



# NEWSLETTER

No. 725  
w/c Mon 4 October 2021  
Week A

Dear Parents/Carers

## Devon's Director of Public Health Advice for Parents and Carers

Steve Brown, Devon's Director of Public Health has issued some advice and clarification for parents of school-aged children. Here is the link...

[Director of Public Health sets out clear advice for parents of school-age children - News \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/director-of-public-health-sets-out-clear-advice-for-parents-of-school-age-children)

It's all important and worth reading, but the key bit is:

- If your child has symptoms of coronavirus, they should not go to school. They should take a PCR test – not a lateral flow device test – and they should self-isolate pending the result of that test. Lateral flow device tests are only for people who show no symptoms of having the virus.
- If your child is identified as a close contact, including if someone in your household tests positive, they should take a PCR test. However, unless they have symptoms of coronavirus, they are not required to stay off school while they wait for the test results.
- If your child tests positive with a routine lateral flow device test, they should stay at home and arrange a PCR test. They should isolate whilst awaiting the result of the PCR test. If the PCR test is positive, they should continue self-isolating. If the PCR test is negative, they can return to school, but they should continue to routinely take the lateral flow device tests twice a week.
- And to all secondary school age pupils and their teachers, they should be taking lateral flow device tests twice a week.

## Covid Update

- As of last night, we have had 128 students and 6 members of staff isolating due to a positive covid test. This is from the start of term, and 60 students and 3 staff have returned. These numbers are comparatively a bit high, high enough for some additional measures, but nowhere near high enough to reintroduce bubbles and staggered days.
- The whole context has changed. Last September in Devon there were 4 cases per 100,000 people. This September it is 400. 400 cases a year ago would have resulted in frantic shutdowns. Now, the government and even Public Health mantra is that we just have to get used to living with covid. In schools, while high rates are of concern, they have to be balanced against all the benefits to learning and psychological and social development by being in school. Look at the lost learning and rise in mental health issues as a result of lockdown, disproportionately affecting the more vulnerable in society. This is a big mindset shift, though. After 18 months of strict measures, it does feel a bit odd and uncomfortable that 1 in 7 students have had covid in four weeks. Cynics might even say this is building herd immunity by the back door. More positively, none of the students have been very ill, and quite a few have been symptom-free. Meanwhile, in some parts of the country one or two local councils – not individual schools - are reintroducing bubbles and stricter measures...

- There has been a lot about symptoms in the press recently. The standard symptoms of covid remain a persistent cough, a high temperature, and/or a loss of taste and smell. However, there are many cases presenting with sore throats and headaches as well or instead of. And a high temperature can mean covid, cold or flu. So it's really tricky for parents. The guidelines say unless it's covid symptoms, send your children in to school. Public Health says if your child is ill with other symptoms, don't send them in, to reduce the spread of other non-covid infections (and presumably in case it might be covid, after all). As ever, it's a matter of common sense. If your child is just too ill to attend school, don't send them in. If the symptoms are possibly covid or will be tomorrow, do a LFT and perhaps even go for a precautionary PCR. We're seeing many families who have one child positive and take the others for a PCR. Technically, there is no need to, and the others should be in school. However, there might be CV or CEV people in the household, elderly relatives, and in these days of balancing risk parents may feel that a precautionary PCR is of greater benefit to the child, family and wider society than a day at school. So, my colleagues and I can't officially condone it, but I trust parents to make the right decision for their child.
- Twice-weekly Lateral-Flow Testing. Please keep this going. It is definitely a key preventive measure. One in six of the 128 cases have been asymptomatic, almost all of them picked up by LFT. If I add in students with no covid symptoms but sore throat or headache, it's more like one in three.

### **Vaccination Update**

- There isn't one. We do not have dates yet for 'flu vaccinations, covid vaccinations, or both if on the same day. I bet you 10p they won't be happening before half-term, though.

### **Year 11 Prom: Persistence Pays Off !!!**

- Last Friday we finally managed to hold the Year 11 Prom. It was brilliant, and the young people were sensible, had fun, were grateful, were a real credit to themselves and their families. A bit like the Year 13 Prom, I did wonder if holding it after results were known and people are just staring on their next step made it seem a little bit more mature in some way compared to Proms in July. I am not sure our ex-Year 11s were filled with such philosophical reverie. They had a good time. We held the Prom at Reed Hall at the University, which has become our regular Prom venue, so that felt "back to normal". Reed Hall is well-suited to the Prom arrivals, a key part of the event; it also has indoor and outdoor space, which was ideal given covid. It meant photos could be done relatively easily. Perhaps overall it was a little lower-key; there were fewer flamboyant arrivals; not surprising as covid and lockdown has taken its toll. But that doesn't really matter: last Year's Year 11 had their Prom, it's there in the photos and the memory banks, and it marked a rite of passage. Well done and many thanks to everyone concerned.

### **Well Done, Sam (Again!)**

- Last weekend, Sam Mills (Y12) finished second at the Schools International Athletics Board meeting in the 1500m against runners from Scotland, Wales, and All Ireland This follows a first place in the 1500m at the National Schools Championship recently. Sam is having an excellent season!

### **Sixth Form News**

- It's been a really positive start to the year, with 51 students in Year 12, numbers building after a few years of small Year 11s rolling through.
- Meet the Tutor Evening for Year 12 took place yesterday evening. This is always important, to raise and resolve any teething issues for students after a month, and especially valuable for parents of students new to Clyst Vale to meet their child's tutor albeit virtually.
- Our **Post 16 Open Evening will be on Thursday 11 November** (a day to remember...). Assuming no further covid restrictions, this will run from 6pm - 8pm with subjects in the English block and new Science rooms. Year 11s will be receiving prospectuses this week.
- Year 13 are in the process of doing their UCAS applications to higher education.

## Homework Club

A reminder that Homework Club runs every lunchtime and Monday to Thursday after school in IT2. It is supervised, and is very much a room for study (and a bit of printing) not socialising.

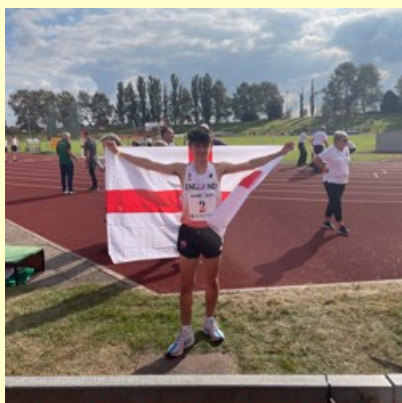
## Wrists and Fellow Rootlessness

As the leaves and conkers fall, the days shorten and the weather becomes more variable, some Year 7 and 8 boys (mostly – it does affect other years and girls, too) have a spate of rough play. The good news is that it is very rarely bullying, almost always in friendship groups, and innocent passers-by are completely safe. It's not as serious as things like fighting, either – it's over-exuberant arms around the shoulder, dodgy tackles at football, picking people up, grabbing them too hard in a game of "it". We have staff out on duty, who issue on-the-spot reminders, but it is a big field and students have some responsibility to self-regulate. Although it happens on an annual basis, rough play isn't ok; it's not safe, it's not respectful, and accidents do happen, as well as creating more washing. (They do grow out of it – at the Prom I wistfully remembered a couple of lads immaculately dressed in suits who were constantly pushing each other over in Years 7 and 8, constantly being told off about it, and remain firmly the best of friends.)



Kevin Bawn  
Principal

## Well Done to Post 16 Student Sam Mills!



Sam is competing at various events and this weekend finished second at the Schools International Athletics Board meeting in the 1500m against runners from Scotland, Wales, and All Ireland This follows a first place in the 1500m at the National Schools recently. Sam is having a super season and is currently balancing his training and travel with studying A Level PE, A Level Biology and L3 Applied Science.

**Mr J Powell**  
**Head of PE**

## Evenings and weekends – reporting of Covid-19 positive test results

We have introduced a dedicated phone number, solely for reporting positive Covid-19 test results at evenings and weekends.

You may also use this number if you have accidentally recorded an LFT result as positive – please always notify us if this has happened in error.

(During the school's normal opening hours, please contact Student Absence on **01392 463911** or email: [studentabsence@clystvale.org](mailto:studentabsence@clystvale.org))

The number is:

# 07818 212 931

It is not for suspected cases, non-Covid-19 illness or absence, and is not an advice line.

We would prefer you to text positive Covid-19 test result information to this number, including:

- Name of student
- Student's tutor group
- Date symptoms appeared
- Which symptoms, or no symptoms
- Date of test
- Date of test result

If necessary, someone will contact you having received this information. Thank you!



### Ten Tors 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022

#### & Duke of Edinburgh's Award (Bronze & Silver)

**Launch Meeting: MA8 at 1:30pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

In May 2019, Clyst Vale teams participated in the annual Ten Tors challenge on Dartmoor, successfully completing their routes, the last one before Covid. Due to their success, the Army this year has allocated us 2 x 35-mile team slots for the event due to take place in May 2022. If any Year 9 or 10 students (35-miles) are interested in taking part in the 2022 event please come along to MA8 at 1:30pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021. We're looking for six students to form each of the teams who are able to work well together, be determined, responsible and committed throughout the training as well as the main Ten Tors event itself. There is also an opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award – Bronze Year 9, Silver Year 10 – which looks excellent on CVs and is a lot of fun too!

*Mr Eales*



# **STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**



## **GREEN SCHOOL**

|              |                                      |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>7GCMC</b> | <b>Rosie Davis</b>                   |
| <b>7GIM</b>  | <b>Freddie Norman</b>                |
| <b>8GABR</b> | <b>Harry O'Donnell</b>               |
| <b>8GDH</b>  | <b>Ella Coward</b>                   |
| <b>9GAW</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>9GBA</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>10GHE</b> | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>10GSW</b> | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>11GGT</b> | <b>Oliver Broome</b>                 |
| <b>11GMN</b> | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |

## **RED SCHOOL**

|               |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>7RBAT</b>  | <b>Ellis Williams</b>                |
| <b>7RHSP</b>  | <b>Aston Jones</b>                   |
| <b>8RZB</b>   | <b>James Dickinson</b>               |
| <b>8RSGA</b>  | <b>Holly Walsh</b>                   |
| <b>9RMAH</b>  | <b>Chloe Hoering</b>                 |
| <b>9RAO</b>   | <b>Ruby Meredith</b>                 |
| <b>10RER</b>  | <b>Addison Drinkwater</b>            |
| <b>10RGG</b>  | <b>Elliot Evans</b>                  |
| <b>11RTMA</b> | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>11RSS</b>  | <b>Ben Heywood-Rose</b>              |

## **YELLOW SCHOOL**

|               |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>7YMBR</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>7YTZI</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>8YSSC</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>8YPNE</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |
| <b>9YDST</b>  | <b>Harry Crees</b>                   |
| <b>9YSP</b>   | <b>Harry Bunday</b>                  |
| <b>10YMPR</b> | <b>Nicholas Gawler-Collins</b>       |
| <b>10YNS</b>  | <b>Jamie Beuscher</b>                |
| <b>11YCW</b>  | <b>Adam Wheatcroft</b>               |
| <b>11YRB</b>  | <b>No permission to publish name</b> |

## **Year 7 Boys Rugby v Tiverton (H):**

Very well done to the Year 7 boys rugby squad who participated in Clyst Vale's first sporting fixture since March 2020! A wonderful afternoon's weather greeted both teams at Clyst Vale with a great game of running rugby on display. With a little more PE lesson and training time, the boys will be a strong team. It was excellent to see both experienced and non-experienced students enjoy the game and play with excellent spirit throughout.

Tiverton High School edged us out by 7 tries to 6, with George Phillips, Max Ferris and Billy Heals dotting down for Clyst Vale. Well done to all of the squad!

**Mr Pearce**

## **CALENDAR DATES**

| <b>DATE</b>                                    | <b>EVENT</b>  |
|--|---|
| <b>Thurs 7 Oct</b>                             | <b>Y7 'Meet the Tutor' Parents' Evening, 4pm - 7pm</b>          |
| <b>Tues 12 October</b>                         | <b>Y11 Group Photo</b>  |
| <b>Thurs 21 October</b>                        | <b>Y8 Parents' Evening, 4pm - 7pm</b>                           |
| <b>Mon 25 - Fri 29 October</b>                 | <b>HALF TERM</b>  |
| <b>Thurs 11 November</b>                       | <b>Post 16 Open Evening, 6pm - 8pm</b>                          |
| <b>Sat 13 November</b>                         | <b>Ten Tors/Bronze D of E Event *Single day walk*, all day</b>  |
| <b>Thurs 25 November</b>                       | <b>GCSE Celebration Awards Evening, 6pm - 8pm</b>               |
| <b>w/b 29 Nov</b>                              | <b>Y11 Mocks, all week</b>                                      |
| <b>Thurs 02 December</b>                       | <b>Y13 Parents' Evening, 4pm - 6.30pm</b>                       |
| <b>Sat 04 December</b>                         | <b>Ten Tors/Bronze D of E Event *Single day event*, all day</b> |
| <b>Tues 09 December</b>                        | <b>Y9 Parents' Evening, 4pm - 7pm</b>                           |
| <b>Weds 15 December</b>                        | <b>Christmas Carol Service, Whimple Church, 7pm-9pm</b>         |
| <b>Friday 17 December</b>                      | <b>LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM</b>                                  |
| <b>Sat 18 December</b>                         | <b>DofE Gold Day, all day</b>                                   |
| <b>Mon 20 December - Tues 04 Jan inclusive</b> | <b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>                                       |

## **Attendance, Absence and Requests for Absence**

Please let the College know of any absence on the first day it occurs.

If the absence continues beyond the first day, please contact the College on each subsequent day of absence, too. To comply with safeguarding obligations, we cannot simply assume a student's sickness absence is ongoing; we need to be certain that the reason for absence is due to continuing illness.

If you do not notify the College, then we will make contact with you to identify the reason for absence. This is important as it helps to reduce unauthorised absences and truancy.

Please note, the College may ask you to provide medical proof if a student is absent from College due to illness.

### **Medical Appointments**

We encourage students to maximise their levels of attendance; research indicates a direct link between attendance and examination performance. The timing of many medical appointments means that often students can attend school first, and return afterwards. By doing so, students minimise missed learning whilst keeping their attendance levels as high as possible. Therefore, we ask that parents/carers send their child into school for morning registration, even when a medical appointment takes place in the middle of the morning. Similarly, appointments scheduled for the afternoon should, where possible, be arranged after Period 4 - during lunchtime. Students are encouraged to return to school after a lunchtime appointment, if they can.

Thank you for your support in helping your child maximise their attendance and learning.

### **For Years 7 - 11 Absences**

Please ring:

Sharon Leaman/Racheal Long (Attendance Officers)

Direct line: 01392 463911

Email: [studentabsence@clystvale.org](mailto:studentabsence@clystvale.org)

### **For Year 12 - 13 Absences**

Please ring:

Jassy Barrington (Post-16 PA)

Direct line: 01392 462697

Email: [barringtonj@clystvale.org](mailto:barringtonj@clystvale.org)

Do you use Twitter? Then why not follow us @clystvale to find out what's going on in the College community.



## COLLEGE DRESS

Clyst Vale aims to maintain a simple pattern of College dress to promote a clear sense of identity and enable students to come sensibly dressed, at reasonable cost, for a range of learning activities. If a student is improperly dressed, correct uniform will be provided for that day or the student may be sent home to change his/her clothing, at the discretion of the Principal. **If parents are in any doubt about the suitability of an item of uniform they should check with the College before buying it.**

### Uniform for all students in Years 7 to 11

- White collared shirt
- School colour tie
- Clyst Vale V-neck jumper with College logo.
- Boys trousers - Banner Slimbridge (Black)/Banner Falmouth (Black).
- Girls trousers - Trutex GTN (2 pocket black)/David Luke DL965 black).
- Skirts - Blue Tartan and knee length
- Trutex Senior stitched down/Taylor Tartan (blue) skirt and may be worn no more than 2" above the knee. Knee length black tailored shorts may be worn.
- Black sturdy shoes or **all black** trainers.
- White socks or black tights with skirts.
- Clyst Vale reversible jacket or other outdoor coat.

*All uniform and PE Kit can be purchased from Thomas Moore, Exeter. Thomas Moore offers both a personal service in their shop and also the opportunity to order on line at [www.thomasmooretoymaster.co.uk](http://www.thomasmooretoymaster.co.uk)*

- Eyebrow jewellery, facial, tongue, nose and lip studs are not permitted.
- Leather jackets, all denim garments and all hoodies are not permitted.
- Hats should not be worn indoors.
- Outer coats should be predominantly plain in colour and without large logos.
- A plain white t-shirt or vest may be worn under the shirt.
- On health and safety grounds, shoes should be appropriate for a work place. Flipflops, open toes, Uggs, Dr Martens (or equivalent) are not permitted.
- Jewellery may be worn, providing it is not excessive or potentially hazardous. However, it is a legal requirement that all jewellery must be removed before undertaking sporting activities. It is the responsibility of the wearer to do this.

The Principal, in consultation with the Governors of the College, will decide on the suitability of the appearance of a student attending the College - extreme hair styles, of either cut or colour, are not permitted.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Principal:** Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

**Address:** Clyst Vale Community College, Station Road, Broadclyst, Exeter, Devon  
EX5 3AJ

**Tel:** 01392 461407 **Email:** [admin@clystvale.org](mailto:admin@clystvale.org) **Web:** [www.clystvale.org](http://www.clystvale.org)

**Library:** 01392 464010

