



NEWSLETTER

No. 635
w/c Mon 2nd September
2019

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"Education is the foundation upon which we build our future."

Christine Gregoire

Dear Parents/Carers,

Exam Results Days

Students can collect their results from the Post-16 building on

Thursday 15th August: A-level, BTec Level 3, AS-level, from 08.30.

Thursday 22nd August: GCSE, BTec level 2, CNat level 2 from 09.00.

Start of Term

The first day of the Autumn Term for students will be Wednesday, 4th September. Students are NOT expected to bring PE kit for this day. Staff will be in from Monday 2nd September for any queries in advance of the Wednesday start.

The End of Term

Well, we've made it to the end of the term and the end of the year ! Once again, on behalf of my colleagues, I must thank parents and carers for your support this year. Clyst Vale is definitely on the up, a big part of this is our commitment to the values and ethos reflected in Rights Respecting School, and your support for those values is essential to our success. Thank you for all your support over uniform, equipment, dropping and collecting, ensuring food in the lunchbox or money in the cashless system. Thank you for your support over attendance, which has improved significantly this year. Thank you to Year 10 parents for all your help with work experience, doubly so if you offered a placement. Next year, please look out for Parent Forum meetings: as well as being informative, they are an opportunity to have your voice heard, and to help us improve parental engagement outside parents' evenings and other more formal events. My "tripod" image remains sound: for a tripod to be stable and work properly, all three legs need to contribute; regarding a student, the three legs are home, school and the student him or herself, so that if one of the legs is deficient, the student wobbles.

Trips Report

To be honest, in these days of global connectivity, it is quite likely that parents know more than I do about how the various trips and visits have been this week ! The Camps International expedition left last Sunday with an entirely understandable mix of nervousness and excitement, and have now arrived safely in Tanzania. The Year 7 visit to Paris departed at 03.30 on Monday morning, have had a successful time and are due back this evening.

At a similar unearthly hour, the visit to the Belgian Battlefields left just yesterday. Students returned from the Year 8 Bude residential yesterday afternoon, as usual bringing back bags of dirty clothing bigger and heavier than themselves; more seriously, the students were excellent in terms of their attitude and behaviour, and once again enhanced Clyst Vale's reputation. Meanwhile, on the Brecon Beacons the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Expedition have coped well, fortunately without the weather extremes of previous years. I must pay tribute to my colleagues who organise, lead and accompany these trips, putting on great opportunities for our students. And thank you to parents and carers for your support and appreciation !

Meanwhile, back at the ranch....

We put on the best programme yet for students who were not on the trips. The best example was on Tuesday, when only forty or so students were in College, and had low expectations of what might happen: in fact, they had a great time on a mix of activities. Similarly, the Year 8 students not at Bude were redistributed into small groups with a mixed programme of activities which were not lessons in the normal sense.

Annual Awards 2018-19

I've always liked that Clyst Vale's annual awards are not, perhaps, typical of most schools'. Now, they fit foursquare behind our Rights Respecting School ethos. The Caring Cup and Citizenship Shield represent respect for others; the Pope's Challice and Ostler Award represent both participation and learning; the Spirit of Devon Award reflects progress in learning; and the Tolman-May Award reflects participation, resilience, and (like all of the awards) meeting and exceeding potential.

Caring Cup – Harry Price (Y13). Harry has been involved with the Amnesty Group for several years, and was responsible for the RRS YouTube video; he has also been an active supporter of sports and PE since Year 10; and he has also been very generous of his time in supporting our Ten Tors teams.

Citizenship Shield – Katie Goddard (Y8). Katie has been a committed and active supporter of the Amnesty Group, and the Rights Respecting Steering Group which developed the Charter. In addition, she has been a regular participant in Attenborough's Army, the student group which is trying to improve the College site.

Ostler Award for Personal Achievement: Bethy Lawrence (Y9). Bethy has been selected for the GB team for the world championships at Zolder in her sport of BMX racing. This is an superb achievement, about which Bethy is also very modest. Despite constant training and travelling her attendance is excellent.

Pope's Challice for Performing Arts – Tom Palmer (Y13) is a truly deserving recipient. Throughout his seven years, Tom has been regularly performing as a musician, an actor and sometimes both. He has achieved well in Performing Arts qualifications, played lead roles in many productions, performed annually at Festival on the Field, organised many events including last year's Carol Service, and has also been a superb role-model and support for younger students. Although Tom is a worthy winner, I must also mention his brother Robbie and Joe Nisbet, who have worked together on many, many performances and projects.

Spirit of Devon Award – Harry Boston (Y9). This award is presented to the student who has made the most progress from the start of Year 7, based on SAT scores, to the end of Year 9, based on TPRs.

Tolman-May Award – Harrison James (Y7). This award is given to a student who has not only coped well with challenges other students do not face, but has done so in a positive way, embraced the opportunities offered at Clyst Vale, is popular with others, and a role-model. Harrison fits this description very well indeed.



Staff Changes

Several colleagues will be leaving at the end of this term, and one or two have already left during the term.

Mrs Anne Samuels (Science) left a few weeks ago when Dr Aude Odunlade returned from maternity leave. Similarly, Mrs Lucy Cooper (Library) left on 1st July when Mrs Sarah Foulds returned from *her* maternity leave. Mrs Karen Howden (Spanish) has decided not to return from her maternity leave.

Miss Ellie Roberts (English), Dr Lucy Emmett (Spanish) and Miss Jasmine King (Science) have all played an important role in filling maternity and other gaps in staffing, and all are moving on to teaching posts elsewhere. Similarly, Mrs Michelle Ovenden (Maths) and Mrs Helene Chandler (English, Health & Social Care) move on to new posts, after two years here.

Three colleagues each with ten years' service at Clyst Vale are also leaving: Mrs Jane Ford has worked with some of our more challenging and vulnerable students in The Skills Room, and is following a career dream to work in the maternity hospital. Mrs Maria Higginson (Head of Digital Media, formerly ICT) has secured a teaching post in Torbay. Mrs Victoria Routledge is leaving to explore different career opportunities using her skills and flair in creative crafts, especially textiles.

Mr Phil Everett is also leaving after 28 years at Clyst Vale, teaching PE and almost every other subject at some time over those years. 28 years means that literally thousands of students and parents will know Phil, whose career began at a time when Clyst Vale was truly a community college with adult education and the youth service based on site; he was also well known because of his footballing exploits with Tiverton Town in their glory days ! Phil has been one of those "larger-than-life" characters who will be missed.

Also moving on to a post in initial teacher education with Teach First is Vice-Principal Adrian Green, who has been at Clyst Vale for eight years. For me, the change of a senior leader is a very big deal, and I am very grateful to Adrian for his hard work, support and loyalty over the years. He has led a number of curriculum changes in that time, and has done much to improve a lot of our internal approaches and methods to curriculum, teaching and learning, and staff development.

As ever, I would like to thank colleagues who are leaving for everything they have contributed to the College and to its students, and to wish them every success in the next stage of their lives "after Clyst Vale". I would also like to reassure parents that all of these posts have been filled for September !

To confirm the internal changes, Mr Bailey has been seconded on to the College's Senior Leadership Team for two years, and therefore will relinquish his Head of Yellow School role. I am delighted to announce that Miss McConnachie, currently a Yellow School tutor and our Transition Coordinator, will become Head of Yellow School from 1st September. Another development is that Mrs Oldfield will take on the responsibility for supporting Priority Learners including improving engagement where needed, and raising outcomes. Finally, from September the Clerk to Governors will be Mrs Mareena Anderson-Thorne, although for the time being contact can still be made via Mrs Racheal Long.

Funding

I am pleased to share the following update from Devon County Council and Councillor James McInnes, national chairman of the f40 group of lowest-funded education authorities: “Devon MPs are joining a new national campaign for fairer funding for schools. A number of MPs from across the county have joined the campaign for better funding for education with more money for special needs. South West Devon MP Gary Streeter is one of the vice chairs of the f40 education fair funding campaign group. He has been joined by North Devon MP, Peter Heaton-Jones, Newton Abbot MP, Anne Marie-Morris, Exeter MP, Ben Bradshaw, and Totnes MP Sarah Wollaston, in asking the Chancellor to invest more cash into education and to make the National Funding Formula fairer. The MPs are urging the Chancellor to make education a top priority in this year’s Comprehensive Spending Review of government expenditure. They say he should:

Remove historic inequalities and funding protections in the system

Significantly increase funding for all schools

Raise the basic entitlement to ensure the costs of running a school are met

Inject at least £1.4 billion immediately in High Needs

The letter states: “The f40 group continues to have fundamental concerns about the new funding formula. We believe the Government has replaced one unfair system with another, as some of the historic unfairness has been locked into the new formula.”

“We are concerned that the formula does not give enough basic entitlement to schools and allows too much for add-ons, enabling big differences in funding to occur between different local authorities and schools.” They also say they have grave concerns about a lack of funding in schools and the growing crisis in the High Needs sector, with many schools and local authorities reporting huge deficits in funding for children with special educational needs.”

Flushed with Optimism

The Giraffe House toilets are not exactly tourist attractions on a look around Clyst Vale. Almost without exception, the toilets have been top of students’ priorities for improvement for some years, reaffirmed by the College Student Council earlier this year. You might recall that the Chancellor of the Exchequer promised schools some money for “little extras”; the phrase was much derided as patronising, but any additional money is welcome. So, we have decided to follow student voice, and will use the funding to improve the toilets, a sort of “wee extra”. Anyone who has had their bathroom re-done recently knows that it is not cheap, so we have had to top up the funding a little from the College budget to refurbish three of the four toilets (two girls’, one boys’). The fourth (boys’), will be repainted although not like the Cistern Chapel, and will be refurbished when funds allow. Still, it’s good news, and students will have noted that work on one toilet started today, so it’s on a roll, not a flash in the pan...

Very best wishes to you and your families for a good summer,



Dr Bawn

SPORTS NEWS

Sports Day and Festival on the Field 2019

Well done to all students, staff and helpers for another fantastic event on Tuesday last week. Whilst the weather promised a mixture of sunshine and cloud, it was clear and bright at 7.00am as the PE team and ground staff Andy Ricketts, met on the field to check all was in place. The day kicked off with a year 7 and 8 mini-marathon whilst the older students battled for supremacy in the tug-o-war. Cheered on by the passionate form tutors the students gave it their all in the morning sunshine. Shortly after 10.30 the main athletic events started along with the very popular inter-tutor rounders.

Looking around it was clear the enjoyment the students were having and before long it was lunchtime. The barbecue sizzled whilst the students sought shade and enjoyed the bands performing on the flat back CEVA trailer. The students also competed in penalty shoot outs, mountain biking and golf in order to win a few extra points. It was Mr Everett's last sports day before retiring and as always he ran the track events with immaculate precision.

In the end it was Yellow School that triumphed whilst across the school 7YNS, 8RHC, 9YMBR and 10YMM won out in the inter-tutor competition. Ellie Hooper who set a new Y9 shot record won the Sara Wynn trophy for outstanding female effort. Robert Davidson who charged to a number of successes won the Trevor Green trophy for outstanding male effort. Chloe Harris who set two new records in the triple and long jump events won the Victrix Ludorum, whilst super middle distance runner Sam Mills won the Victor Ludorum. Records were also set by Tom Lipscomb in the high jump and 7YNS in the 4x100m relay.

It was another wonderful day enjoyed and remembered fondly by staff, students and parents alike.



Mr Everett in the relay
(running his own way)



Evie King and Neddy Leong holding the Inter-schools trophy presented by the departing Mr Green



Ellie Hooper presented with the Sara Wynn trophy by outgoing Mrs Routledge



Chloe Harris presented with the Victrix Ludorum trophy by Mrs Higginson who leaves at the end of term



Sam Mills presented with the Victor Ludorum by Mr Everett.



Robert Davidson presented with the Trevor Green trophy by leaving Y13 student Harry Price

CHARITY NEWS

Non-Uniform Days – 2019 to 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 shows the dates on the new academic year's non-uniform days

Friday October 18th 2019 – Little Princess Trust



Friday 20th December 2019 – Young Minds



Friday 14th February 2020 – Devon Air Ambulance Trust

Friday 27th March 2020 – Children's Hospice South West



Please also note that we will, as normal, be raising money for the RNLI on Friday 20th September 2019 in memory of Harry Patch Day. This will NOT be a non-uniform day.



PE Kit addition

For some time I have been looking into the idea of providing Clyst Vale leggings from the same supplier as our current PE kit. I felt it was important to address the needs of our students whilst at the same time maintaining the high standards of PE kit we have currently. Issues of material, elastic waistband width and cost have slowed the selection, however, with Mrs Needs help we have agreed on an item. These leggings can be purchased from our normal supplier Thomas Moore. At present there is no image of the leggings on their website so I suggest you may want to visit their Fore Street store over the summer break. The leggings can be used alone and are especially good in dance and athletics or can be worn under our existing CVCC shorts. They are not sensible as an item for rugby on their own and shorts are the best outer option. These are the only make of leggings that are permitted to be worn at Clyst Vale.

I am aware this move has arrived too late for the student planners, but I hope that September will bring mild weather and that you may wish to delay any purchase until the weather starts to turn colder.

Mr J Powell - Head of PE

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 you will be contacted 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 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

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 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.
- 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 in the summer.
- 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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Email: admin@clystvale.org **Web:** www.clystvale.org

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

