



NEWSLETTER

No. 687
w/c Mon 19 October
Week A

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots." Marcus Garvey

Dear Parents and Carers

Diamond Jubilee

In keeping with our "hidden gem" reputation, Clyst Vale's diamond jubilee (dated from its official opening) passed quietly last Sunday, 11th October. Despite floods, snow, electricity outages, the fuel strike, Iraq War protests, livestock invasions and now a pandemic there has been sixty years of continuous education on this site as Broadclyst Secondary Modern, Broadclyst Community School, and for most of the time as Clyst Vale Community College. I would have liked an "event" or two, but we can't do gatherings and the first pupils have now all turned seventy; or maybe a whole-College student and staff photo, but too risky with 1000+ people; and we can't even sing "Happy Birthday" unless we're by ourselves washing our hands. Nonetheless, a moment's pause to reflect on all the fantastic, amazing, quirky and wonderful people of all ages who have passed through these doors and corridors over the past six decades!

Thursday 22nd October; non-uniform day 50p minimum proceeds to Exeter Food Bank

- We have five non-uniform days a year, raising money for five different charities chosen by students. Many schools raise funds for themselves, which we have seriously considered in the past, but it's more educational and in keeping with RRS to consider others and to do even a little to help people facing various disadvantages. So, it's a 50p minimum donation please, collected by tutors in registration.
- PE Kit on Thursday. The PE Dept asks "that students come to school in clothing (or bring with them) that they are happy to participate in. This would include footwear that is safe for use in their PE lessons. We can provide a small amount of changing opportunities for one or two students per lesson, or to slip on studded boots as needed, but want all students to be able to turn up and participate. This may be in their favourite rugby or football shirt, or a leisure top and bottoms, so long as they are safe and ready for PE. Many thanks, the Exeter Foodbank is a wonderful charity who will benefit greatly from our efforts."

National Developments

- There is little to add since Tuesday's "CV&CC Update" in Announcements on the website front page. There is still a lot of speculation about a 2 (or is it 3?) week circuit break, but there are different versions of this whereby schools remain open, or close. Even if closed, there would still be remote learning for the weeks in term-time, sorry to dash completely students' hopes of a two-week holiday! We move forward on the assumption it won't happen, but ready to jump at very short notice.

- Similarly, there is nothing new about 2021 Exams for Years 13 and 11. The exam period has been delayed to 7th June, finishing on 2nd July. There are no further changes to the content of exams or the number of papers. We have to wait for six weeks for any details of the “Plan B” for significant or continuing lockdowns and school closures. We do not know when the revised exam timetable will appear, but condensing six weeks into four will make it complex.

Year 10 and 11 Exams Assemblies

- Earlier this week students were issued with the JCQ Exam Booklets, which they must read. This is an obligation on the College, as an exam centre. So, to reinforce the messages about exam and NEA regulations, I gave two assemblies this week. I mention this only for thoroughness: students cannot use “I didn’t know” as a reason if there are any breaches of the regulations. (For information, we are trying to limit the number of assemblies for covid reasons, but every now and again there is no real substitute, ensuring one year group only and as spaced out as possible).

Local Covid Rates and Face Coverings

- Understandably, the national situation and media is causing more anxiety in general, and for some families and students in particular. We will not be taking any unnecessary risks. However, at the moment, Devon, local PHE advice and the government guidance is that further restrictions in general are not necessary; rates in Exeter have fallen by a quarter in the past week. In College, there have been no positive cases among staff or students, and (since the start of term) eight students and one teacher isolating because of a household member testing positive. But we’re not complacent: several Exeter schools have had part-closures; and although they no longer use our fields, Broadclyst Football Club is self-isolating. So, we are monitoring rates and other local information twice a week, and if the situation worsens we would introduce more extensive use of masks.

Ventilation and Warmth

Ventilation is one of the better form of protection against aerosol transmission of any virus. However, leaving doors and windows all the time means that rooms get cold in winter. It’s not too bad yet, but we have had some chillier days, and students do not learn well in very cold conditions. There is also an environmental consideration of heating buildings with windows wide open. There is no simple answer, and opinions polarise between “open all the windows and let them bring sleeping rules” to “shut all the windows as children aren’t affected much anyway” (overlooking there are teachers involved...). When it gets colder, it’s recommended that students wear extra layers underneath their uniform. In most classes where it is not dangerous to do so, students can wear their coats, but an extra layer is less bulky and restrictive. Some people worry that students will abuse this allowance, but in reality nearly all of them know if they are cold or not, and act responsibly. After half-term we will have a compromise position where we will open the windows and doors as much as possible. This could mean windows open, door closed; windows half-open; certain windows closed; and when it gets colder, opening windows whenever a room is vacant, and for 10-15 minute bursts in lessons. The aim would be to maximise ventilation without impacting on learning. I’ve done some googling on this, and all countries are grappling with this. They even have a blanket rule in some German authorities: students should literally bring a blanket (plus hat, scarf, gloves), and the windows stay open....

Feedback from parental RSE consultation

- Thank you to the 198 parents/carers who completed the survey in July. The new RSE policy is on our website, and we start teaching the programme in January. More details are on the website, but around two-thirds of parents are aware of RSE, have a reasonably good understanding of it and about teenage relationships. 80% talk to their children about growing up, sex and relationships, and are confident in doing so. Parents / guardians highlighted that LGBTQ+ including gender diversity, grooming, social media including sharing locations, sexual harassment, and county lines should be covered in RSE. Topics which parents/carers consider to be more suitable for Year 9 upwards were pornography and sexual pleasure, sexting, domestic abuse honour based violence, FGM and coercive control.

One or Two Reminders and Polite Requests


- Dropping off students in the coach park. Please pull as far along as you can towards the “student drop-off” sign; pausing near the entrance causes back-up into the road.
- Food Technology. We have been committed to offering as full a curriculum as we possibly can. This includes Food, although there are clearly quite a number of additional measures we have to introduce. Please read the information sent out separately last week.
- Digital audit. Thank you very much if you have completed the “digital audit” survey, and please do so if you haven’t quite got round to it yet. If we are going to be in and out of remote learning for some considerable time, this information is really important to us. And it will be treated confidentially and securely.
- NHS App. Schools are asked to remind and encourage parents to consider downloading the NHS App for covid track-and-trace. You can find further information about the App and how to download it on <https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/>
- Face coverings on School Transport. This becomes mandatory after half-term. Parents/carers of CV bus/taxi services have been contacted by Devon CC directly.

Stagecoach Update

- As a parent, I just wanted to know that my children would get home safely, and roughly at the same time each day. We are in almost daily contact with Stagecoach to ensure that this happens. Most days are now fine, but occasionally the Exeter buses are late by 10 minutes or so, and twice the Cullompton bus hasn’t come to the site. We have been promised that things will be even more regular after half-term. A footnote: students want to get home quickly after school (can’t think why), so the first two buses to Exeter are generally full; if they are prepared to wait a few minutes to 15.35, the third bus is much less crowded and easier for social distancing.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Best wishes,



Kevin Bawn
Principal

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



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



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



YELLOW SCHOOL

7YPN	Luke Bassett
8YDS	Keira Tunnicliffe
9YNS	Marlon Blum
9YMPR	Lucas Anderson
10YCW	Amelia Bradley
10YRB	Mia Rice
11YMBR	Dom Boots-Hutchings
11YZKH	Alisha Slocombe

RED SCHOOL

7RZB	Charlotte Sillett
7RHPI	Holly Walsh
8RAO	Ben Hudson
8RAR	Eva Halliwell
9RGG	Keon Byrne
9RER	Tamara Dow
10RSS	Ben Heywood-Rose
10RTMA	Ellie Clark
11RCM	Amelie Isaac
11RGK	Elise Harris

GREEN SCHOOL

7GABR	Eve Van Het Bolsher
8GAW	Jack Woods
8GBA	Leah Green
9GSW	Ed Symons
9GNB	Adam Cross
10GGT	Oliver Broome
10GMN	Keira Franklin & Joshua Blatchford
11GHE	Thomas Massey
11GIM	Morgan Cosslett

*Send me a picture of you
reading in a strange place.
southardl@clystvale.org*



Competition ends Wednesday 21st of October

Staff included!

PIC•COLLAGE

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
Thurs 22nd October	Exeter Food Bank - Non-Uniform Day
w/b 30 November - All week	Y11 Mocks
Fri 04 December	Y12 Geography Fieldwork
Sat 05 & Sun 06 December	Ten Tors/Bronze D of E Event
w/b Mon 07 December - All week	Y13 Mocks
Tues 08 December 4pm - 7pm	Y8 Parents' Evening
Fri 11 December	Human Rights Day Y11 Geography Fieldwork
Sat 12 December	D of E Gold Y12 Dartmoor Day Walk
Weds 16 December 7pm - 9pm (tbc)	Christmas Carol Service, Whimple Church
Friday 18 December	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM St Petrock's - Non-Uniform Day
Fri 12th February 2021	Force Cancer - Non-Uniform Day
Fri 23rd July 2021	Water Aid - Non-Uniform Day

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

