



Awarded 2023-2025

Artsmark
Platinum Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

ART | DANCE | DRAMA | MEDIA | MUSIC | PHOTOGRAPHY | TEXTILES

CREATIVE ARTS

MAGAZINE

Issue 8 | Autumn | 2026

WHERE SCHOOL MEETS CINEMA

WORDS: Simon Hunter, Film and Media Teacher

Following the successful launch of A-Level Film Studies as a Key Stage 5 option subject, GCSE Film Studies is now being introduced as a Key Stage 4 option, creating a clear progression route for students interested in the art of the moving image.

The popularity of the A-Level course has been reflected in students' excellent results from this summer's examination season, with 100% of students achieving A-C grades. The success of the course extends beyond the classroom, with several students from this cohort continuing their film journey at university, studying related courses in Falmouth, Manchester and Bristol.

Now that Film Studies has a clear pathway from Year 10 onwards, students can look forward to exploring films spanning the full history of cinema and originating from across the globe. Texts studied include classics such as Dracula, The Lost Boys, The Farewell, Jojo Rabbit, Parasite and Belfast, to name just a few. Through these films, students develop their analytical, critical thinking and communication skills while gaining an appreciation of different cultures, perspectives and historical periods. The subject has proved particularly popular with Gen Z

students, many of whom are increasingly engaging with analogue media, including vinyl records, physical books and, of course, traditional film. This ability to reflect on and learn from the past is a key aspect of Film Studies at both GCSE and A-Level. Films are studied in relation to their historical context, the business models behind their production and distribution, and the social and political forces that shaped them. Students also gain practical experience in filmmaking and screenwriting, making Film Studies a dynamic blend of creativity and academic study. It's certainly much more than simply watching and making films!

There are also opportunities for aspiring cinephiles to engage with film before choosing the subject at GCSE.

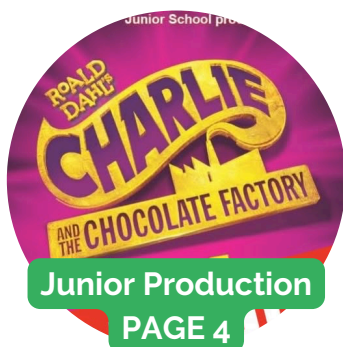
(cont. page 2)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



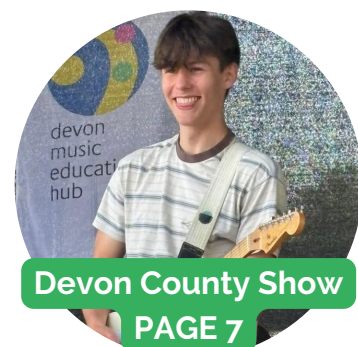
Tate, St. Ives
PAGE 3



Junior Production
PAGE 4



Work Experience
PAGE 6



Devon County Show
PAGE 7

MEET THE TEAM

Hello! Welcome to the latest issue of Creative Arts Magazine, where we showcase just a few of the exciting opportunities available to Tavistock College students in the arts. We're incredibly fortunate to offer such a wide range of creative subjects, each led by a specialist in their field. With our new Year 7 students joining us, it's the perfect time to introduce the team! Below is the full Creative Arts team - many of whom you'll have already met, and others you'll likely see at the clubs and events featured in this issue.

Our latest Junior Production was Charlie and The Chocolate Factory - a true team effort that brought together the talents of our musicians, dancers, singers, and stage crew. You can see all of the best pictures in a centerspread special.

As soon as details of our next show are confirmed, you'll hear about it first on our Facebook page, which I encourage you all to follow to stay up to date with the latest news in the Arts.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

Eva Pearson Academic Director of Creative Arts, **Joe Lambert** Curriculum Lead Music, **Kate Luck** Curriculum Lead Art, Textiles and Photography, **Jess Madeley** Subject Lead Dance and Performing Arts, **Simon Hunter** Subject Lead Media and Film, **Jamie Parnell** Teacher of Music, **Kathy Bassett** Teacher of Art and Photography, **Kirsty Lawrence** Teacher of Visual and Performing Arts, **Rob Byers** Teacher of Film, Media and Performing Arts.

Continued from page 1

...The after-school Film Club is open to all Key Stage 3 students and introduces film fans to a wide range of cinema from around the world that they may be less familiar with. From contemporary international hits to influential classics, the club aims to broaden students' understanding of what film can be. During the summer term, this includes film production, with students getting the opportunity for some hands-on experience with our professional DSLR cameras to make short films and learn the basics of editing. The club runs every Tuesday and Thursday afterschool, and students can simply show up if they want to attend.

We look forward to seeing the journeys our film students take as the subject continues to grow and establish itself as an exciting part of the curriculum.



A TRIP TO THE TATE

An inspiring day of creativity, culture and coastal scenery

WORDS: Kirsty Lawrence, Art Teacher

Year 9 and Year 10 Creative Arts students recently enjoyed an inspiring trip to St Ives, immersing themselves in some of Cornwall's most celebrated artistic landmarks.

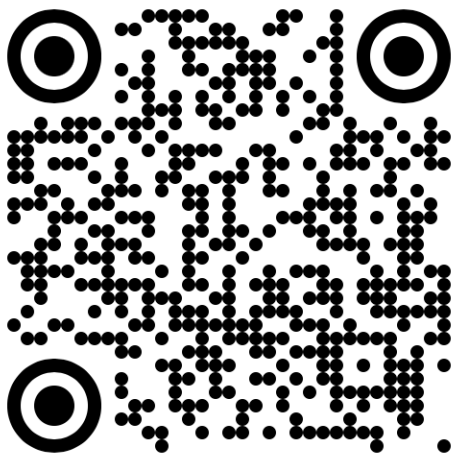
The day began at Tate St Ives, where students explored a range of modern and contemporary artworks while taking in spectacular views of the Cornish coastline. The visit provided an opportunity to engage with different artistic styles, techniques and ideas, helping students broaden their understanding of creative expression beyond the classroom.

Students then visited the Barbara Hepworth Museum and Sculpture Garden, experiencing first-hand the work of one of Britain's most influential artists. Walking among Hepworth's iconic sculptures gave students a unique insight into her creative process and the relationship between art and environment.

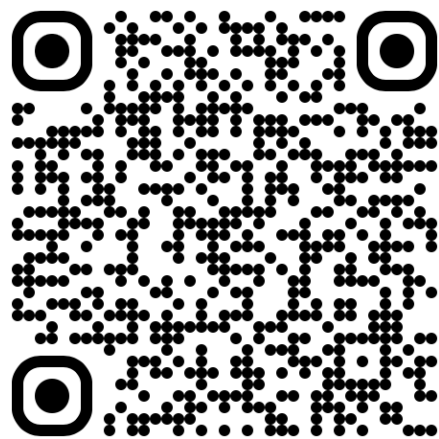
Throughout the visit, students demonstrated enthusiasm, curiosity and maturity, gathering inspiration and ideas for their own creative projects. The trip was both enjoyable and enriching, providing valuable cultural experiences and encouraging students to develop their own artistic voices.

We look forward to seeing how the inspiration gained in St Ives influences their future work.

Keep up with all of our trips
by following our socials!



[facebook.com/tavicreativearts](https://www.facebook.com/tavicreativearts)



[Instagram @taviccollegecreativearts](https://www.instagram.com/taviccollegecreativearts)



CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Talent Unleashed: Students Take Centre Stage in Spectacular Show

Words: Sujan Thirumalai, Year 11 Student

The origins of the latest Key Stage 3 show began all the way back in September 2025, when rehearsals first started. The cast began by learning the songs for the production, led by our musical directors, Mrs Berryman and Mrs Harding, who introduced them to 22 songs and guided them through a range of vocal exercises necessary to perform at their best.

"From start to finish, it was impeccable. What a fabulously talented cast from Years 7 and 8!"

They then learnt dances and movements from Mrs Madeley, our choreographer, who played a crucial role in the success of the production - even understudying a poorly performer! Once they had mastered the foundations of the show and its vocal elements, they turned their attention to the dramatic aspects, led by producer and director Mrs Pearson. Scene by scene, the cast developed their performances and showcased their dramatic talents to the audience.

While rehearsals were taking place, the stage management and prop design teams were busy preparing costumes and props that brought the performance to life.

Being part of any performance at Tavistock College is a privilege. It is an incredible experience to be professionally involved in a production and to perform as part of a company. This show was full of fun, teamwork and imagination!





STEPPING INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

Year 10s reflect on their work experience in local theatres

WORDS: Annabel Lowry and Saba Pearson, Year 11

During our Year 10 work experience, we were fortunate to take part in the Company 15 programme at Theatre Royal Plymouth (TRP). After applying and interviewing alongside more than 200 students, we were selected for one of just 15 places. The programme was split between TRP and TR2, the theatre's production and learning centre.

Our week began with a tour of TR2 and an introduction to the theatre industry. We spent time with the costume department, learning and trying out how costumes are distressed for stage productions, and met members of the marketing and programming teams. We also enjoyed a backstage tour, where we learned about stage management and met members of the technical crew.

At TR2, we worked with the production design team, exploring technical drawing and the process of developing theatre sets from initial concept to finished stage pieces. We also toured the workshops and even contributed to the construction of part of the set for *Fame the Musical*.

A particular highlight was assisting the Front of House team during an evening performance of Matthew Bourne's *The Car Man*. Working alongside the ushering team and the Duty Manager, we welcomed audience members, checked tickets, sold programmes, assisted with seating, and helped maintain health and safety procedures. It was an inspiring introduction to an industry we hope to pursue in the future.

Additionally, during Tavistock College's production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, we had the opportunity to work as Deputy Stage Managers (DSM) and Assistant Stage Managers (ASM). This hands-on experience provided valuable insight into the backstage operation of a large-scale production.

Our responsibilities included managing props, preparing and organising prop tables, overseeing set and prop changes during the interval, and supporting the smooth running of each performance. We also had the chance to operate a follow spot and learn how to 'call' a show, communicating lighting and sound cues through the headset system (CANNES), a role usually carried out by the DSM.

As keen performers, experiencing theatre from a backstage perspective was fascinating and opened our eyes to a range of potential career paths. The experience exceeded all expectations, giving us practical insight into the many roles that contribute to a successful production.



Saba particularly enjoyed calling the show and is now exploring a future career as a Deputy Stage Manager, while Jake most enjoyed the responsibility of operating the follow spot and now appreciates the huge impact that backstage has on performances.

Crucially we have all learnt about the huge range of career opportunities available within the creative industries and showed us a real life understanding of the £124 Billion that the creative industries contribute to the British economy.

DEVON COUNTY SHOW

Music students deliverer set packed with energy, skill, and variety

WORDS: Joe Lambert, Music Teacher

Huge congratulations to our talented Year 10, 12, and 13 music students, who represented the college brilliantly at the Devon County Show this year.

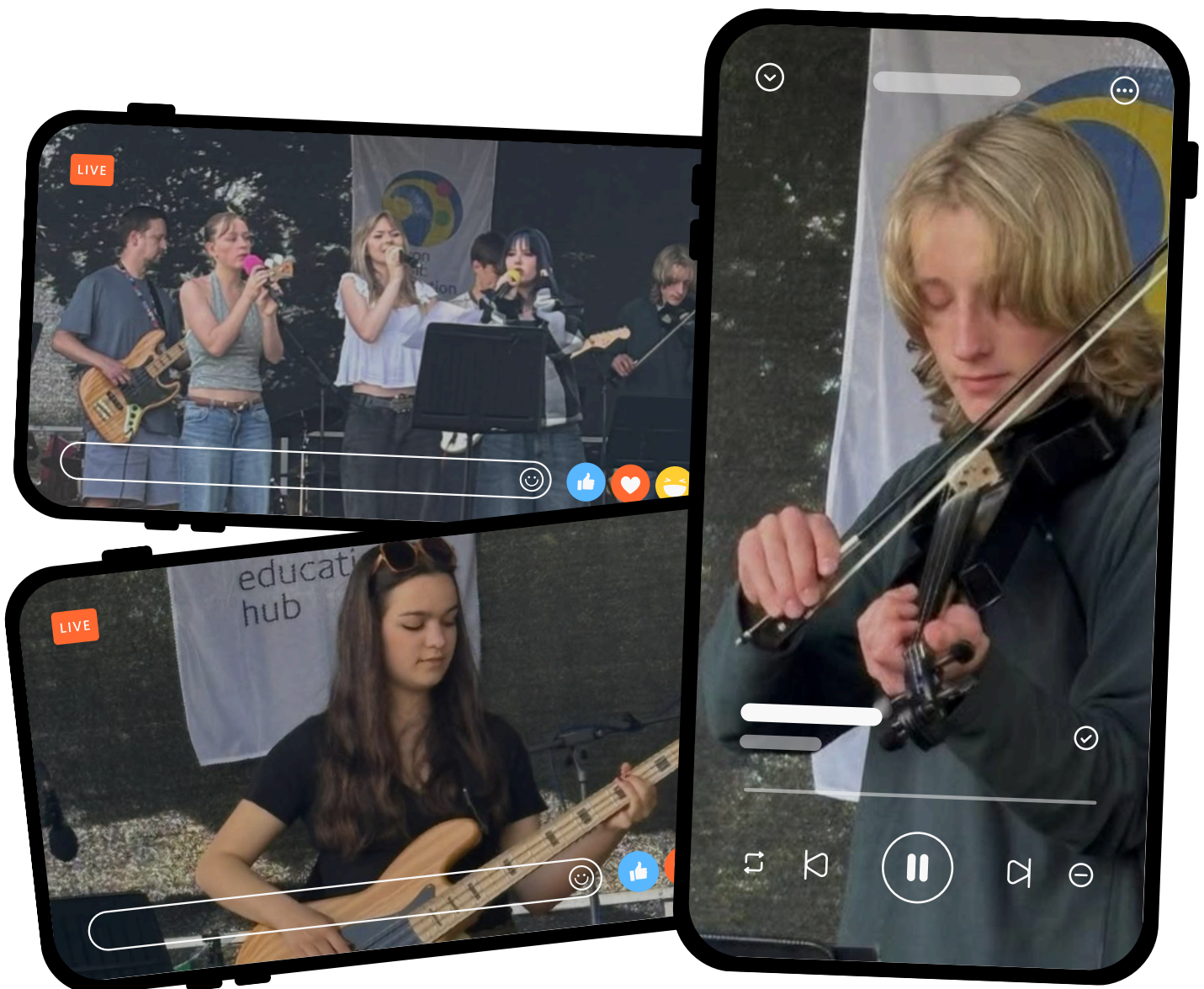
Performing on the bandstand, our musicians entertained audiences throughout the day with an exciting and varied set list that showcased both their musical ability and confidence as performers. From the classic sounds of Fleetwood Mac to the infectious funk grooves of Jamiroquai, the students embraced a range of genres and styles, delivering polished performances that kept the crowd engaged from start to finish.

The event provided a fantastic opportunity for students to perform for a large public audience and gain valuable live performance experience. Their hard work and dedication in rehearsals clearly paid off, with many

audience members commenting on the quality of the performances and the professionalism shown by our young musicians. Experiences such as these are invaluable in helping students develop their confidence, teamwork, and stage presence, while also celebrating their passion for music beyond the classroom.

We are incredibly proud of every student who took part and of the enthusiasm, commitment, and talent they displayed throughout the day.

A special thank you goes to Devon and Torbay Music Education Hub for inviting us to perform and for helping make this fantastic opportunity possible. It was a memorable day and one that our students will not forget.



CREATIVE ARTS CLUBS

Check out the latest extra curricular clubs we're excited to offer this term - students don't need to 'book' or sign up to a club - if there's something you want to try, we encourage you to turn up and give it a go!

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tutor Time		KS4 and 5 Choir All year groups MU3 8.15 – 9am Mrs Harding Mr Lambert	KS3 Choir All year groups MU3 8.15 – 9am Mrs Harding Mr Lambert		
Lunch Time	Drop in Music Rehearsals + Band Practise Music Block Mr Lambert GCSE + A Level Art A5 Mrs Lawrence A Level Perf Arts + GCSE Drama In DR2/ DR3 Mrs Pearson Contemporary Dance Club All year groups DR1/ Dance Studio Mr Pearson	Drop in Music Rehearsals + Band Practise Music Block Mr Lambert Lunchtime Live Club MU1 Mr Parnell Musical Theatre Dance Club All year groups Dance Studio Mrs Madeley A Level Perf Arts + GCSE Drama DR2/ DR3 Mrs Pearson	Creative Arts Coursework Support KS4 and KS5 MS1 Mr Hunter A Level Perf Arts + GCSE Drama DR2 Mrs Pearson Open Mic All years MU3 Mr Lambert Mr Parnell KS3 Drama Club DR3 Mrs Massey and 6th Form	Dance BTEC lesson Year 10 Dance Students only Dance Studio Mrs Madeley A Level Perf Arts + GCSE Drama DR2/ Dr3 Mrs Pearson Karaoke Club All years MU3 Mr Lambert GCSE + A Level Art A3 Miss Luck	Dance BTEC lesson Year 11 Dance Students only Dance Studio Mrs Madeley A Level Perf Arts + GCSE Drama DR2 Mrs Pearson KS3 Art Club A5 Mrs Bassett
After School	Jazz Band All year groups MU3 3.15-4.30 Mr Lambert You must be an instrumentalist	Performing Arts Club + Show Rehearsals (once shows announced) Mrs Madeley Mrs Pearson Dance Studio/Music/Hall GCSE Art A3 Miss Luck Textiles Club All Years A5 Mrs Lawrence Film Club All Years DR2 Mr Hunter Build a Band Club All Years MU1 Mr Parnell		Dance BTEC lesson BTEC Dance Students only (see timetable) Dance Studio Mrs Madeley Photography Club All Years PS1 Mrs Bassett Film Club All Years DR2 Mr Hunter Streamed Theatre Every term as advertised Mrs Pearson Mrs Swinburne	Disneyland Paris Rehearsals Invite only – schedule to follow Dance Studio Mrs Madeley