

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year

Welcome back, and very best wishes for a safe, happy and successful 2020, indeed the whole decade! For most of us in education, the New Year starts in September, but we can take advantage of the January resolution-making as well: if a student (or indeed anyone) has not had an especially good autumn term, the calendar new year is a great opportunity to reflect, regroup and revise expectations, attitude or effort.

Our House

One of the College's highlights is the annual musical. This year it is "Our House", featuring the music of the group Madness, which will undoubtedly appeal to those of a certain vintage....It will be staged in the Barnfield Theatre from Wednesday 12th to Saturday 15th February, including a matinee on Saturday. Please make a note for your diaries!! We had little flexibility over the dates, and realise that Friday's performance will clash with Valentine's Day; however, what could be more romantic than a trip to the theatre? Rehearsals are in full swing, and will intensify in the coming weeks. As usual, I am very excited about this, and enormously grateful to the team of staff and volunteers who make it possible every year (as well as to the after-school and weekend parent taxi service).

Institute of Physics: Improving Gender Balance Project

This year, we are pleased to be working with the IoP whose project aims to improve the uptake of girls into Physics and STEM subjects in general, where there is a persistent imbalance in the world of work. During last term, project leader Sarah Cosgriff made several visits, spoke to staff and students, reviewed our policies, and visited lessons to establish a context related to gender across the College. Anyway, compared to many schools in the project, we are doing well: we have a robust careers programme which challenges gender stereotyping, a strong commitment to equal, mixed-gender activities, gender-neutral uniform, and a strong and developing commitment to student voice. The feedback commented on the strong community feel of Clyst Vale and very good relationships. So, valuable feedback which again demonstrates our commitment to RRS.

Student Voice 1

Mentioning student voice, congratulations to Sixth Former Ellen Blacker on two counts. Last term, Ellen was elected to the UK Amnesty Steering Group for 2019-20 as representative of the Youth sector, representing students and young people; Ellen has long been a supporter of Amnesty, Human Rights, and the Rights Respecting School developments. Further, Ellen has been selected as a member of exam board AQA's Student Advisory Group, which will report to AQA's Board of Trustees. This is a new group established by AQA, and it will be interesting to see how it develops. Ellen provides a great example of what Clyst Vale students can achieve, and how they can make a real difference, if they are committed to a particular cause or causes, and are prepared to put in the time and effort.

Student Voice 2

The student College Council met yesterday, and is forming into a very effective focus group. The main agenda item was about Food and Caterlink's (our catering contractor) responses to environmental issues. Mrs Kempster, Canteen Manger, attended, and it was a brilliant discussion. I'll attempt to summarise it in next week's Newsletter! In the meantime, you'll see in this Newsletter a "Did You Know" poster from Caterlink which provides some information about their environmental commitments and work to date. There are many things which students, parents and even most of my colleagues do not see: a very small example raised at yesterday's meeting is that cucumbers are no longer supplied wrapped in plastic film!

No Butts

You may have come across coverage of this on BBC Spotlight, Radio Exe or elsewhere on the CVCC website. If not, two Year 11 students Daisy Norris and Jack Eynon, are picking up cigarette butts around Exeter as a fund-raiser for their environmental Camps International expedition to Costa Rica in 2021. The students are very grateful to Exeter City Council for providing specialist equipment for their task! Bearing in mind smoking is supposed to be declining, I found it astonishing that Daisy and Jack picked up over 1600 butts in 90 minutes around Heavitree. This activity has also helped raise awareness on the damage caused by cigarette butts: it's not just unsightly, but there are acetates which take years to decompose, and contaminants which harm plant growth.

Daisy and Jack can be sponsored via gofundme under <u>'Daisy and Jack's 'No Butts' Fundraising Project'</u>. They are also on Facebook with a '**No Butts Fundraising Project' page**. Contact details are there.

Social Media

Doubtless there were a few new phone deliveries and upgrades courtesy of Santa over the Christmas period. There was also some very good internet/social media safety coverage, including a Newsbeat piece on Jacqueline Jossa, who played Lauren in Eastenders and most recently won I'm a Celebrity – Get Me Out of Here, and who had suffered vicious on-line abuse. The article gave advice from the Centre for Countering Digital Hate: "Don't respond; Block the abusers' accounts; Don't post online that you're being targeted; Take some time out from social media; If the abuse you receive makes you feel at threat or is otherwise unlawful - report it to the social media platform and the police." Clearly, this is general advice aimed at adults, but it's applicable in general terms to teenagers as well as celebrities: like any form of bullying, the key principle is *to tell someone*.

Parents often ask how they can keep up with the latest apps and any associated risks. I've mentioned the social media app bulletin before, and parents may find this link helpful; it's updated monthly, and also provides contact details to report concerns or find support.

http://www.stkaths.org.uk/media/1616/12-social-media-app-bulletin-december-2018-v2.pdf

Year 9 Options

One of the big features of the Spring Term is the GCSE Options process; Year 9 students and parents can expect a splurge of information in the next week or two. There will be a letter, the Options guidance booklet itself, and dates for the diary are the Options Evening (information) on Thursday 6th February, and the Parents Evening (progress) on Thursday 27th February. This year, responding to student feedback, there is a small tweak from previous years: in order to concentrate minds and the timescale, so that the Options process doesn't drag on well into March, the deadline for options forms will be Friday, 14th February.

Attendance

Many parents and carers will remember only too well that there was a seemingly unending spate of unpleasant viruses in the wet and mild second half of last term, needing more than the usual couple of days' absence to recover. Not surprisingly, our attendance figures took a bit of a battering. However, it's a new year, everyone has had a couple of weeks to recover, and so we can turn this around by good attendance for the rest of the year! Thank you as ever to parents for your part in this. For the umpteenth time, I will restate the perhaps obvious point that there is a very strong direct correlation between attendance and students meeting or exceeding their potential.

Items on the National News

Two recent items may have caught parents' attention. One is the use of "isolation" in schools. I am sure that parents and carers know this anyway, but Clyst Vale does not use any of the behaviour techniques reported; we do not agree with them, and in any case student behaviour here does not warrant even thinking about them. Students who are poorly behaved may be separated from their peers during lessons and/or at break times, but they will be supervised (ie human contact) and they will not be placed in a room on their own. We are a rights respecting school, and Mrs Trunchbowl's "chokey" in Matilda is not part of our make up. The second item is this week's Ofsted report that they will help (ie not just inspect) 400+ "stuck" schools in disadvantaged areas. Clyst Vale is neither "stuck" (i.e. no improvement in Ofsted judgement since 2006) nor in a disadvantaged area. However, this non-judgmental approach is welcome, and something Heads have been asking for since the dawn of Ofsted; my observation, for what it's worth, is that while it is good that Ofsted and the DfE are now providing a solution, they have really been the cause of the problem in the first place.

Sad News of Former Student

I have been notified this week of the death of former student Alastair Snowdon-Brett, who attended Clyst Vale from 2009 to 2012. Our thoughts and condolences are with his family.

Best wishes,

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Dr Bawn

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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



GREEN SCHOOL

7GAW	Sylvia Reid	7RAR	Sam Cherry
7GBA	Sebastian Pilling	8RGG	Jessica Pluckrose &
8GSW	Steven Maby	8RSJ	Tabitha McLennan
9GDJ	Tegan Bloom	9RSS	Neve Hart
9GGT	Isla Hammond	9RTMA	Eliot Sibley
10GIM	Jake Fox	10RCJ	Luana Dart
10GHE	Finn Burston	10RCM	Jennifer Auld
11GABR	Chloe Elliott	11RZB	Addie Whiteman
TIGADA			

YELLOW SCHOOL

7YDS	Katie Jaggs
7YSP	Phoenix Wreford
8YMPR	Freddie Hancock
8YNS	Ollie Mearing
9YCW	Grace Taylor
9YRB	Jack Watts
10YJPU	Ed Harris-Baty
10YMBR	Destiny Woodhead
11YMM	Evie King
11 YZK	Jack Craig



RED SCHOOL

Pluckrose & Jessica Slater

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 (Attendance Officer) 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

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





Speech, Language and Communication Needs Parent Workshops 2020

A free workshop for parents of children and young people with speech, language and communication needs.

We will be focusing on strategies to support your child with vocabulary learning. We will be looking at how to support word learning through book sharing, as well as exploring visual ways in which you can support your child to learn new words throughout their school career.

This workshop is suitable for parents of children at Primary and Secondary school.

Please choose from the following venues:

243 B 88 B 8	Venue	Date	Time
Exeter	St Michael's Primary Academy	4 th March 2020	13:30 - 15:00
West Devon	Stowford Primary	4 th March 2020	13:30 - 15:00
South Devon	Haytor View Primary School, Newton Abbot	12 th March 2020	09:30 – <mark>1</mark> 1:00
East Devon	Marpool Primary, Exmouth	3rd March 2020	09:30 - 11:00
Mid Devon	St Andrews Primary, Cullompton	4 th March 2020	13:00 - 14:30
North Devon	Sticklepath Primary, Barnstaple	5 th March 2020	10:00 - 11:30

To book your free place, please email <u>sue.vanstone@babcockinternational.com</u>

JANUARY MARKETING BULLETIN

Welcome to the January edition of your Marketing Bulletin. We're Caterlink, your schools caterer. We want to let you know about the great offers, promotions, events and deals we having coming up this month - So, in January we have International Hot & Spicy Day, Veganuary, In season food hero Kale, Chinese New Year and the latest stop on your food journey is Destination Poland.

Meal deals, loyalty cards and product promotions throughout the month.

INTERNATIONAL HOT & SPICY DAY



We will be turning up the heat on this very spicy day. Expect hot pots, spicy bean burgers, tikka, buffalo chicken wings and lots of salsa.

DESTINATION: Poland



Pupils will be introduced to delicious food. We have some fantastic unique recipes for the pupils including Schnitzels, Rosot, Paczti & Chicken & Meatball Goulash

Food Hero Rale



We all know that Kale is a superfood so we want to incorpate it into our food in delicious ways. Kale & chocolate brownies, kale soups and kale salads are just some of what we have in store.

VEGANUARY



With Veganism and it's awareness becoming increasingly popular we embrace the month of January with a great selection of main meals, G&G including, Vegetable Chilli, Superfood Salads, Vegan Pizza, Banana Pancakes and even Burgers.

CHINESE NEW YEAR



We will be taking a chinese themed twist for the year of the rat. Expect noodle bars, Sweet & sour sauces, spring rolls and lots of flavour!





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.
- 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

LUNCH CLUBS Monday-Wednesday

Day	Club	Time	Where	Changing Room	Teacher
Mon	Music Club	Lunchtime	PA2	N/A	Mrs Sprenkel
Mon	Chess Club	Lunchtime	Library	N/A	Mrs Foulds
Mon	Year 7, 8 & 9 – Basketball	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Stapleton
Mon	Year 9, 10 & 11 – Weights	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	New Block	Mr Pearce
Mon	All Years – Dance	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	New Block	Mrs Elliot
Mon	Year 11 Child Development – Health & Social Care Course- work Catch Up	Lunchtime	V01	N/A	Mrs Bennett
Mon	B&V Year 11 Paper 1 Revision	1.30pm	HU2		Miss Brotherton
Mon	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA3	N/A	Miss Williams
Mon	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA1	N/A	Miss Ruscoe
Tues	Amnesty	Lunchtime	EN7	N/A	Miss Watt/Mrs Gillespie
Tues	Year 10, 11, 12 & 13 – Bas- ketball	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell
Tues	All Years – Girls Only – Dance/Gym – no weights	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	New Block	Mrs Needs
Tues	Year 9 & 10 – Rugby	Lunchtime	Field	New Block	Mr Stapleton
Tues	Year 10 & 11 Art GCSE Coursework/Exam Support Club	Lunchtime	AR3	N/A	Mrs Pieczenko
Tues	Year 10 & 11 - Careers & Work Experience Drop In	Lunchtime	Careers Room	N/A	Mrs Bennett
Tues	B&V Year 11 Paper 2 Revi- sion	1.30pm	HU1	N/A	Miss Brotherton
Tues	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA1	N/A	Miss Ruscoe
Tues	Minecraft	Lunchtime	IT3 & IT5		Mr Workman
Tues	Year 11 GCSE Food Catch Up (theory or practical)	Lunchtime	DT3	N/A	Mrs Crook
Wed	B&V – KS3 Student Support	Lunchtime	HU1	N/A	Miss Brotherton
Wed	Drugs & Alcohol Information Drop-In	Lunchtime	G31	N/A	Mrs Gillespie
Wed	Week B Music Club	Lunchtime	PA2	N/A	Mrs Sprenkel
Wed	Drawing Club – Week B	Lunchtime	Library	N/A	Mrs Foulds
Wed	All Years – Badminton	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell
Wed	Year 7 & 8 – Rugby	Lunchtime	Field	New Block	Mr Pearce
Wed	Year 11 – GCSE Catch Up	Lunchtime	PE5	N/A	Mrs Broomfield
Wed	Year 10 & 11 - Careers & Work Experience Drop In	Lunchtime	Careers Room	N/A	Miss Bennett
Wed	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA3	N/A	Miss Williams
Wed	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA1	N/A	Miss Ruscoe
Wed	Yugioh Club	Lunchtime	SC3	N/A	Mr Moxey

LUNCH CLUBS Thursday - Friday

Day	Club	Time	Where	Changing Room	Teacher
Thurs	Hula Hoop Club	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	N/A	Mrs Gillespie
Thurs	Attenborough's Army	Lunchtime	Library	N/A	Mrs Foulds
Thurs	Various Years – Inter-Tutor	Lunchtime	Various	Various	Mr Pearce/Mr Stapleton/ Mr Powell & Mrs Broom- field
Thurs	Year 10 (after ½ term) – Indoor Football	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell & Mr Brooks
Thurs	Year 7 & 8 Games Club	Lunchtime	HU6	N/A	Miss Jenkins
Thurs	B&V KS4 Student Support	Lunchtime	HU1	N/A	Miss Brotherton
Thurs	Science Club	1.30pm – 2pm	SC2	N/A	Dr Odunlade
Thurs	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA3	N/A	Miss Williams
Thurs	Year 10 GCSE Food Practi- cal	Lunchtime	DT3	N/A	Mrs Crook
Thurs	Year 11 Science Home- work Club	Lunchtime	SC7	N/A	Mrs Serven – taken by P16 students
Fri	Our House rehearsals	Lunchtime	PA3	N/A	Miss Williams
Fri	Week B Music Club	Lunchtime	PA2	N/A	Mrs Sprenkel
Fri	Various Years – Inter-Tutor	Lunchtime	Various	Various	Mr Pearce, Mrs Elliot, Mr Stapleton, Mr Powell & Mrs Broomfield
Fri	Week A Year 9 Baking Club (starting 20 th September)	Lunchtime	DT3	N/A	Mr Krasko
Fri	Week A Year 11 Child Develop- ment – Health & Social Care Coursework Catch Up	Lunchtime	V01	N/A	Mrs Bennett

CHARITY NEWS Non-Uniform Days - 2020

As a Rights Respecting School, we asked the students who they would like to raise money for on our non-uniform days.

This is who they chose and below are the dates of 2020's non-uniform days.

Fri 14th February 2020 - Devon Air Ambulance Trust

Fri 27th March 2020 - Children's Hospice South West





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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Tel: 01392 461407 Library: 01392 464010

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

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD