

NEWSLETTER

No. 700
w/c Mon 8 February
Week B

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"Follow your own passion - not your parents', not your teachers' - yours."
Robert Ballard

Reporting of Covid-19 positive test results throughout Lockdown (including evenings and weekends)

To report a positive Covid-19 test result during normal school hours, please contact Student Absence on 01392 463911 or email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

If out-of-hours, we have a dedicated phone number, solely for reporting positive Covid-19 test results at evenings and weekends. This isn't for suspected cases, non-Covid-19 illness or absence, or advice.

07818 212 931

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

Name of student; Tutor group; Dates of 1. When symptoms appeared; 2. Test; 3. Test result

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

Dear Parents and Carers

Major world events are piling up thick and fast. Brexit, the Presidential Inauguration, and now the 700th Clyst Vale Newsletter..... The first edition (10th January 2003) read *"The new term brings this new bulletin, which is an experiment for this term. If it is seen as useful and successful, it will continue"*. One or two parents in April 2003 were foolish enough to say they liked it, so here we are today.... On the subject of major events, Clyst Vale's Annual Doughnut Day today passed peacefully enough.

Changes to Forthcoming Events

Things are fluid at the moment, and the return to school on 8th March will be confirmed or adjusted in a government announcement on 22nd February. We are particularly in limbo about exams, as it is not clear what will be happening in the summer term; what happens with public exams has a knock-on effect to our in-College exams.

However, we can confirm the following:

- Half-Term. The College will be closed; we will not be offering KVV provision. To be honest, it's been a hard term, and everyone needs a break from remote teaching and learning. Free School Meal vouchers will continue to be provided, through the Devon County Council scheme.
- Year 11 Mock Exams (Core Subjects). These are postponed to the summer term, timing depending on what is decided about how GCSE grades are to be awarded .
- Year 10 Exams. These are also postponed to the summer term. For both Y11 and Y10, it will be of little benefit putting students through exams within days of returning after two months of lockdown; and it's one less thing to think about.
- Year 12 Exams are likely to be towards the end of April.
- Sports Award Evening (1st April). Also postponed until later in the summer term.
- We are not planning to change the dates of any Parents' Evenings.

Thank You to the Lateral Flow Testers

Mentioning milestones, our intrepid team of testers clocked up their thousandth test on Wednesday. A very good time to say a huge thank you to parents and friends of the College who have volunteered to help out, watching dozens of people performing their swabs at a time when most people are enjoying their breakfast. They are also freeing up College staff to do their day jobs, which is also greatly appreciated. So, very many thanks to Eileen Stuart, Hannah Gregory, James Grant, Jo Cole, Kate Sibley, Sheena Prout, Steve McAndrews and Sue Eakers! Thank you too to Clyst Vale colleagues Mrs Anderson-Thorne, Mrs Ball, Mrs Bullock, Mrs Down, Mrs Grant, Mrs Hopkins, Mrs Parker, Miss Prunty, and Mrs Turner. The end of week total is 1162 tests: 469 staff, 693 students. No positives, which is good, although we're testing a reasonably small group of the same people repeatedly!

Year 9 Options

I hope that Year 9 students and parents found the virtual options evening and information helpful in making a decision. Recorded presentations from Ms Jacobs and the Heads of Department substituted for the Options Evening talks, and had the advantage that you can replay them, and you don't miss half of it if you arrive late ! I think most people would prefer face-to-face, but the open Teams meetings last night replicated this to some extent, and (as in 3D life) there was ever such a lot of activity and some brilliant questions. The talks are still on the website; and if there are any last-minute crises or urgent questions, teachers are available by e-mail. Students will select their options choices via the SIMS Parent App, which is now live. Details on how to input choices have been sent to Year 9 parents separately.

Station Road Closure Starts on MONDAY

This is a complete closure from 8th to 19th February, ie no traffic either way, for drainage work. Skanska are the contractors, and they have sent us a plan showing that the College end of the works is outside the Sports Hall. So, access from the B3181/Exeter-Cullompton direction is unaffected, and all entrances to the College site are accessible. It's just those of us who travel up Station Road, and do not always fire on all cylinders on Monday mornings....

Student Wellbeing

There is a tendency in some media to catastrophise in the media about the severe impact of the lockdown on young people, "the lost generation", and an obsession with "catching up" as if it's never going to be possible. This isn't helpful, is beyond their control, and can only serve to increase young people's worries about the future. The impact of lockdown is obviously a big concern, especially for learning in Primary School and for those years who have not taken exams face a tougher time, including pressures on their mental health. Students with disadvantaged backgrounds may face particular challenges, and this is rightly driving much of the political concern. But it's not a guaranteed disaster: parents, schools and hopefully decent resourcing from the government won't let a disaster happen; young people as a whole are a lot more resilient and resourceful than we give them credit for; on the whole, they will be able to recover, and the main question is when, rather than if, they can get back on the road ahead. And they have time on their side.

However, there is no doubt that the pandemic, continuing lockdown, missing friends, missing activities, the weather, time of year, and the lack of a clear endpoint are all making it harder for young people to stay positive. Some students are worse affected than others, but we are definitely experiencing more students who are a bit down, or who are having more bad days than normal, or who are struggling more with home learning than they should be.

This week has been Mental Health Week, and Mrs Bennett has put together a fantastic document full of links, activities and ideas to help keep students connected with their own feelings and with the important people in their life, as well as tips for staying calm, active and motivated. Many of these activities will be included within our Course 42 and other programmes as we move forwards. The link to the website and materials is: <http://www.clystvale.org/blog/2021/02/01/student-wellbeing-during-winter-lockdown/>

Sixth Form Updates

- Year 12 Parents Evening is next Thursday ! Because of numbers, we are able to make appointments a little longer than for Year 13. If you have any questions or difficulties, please e-mail barring-tonj@clystvale.org
- With the actual exams for AS being cancelled in the summer, only students who are dropping a full A-level to concentrate on three in Year 13 will be entered for the “exam”. If there are any last minute questions or changes, these can be discussed on Thursday.
- Currently, we have five students who are attending Post-16 as a separate KWV “bubble”.
- A regular contributor to our enrichment and support programme is Adam Williams, who delivered a virtual session on dealing with anxiety and stress this week.
- There have been 40 UCAS applications sent off – this is the most for a few years.
- Overall, Sixth Formers are coping very well with remote learning. It’s a bit harder for Year 12, of course: when they were in Lockdown#1, they were in Year 11 and once the GCSE exams were cancelled, only had limited experience of it.

Apprenticeships

Mrs Bennett has already circulated this information, but there are two events next week which will be of interest. Students should work the times around live lessons, of course!

- The first is the National Apprenticeship Show on Wednesday 10th February. The event will ‘go live’ on 10 February and is open from 11am-6pm. The following link will allow you to register: <https://nas.vfairs.com/en/#ExhibitorsLogo>
- The second is Exeter College’s South West Virtual Apprenticeship Expo on Thursday 11th February from 2-6pm. Registration is open now: <https://hopin.com/events/south-west-apprenticeship-expo>

Exeter University 'Exeter Scholars Year 10 Pathway'.

This is a great opportunity, although it does require time and commitment. Applications are open for this programme for any Year 10 student (who might not be considering higher education) the opportunity to find out more about university, develop a passion for a chosen subject, and gain first-hand experience of student life. It is slightly different this year, but will include face-to-face events, continued support and online activities for students to complete in their own time. Students will be expected to give around 13 hours of their own time to access this project. A YouTube clip explaining the programme can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpCDtvr12D8&feature=youtu.be>


Places are limited and are based on a competitive applications process with specific eligibility criteria which can be found here: <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/apply/year10/allapplicantssouthwestnational/#a0>

Applications must be submitted by students and their parents, as the programme is run outside of school hours. The online application form can be found here: <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/apply/year10/allapplicantssouthwestnational/virtual/>

Extreme Weather

Just in case. In the event of extreme winter weather, our basic starting-point is that we always try to stay open. If we have to close or part-close the information will be on the College website front page by 07.30 a.m., although we would try wherever possible to let you know the evening before. We also contact local radio outlets. Do not believe what your child’s friend’s cousin in Year 10 (other year groups are available) has posted on Insta, without checking it out. If a school transport bus can get your children here safely in the morning, they are contractually obliged to get them home again; but if the buses do not run in the morning, they won’t run in the evening either (this doesn’t apply to Stagecoach). Interesting dilemma about what happens on snow days now that we have all this remote learning available.....

Best wishes,



Kevin Bawn
Principal

Bonnie and Clyde Auditions - UPDATE!!!

The remaining auditions for the Summer production will now be by self-tape. The audition material is the same as before, but we would like you to film your audition and email it to us. The deadline is **Sunday 14th February** and all the instructions and information is on the ALL STUDENTS TEAM. This also includes any Year 7-9 who missed their auditions prior to Christmas (not those already offered a recall - we are hopeful that these may still happen live, in school). We are really looking forward to watching your audition tapes.



GOOD LUCK!!!!

Miss Williams

Broadclyst Parish Area – Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

Our Parish
Our Plan
Our Choice



Broadclyst Parish Council is inviting residents to have their say on the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan. The consultation period began on 4th December and runs until the end of next month (Sunday 28th February).

There are 3 elements to the Plan – the vision, the policies and the projects.

The feedback form invites you to rank how important you feel various aspects of the Plan are, as well as having plenty of space for ‘free text’ feedback.

Policies include the proposed Community Sports Hub, heritage trails, renewable energy production, housing, pedestrian and cycle routes and protecting woodland and green spaces. Projects include public transport and active travel initiatives, regenerating orchards and addressing flooding.

The Neighbourhood Plan gives communities direct power to

- develop a shared vision for their Parish;
- allocate sites and shape development for their Parish;
- shape growth by design codes for their Parish, and
- protect and enhance special places within their Parish.

The Parish Council is now seeking your views on that shared vision, policies, community actions and projects that will shape the future of the Parish.

To access further information and the feedback form, please click on the link below, which will take you to the relevant section of the Broadclyst Parish Council website:

[Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation](#)

STAY SCAM AWARE

Trading Standards is warning us all to beware of scams following reports that fraudsters are sending fake texts offering a Covid-19 vaccine.

Among the difficulties Covid-19 has brought into our lives, it has given rise to an increase in scams as fraudsters try to exploit our uncertainty.

In one Covid-related scam, fraudsters are sending text messages containing a link to what police call an "extremely convincing" fake NHS website.

The scam message reads 'we have identified that you are eligible to apply for your vaccine' and prompts you to click on a link for further information or to 'apply' for the vaccine.

Once on the website you are asked to input your bank details to register for a vaccine. Remember, the NHS will never ask for payment details.

There are lots of other Covid-related scams too, such as:



Test and Trace scams – criminals contact potential victims claiming to be from the Test and Trace service but are really trying to get their personal information or trick them into handing over money.



Doorstep crime – there are many genuine groups assisting the most vulnerable, however, be alert for individuals who may take your money under the false pretence of helping.

Tips to help you stay safe

- If you get a text or email that asks you to click on a link or provide information such as your name or payment details, delete it.
- Never give out your bank/card details, PIN or passwords over the phone, online or on your doorstep.
- Don't ring the number a caller has given you to check it's genuine. Always look the number up for yourself.

What to do if you've been scammed

Report scams and get advice through Citizens Advice. Call **0808 223 1133** or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/what-to-do-if-youve-been-scammed/

Report the scam to Action Fraud on **0300 123 2040** or at www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime

For more information visit www.devonsomersettradingstandards.gov.uk/scams-rogue-traders-and-doorstep-crime/

tsconnect

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
w/b Mon 08 February	Y13 Mocks - CANCELLED
Thurs 11 February 4.30pm - 6.30pm	Y12 Parents' Evening - to be held online
Fri 12 February	Non-Uniform Day - CANCELLED
Sat 13 - Sat 20 February	Ski Trip - postponed to 2022
Mon 15th - Fri 19th February	Spring Half Term
w/b 08 March	Y11 Core Subject Mock Exams - CANCELLED
Thurs 11 March 4pm-7pm	Y7 Parents' Evening - probably online (TBC)
Sat 13 & Sun 14 March	Ten Tors/DofE Practice Weekend (TBC)
Weds 17 March (TBC)	Deep Learning Day (if back in school!)
w/b Mon 22 March	Y10 Exams (TBC)
Tues 23 - Fri 26 March	Y12 Geography Fieldwork Residential (TBC)
Thurs 1st April	Last Day of Spring Term
Tues 20th April	Start of Summer Term
	Half Term
Fri 23rd July	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

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



CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

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Library: 01392 464010

