



NEWSLETTER

No. 730
w/c Mon 15 November 2021
Week B

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"We have to uphold a free press and freedom of speech -- because, in the end, lies and misinformation are no match for the truth." Barack Obama

Dear Parents and Carers,

Covid Update

- Cases in Clyst Vale remain low, with 16 students currently isolating (1.6%). There are three members of staff also isolating. However, all three are in the same team – Additional Support – so this is inevitably having an impact, mostly on in-class support. We have contacted the parents of individual students particularly affected.
- Rates in Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon and East Devon all fell last week but are still above the national average. This means the Directors of Public Health SW are recommending schools continue to keep enhanced measures in place for a further two weeks (26th November). This means masks (unless exempt, or in classrooms). Once again, we are massively grateful for your support in explaining this, encouraging it, and providing a mask. This is increasingly difficult as general society is not as vigilant as schools are expected to be, and don't get me started on the example set by our political leaders.
- A few parents have been angry and frustrated that covid absence has been coded as "illness" since September. I couldn't agree more, and wrote to my professional association in September. However, this is a Department for Education decision out of schools' control. Whether it was a positive, optimistic move to support the-then mantra of "getting back to normal" by treating covid as any other illness, or an attempt to muddy the covid figures in schools, is a matter of opinion. We will not be issuing warning letters or move to fine anyone on the basis of covid absence.

Vaccinations, Monday 15th November

- On Monday we will be hosting the NHS School-Age Immunisation Team who will administer flu vaccines for all students in Years 7 to 11, and covid vaccinations for students aged 12 – 15 on the day of the vaccination (ie some of Y7, Y8-10, and most of Y11). Clearly, this does not apply to students who have already been vaccinated, are medically exempt, or who do not have parental consent.
- We don't know the precise figure, but it seems as if up to a third of students have been vaccinated against covid since the walk-in centres and vaccination hubs opened their doors.
- The organisation and student management on Monday will be complex. Students will be brought to the Hall in teaching groups throughout the day. All students will come down (for supervision reasons), but will be sent straight back to their lesson if already vaccinated for flu and covid, exempt, or without consent. If a parent has not returned the consent, this counts as "no consent". Some parents have been concerned that students will be jabbed against the parent's wishes; this won't happen. If there is any doubt at all, no vaccination will take place. This administrative process will be conducted by NHS staff, although Clyst Vale staff will be present as a safeguard.

Post-16 Open Evening

- Last night we held the Post-16 Open Evening, which saw a good attendance including a healthy number of students from outside Clyst Vale. Mrs Padden gave two excellent presentations, and students & parents were able to discuss subjects with individual teachers. If you weren't able to attend, there are promotional videos from last year on the website; course details have not changed so these are still relevant, as well as giving a flavour of the subject knowledge and enthusiasm of my colleagues. The link is as follows: <http://www.clystvale.org/sixth-form/>
- Also, thank you to parents of Sixth Formers for lending us your children for the evening. They were amazing, and incredible ambassadors for Clyst Vale. A couple of key staff were absent through illness, and the students more than filled the gaps in terms of sorting out the organisation!

Exams 2022

- You may have seen in national media that yesterday afternoon the DfE published the latest information about Exams in 2022, and about contingency plans if the exam series is cancelled for a third year. Guidance to schools came out this morning. In most respects, the DfE announcement is much as expected. Some subjects already know which units can be dropped (eg English Literature, Geography, History); others will be given more information "not later" than 7th February. This information (for GCSE, AS, and A-level) will be "advance information about the focus of the content of the exams to support revision"; in GCSE Maths, Physics and Combined Science students will be given a sheet of formulae or equations.
- The issue which demands immediate attention is the contingency plan if next summer's exams are called off. The guidance is that, for formally examined subjects students are assessed three times: in the second half of the autumn term, in the spring term and in the first half of the summer term. These should be held "under exam-like conditions wherever possible", covering a wide range of content, with no resits permitted.
- My colleagues and I will need a little time to work through the implications. We will clearly do our best to ensure the best interest of our students within the guidance, as well as keeping students and parents fully informed. There's no doubt that this will mean extra work for students and staff, so we need to manage it carefully.
- At least there IS a contingency plan. This is an improvement on the last two years, and does give a feeling of a little bit of control.

Remembrance

- I am pleased to report that the eleven o'clock silence yesterday was very well respected by students.

Coming Up: Year 8 Parents' Evening

- Thursday 18th November. Year 8 parents/carers will be well aware of this from previous communications, so this is just a reminder. Access is through the School iCloud. If you have any queries or difficulties, please e-mail grantp@clystvale.org

Coming Up: GCSE Certificate Presentation Evening

- Thursday, 25th November. 6.30 pm. Calling last year's Year 11! This Evening is always a good one; students are presented with their GCSE and Level 2 certificates; students with the highest achievement and the highest progress in each subject receive an additional award; and there are individual trophies and prizes for the students with the highest overall achievement (very close this year between three excellent students) and highest overall progress. Guest of Honour will be Dave Hill, Paralympian Gold Medallist, who has previously worked with Clyst Vale students on raising aspirations as part of a project funded by the Dame Kelly Holmes Foundation.

Tower View

- Here's a blast from the past: there was a time in the dim and distant when every Newsletter mentioned Tower View (a cul-de-sac off Station Road down a bit and opposite to the old Baptist chapel). The residents of Tower View have contacted me to ask parents politely not to wait there to pick up their children. Tower View is a private road, with upkeep and maintenance paid by the residents not the council, as well as the inconvenience: on occasions waiting cars have been parked across driveways. I completely understand that because of our quaint location picking up students is tricky, and it doesn't work for all families, but if students can wait for 15 minutes then it is very easy to pick them up after the buses have gone.

Old Coach Road: one day closure

- Next Tuesday, 19th November, a bright yellow sign informs me that Old Coach Road will be closed from 09.30 to 15.30. So, the morning run will be fine, although bus departure time will be interesting. Please don't park in Tower View instead....

Self-harming

- We have received some anecdotal reports that self-harming is possibly on the increase; sadly, given the mental health pressures on young people over the past 20 months, this would not be a surprise. We haven't seen any particular evidence of this, but self-harming is often difficult to detect as young people go to great lengths to disguise it. There are several excellent websites which provide advice, guidance and support to parents, for example:-
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/self-harm/>
<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/a-z-guide/self-harm/>
<https://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/guidance-advice/understanding-self-harm/>
- And, of course, please let us know if you have concerns.

What is SHEU?

- A parent of a Year 10 student taking part in the SHEU survey e-mailed to ask what SHEU stands for (no, it's not a high street shoe retailer). As all of Years 8 and 10 are involved, I thought I'd put my reply in the Newsletter. It stands for the Schools Health Education Unit. This is a national body which runs this survey every year, although individual schools do not take part every year, and year groups vary. For us, it is Year 8 and Year 10, and students have been briefed in assemblies this week. Individual survey responses are kept strictly confidential, aggregated, and inform both local authorities and the NHS in terms of identifying and responding to young people's health needs and changing trends.

e-safety newsletter

Please find attached to the Newsletter an e-safety Newsletter. We have started subscribing to this monthly update because it is useful, up to date, and we hope will be valuable to parents. You will see that it signposts a number of helpful specific links.

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!

Y9 Boys Rugby:

Uffculme School 30-0 Clyst Vale (East Devon Cup)

This was a result which doesn't really ring true and paint the full picture of the contest. With Clyst Vale travelling to Uffculme School, a notoriously strong rugby school, the boys knew they would be in for a tough encounter.

With three wins already this season, the lads were again very mature and well organised with Captain George taking the role on this week due to injuries to talismanic back Oliver, Daniel and JJ.

Clyst Vale kicked off down the slope and contested superbly well for the first 15 minutes of the half with outstanding tackles and commitment at the rucks, something which would not change throughout the whole game. Despite this, Uffculme scored three unanswered tries through their strong and very athletic wide backs.

At half time, the lads regrouped and put together several outstanding attacking plays, the pick of the bunch being full back Charlie linking up superbly well with left winger Nick to scorch down the touchline. Several phases later, the ball was knocked on in greasy conditions. This followed well with strong running in the forwards by bulldozing runs by Olivier, well supported by the lads around him. Jack performed a great tackle and turnover, with George forever tackling low and hard and making several turnovers for Clyst Vale. Henry and Oli marshalled the positions of 9 and 10 very well with limited ball, Lenny organised proceedings well in the centre, Josh was very physical on the wing, with Jake using outstanding feet to evade several strong defenders. Alex and Max stepped up to the unenviable positions of hooker and flanker, respectively with Archie and Tom not putting a foot wrong, especially in defence where they made several last ditch tackles to stop more certain tries.

There are very little occasions where I have been prouder of a Clyst Vale team than that of Wednesday evening in the dimming light at Uffculme. A side that scored zero tried but defended and competed with hearts of lions throughout the entire game in difficult circumstances. Very well done to the whole of the squad, you all did yourselves and the school proud!

Adam Pearce
Head of Green School
Teacher of PE

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



Netball

Thursday 11th November saw Clyst Vale played Exmouth. The attendance at club has be brilliant enough to fill 4teams.



A Team

Captained by Shola, she lead the team on the first quarter. Exmouth started off strong and took the lead 1-0. Clyst Vale fought back making it 1-1 at half time. It was end to end action. Jess and Annie busy at the defensive end gaining rebound and good interceptions turning over the ball well getting the ball up to mid court players Bronwyn ,Holly, Karly, Ella, Shola. After a brief team talk we needed to slow the game down and be more precise with our passing, we managed to pull the game back 3-3. Some good interceptions mid court keeping the possession and Beth and Amy netted some goals to keep the game close. The final scored ended up 4-4. A tight and intense finish. Great captains and coaching skills from Shola. Player of the match was Annie with some great defensive skills shown in the game .

B Team

After supporting the A team to a good draw, it was B teams turn to take the court. Ava took the first centre to start the game of and the girls were passing nicely amongst the team. Poppy and Isabella got a goal in early and Exmouth sooner fought back for a 1-1 score early on. Amelia and Isabel were busy and fought well keeping the goals out, however Exmouth shooters were on form and netted a few more taking them the lead. Madison, Summer and Brooke worked well mid court driving Infront for the ball and connecting some nice passes. Exmouth managed to turn over the ball and gain possession and attacked to gain another goal. So final score was 7-2. Player of the match was Isabella as Goal Attack with some great movement signalling in the D.

It was a really nice evening with all three teams supporting each other. A great squad atmosphere created amongst the year 8s.

Well done to all the players whom played their first game for the school tonight. Well done.

Next week there is Year 8 Parents Evening scheduled, so therefore there will No Netball evening for Year 8 on the evening of 18th November . We will train again together on the 25th November.

Mrs Broomfield

Netball

C Team

Players from Clyst Vale performed well against Exmouth, especially as they only formed their team last week. Exmouth took the first centre but Charlotte (GD), Cleo (GK), Alex (WD) and Aurella (C) gained continuous possession within the first quarter by intercepting Exmouth's ball. Before half time, Lauren (WA) demonstrated accurate passes to Rebecca (GA) and Eve (GS) who managed to signal into space and score twice. However, Exmouth were on form and had scored 3-2. The second half saw Natasha (C), Lily (WD), Eloise (GK) and Charlotte (GD) worked hard to defend the ball by intercepting and marking Exmouth players fiercely. Ella (WA), Isla (GA) and Eve (GS) were on form and drove the ball towards the goal post; they all showed great technique and hopefully next time the group will work on increasing their score. The final score was 8-2 to Exmouth. Clyst Vale have great potential as a newly formed group and will be hard to beat in future games.

Miss Hall

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	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
Mon 15 November	Y7-Y11 Flu vaccinations—Age 12-15 Covid-19 vaccinations
Thurs 25 November	GCSE Celebration Awards Evening 6pm - 8pm
29 Nov—Wed 8 Dec	Y11 Mocks
Thurs 02 December	Y13 Parents' Evening 4pm - 6.30pm
Sat 04 December	Ten Tors/Bronze D of E Event - all day
Tues 09 December	Y9 Parents' Evening 4pm - 7pm
Weds 15 December	Carol Service, Whimple 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
Weds 05 January	START OF SPRING TERM
Sat 15 January	DofE Overnight 1: Bronze
Thurs 20 January	Y11 Parents' Evening 4pm - 7pm
Tues 25 January	Y9 Options Evening 4.30pm - 7pm
Thurs 27 January	Y10/Y11 Trip to Southall Gurdwara
w/b 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 Mock Exams
Sat 12 March	DofE/Ten Tors Overnight 3
Tues 22 - Fri 25 March	Y11 Art/ Art Photography Exams
Weds 23 - Fri 25 March	Roslyn Park Rugby 7s Tournament
w/b Mon 28 March	Y10 Exams
Tues 29 March - Fri 01 April	Y13 Art/ Art Photography Exams

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 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).
- 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

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EX5 3AJ

Tel: 01392 461407 **Email:** admin@clystvale.org **Web:** www.clystvale.org

Library: 01392 464010

