



NEWSLETTER

No. 712
w/c Mon 24 May 2021
Week B

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

“Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world...would do this, it would change the earth.” William Faulkner

Dear Parents/Carers

Important Reminder! Next Friday 28th May is an occasional day for moderation and students *should not attend*. I am sure they will remember...

Also, contrary to rumour, Thursday 27th May is NOT a non-uniform day. We do not hold one at the end of this half-term. Unusually, Year 11 will be relieved to hear this news.

Recent Interviews

- Let's start with something positive. We have held a handful of interviews for new colleagues recently, and as is always the case, students are heavily involved. Students act as tour guides, in lessons taught by candidates, or on a student interview panel. As such, they have a responsibility and are also ambassadors for the College. I am delighted that once again students have responded to this opportunity, engaged well with candidates, and gave sensible, balanced feedback into the selection process. While these students deserve particular thanks and praise, so do all students in general. We're in Clyst Vale all the time, so do not always know how our day-to-day ethos and behaviour compares to others; therefore it has been very gratifying to have very positive candidates' feedback that both our students and our approach are very good.

Grades

- Almost all of the "AAM" assessments have been completed by students in Years 11-13. GCSE Drama, one or two smaller subjects, and some catch-ups will take place next week. Teachers will now mark these assessments and collate students' work ("evidence") for which an overall grade will be awarded. Students will not automatically be given the result of their AAM or larger assessments: this varies from subject to subject. One factor is that teachers are prohibited from sharing the final overall grade with students; so if one or two assessments make up a large part of the evidence it can give a very clear indication of that final grade. The next stages do not involve students: teachers moderate the folders of evidence to ensure consistency, there is a second round of moderation by senior teachers, and grades are submitted by 18th June. It is possible that individual students might be asked to come in for a specific reason, but this should be exceptional.

Lateral Flow Testing and Reporting

- I have been asked again by Public Health to remind parents, carers, students and colleagues of the importance of testing twice a week and reporting the tests, which is also a requirement on us, too. There is a concern about “testing fatigue”, especially with lockdown easing and vaccine roll-out being so successful. Public Health Devon tell me, “Public Health Devon are starting to see positive cases that have not being [sic] reported to DCC by schools”. There are two possible explanations for this: either parents are not reporting results to schools, or schools are not reporting to Devon County Council. We are seeing this trend, whereby fewer student results are being reported to us. However, we have had no positive cases since Easter, although there were two false positive LFTs immediately after the holiday which fortunately did not require any self-isolations.
- Also, we issued the latest instalment of kits this week, which should be somewhere at the bottom of the school bag – lucky everything comes in sterile packaging....These are the current throat and one nostril kits; we expect the next batch to be double nostril twizzles.

Roadmaps and Milestones

- It’s amazing what a difference a week makes. Last Friday, things were very optimistic for an extensive relaxing of restrictions from June 21st. This week began with another “abundance of caution” (Johnson, B) although a little more optimism in the last day or two. Regions vary: the whole of Devon had 8 cases/100,000 people last week compared to 21/100,000 for England. This clearly makes forward planning tricky – if national and school guidance doesn’t change much from 21st June, then some of the bigger events we would like to run may have to be significantly rearranged. These events take time and sometimes money to prepare; it is possible that the government will not be able to give a steer until early June (14th is the announcement), so we are having to inch forward carefully, and I hope that students and parents will bear with us. One example is Sports Day – under the current guidance we simply cannot have our normal full day of full participation; even if restrictions were lifted on 21st June, it still may not be wise, and there would be insufficient time to organise it. With other knock-ons caused by lockdown and restrictions, we are not able to run Festival on the Field, which is a key part of Sports Day. The PE department will run Year-based competitions so that students can still have the chance of personal bests and records, and points will go towards the overall Schools Trophy. And of course, this is 100% better than last year when Sports Day could not take place in any shape or form.

The Big Ask: further reminder

- As a Rights Respecting School which believes in student voice, I am pleased to support this, and encourage CVCC students to click on the link and complete: [The Big Ask](#). It’s the Children’s Commissioner’s survey of childhood, and is the largest ever survey of children in England. Already more than 400,000 children and young people have had their say about what matters to them for their future. The deadline for completing the survey is Friday 28 May.

Pause for Reflection

- Last Friday I had the pleasure of meeting a former student and an independent film-maker making a feature film about the impact on gay young people of Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1988 which forbade local authorities (and therefore schools) from promoting homosexuality. My memory is that schools tended to avoid the issue for fear it might be misinterpreted as “promotion”. I taught throughout the 15 years of Section 28, and can recall how certain topics were dropped from the curriculum, and the problems facing young people who were questioning their sexuality and struggled to get advice let alone support. Although Section 28 cast a long shadow, things have improved since those days. However, there is still plenty of prejudice against homosexuality and all sorts of differences, which is why we will continue to emphasise the values of being a Rights Respecting School to acknowledge and respect all differences. (I could never have written this sort of paragraph in 2001, by the way).

Hoodies.

- I wish I had a pound for every time I have written the word “hoody” or “hoodies” in Newsletters over the years. We don’t like hoodies for all sorts of reasons and they are not permitted. Despite this, the numbers have increased greatly with the PE Kit hybrid uniform. After half-term, the PE Kit hybrid uniform is no more, so there should be no hoodies. In fact, hoodies will be confiscated at the College gate on arrival, and returned at the end of the day. However, we are not complete meanies; Year 11 will be given their leavers’ hoodies next week, and will be allowed to wear leavers’ hoodies only – not other varieties - for the last four days of term. This is a one-off, for Year 11 only, for four days (This paragraph would have earned me £8....).

As ever, thank you for your support and very best wishes,

Kevin Bawn
Principal



Year 11 Prom

This event is being held at the Devon Hotel, Matford, Exeter on Friday 25th June 2021. The ticket cost is £35.00 to include a buffet, disco and a 9" x 6" portrait. Payment can be made online through the Schoolcomms online payment system - www.schoolgateway.com - which can be accessed via the Clyst Vale website at <http://www.clystvale.org/parents/online-payment>. ***Payments can be made from Monday 24th June and must be made no later than Friday 28th May.***

We anticipate that students will start arriving from 6.30 pm and that most students will have arrived by 8.00 pm. The evening will finish at 11.00 pm and you will need to make arrangements to collect your son/daughter.

In the event that there is a delay to the Jun 21st relaxation of Covid-19 regulations and the event is unable to go ahead a full refund will be given (this does not include any additional costs you may have incurred).

Further information will follow shortly.

Miss Prunty



Evenings, weekends and holidays– 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

(At all other times, please contact Student Absence on 01392 463911 or e-mail: 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.

Please 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!



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



GREEN SCHOOL

7GABR	Ellen Newlove
7GDH	Skye Strudwick
9GSW	Liberty Headon
10GGT	Lucy Trehearne & George Worth
11GHE	Finn Perrott

RED SCHOOL

7RHPI	Amy Bourne
8RAO	Millie Mills
8RAR	Toby Sleep
9RER	Ella Channon
11RGK	Jamie Wreford

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.

CALENDAR DATES

DATE	EVENT
Fri 28 May	Staff INSET Day (students not in school)
Mon 31 May - Fri 4 June	Half Term
Sat 12 - Monday 14 June	Silver D of E Event (TBC)
Mon 14 - Weds 16 June	Y7 Geography Fieldwork (TBC)
Thurs 17 June 6.00pm - 7.30pm	Y6 Non-Feeder Schools' Evening (TBC)
Fri 18 June	Deadline for Grades to Exam Boards
Tues 22 June	Deep Learning Day (TBC)
Thurs 24 & Fri 25 June	Y10 Geography Fieldwork (TBC)
Fri 25 June 6pm - 11pm	Y11 School Prom
Sat 03 - Tues 08 July	Gold DofE, Y12 & Y13
Mon 05 - Tues 06 July	Y10 Taster Days - Post 16
Mon 05 - Weds 07 July	Y8 Geography Fieldwork
Weds 07 - Fri 09 July	New Intake Induction Days
Mon 12 July 6.00pm - 8.00pm	New Intake Parents' Evening
Weds 14 July	Sports Day
Thurs 15 July	Sports Day (reserve date)
Fri 16 & Sat 17 (all day) & Sun 18 July (half day)	School Production Rehearsal
Mon 19 July	Y9 Geography Eden Project
w/b 19 July (all week)	Y10 and Y12 Work Experience
Fri 23 July	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

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

Library: 01392 464010

