



NEWSLETTER

No. 717
w/c Mon 12 July 2021
Week B

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"No one puts their children in a boat unless the water is safer than the land." Warsan Shire

Dear Parents and Carers

Suddenly, there are only two weeks left...

And it is a significant contrast to this time a year ago. Then, we had small numbers of the-then Year 10 and Year 12 on site, "ECP" was still running, and none of the summer term events or activities were possible. This year, students are looking forward to a Sports Day next week, one per year group. We have managed to complete Year 10 exams and mark them, with feedback and TPRs to follow. Year 10's work experience goes ahead: thank you to parents for all of your help in finding placements, and especially to parents who are able to offer placements. And there's a show to look forward to – Bonnie & Clyde plays for four nights at the Barnfield Theatre !

Easing of Covid Restrictions

- I expect there will be a wide range of opinions among parents about the proposed lifting of restrictions from 19th July. It's a good feeling that something like pre-pandemic normality is returning, but an uneasy feeling that we are going from so many restrictions to so few almost overnight. Schools guidance also changes from 19th July, although the guidance states "you may wish to continue with the measures until the end of your summer term". Bubbles can go. Schools will no longer be responsible for contact tracing; this reverts to the NHS. Masks will no longer be advised. Schools are to enhance ventilation (although there is no funding to support this). Negative PCR tests will override LFT results, unlike now. If there is a school outbreak, then schools can reintroduce bubbles, masks and other appropriate measures on a temporary basis. Exactly what a school outbreak is remains vague. It seems to be a handful of cases within a short time. Even then, if there is no firm evidence the virus has spread in school but is three or four random community cases, it may not be an outbreak. Luckily, I have made some very useful contacts in Public Health.

- Once again, there is a disconnect between national and schools' guidance and expectations. There are currently 400,000 students nationally self-isolating, but only perhaps 20,000 with covid. Schools still have bubbles and social distancing, no hugging and twice-weekly tests. Students isolating at home can watch 65000 adults in Wembley, full capacity in Wimbledon, and drunken scenes of euphoria including hugging, dancing and kissing. No wonder they're confused. We will do our best to maintain the standards set this term, and we will keep our protections in place until the end of term: hand sanitising, sensible social distancing, staggered breaks and lunches, and the prevention of mixing, including the one-way system, particularly through buildings. An actual covid case in the last week of term would scupper holiday plans.
- There has already been a little bit of casualness on school transport. It is still a requirement to wear a mask on school or public transport until 18th July, and maybe until the end of term.

Covid update

Clyst Vale is reflecting the national picture, although with smaller numbers. In the last week there have been five positive covid results in Year 10. Currently, there are over a hundred students self-isolating; most of these are Year 10 students in College, but there is a growing number of close contacts of household members and members of sports clubs and teams. There are eleven members of staff either self-isolating, or absent because their children are self-isolating. Any organisation missing 10% of its workforce struggles a bit: we're managing very well indeed, but inevitably some things take longer to resolve, e-mails lie unanswered for longer, and it is not always possible to teach every lesson "live". Of course we are doing our utmost, but this is the reality.

Sports Days

Next week each year group will be having a two-hour Sports Day. This is brilliant news, and thanks to the PE team and their merry band of helpers. There were no Sports Days last year, so this is a big step forward. The events are mostly periods one and two, so the noonday sun won't be at full blast – it won't even be noon, but just a reminder to competitors and their parents that if they have sensitive skin, sun screen and a hat are strongly advised, plus a bottle of water. (For our normal full Sports Day, hopefully returning in 2022, which is a whole day, they would be essential of course.)

Prom

We took a very difficult decision to not confirm the provisional date for Year 11 for 22nd July. With rising rates locally and nationally, there is a very real risk it could be called off at short notice. Just because something is allowed by the regulations does not automatically make it a sensible thing to do. There is also a very difficult clash with the Clyst Vale's production of Bonnie & Clyde at the Barnfield Theatre all week, which affects Year 11 students and several staff members.

Year 13 students have already postponed their Prom until 6th September. We are currently offering Year 11 students a choice of dates and venues for a Prom in September. This would be at an external venue to make it a special event. Year 11 have been an amazing group of young people who have had a tricky year or two.

Anti-Social Behaviour

There has been some anti-social behaviour by Clyst Vale students at Broadclyst and Westclyst. We take this very seriously, as the word “community” is not in our name by accident. As you might expect, a very small number of individuals (six in total) were involved; we have identified them, contacted parents, issued some sanctions, begun support, and are working closely with the Police and Parish Council. We cannot allow a handful of students to tarnish the reputation of over 930 others, the reputation of the College as a whole, and we would be a disappointing Rights Respecting School if we did not address this blatant, extreme lack of respect for others.

Roll on Sunday evening, and an England win. I have no idea what students would eat at breaktime if we stopped serving pizza in the aftermath of a defeat...



Kevin Bawn

First Aid

Just a reminder that we only offer emergency first aid. If you are aware that your child is ill or injured, please don't send them in! We can't diagnose anything, and will send them back again!

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!

For Year 9 or Year 10 GCSE PE , BTEC Dance or BTEC Sport students

ORDERING DEADLINE IS MONDAY 12TH JULY VIA SCHOOL GATEWAY

Parents and carers of Year 9 students studying the above courses will hopefully by now be aware of the option to purchase the following PE tops for their child.

Polo Shirts (can be personalised)



Training Tops



These are available to purchase via School Gateway.

Please refer to the letter that you have received previously from Mrs Broomfield for all further details. Mrs Broomfield can be contacted at the following email address with any questions that you may have: broomfielda@clystvale.org

Parent Information on Careers

The Parent Perspective Podcast - Amazing Apprenticeships

By listening to a series of podcasts from Amazing Apprenticeships, parents and carers have a brilliant opportunity to become more informed about careers and how things have changed recently. Click on the link below, and you will find information and access to podcasts which will allow you to:

- Explore which careers are available today
- Showcase the experiences of interesting and diverse role models
- Provide real-time insights into how the world of work is changing

...all through a parents' perspective.

[The Parent Perspective Podcast - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

I'd be really interested to hear what you think of these sessions, if you do sign up for them.

Kind regards

Nicola Bennett

Careers Lead

Sports Days 2021

As you may well already be aware, we are running the sports day in parts this year due to Covid issues. SLT have authorised the events during PE lesson time and also those subjects PE is set against.



The mornings will run as follows:

Y7 Monday 12th July P2&3

Y8 Tuesday 13th July P1&2

Y9 Wednesday 14th July P1&2

Y10 Thursday 15th July P1&2



Students competing will arrive in school in full PE kit and be allowed to perform and stay and support for the two hour slot. Students not involved should come in school uniform and will be registered for PE, or to attend their normal lessons.

Sadly no parents or siblings who have left CVCC are permitted to come and watch this year.

It is not the same as our wonderful full school events, but is better than last year where nothing ran. So please check with your child and send him/her in wearing PE kit on the appropriate day if they are competing on behalf of their tutor group. If they are not needed for this reduced event, then please send them in wearing full school uniform as normal. They will be given the option of supporting or going to a classroom for a 'sport related' lesson when they are timetabled for PE.

The events are subject to weather and any further isolations due to Covid, so fingers crossed.

Many thanks and feel free to email me or your child's tutor should you have any further questions.



Mr J Powell
Head of PE

EQUESTRIAN TEAM

Yes, we do have an equestrian team that represent Clyst Vale at competitions throughout the year! I am on the hunt for more riders to fill team spaces. You do need to have your own horse/pony or free access to one to take to shows and be able to sort your own transport.



The next competition coming up is a One Day Event (ODE) at Blundell's on 26th September; starting height is 80cm plus 90cm and 1m classes as well. I suggest that you are already competing at the height you would like to enter and practicing a good 10cm bigger at home.

If you think you would like to be considered for the school team (even if you can't make this one) please ask a parent or guardian to email me - needsk@clystvale.org

Mrs K Needs
Teacher of PE

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.

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



CALENDAR DATES

DATE	EVENT
Mon 12 July 6.00pm - 8.00pm	New Intake Parents' Evening - ONLINE
Mon 12 July Periods 2 & 3	Y7 Sports Day
Tue 13 July Periods 1 & 2	Y8 Sports Day
Wed 14 July Periods 1 & 2	Y9 Sports Day
Thurs 15 July Periods 1 & 2	Y10 Sports Day
Fri 16 & Sat 17 (all day) & Sun 18 July (half day)	School Production Rehearsal
Mon 19 July - Fri 23 July	Y10 and Y12 Work Experience
Mon 19 July - all day (9am - 9pm)	School Production: Technical Rehearsal
Tues 20 July - all day (9am - 4pm)	School Production: Dress Rehearsal
Tue 20 July - Fri 23 July	School Production Evening Performances
Mon 19 - Fri 23 July	Y12 & Y13 Gold D of E Expedition
Fri 23 July	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM - NON UNIFORM DAY - WATER AID

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

