



NEWSLETTER

No. 587
w/c Monday 23 April 2018
will be Week B

"Governments never learn. Only people learn."

Milton Friedman

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sports Award Evening

This was a great way to start the term! Guest of honour was Jo Pavey, MBE, five-time Olympian and World Championship Gold Medal winner. Jo outlined her story, which is of powerful and direct relevance to the student audience. She was a Devon girl, who only took up athletics at secondary school, and battled against the comparatively poor local facilities to compete nationally. Like many elite athletes, she faced serious setbacks but overcame them through determination and resilience; this included a two-year absence through significant injury. Jo stressed the importance of working with your support team, and developing all those teamwork and communication skills we go on about all the time! Her concluding message is to keep the belief that you are just as good as anyone else, and rather than moan about the obstacles and unfairnesses never give up on finding a way around them.

What struck me was that bringing the year's sport into focus on one evening showed clearly how committed many of our students are, the sustained hard work of our PE team, and just how much sport contributes to the Clyst Vale ethos. Clearly, we enjoy success, and are very proud we have an England under-16 rounders' captain here; proud of our excellent badminton players who are almost unbeatable; of our under-15 girls' rugby team who did so well in the wider Devon competition; of the individual students who compete at county level. Other students are less talented but are committed, play in the right spirit and represent the College magnificently; a good example is the under-14 netball team, who have never failed to have less than 14 players for every practice. Half-colours and full colours were awarded to many students for a variety of sports, where students have displayed not just skill, but also commitment, teamwork and leadership qualities. The main award, Sports Ambassador, was presented to Tom Rush in Year 11 for his sustained commitment to sport during his years at Clyst Vale; Tom is a very good role model for younger students.

And who knows? One or two of the students in the audience may go on to great things. Jo Pavey's comments about being as good as anyone else and to persist in your ambition certainly apply to two former students who were at the recent Gold Coast games: Abbie Brown captained the England Sevens Rugby team to a bronze medal, while Sara Cox refereed in the same competition. Abbie and Sara are two examples of how far Clyst Vale students can go, and are a real inspiration.

“Embrace”

Embrace is a documentary about body image released in early 2017. It has had amazing reviews, and tackles head-on the shocking statistic that 90% of women are dissatisfied with their bodies and look, further disheartened by the promotion of the “perfect look” and the influence of social media. Locally, the group “Wonders of Whimble” have been supporting the Body Image Movement through fund-raising to buy licences to show “Embrace” in local schools. We are delighted to benefit from this, and the screening will be next Wednesday, 25th April, in Post-16. Refreshments will be provided. There is no charge for coming, but donations will be collected for the Body Image Movement to pay for a licence for another Devon school. Students are welcome to come, but as there is some nudity and bad language the film has a 12A certification. If you would like to check it out first, there is a variety of clips, trailers, reviews and comment if you put “Embrace film” into a search engine.

Parent Group (PTFA) Meetings: Social Media and Safety

Embrace is being hosted by Clyst Vale’s Parent Group. Although the Spring Term was a quiet period, this half-term will be busier. A date for your diary is May 16th, at 6.30, when Gary Gates (ex-Police with a specialism in social media and internet safety) will talk to parents about the latest issues.

Summertime Expectations

As we seem to have gone from winter to summer in barely a month, it’s time to remind ourselves of the summer “basics”. In terms of sun safety, students have some responsibility to look after themselves: that said, there are indoor areas, shaded outside areas, so students are not obliged to sit in the sun. We provide filtered, chilled drinking water from fountains, but all cold taps provide drinking water, too. Students should keep their shoulders covered at all times. We cannot provide sun-blocking creams, so students with sensitive skin will need to bring their own.

Uniform rules do not change in the summer term. Experience suggests there are four main issues where students try to introduce variation. Any top beneath a shirt or blouse must be plain white. While it is perfectly acceptable for students to wear properly-tailored shorts in trouser material, it is not acceptable for them to wear football shorts (except at lunchtime, out on the field). Shoes should still be plain black, toes covered, fitting at the back. Hoodies are not coats, and should not be worn. If all this seems prescriptive, it isn’t meant to be. We have always tried to be pragmatic about uniform: we know that students get hot, and as far as possible our rules allow them to cope with this, and hopefully be in a better position to learn. On the other hand, we are a school, so we expect basic standards of appearance which support good attitudes towards learning. If students are more concerned with lunchtime sunbathing and we condone this, there’s something wrong.

The Half-Term Ahead

The dominant feature of the next few weeks is the run-up to GCSE and A-level exams, and for the last two weeks in May the GCSE exams themselves. Inevitably a lot of focus will go on revision and supporting students in exam years. However, the rest of the College does not stop, and although we avoid big, all day events (for hopefully obvious reasons) the vast majority of extra-curricular activities at lunchtime and after-school continue as normal. Next week there is a Year 7 Parents’ evening; it’s exciting times for the Ten Tors teams; and as noted, the Parent Group has two evening sessions planned.

Early Lunchtimes

Early warning that there will be more early lunchtimes required in May and June when exams start in earnest. This is because the reformed GCSE exams in many subjects are longer, and when these are in the afternoon we cannot fit them in, expect all other students to remain silent through lunchtime, and finish in time for the buses. I like to mention early lunches in advance because there are students with particular needs and dietary requirements. Early lunchtimes will be on all five days in the week beginning 14th May; Tuesday and Wednesday 22nd and 23rd May; Tuesday 5th June; Friday 8th June; and Monday to Thursday 11th to 14th June (thirteen altogether). Early lunchtimes begin at 12.25 at the end of lesson 3, and end at 1.20 when lesson 4 starts.

Uniform Changes

Mentioning uniform, just before Easter a letter was sent out indicating changes for September. This is a firm proposal not a consultation, but thank you to those parents who have responded.

Hele and Bradninch Flood Relief Scheme

We have been contacted by Network Rail to let us know that major work will be completed in Station Road (in Hele, by Devon Valley Mill, not the Broadclyst one) to reduce flooding risk. This will be from May 21st to December 2018, and will entail a 5-mile diversion. All local residents will have received a more detailed letter about the road closure, but I thought it needed a wider airing. There is a public meeting at the Crossways Tavern, Station Road, Hele, Exeter EX5 4PW on 25th April between 4pm and 7pm.



Dr Bawn

BMX Success for Bethy

Year 8 student Bethy Lawrence has recently completed her first race of the season at the BMX South West Regional Round 1 in Llynfi, Wales. She rode her heart out all day taking 3rd place in her three Moto's and then in the final she battled right to the finish line to take 2nd place.

Bethy has been training nonstop this winter and it's really starting to pay off. Her next race is her first National Race in Leicester on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd April. It's then straight on for Round 2 of the Regional at Exeter on Sunday 29th April, followed by Round 3 in Cornwall on 6th May .



Mr Pearce
Teacher of PE
Head of Green School



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



YELLOW SCHOOL

7YRB	Ellis Tagg
7YKHO	Ronin Walter
8YJPU	Emily Kellaway
9YMM	Archie Graham
9YZK	Brooklyn Roberti
10YMHI	Tamzin Street
10YSP	Hebe Poole
11YMPR	Mya Walker, Grace Porter & Toby Derges
11YNS	Alice Courtier

RED SCHOOL

7REW	Kenzie Corbett
7RTMA	Cassidy Perkin
8RCJ	Liam Hudd
8RCM	Ellie Norris
9RZB	Matthew Pike
10RAR	April Coles
10RLA	Hannah Hewald
11RDH	Eve Williams
11RGG	Tegan Clarke

GREEN SCHOOL

7GDJ	Max Kerslake & Emily Watt
8GIM	Miyuki Brown & Remi Morcette
9GAO	Lara Darke & Robert Davidson
9GPE	Charlie Blackburn & Freya Willingham
10GBA	Evie Griffin & Laurie Walker
11GSW	Dulcie Saunders & Harrison Quinn

CALENDAR DATES

Sat 21 April - Sun 22 April	Ten Tors Overnight 4 - Dartmoor
Tues 24 April	4.30 Y7 Parents' Evening
Wed 25 April	"Embrace" documentary in P16 @ 6.30pm
Thurs 3 May	4.30 Y12 Parents' Evening
Mon 7 May	Bank Holiday
Fri 11 - Sun 13 May	Ten Tors Main Event Weekend - Dartmoor
Wed 16 May	PTFA 6.30pm (Gary Gates—Social media and internet safety)
Mon 28 May - Fri 1 June	Summer Half Term
Mon 4 - Sat 9 June	Y7 Paris Residential
Sat 9 - Sun 10 June	D of E Bronze Assessed Expedition
Wed 13 June	5.30 Non-feeder Parents' Evening
Tues 19 June	Y12 Biology Field Trip - Dawlish Warren
Wed 27 June	7.00 Y13 Prom
Thurs 28 June - Mon 2 July	Y13 DofE Gold Assessed Expedition - Brecon
Fri 29 June	7.00 Y11 Prom
Wed 4 - Fri 6 July	New Intake Days
Mon 9 July	6.00 New Intake Parents' Evening
Tues 10 July	Sports Day
Fri 13 July	Reserve Sports Day
Sun 15 - Wed 18 July	Y8 Bude Residential
Wed 18 July - Fri 20 July	Belgium Residential
Wed 18 July - Sat 21 July	Y12 DofE Gold Practice Expedition - Dartmoor
Fri 20 July	Last day of Summer Term
Wed 5 Sept	First day back for students
Mon 22 Oct - Fri 26 Oct	Autumn Half Term

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 your Assistant to Head of School (AtHoS) will contact you 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 contact the relevant AtHoS

Yellow School: Claire Turner (01392 463914; turnerc@clystvale.org)

Green School: Catherine Prunty (01392 463913; pruntyc@clystvale.org)

Red School: Pam Grant (01392 463910; grantp@clystvale.org)

For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please ring:

Jassy Barrington Post-16 PA

Direct line: 01392 462697

(answerphone available)

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 School colour logo.
- Trousers should be plain, black, formal and full length. This means no jeans, leggings, chinos or any trousers with rivets or studs. Trousers must be worn on the waist.
- Skirts should be plain black, and may be worn just above the knee. Skirts must be A-line or straight, but not stretchy or “skater” style.
- Knee length black tailored shorts may be worn in the summer.
- Black sturdy shoes or all black trainers.
- Clyst Vale reversible jacket or other outdoor coat.

Main uniform, PE kit and reversible jacket can be purchased from Thomas Moore.

- 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

Address: Clyst Vale Community College, Station Road, Broadclyst, Exeter, Devon EX5 3AJ

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

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

