



NEWSLETTER

No. 561
w/c Mon 11 September 2017
will be Week B

"Anger makes dull men witty, but it keeps them poor"

Francis Bacon

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back

Happy New Year! And a special welcome to parents/carers who are joining Clyst Vale's community for the first time. We've had a good start to the year: the summer results were positive, especially GCSE, areas of the site have been refreshed and improved over the holiday, and the first week has gone very smoothly; there has been an excellent atmosphere around the place. It takes a week or two to return fully to the normal routines, but clearly it's better to have a good start than a bad one!

Key Messages

Through assemblies, we are emphasising some messages you'll probably remember from your own schooldays. The focus is very much on what goes on in the classroom; this is particularly the case in Years 10 and 11 as the new GCSE syllabi roll through. Students need to maintain excellent classwork as a basis for revision; hard work and good organisation encourages success; there will be more short testing to improve recall; and exam preparation is even more essential than for many years. We will also be having a particular focus on behaviour which prevents the learning of others, and our most distracting students should expect a rougher ride. As always, we will continue to promote our hard-to-define ethos of recognising individuals, developing empathy and conscience, and aiming to produce reasonable, balanced citizens.

New Staff

It's exciting times in Geography with almost a completely new department. Mrs Zoe Klampfer-Hall joins us from Wales as Head of Geography, and Mr Chris Jones from Birmingham as full-time teacher of Geography. Mrs Helene Chandler has joined us to teach Health & Social Care and English. We also welcome Mrs Deborah Custance-Baker as Clerk to Governors and Company Secretary. Mrs Sophie Walton was with us last year, and we are pleased to welcome her back into the Art Department. Ms Claire Haynes is not a new member of staff, but has the important new role of Sixth Form Coordinator, following the retirement of Mrs Dormand. As always, I am confident that the whole Clyst Vale community will welcome our new colleagues, and wish them every success in their time at Clyst Vale.

Site changes

The biggest changes have been to the Giraffe House, Sixth Form canteen area, and to Reception. The last of these has been to improve safeguarding and safe access to the College, but also looks very good. For those with long memories, a far cry from the days of a tiny hatch in the wall (which is still visible if you know where to look). There has also been a lot of painting and decorating, most of it in student areas. Like most schools, we do not have a fortune to spend on site improvements, but it is important to keep improving and progressing where we can. Giraffe House and Post-16 developments are in conjunction with our new caterers Caterlink, who have also made a good start to the term. The Giraffe House is much improved and modernised, with open cabinets for food selection, better queuing arrangements, and more places to sit.

Cycle to Work Day, Wednesday 13th September

Due to our location in a semi-rural area with access mostly by unlit country lanes, I am always torn about promoting cycling. It clearly has many, many health benefits to the individual, and to the environment. We have a small number of colleagues who cycle regularly, one or two all-year round, and similarly a hard core of student cyclists. Cycling from the Pinhoe direction is safer, due to the cycle path and safe crossing into Dog Village. There are bike racks in College close to the staffroom where bikes can be locked. So, if your son or daughter would like to experiment in cycling to College, Wednesday would be a good day to do it! It is also a great opportunity for us to remind students about the benefits of cycling and the need for safety.

The morning drop-off

One site change has been the repainting of the Coach Park. In the morning, we encourage parents who drive to drop off in the Coach Park, as this is obviously safer than the road or main road. It is a well-known fact that teenagers, especially when not fully awake, take the shortest line between two points, and do not always think about moving traffic. So, to increase safety even further *inside* the Coach Park, please could parents drive down to the drop-off sign and new zebra crossing. Students then cross, and walk down the side of the Technology block. This has the added benefit of not blocking the vehicle entrance for other cars or buses, and means students are not walking in front of vehicles across the yellow hatching. It is slightly further, but much safer. (No system we operate on site can cope with the gridlock we saw this morning: the issue was traffic backing up from the B3181 compounded by four ill-placed wheelie bins narrowing Station Road. I can now add bin removal to my list of duties.)

Funding

You may have seen the Prime Minister's comments about how well education is now funded with an extra £1.3bn, and how there are more teachers than ever and no recruitment crisis. This has irritated quite a lot of Headteachers. The campaign I have mentioned before involving seventeen local authority areas' Heads, covering 2.5m families, has now called itself the "Worth Less ?" campaign, and will continue to press for improved education funding. For example, the £1.3bn is not new money; the National Funding Formula ("fairer funding") has been delayed; employer contributions to pension increases and national pay awards are unfunded and therefore have to come from school budgets. The Institute of Fiscal Studies estimates a 4% real terms reduction in school budgets by 2020 (for Clyst Vale, roughly £200,000). I will keep you informed on a regular basis, and on occasion may ask for your support in contacting local councillors or MPs.

Uniform.

Once again, school uniform hits the national headlines and social media: this year the big issue is “gender-neutral” uniform, including insisting girls wear trousers not skirts. I am so glad that we have a pragmatic approach to uniform, and that all but a tiny minority of students and parents support us. Thank you to parents/ carers for ensuring that the standard of uniform is so extremely high at the start of the year. There are a handful of exceptions: one or two extreme haircuts and non-natural dyes need to be remedied; big hoopy “budgie-perch” earrings are fashionable but need replacing with studs; and some skirts are too short to be described as dignified. We will be challenging all of these and will look for parental support; in particular, please do not listen to the complete myth that “everyone” has hoopy earrings or white flashes on their shoes whereas in fact hardly anyone has. Our expectations are crystal clear in the Prospectus, parents’ information, website and planner. (Thinking about it, though, I suppose one way of tackling short skirts *could* be to insist that all girls wear trousers.....)

Cans

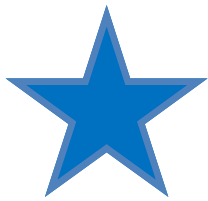
Just to remind everyone that we do not allow canned drinks in College, in particular energy drinks which will be confiscated when seen. The can ban is for a combination of healthy eating and safety reasons. More observant students and parents will have noticed that our new caterers are selling canned waters with juice, which clearly contradicts our policy. This is an oversight, and when current stock has been sold, we will not be selling any more canned drinks. So, please do not bring/send cans in.

Clyst Honiton By-Pass

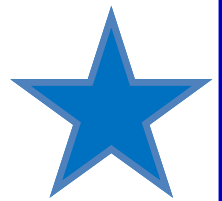
Those of us who use the by-pass and tunnel to and from College will need to remember to allow an extra few minutes’ journey time from next Monday for two weeks; the road is closed for emergency repairs.



Dr Bawn



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



GREEN SCHOOL

8GHE	Katie Cowell
8GIM	Felicity Baker
10GABR	Adele Brown & Cameron Morley
10GBA	Grace Tierney & Aaiden Priest
11GNG	Joe Allan-Thorpe
11GSW	Mae Wise

YELLOW SCHOOL

7YKHO	James Feehan & Sarah Hooper
7YRB	Owen Back
8YMBR	Jack Galliford
8YJPU	Alisha Slocombe
9YMM	Adam Tooze
10YMH	Phoebe Godby
11YMPR	Toby Derges
11YNS	Ben Matthews

CALENDAR DATES

Wed 13th Sept	Cycle to Work Day
Sun 17th Sept	P16 Bude trip leaves
Tues 19th Sept	YR6 Open Evening 6.00pm —9.00pm
Wed 20th Sept	P16 Bude trip returns
Fri 22nd Sept	Harry Patch Day Tanzania Expedition Assembly & Whole School Photos
Mon 25th Sept—13th Oct	Spanish Students visit
Wed 27th Sept	Camps International Expedition Parents' Presentation Evening 6.30pm—8.00pm
Thurs 28th Sept	YR7 Meet the Tutor 4.30pm—7.00pm
Wed 4th Oct	GCSE PE Practicals — Handball 3.30pm—4.30pm
Thurs 5th Oct	Eden Art Trip & YR10 Parents' Information Evening 6.00pm
Mon 9th Oct	YR9 Sikh Guest Speaker/Workshop
Wed 11th Oct	KS3 Around the World in 80 Days Trip 7pm
Wed 18th Oct	Deep Learning Day & Learn to Live 12.20pm—3.00pm
Fri 20th Oct— 27th Oct	Half Term

DO YOU HAVE SOME SPARE TIME?

We are looking for a Meal time Assistant for 1 hour a day. £8.96 per hour. There may be a Mum, Dad, Nan, retired/unemployed person who just wants to earn a bit of pin money. £44.80 a week for 39 weeks a year - it's a bag of groceries a week!

Duties include:- queue monitoring, wiping tables, sweeping up. DBS will be undertaken.

If you are interested then send an email of interest to allens@clystvale.org or a letter to Sophie Allen, Facilities Manager c/o Clyst Vale

Sophie Allen

CYCLE TO WORK DAY

Cycle to Work Day is back for 2017! Join in on Wednesday 13th September for a nationwide celebration of cycling.

Whether this is your first or fifth year cycle commuting, we want you to get involved. Taking part is simple – go to www.cycletoworkday.org to pledge the miles you'll be doing on the day and watch our totalisers soar.



Attendance, Absence and Requests for Absence

You need to let the College know of any absence on the first day it occurs. If you do not notify the College, then your Assistant to Head of School (AtHoS) will contact you to identify the reason for absence.

This will help 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.

For Years 7 - 11 Absences

Please contact the relevant AtHoS

Yellow School: Claire Turner (01392 463914; turnerc@clystvale.org)

Green School: Catherine Hellier (01392 463913; hellierc@clystvale.org)

Red School: Pam Grant (01392 463910; grantp@clystvale.org)

For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please ring:

Jassy Barrington Post-16 PA

Direct line: 01392 462697

(answerphone available)

email: barringtonj@clystvale.org

School Transport

1. Clyst Vale supports the (DCC) Devon County Council's "No Pass No Travel Scheme" that operates on transport to and from this College.
2. Only students who show a valid travel pass to the driver **on every journey** will be allowed to travel. Students must travel on the vehicle indicated on their pass.
3. **Please ensure that your child has their travel pass before they leave home every day.**
4. Please ensure that your child knows what to do in the event they are not allowed to travel or the bus does not arrive (e.g. because of breakdown or traffic conditions or severe weather). College attendance is very important and it is best to be prepared for any of these eventualities.
5. DCC will carry out regular pass checks throughout the year.
6. Drivers are not allowed to carry passengers who cannot show a valid pass.
7. If your child loses their pass during the day they should go to the AtHoS offices to ask for a 10 day temporary pass. Replacement passes cost £5 each and can be ordered online, or by sending a cheque with a replacement form.

Further information is available at: http://www.devon.gov.uk/school_transport



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 School colour logo.
- Trousers should be plain, black, formal and full length. This means no jeans, leggings, chinos or any trousers with rivets or studs. Trousers must be worn on the waist.
- Skirts should be plain black, and may be worn just above the knee. Skirts must be A-line or straight, but not stretchy or "skater" style.
- Knee length black tailored shorts may be worn in the summer.
- Black sturdy shoes or all black trainers.
- Clyst Vale reversible jacket or other outdoor coat.

Main uniform can be purchased from SWI online shop or Thomas Moore.

PE kit is only available from SWI online shop.

The reversible jacket is only available from Thomas Moore.

- 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

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

Tel: 01392 461407 **Library:** 01392 464010

Email: admin@clystvale.org **Web:** www.clystvale.org

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

