



NEWSLETTER

No. 685
w/c Mon 5 October
Week A

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

“Strength lies in differences, not in similarities.” Stephen Covey

Dear Parents and Carers

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If your child has covid symptoms, you must get them tested before we allow them back into school.

If s/he has been sent home from school with covid symptoms, they must also be tested, even if s/he seems better after a day or two. Young people often have only mild symptoms.

Until the test is done, all members of the household must self isolate at home. Please do not send in the child's brother or sister who seem well; some young people have no obvious symptoms at all.

If the test comes back positive, the child must self-isolate for ten days from the date of the test and the rest of the household for fourteen. These are the government's guidelines. It is a massive inconvenience for a family, but the consequence could be an even more massive inconvenience for lots of families, school staff, and the quality of education for large numbers of children.

Year 6 to 7 Information

Please spread the news to friends, family and neighbours who are considering secondary school transfer next September ! We were unable to hold an Open Evening or Open Week Tours as normal, because of restrictions on gatherings and social distancing. This is particularly irritating, as most of you would agree that what makes Clyst Vale special is the atmosphere and the relationships, which you can't experience fully without visiting. Please direct your friends, families and neighbours to our website. Next week will appear a promotional video about the College; a version of the Principal's address to parents from the Open Evening; assorted other information; and an on-line enquiry form.

Year 7 “Meet the Tutor”

Another face-to-face meeting which is regrettably a covid casualty. Parents of Year 7 students should have received a letter through our “In Touch” gateway apologising for this, and explaining what is on offer instead. There is a general update on the tutor group, and a list of FAQs. There is also the opportunity to book a phone call with your child's tutor, and this is explained on the letter. We pride ourselves on our human touch and building good relationships, so are trying to do our best to make up for the lack of face-to-face.

This Week's Reminders

- No hoodies, please. Even if it's called "elite designer sportswear" but it looks like a hoodie, it's a hoodie.
- Government guidance: "It is now the law that children and young people aged 11 and over must wear a face covering on public transport. This law does not apply to dedicated school transport. However, we recommend that local authorities advise people aged 11 and over to wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated school transport to secondary school or college." So, the recommendation is clear that face coverings should be worn on school transport.
- From Monday, if they wish, boys may wear tracksuit bottoms (plain black or navy blue) in PE lessons. This makes it roughly equivalent to girls wearing leggings. In practice, many boys prefer shorts, and we are relying on male teenage good sense to determine what the best thing to do is in each lesson, factoring in time of day, temperature, rain, etc.

Autumn Exams

Information, really. It feels like months ago that we heard about the "triple lock" for the exams debacle which rapidly became a single lock. The single lock is here ! Next week A-level students who wish to take an exam in preference to their centre-assessed grade are doing just that. A-levels last for three weeks, then GCSEs for the same amount of time after half-term.

Attendance

Attendance for September is 92.9%, which is pleasing in the circumstances and when compared to national figures. In normal times, we would be a tad disappointed, as we are aiming at 95% minimum. Thank you to parents for all your support, though: I know children vary enormously, even the same one as it grows from age 11 to age 16, but you get them up, fed, clothed and out of the door, and this is much appreciated !

National Updates

- A really big issue for Year 11 and 13 students and parents is exactly what is happening about next summer's exams. The current position is that they will carry on as normal, with some reductions in content or question choice in some subjects. But the DfE is "considering" delaying them by 1-3 weeks, and the GCSE results day has been announced as late as it can be in August. There is also growing pressure for the exams to be modified or even scrapped. Meanwhile, some Year 11 and Year 13 students nationally have had fourteen day isolations on top of last term's lockdowns, and with postcode variations in terms of remote learning it is hard to see how fairness will be achieved through just exams. That's all well and good, but it doesn't give any certainty to students, parents, or teachers. We are told there could be an announcement in the week before half-term. In the meantime, my colleagues are doing their utmost to prepare students for what we are currently expecting to happen.
- Mentioning remote learning, yesterday's news included a statutory instrument requiring all schools to provide remote learning for students who are not in school. We await the detail, as we are becoming accustomed to doing. Remote screen-based learning by itself is not appropriate for Early Years or young children. The requirement assumes that all students have good connectivity and devices, when this isn't the case, some schools still await delivery of the laptop scheme, and all schools will need a cash injection to ensure 100% of students have strong connections and robust devices. Again, we will do our utmost, and would do anyway without a statutory instrument. We sustained a remote learning provision throughout lockdown, and with new and developing skills would seek to build on this. I am already receiving positive feedback that many subjects are getting a lot of material on Teams already, and that this is making a difference.

Good News Corner (Steadily growing...)

- Congratulations to Rachel Brown in Year 11 who has qualified for the Badminton Horse Trials in the amateur section. In the equestrian world, this is a significant achievement !
- Clear Face Masks (more on the website front page): we're pleased to be trialling clear face masks for students with hearing impairment who rely on lip reading as a major part of communication. The big difference is the use of non-reflective plastic, which cuts out glare.
- Year 11 Geography Fieldwork to Dawlish Warren. Despite the changes to the Geography GCSE exam, students are still expected to have a knowledge of fieldwork and fieldwork techniques, and the best way of learning this is by doing fieldwork. This is a good example of our commitment to providing the best possible curriculum experience possible, and to try to preserve as much positive "normality" as possible. The students were well-behaved and responsible. (Needless to say, risk assessments were very thorough, and covid-safe practices observed.)
- Children's Hospice South West. I received today a nice "thank you" for the donation of over £200 we made from before lockdown, in March !
- Stagecoach issues have settled down so that the only frustrations are the typical ones of when a bus is held up by traffic or roadworks. And I'm still very pleased to see a Bradninch/Cullompton bus in the coach park at the end of the day.

Opportunities for Broadclystians (from Broadclyst Parish Council) Friends of Broadclyst Youth Club


Broadclyst's young people are very fortunate to have their own Youth Club, which runs on Wednesdays at Broadclyst Pavilions, supported by the Parish Council, and delivered by two experienced Exeter YMCA youth workers. The Parish Council would love to develop the Youth Club further by offering new one-off projects and activities within the community for our young people to get involved with. Some ideas include building go-karts, creating videos, photography projects, theatre group workshops, football sessions (supported by Exeter City FC) and playing skittles at the Social Club... to name but a few.

A new group is being launched – **Friends of Broadclyst Youth Club** – and parents within the village who wish to help improve the Youth Club, perhaps by bringing skills and ideas of your own, are warmly encouraged to join. To register your interest, please contact Parish Councillor Liz Straw: liz.straw@broadclyst.org

Youth Representatives on Broadclyst Parish Council

Broadclyst Parish Council recognises the value that young people can bring to a community, with their energy, enthusiasm, creativity and fresh perspective. The Council is looking for Youth Representatives to join them, in order to build positive relationships between the Youth Club, Clyst Vale Community College and the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a community Youth Representative, please contact Parish Councillor Liz Straw: liz.straw@broadclyst.org

Best wishes,



Kevin Bawn
Principal



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



YELLOW SCHOOL

7YEM	Jasmine Harris
7YPN	Romeo Nicholas
8YDS	JJ Slater
8YSP	Amalee Coles
9YNS	Lee Jay Winser-Clinton
9YMPR	Hafi Oztas
10YCW	Adam Wheatcroft
10YRB	Ellie Riddle
11YMBR	Destiny Woodhead
11YZKH	Lily Davey

RED SCHOOL

7RZB	James Busby
7RHPI	Nidal Abusalameh
8RAO	Millie Page
8RAR	Edie Long
9RGG	Tommy Pullybank
9RER	Tamara Dow
10RSS	Reece Aldridge
11RGK	Keira Clarke

GREEN SCHOOL

7GABR	Harry O'Donnell
7GDH	Charlie King
8GAW	Da-Xia Brown
8GBA	Florence Walker
9GSW	Steven Maby
9GNB	Chloe Turner
10GMN	Mia Blackmore
11GHE	William Starling
11GIM	Joe Whitton

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:

Penni Ball/Sharon Leaman (Attendance Officers)

Direct line: 01392 463911

Email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please ring:

Jassy Barrington (Post-16 PA)

Direct line: 01392 462697

Email: barringtonj@clystvale.org

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).
- **All trousers must have Clyst Vale logo rivet on waistband.**
- 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

- 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.

CALENDAR DATES

DATE	EVENT
Thurs 22nd October	Exeter Food Bank—Non-Uniform Day
w/b 30 November - All week	Y11 Mocks
Fri 04 December	Y12 Geography Fieldwork
Sat 05 & Sun 06 December	Ten Tors/Bronze D of E Event
w/b Mon 07 December - All week	Y13 Mocks
Tues 08 December 4pm - 7pm	Y8 Parents' Evening
Fri 11 December	Human Rights Day Y11 Geography Fieldwork
Sat 12 December	D of E Gold Y12 Dartmoor Day Walk
Weds 16 December 7pm - 9pm (tbc)	Christmas Carol Service, Whimble Church
Friday 18 December	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM St Petrock's— Non-Uniform Day
Fri 12th February 2021	Force Cancer—Non-Uniform Day
Fri 23rd July 2021	Water Aid—Non-Uniform Day

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



CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Tel: 01392 461407 **Email:** admin@clystvale.org **Web:** www.clystvale.org

Library: 01392 464010

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

