



NEWSLETTER

No. 749
w/c Mon 25th April 2022
Week A

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

“Success is a journey, not a destination.” *Ben Sweetland*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Term

- Welcome back to Summer Term 2022 ! It has only been a couple of days, but it's been a bright start. The training day on Wednesday was productive and a good chance for colleagues to mix more than has been possible for a while, with the students' first day being smooth and positive. There are just five staff absences, only one with covid. The Sports Awards Evening yesterday was a really positive way to start off the term. I know the two-day week has been awkward for some families, but it has been a real bonus for exam years to shake off the holiday, have the weekend, and return with a good focus next week. The first half of term is very short, with just five weeks until the May half-term holiday; this means the exam season will be on us very soon....

Ukraine

- We have received our first application for a Ukrainian child homed with a Clyst Vale family. Clearly, as a compassionate (and rights respecting) school, we will do our utmost to support students from Ukraine.
- We are also aware that several Clyst Vale families have signed up or expressed an interest in the government's refugee scheme. Devon County Council have asked all schools to publicise the following:
- “DCC have launched a website containing information to support Ukrainian Families and sponsors. It is still developing but already includes key information, some of which is translated into Ukrainian. Importantly this includes information on school admissions. The links are [Essential information for Ukraine guests | \(devon.gov.uk\)](#) or the website home page link <https://www.devon.gov.uk/supporting-ukraine/>. In a nutshell, the admissions process will be the same as for any student moving into Devon: an on-line application needs to be submitted to Devon.
- We will be holding a second “Ukraine Day” on Friday, 6th May. It will be a non-uniform day with other fund-raising activities planned.

Staff Changes

- There are two colleagues who joined us at the start of this term. We welcome Louise Telford from South Dartmoor Community College as our new Special Needs and Disability Coordinator (SENDCo), a role which has also been upgraded so that it is part of the Senior Leadership Team. Also joining our Additional Support team is Sharron Lapham, as teaching assistant in the Skills Room. Returning from maternity leave is Izzy Matthews, resuming her former roles of history teacher and Transition Coordinator for Year 6 into 7.

Sports Awards Evening

- It was wonderful to see this event properly back in the calendar. Guest of honour was Exeter City legend Dean Moxey (who also played among others for Crystal Palace, and is currently helping Torquay press for a play-off place in the National League). Many thanks to the PE team for organising the evening, and to almost a hundred students (and therefore parental taxis) for attending. Students were given certificates for attainment and progress per year group in a variety of sports; also received half-colours and colours for individual sports; and the Sports Ambassador of the Year is George Wright, a footballer with the additional strengths of playing many sports, and being a really good role model for sportspeople in general and younger students in particular.
- There are consistent messages from this evening every year. For the guests of honour, their stories always involve some talent, a huge amount of hard work, commitment, dedication, self-belief, and the resilience to overcome serious setbacks along the way. These are powerful lessons for life. Other important lessons are that while winning and success is a key part in sport, there are also enormous benefits to physical and mental health, and there is nothing like involvement in clubs outside school to develop skills, confidence, teamwork, and social networks. There are examples every year of students who transform themselves through involvement in a club.
- Inasmuch as the evening covered the last twelve months, covid has an impact – especially on summer sports a year ago, and on competitive fixtures. Some school sports are regaining “normal” amounts of fixtures, with competitions reappearing, while others have struggled. It’s a positive and improving picture though: it’s really good to see so many practices and clubs in action, and the number of fixtures can only increase as we go forward.
- So, all in all, a wonderfully positive way to start the term.

Y10 exams

- The big event next week is Year 10’s exams. These are a very useful and important assessment of students’ progress so far, and are handily timed to be a third of the way through the two year course (their Year 11 mocks will be at the two-thirds point). The exams will not be used or stored as evidence in case summer 2023 exams are cancelled.Hopefully the AAM, CAG and TAG acronyms can be consigned to the dustbin of educational history. The exams are also a practice run for the real thing in terms of expectations and procedures, which is also important. Masks are not required, but are a good idea, especially in the Hall. So, good luck to Year 10 students !

Year 7 Parents’ Evening

- Next Thursday is Year 7 Parents Evening. Parents received information about this before Easter, but Mrs Grant will be issuing a reminder. The instructions seem to work as, even though this is the first Parents Evening for many families, bookings are already high ! There have been one or two enquiries as to why we are retaining virtual parents’ evenings now that the worst of covid is over (but see below...), although most parental feedback indicates reasonable happiness with a virtual system. It’s one of those issues where there are many good arguments on both sides. Parents in Years 7-9 missed Open Evenings, New Intake Evenings and Parents’ Evenings, and some may never have set foot inside Clyst Vale or met a teacher in person. Virtual appointments are quite short, but generally more efficient. They are a lot easier on families with complex child activity and other arrangements, and on teachers; and in terms of petrol for 120+ journeys every parents’ evening, a lower carbon footprint. Like many things as we emerge from the covid cocoon, it’s under review.

Cost of Living

- This can be tricky for schools to manage. On one hand, we want to offer students a range of opportunities and extra-curricular trips and activities. On the other, some of these are really quite expensive, more so when families are struggling with rising inflation, the dramatic hike in oil and gas prices, and cuts to certain benefits like family credit. As always, we’ll try to steer a middle course: it seems wrong to stop opportunities, even more so after two years of covid, but we do need to be sensitive about this issue and recognise that families are under more financial strain at present.

Covid (is not over...)

- We start the term with three cases, one staff and two students. Clearly, with the ending of formal testing, we are reliant on a mix of people who have leftover tests, and self-diagnosis of the covid symptoms, so these figures won’t be as accurate as before.
- To repeat the point, when phoning or e-mailing in student absence, please make it really clear whether there has been a covid test (date and result), and/or whether you think it is or could be covid.

- Rates in Exeter and East Devon are coming down, but still above national averages. Many of us have friends and relatives who have contracted covid recently.
- The basic precaution now is not to come to school if you are too ill, and definitely not if this includes a raised temperature. We are reinforcing precautions through hand hygiene and promoting “catch it, bin it, kill it”. If done well, this protects against all sorts of infections, not just covid.
- Masks are “no longer recommended” in schools’ guidance, although general national guidance recommends that people still wear face coverings in enclosed or private spaces where they are mixing with people they don't know. So, at Clyst Vale students are not expected or required to wear masks, but are welcome to do so if they or families wish.
- **JCQ guidance on special consideration for exams in summer 2022**
Understandably, there are worries about how covid relates to the forthcoming exams this summer. The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has published [updated guidance](#) about how special consideration for exams, this summer, will work in the context of Covid-19, and the new Living with Covid strategy and UKHSA guidance. The guidance is [here](#).
- Exam candidates will not be given free Covid tests during the series and will not be asked to provide tests to authenticate absence.
- Candidates can still get a grade if they have completed one unit/exam, rather than the previous requirement of 25%. For most qualifications this will not make a difference, but it may in a small number of cases.
- Candidates who are 18 and under who are unwell and have a high temperature, should be advised not to attend exams until they feel better and no longer have a temperature.
- Candidates who are 19 and over who have symptoms of a respiratory infection and a high temperature or do not feel well, should be advised not to attend exams until they feel better and no longer have a high temperature.
- Candidates who test positive for Covid (if they have chosen to take a test or have been directed to do so by a medical professional) should be advised not to attend exams for 3 days if they're 18 or under, or 5 days if they're 19 or over.
- In all of the above situations, centres can apply for special consideration on the grounds of ‘absent from exam’.
- Special consideration will not be applied to candidates solely because they have suffered significant learning loss over the past two years due to Covid, either due to their own absence or their teachers’.
- I don't understand the government's refusal to make covid tests available for exam candidates. No-one will know if a student's symptoms are covid or not, so schools will have infectious candidates in schools and non-infectious ones at home missing exams. On the one hand, the government proclaim that public exams are essential and the best way of assessing students, but aren't prepared to take this very simple step to make them even fairer, safer and remove a little of the anxiety.

Legally Blonde Lost Property

- At the moment, the stuff left backstage is in my office, and Legally Blonde cast and crew members are welcome to come and retrieve it. I'm sure that some items must have been missed at home: a pair of white girls trainers (size 5-6); pair of boys black Primeorder trainers size 8; girls' black jeans size 10; girls Divided shorts size 8; a Regatta “Kid” black waterproof – 13 years. There are a few other items, mostly socks.

Apologies

- I am sorry that the item about the DfE banning April Fools Day in the April Fools Day edition of the Newsletter was in itself an April Fool. I'm not sure many people were fooled. However, the story about the roofers' fencing being left in place to protect a rare triple-headed daffodil (as reported in the Student Bulletin) was much more successful, and a few students even risked a smartphone ban to get a photo.....

Best wishes,



Kevin Bawn
Principal



RUGBY CLUB

STARTING MONDAY 25 APRIL!

**MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL WITH
EXETER CHIEFS COMMUNITY
PROGRAMME**

**3.30-4.30PM, CHANGE AT
HUMANITIES BLOCK**



Food Service Assistant at Clyst Vale Community College

Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm, 38 weeks per year

Salary: £9.50 per hour

Duties include:

- Undertaking basic food preparation
- Setting up food service areas
- Cleaning dining halls and general cleaning duties
- Serving customers in a polite and professional manner
- Working on the tills
- Supporting with hospitality

A team player with strong communication skills and a can-do approach is key for this role. Experience is preferred but not essential, as full training will be given.

The successful candidate will be organised, have the ability to maintain the highest standards at all times and will ensure optimal service to staff and students.

Safeguarding: Caterlink is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all employees to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS disclosure must be obtained for this role.

For additional information please contact:
Ann Hopkins (College Manager)
hopkinsa@clystvale.org



CVCC Vacancies

**We currently have vacancies
for the following positions:**

Assistant SENDCo

Teacher of Science

Teacher of Geography (FTC)

Full details for all vacancies, including job descriptions and further information about how to apply, can be found on our website:

www.clystvale.org/vacancies

www.ticketsource.co.uk/communitytheatre4all

COMMUNITY THEATRE 4ALL PRESENTS

Talaton A War-Time Refuge



Cotley Farm Barn, Woodhayes Lane, Whimble, EX5 2QR

TicketSource

Tickets from www.ticketsource.co.uk/communitytheatre4all



Telephone Bookings 0333 666 3366 (booking fees apply)

25th, 26th, 28th, 29th & 30th April 2022 at 8pm - Adults £12, Children (under 16) £6

LUNCH CLUBS

Day	Club	Time	Where	Changing Room	Teacher
Monday	Year 9 to 13 Badminton	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Powell
Monday	Year 10 & 11 BRec/GCSE Dance	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	Dance Studio	Mrs Elliot
Monday	Year 10 & 11 Weights/Fitness	Lunchtime	Dance Studio	Humanities Block	Mr Pearce
Monday	All FIFA Tournament	Lunchtime	Meeting Room 2		Mr Stapleton
Monday	Week A – GCSE Art Club	Lunchtime	AR2		Mrs Walton
Monday	Week B – KS3 Art Club	Lunchtime	AR2		Mrs Walton
Monday	Year 11 RS Revision	1.40pm	HU1		Mrs Battisill
Monday	Science Club	1.30pm – 2pm	SC2		Dr Odunlade/Mrs Spencer
Monday	Mental Health Ambassadors	Lunchtime	VO1		Mrs Bennett
Tuesday	Year 7, 8 & 9 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	All FIFA Tournament	Lunchtime	Meeting Room 2		Mr Stapleton
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 Battisill
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	MT1		Miss McConnachie
Wednesday	Year 10 Film Club	Lunchtime	IT4		Kate Jones
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 11 Indoor Football	Lunchtime	Sports Hall	Sports Hall	Mr Stapleton
Thursday	Year 7 & 8 Football	Lunchtime	Field	Humanities Block	Mr Powell
Thursday	Year 11 Rosslyn Park 7s	Lunchtime	Field	Humanities Block	Mr Pearce
Thursday	Year 9 Netball	Lunchtime	Courts	Humanities Block	Mrs Broomfield
Thursday	Attenborough's Army	Lunchtime	HU4		Mr Zimber
Thursday	Yogioh Club	Lunchtime	SC3		Mr Moxey
Thursday	Games Club	Lunchtime	HU5		Miss Jenkins
Thursday	Year 11 Maths Higher Tier Drop In	Lunchtime	MA8		Miss Barratt
Friday	Various Inter Tutor	Lunchtime	Various	Various	Mr Stapleton Miss Hall Mrs Broomfield
Friday	KS3/4 Amnesty	Lunchtime	HU2		Mr Powell
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
w/c 25 April	Y10 Mock Exams
Thurs 28 April	4pm - 7pm Year 7 Parents' Evening
Mon 02 May	Early May Bank Holiday
Sat 07 & Sun 08 May	ALL DAY - Ten Tors Weekend
Sat 21 May	DofE Silver Assessed
Mon 30 May - Fri 03 June	SUMMER HALF TERM
Thurs 16 June	New Intake Non Feeder Schools Evening 6pm - 7.30pm
Fri 24 June	Year 13 Prom
w/b 27 June	Year 12 Mocks
Thurs 30 June - Sun 03 July	DofE Gold
Mon 04 & Tues 05 July	UNICEF Gold Visit
Weds 06 - Fri 08 July	New Intake Induction Days
Mon 11 July	New Intake Parents' Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Weds 13 July	Sports Day
Thurs 14 July	Reserve Sports Day
Fri 15 July	Year 12 UCAS Day
w/b 18 July	Y10 and Y12 Work Experience
Mon 18 - Fri 22 July	Gold D of E Brecon Expedition
Fri 22 July	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

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:

Sharon Leaman/Racheal Long (Attendance Officers)

Direct line: 01392 463911

Email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please ring Sharon Leaman/Racheal Long (Attendance Officers)

Direct line: 01392 463911

Email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

Copying in Head of Sixth Form: haynesc@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

