



From left: Issy, Matt U, Baz, Matt B, Josh, Oli, Jake, Cesca, Martin and Kit.

## Jumping into Summer

We've reached the halfway point of 2023 and we can't quite believe how fast this season is going! As always, God has been very kind to us this season and we have had many wonderful weeks of school trips and weekend groups. After a cold and wet start to the season the team are very much enjoying the great weather we've been having recently. As the school year draws to

a close and the summer begins we have the joy of a growing staff team! We're welcoming Issy who is joining us for a gap year; it's exciting to have her on the team after getting to know her on Active Revision. Oli is also joining us for the summer again, it seems we can't get rid of him! It's lovely to have the office feeling lovely and full in our morning meetings.

### Active Revision

In April we held our annual active revision week; it was fantastic! Productive revision and plenty of games and activities. The centre was full to capacity this year- if only we could fit more desks in! Our theme for the year was 'Saving Lives at Sea' which the young people really engaged with, especially in our evening meetings which were inspired by the Surf Living Saving signals. It was clear the gospel was creating a great sense of community between everyone. Through the week there were spontaneous moments of prayer lead by the young people and plenty of worship music raves! Our resident lifeguard 'Chad' kept everyone



in check and a great time was had by all. We are already nearly fully booked for next year- God is good!



# SGH NEWS SUMMER 2023



School group looking down to Putsborough beach

## Staff Updates

**Matt and Lorraine** have survived their first double exam summer (Daisy A-levels and Jonah GCSE's) and are looking forward to the rest of the summer stress-free!

**Baz** has really enjoyed taking groups out in the great weather conditions and is looking forward to the summer.

**Martin** has really enjoyed running a year 8 group recently. He loved sharing activities with them and trying to play football! He's valued sharing God's love through offering the hand of friendship to those who walk through the doors- what a privilege.

**Jake** has sunburnt his back and needs to be more careful in the future!

**Matt B** has thoroughly enjoyed a very wet winter season on Exmoor's rivers and is excited for a new year of sharing Christ with our guests. Matt's wife Katherine (who was previously

helping out at St. George's) is now teaching full time at Ilfracombe Junior School.

**Josh** has been enjoying leading more surf sessions and is glad that the RIBs are back in action for the summer!

**Kit** has settled in well and completed her surf coach safety and rescue qualification. She has enjoyed working with schools and is now looking forward to the variety that the summer season brings.

**Cesca** took a trip to North Wales in June and did some climbing- she's enjoying putting all her staff training into practice and petitioning that Wales be the next staff trip!

**Issy** is very relieved to have finished her A-levels and is really looking forward to getting stuck in and spending lots of time outside with the groups.

**Oli** has just finished his degree and is excited to be back at the centre for the summer.

## The Point

As we look back on this academic year it's wonderful to reflect on how The Point has been going. Jake, Josh, Cesca, and Baz have all loved being involved with the local kids who come. There has been a great number of young people coming on a regular basis which is very rewarding; it's good to see the local kids enjoying community. While it was still dark and chilly, they enjoyed lots of games of pool and 'my chair' and now that it's warm and sunny we've turned to volleyball and football. There is a real mix of young people, some from church backgrounds and some not. Our devotional series sparks some good conversations that we hope will help them with their journey with God. After many years of faithful service to The Point, Baz is taking a step back from running it. SGH is very grateful for all the time he has given, and the positive impact he has had on all the young people who have been involved.

## Praise and Prayer

- Give thanks for a positive school season and ask God to bless our summer, with His glory being shown to the young people.
- Praise God for being so present at Active Revision this year and lift up the young people, praying for their next steps after exams.
- Give thanks for our new and returning staff and pray that God would bless them in their time here.
- Praise God for the work of The Point, asking that He will bless those moving on to the older youth group and prepare the way for the younger ones joining in September. Give thanks for Baz's input.