to fix their problem, as long as I don't have to upset anyone
- e) Buy them their favourite thing, like some sweets
- f) These questions are suspicious, who sent you?

Q7: What's your ideal weekend?

- a) Going on an adventure somewhere new
- b) Listening to music, reading or relaxing somewhere peaceful
- c) Baking treats or having a cosy movie day
- d) Hanging out with friends and making fun memories
- e) Going to the beach, shopping or trying something different
- f) Nice try... I'm not revealing my plans...

Q2: Study centre lesson! Where are you sitting?

- a) In the cupboard I have been stuck in for three days
- b) I'm near the front by the laptops wondering where Chocolate went
- c) With Mango Sorbet, I don't really mind
- d) In the middle with Strawberry and everyone else
- e) In the back, wearing my sunglasses inside
- f) In the walls...

Q4: Who's your best friend?

- a) Vanilla matches my whimsy
- b) Someone needs to keep an eye on Chocolate and make sure they don't get locked in another cupboard
- c) Mango Sorbet!
- d) Strawberry, after all, us fruits have to stick together
- e) Idk, Phish Food may be weird but they're cool, sometimes, the rest of the time I'm concerned
- f) I work alone, but Mint gives me food

Q6: What's your favourite colour?

- a) Purple is nice
- b) I love the whole rainbow I can't choose
- c) Pink! Specifically pastel
- d) I like bright colours like orange and yellow
- e) Teal is cool
- f) #D8B589

Results



Mostly As – Chocolate

You love adventure and are always up to something exciting... even if you occasionally end up somewhere you shouldn't! You're funny, curious and keep everyone entertained with your unpredictable ideas. People never quite know what you'll do next, and that's what makes you so fun to be around. Just maybe stay away from cupboards...

Keywords: Adventurous • Funny • Curious • Energetic

Mostly Bs – Vanilla

You're calm, creative and have a wonderfully imaginative mind. Whether you're reading, playing music or daydreaming in nature, you appreciate the quieter things in life. People often come to you because you're kind, thoughtful and always make them feel welcome.

Keywords: Creative • Peaceful • Kind • Imaginative



Mostly Cs – Strawberry

You're sweet, caring and dependable. You love making people smile, whether that's by baking, gaming together or simply listening when someone needs a friend. You're the person everyone knows they can count on.

Keywords: Caring • Friendly • Loyal • Thoughtful

Mostly Ds – Mango Sorbet

You're bright, cheerful and full of positive energy. You love spending time with friends, making colourful creations and bringing people together. Your optimism is contagious, and you always know how to lift the mood.

Keywords: Social • Optimistic • Creative • Confident



Mostly Es – Mint Chocolate

You're cool, confident and always yourself. You enjoy trying new things, dancing through life and standing out from the crowd. You can seem laid-back, but you're secretly very caring and always treat your friends.

Keywords: Confident • Independent • Stylish • Adventurous

Mostly Fs – Phish Food

Nobody quite knows what you're thinking... and that's exactly how you like it! You're mysterious, hilarious and wonderfully random. You keep everyone guessing, always have the funniest one-liners and somehow make even the weirdest situations entertaining. You're unique, and your friends wouldn't have you any other way.

Keywords: Mysterious • Funny • Random • Original



Mostly one letter? That's your ice cream personality! If you have a tie, congratulations—you've got a deliciously mixed personality!



EDITORS' SUMMER PICKS