



NEWSLETTER

No. 733
w/c Mon 6 December 2021
Week A

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"The fundamental level of success is doing the hard things first – if you go for the feared thing first, then the rest of the day is easy." Robert G. Allen

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 Exams

- Year 11 students have been wonderful in their attitude and approach to the exams this week. I cannot praise them highly enough. This is in the context of doing the exams anyway; the possibility of their use if GCSEs are cancelled next summer; the general unsettled atmosphere in society and more anxiety in young people; cold exam rooms (for ventilation) and coats. Students in general have also been highly respectful and quiet during exam times.

“Thank You” from St Petrocks

- We received a very nice “thank you” letter with regard to the “Harvest Festival” food and toiletries Year 8 students and others donated. Always happy to promote their work, this includes *“The College’s kindness will help us make a lasting difference in the lives of local people without a home; we greatly appreciate your continued support in these challenging times. Please pass on our thanks to all those involved in making this donation. St Petrock’s has continued to adapt our services in recent months in response to changing need. Our mobile rough sleeper support team are out twice each weekday to engage with people around the city, serving take-away breakfasts & cooked lunches to rough-sleepers en route. Meal provision opens up conversations about individual needs, which are followed up with appointments in St Petrock’s centre. In the first 6 months of 2021, there were 2,254 client visits to our centre for more focussed support via appointment, including key-working, basic survival services (clothing; laundry facilities; phone-charging; showers; toiletries; sleeping bags; phone & computer access), housing assessment & referral and a specialist welfare rights service. We have been able to introduce new services to aid clients’ recovery from the longer term impacts of the pandemic, including mental health clinics, a women’s well-being group, and are also delighted to have been approved as an official Covid vaccination site.”*
- I must reiterate the thanks to all involved for the donations, especially Miss Brotherton and the B&V team, and of course students and parents.

On-Line Safety Newsletter

- Rather a brief item for something so important....this is the second edition of a very useful and succinct newsletter, which is highly recommended. It can be found on the College website on-line safety page here:

http://www.clystvale.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Online-Safety-Newsletter-Dec-2021_Clyst-Vale.pdf

Covid

- Clyst Vale case rates remain low, but increasing very slightly. There are currently 17 students and two members of staff who are isolating.
- There have been two clarifications since my letter on Tuesday:
 - ◊ Sixth formers in schools are expected to be part of mass testing for their school; this doesn't apply to students in FE or Sixth Form Colleges.
 - ◊ It may well be that schools could be venues for 12-15 second vaccinations (but vaccinations will be available at vaccination hubs and walk ins).
 - ◊ We still await clarification if any variation will be permitted to the big, disruptive, staggered start mass-testing. As the government seem determined that as many people as possible should meet in large groups, I don't hold out much hope.
- Please keep LFT testing twice a week.
- Please keep your children well-supplied with a mask; these are now mandatory on public and school transport.
- We have been asked by the Devon Virgin Care SAIS Team to issue the following letter:

Dear Parents/guardians,

How to access the first dose of Covid-19 vaccination for 12-15 year olds

We are aware that for several reasons there are some children aged 12 and over who may not have received their first Covid-19 vaccination at school or at a local vaccination centre yet. We want to support as many children and young people and their families who wish to have their vaccination to be able to do so. These vaccines are still available and you can book an appointment through the National booking system <https://www.nhs.uk/book-a-coronavirus-vaccination> or by calling 119.

There are appointments available for 12-15 year olds and all the centres run sessions for 12-15 year olds outside school hours for your convenience and to allow school attendance to continue uninterrupted.

The vaccine centre is:

Greendale Vaccination Centre

Greendale Business Park

Woodbury Salterton

Exeter

EX5 1EW

A few key facts to remember when booking your appointment

If your child has had a positive Covid test they should not receive the Covid-19 vaccination for 12 weeks (this advice changed on 18.11.2021).

If your child is clinically vulnerable, they should have already been recommended to receive two vaccines with an eight-week gap. This group of children are still recommended to only have a 28-day gap between a positive Covid test and receiving the vaccine.

If your child has received the first dose, they now will be eligible for a second dose however, it is currently recommended that there is a minimum of 12 weeks after the first dose and you will be unable to book this until this time.

Details of how the second doses of the Healthy Covid 12-15 programme will be provided in the coming weeks. [End of letter]

Student Absence

- In normal times, we all know there is a strong correlation between good/bad attendance and good/bad exam results. We know that our attendance target is 95%, in line with national averages. We also know that persistent absence can lead to enforcement actions including letters, fines and in extreme cases prosecution. I don't think we are in normal times, but once again I find myself at odds with the Department for Education who seem determined that we are. The government is worried about attendance levels (I agree with this), and in a recent letter school leaders have been told to "make full use of enforcement actions" (I don't agree with this as a black and white blanket solution). We should have been doing this from September, but remember that we had over 200 students isolating with covid and it seemed completely wrong to issue warning letters to their parents. Since half-term we have been issuing the first warning letters to parents of students who have poor attendance but who have not had covid. In other words, I believe strongly that students should be in College for their educational and social development, and if there is no good reason for a high level of absence, we will use enforcement measures.
- Our overall attendance rates since September have broadly been in line with national (around 90% currently), although they did take a hammering in late September-early October when covid rates were very high. This headline figure is quite reassuring and positive, but it does mask one or two groups of students (such as pupil premium and some SEND) where attendance is lower, and we will work with those families as sensitively as possible.

Carol Service

- The media is awash with conflicting stories about school nativities being cancelled, going ahead, or being live-streamed to parents shivering in the car park; I really do not envy my Primary colleagues who have to make the decision. We're fully intending to go ahead with the Carol Service on Wednesday 15th December at St Mary's Church, Whimple, clearly with covid precautions in place. I suppose there is a chance of a big outbreak at College or locally, and we will respect the regulations of the Church, but we are looking forward to seeing this back on the calendar.

Platinum Jubilee Additional Day's Holiday

- In June 2022, the Queen will celebrate 70 years as monarch. You'll be aware that there is an extra Bank Holiday on Friday 3rd June. Schools are on holiday that day anyway, so the government has decided we can have an extra day off, to make the school year 189 days. The Governors in consultation with staff have decided on Wednesday, 20th April 2022, which means that there is a full two weeks' holiday. Students will return to writing, Drama lessons and Romeo & Juliet revision on Thursday 21st April, Shakespeare's birthday. From a parent/carer point of view it is probably a bit more convenient to extend the Easter holiday by a day (May half-term would have been ideal, but of course there will be exams which won't run themselves). We could have tagged it on to February half-term, but of course the weather is so much better at Easter and we should reduce the temptation of spending all day cooped up on their x-boxes.....

Term Dates 2022-23

- I apologise that these are a bit late this year. I have attached "the grid" to add to your weekend puzzle page, and the dates are also on the College website, link as follows
<http://www.clystvale.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/CVCC-Term-Dates-2022-23.pdf>
- There are no adjustments or anything controversial, and the dates are very close to the Devon pattern. Where there is a training day or an occasional day, students are not expected in College (on the two occasional days, neither are most colleagues).

Staff absence

- Although absence through covid has not been too high, the attritional nature of the past term plus more unpleasant colds, respiratory infections and other illnesses has caused pressure on staffing. We are nowhere near anything drastic like closure or part-closure, but daily staff absence has been running around 10% for over three weeks. Many organisations are reporting the same, and if you work in an organisation with continuing staff shortages, you will know the difficulties. Certain teams or departments have been hit harder than others. But overall, and I hope your children echo this, most lessons are unaffected, and most activities and opportunities are continuing. My colleagues are working incredibly hard, but it does take its toll.

A Plea from Reception and AtHoS

- It's possibly tiredness all round, but there has been a sharp increase in students forgetting not only their masks, but their PE kit, food ingredients, and also not having any money on their cashless food account. It's one of those things whereby one forgotten PE kit isn't that much of a problem (the student receptionist takes it and interrupts a lesson briefly if breaktime is not an option), but we had five before break today. The lack of food money is a difficulty, as students have usually handled the food before they realise, so that food can't be re-sold and is disposed of. Of course, the huge majority of parents still fulfil their responsibility of checking timetables, ask about inter-tutor sport on a Friday, and head off these little issues before they start. [When my three were at school we had a copy of their timetables on the fridge door. When they had a bad timetable day coming up, this put into perspective the tragic absence of chocolate milk in the fridge (even though they had drunk it all the night before)]

Traffic Report

- Station Road Closure, Weds 15th – 24th December. South West Water have notified us of a 9 day road closure at the London Road end of Station Road from "Station Road to Coachfield House", outside 'Southview'. Local residents will also have been notified, but if you live further afield, and use that end of Station Road, you might not be aware.
- Too many parents are still parking in Tower View. The residents, rightly, are brassed off when cars are parked across their driveways and even across the entrance to the road. Please arrive a bit later, or pick up elsewhere.

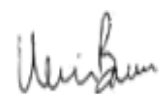
When dropping off in the morning, please pull down the coach park as far as possible.

Site Works Update

- The roofing work is complete, and the much-delayed window work continues to be delayed and will run into the Spring Term. At this rate the scaffolding will still be up at Easter. And the window work will mean some re-rooming of classes. I'm not a great fan of scaffolding when school is in session, but it's a necessary evil. And while scaffolding creates single-file pinch-points, especially outside SC6-PA1-Giraffe House entrance, I have been hugely impressed and pleased by the consideration and good sense of our students.

This is rather an information-rich Newsletter. It doesn't do justice to the atmosphere, relationships, chat, noise, smiles, trials and tribulations of that fascinating creature, the secondary school student. Plus, Christmas decorations are appearing, and suddenly there's only two haribo-filled weeks left of the term....

Best wishes,



Kevin Bawn
Principal

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)

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!

Rugby Achievement for Clyst Vale Girls

Olivia Derbyshire (10YNS) plays for Cullompton under 15s, along with fellow Clyst Vale students Alice, Amelia and Dilly.



It was only their second ever match as a team and they were amazing.

They were against Kingsbridge and the game was very close, they didn't quite win though.

Olivia was intentionally injured during their last match so was very nervous but ploughed on, tackling everyone and scored a try. She received high praise from the coaches.

Report by Olivia's mum

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



Year 9 Boys Rugby:

Tiverton HS 5-35 Clyst Vale



The Clyst Vale lads got back to winning ways on Wednesday afternoon, beating a Tiverton HS side well, at Tiverton RFC.

A cold and wet afternoon under lights were the environment which the lads had before them when they arrived at Tiverton, with skipper George opting for the kick off. It wasn't long before talismanic back, Oliver, cruised over for the first try of the game, using his speed to score in the corner, after a lovely inviting pass from George. Tiverton hit straight back with a well worked try from their pack who caused Clyst Vale issues all game. After this, Clyst Vale used their speed out wide to score a further two tries through Oliver and one more from George, using great footwork to evade the opposition. Henry at scrum half organised the forwards and backs well at ruck time, with Alex and Archie doing wonders at second row, not the most enviable of positions! Sonny in his first game, did very well in the front row, with Olivier using his power once again to cause huge dents in the opposition throughout the game. Daniel was outstanding in his adaptations of positions, being another great organiser, with Tom and Lenny handling very well in the backs. Winger Nick was superb again in his defence and cruelly got a try taken away from him in the second half in the process of diving over the line! Jake used his dancing feet when coming on, with Jack showing strength of running when coming off the bench. Charlie at full back had an outstanding second half, linking with talented Max to dive over for a well-deserved try. George and Oliver had the last mentions in the game with two well worked team tries to finish well deserved winners before a warmer trip back on the bus!

Well done to all of the squad!

Mr Pearce
Head of Green School
Teacher of PE

Collection for Exeter Foodbank

Please help 7RHSP, who have decided to do something kind to help others this Advent, and will be collecting for Exeter Foodbank.

Exeter Foodbank says: "Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. A simple box of food makes a big difference, with foodbanks helping prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems."

Please bring in any donations and place them in the collection box that will be coming to all tutor bases very soon!

The collection will run until Tuesday 14th December. Attached is a list of the PRIORITY ITEMS that are most needed. If you can make sure your donation matches with an item on the list, that would be enormously appreciated.

The Tutor Group that collects the most items will receive a tub of chocolates to share!

Thank you very much,

from all of 7RHSP and Mrs Spencer & Miss Morgan





STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



GREEN SCHOOL

7GCMC	Holly Middleton
7GIM	Ben Russell & Emily Gill
8GABR	Andrew Brown
8GDH	No permission to publish name
9GAW	No permission to publish name
9GBA	Henry Fenner
10GHE	No permission to publish name
10GSW	No permission to publish name
11GGT	Daisy Bird
11GMN	No permission to publish name

RED SCHOOL

7RBAT	No permission to publish name
7RHSP	Marion Dray
8RZB	Amy Randall
8RSGA	Summer Stone
9RMAH	Amelie Quinnell
9RAO	No permission to publish name
10RER	Imogen Pearce
10RGG	Noah Roberts
11RTMA	No permission to publish name
11RSS	Rhys Burt-Jones

YELLOW SCHOOL

7YMBR	Lily Crawford
7YTZI	No permission to publish name
8YSSC	No permission to publish name
8YPNE	Saffron Talbot
9YDST	Olivia Woollan
9YSP	No permission to publish name
10YMPR	No permission to publish name
10YNS	No permission to publish name
11YCW	No permission to publish name
11YRB	No permission to publish name



A Christmas Invitation for you and your children.

- C is for Christmas
- C is for Carols
- C is for Candlelight
- C is for Choir
- C is for Cheerfulness

We would love to invite you and your family to join us for a magical evening of Carols by Candlelight in beautiful Broadclyst Church.

Come and start Christmas with your friends and family.

See the church lit by candlelight.

Favourite carols, to be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Sunday 19th December at 5pm.

LUNCH CLUBS

Day	Club	Time	Where	Changing Room	Teacher
Monday	Year 9 – 13 Badminton	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell
Monday	Year 10 – 11 Btec/GCSE Dance	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	Humanities Block	Mrs Elliot
Monday	All Years Girls Rugby	Lunchtime	Field	Humanities Block	Mr Pearce
Monday	Week A - GCSE Art Club	Lunchtime	AR2		Mrs Walton
Monday	Week B – KS3 Art Club	Lunchtime	AR2		Mrs Walton
Monday	Year 11 RS Revision	1.40pm	HU1		Mrs Battshill
Monday	Science Club	1.30pm – 2pm	SC2		Dr Odunlade/Mrs Spencer
Monday	Mental Health Ambassadors	Lunchtime	VO1		Mrs Bennett
Tuesday	Year 10 – 11 Basketball	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mrs Needs
Tuesday	Year 7, 8 & 9 – Dance	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	Humanities Block	Miss Hall
Tuesday	Year 10 – 11 Weights	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	Humanities Block	Mrs Elliot
Tuesday	Ten Tors/Duke of Edinburgh Award	1.30pm – 2.10pm	IT4		Mr Eales/Miss Barratt
Tuesday	Minecraft Club	Lunchtime	IT3		Mr Bailey
Tuesday	Post 16 Amnesty	Lunchtime	EN7		Ms Watt/Mrs Battshill
Wednesday Week B	11A Practical GCSE Catch Up	Lunchtime	DT3		Mrs Crook
Wednesday	Year 7 & 8 Badminton	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell
Wednesday Week A	LGBTQ + Group	1.40pm	MF1		Miss McConnachie
Wednesday	Year 9 Football	Lunchtime	Field	Humanities Block	Mr Stapleton
Wednesday	Drug & Alcohol Information Drop In	Lunchtime			Mrs Gillespie
Thursday Week B	11C Practical GCSE Catch Up	Lunchtime	DT3		Mrs Crook
Thursday Week A	GCSE Theory Catch Up	Lunchtime	DT4		Mrs Crook
Thursday	Year 7, 8 & 9 Rugby	Lunchtime	Field	Humanities Block	Mr Pearce/Mr Powell
Thursday	Year 11 Indoor Football	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Stapleton/Mr Brooks
Thursday	Attenborough's Army	Lunchtime	HU4		Mr Zimbler
Thursday	Yoghioh Club	Lunchtime	SC3		Mr Moxey
Thursday	Games Club	Lunchtime	HU5		Miss Jenkins
Friday	Various Years Inter-Tutor	Lunchtime	Various	Various	Mr Stapleton/Miss Hall/Mrs Broomfield
Friday	KS3/4 Amnesty	Lunchtime	HU2		
Friday	Post 16 Indoor Football	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell

- Colour coded refers to Ten Tors/Duke of Edinburgh only

CALENDAR DATES

DATE	EVENT
Sat 04 December	Ten Tors/Bronze D of E Event - all day
Tues 09 December	Y9 Parents' Evening 4pm - 7pm
Wed 15 December	Carol Service, Whimble Church 7pm - 9pm
Fri 17 December	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM
Sat 18 December	DofE Gold Day - all day
Mon 20 December - Tues 04 January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Wed 05 January	START OF SPRING TERM
Sat 15 January	DofE Overnight 1: Bronze
Thurs 20 January	Y11 Parents' Evening 4pm - 7pm
Mon 24 January	Y11 Presentation of GCSE Drama Work for Parents 6pm - 7.30pm
Tues 25 January	Y9 Options Evening 4.30pm - 7pm
Thurs 27 January	Y10/Y11 Trip to Southall Gurdwara
w/b Mon 31 January	Y13 Mock Exams
Sat 12 February	DofE Overnight 2: Bronze All day
Thurs 17 February	Y12 Parents' Evening 4.30pm - 6.30pm
Fri 18 February	Y9 Options Fair
Mon 21 - Fri 25 February	SPRING HALF TERM
Mon 28 February	Y11 Food Practical Exams
Tues 1 March	Y11 Food Practical Exams
w/b Mon 7 March	Y11 GCSE Assessment Week
Sat 12 March	DofE/Ten Tors Overnight 3
Mon 14 & Tue 15 March	Further Y11 GCSE Assessment
Thur 17, Fri 18, Mon 21 & Tue 22 March	Y13 Assessments
Weds 23 - Fri 25 March	Rosslyn Park Rugby 7s Tournament
Fri 25 March	Production: rehearsal in school All day
Sun 27 March	Production: rehearsal in school Half day
Mon 28 March	Production: technical rehearsal & evening dress rehearsal (principals only) 9am - 10pm
Mon 28 March	Production: remaining cast to join rehearsal 5.30pm -10pm
Tues 29 March	Production: dress rehearsal (all cast) All day

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

For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please do **not** ring

Email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

copying in: haynesc@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).
- 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.

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 **Web:** www.clystvale.org

Library: 01392 464010

