

NEWSLETTER

“Common sense is not so common”

Voltaire



No. 548
w/c Mon 24 April 2017
will be Week B

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back to the Summer Term

The Easter holiday came at a good time this year, and I hope that you all had a good couple of weeks and were able to take advantage of the excellent weather. We have started back energetically and well, close to arguably the most important few weeks of the annual cycle. There are roughly three weeks' lead-up to GCSE and A-level exams, five weeks of exams either side of the half-term week, and then four more until the end of term. This does affect everyone in the College, not just the exam candidates, as certain areas are affected by exams, there are room changes, and there will be several “early lunch” days as well. It's not just exams and more exams, though: Year 10 look forward to work experience, Year 8 to Bude, there is the last DLD, and of course Sports Day; there's Ten Tors, Duke of Edinburgh and the visit to Iceland; students will be going to Borneo through Camps International; plus many smaller events and opportunities, and the weekly range of lessons, sports and other activities. And in July we will welcome the new Year 7 of 175 students for their induction days, our largest intake for seven years.

Marsh Award for Human Rights Activism

The students and staff at Clyst Vale who are committed to human rights always make me proud. I often admire and report the splendid work of our Amnesty International Group, led by Ms Watt. So, I was thrilled that Ellen Blacker and Gemma Olive from the group put together a proposal to work with some of our primary schools on issues of human rights, and this has been recognised by Amnesty and the national Marsh Charity. The award consists of a certificate and a £500 cheque to support the project later this term or next. It was presented to Ellen in front of a packed conference auditorium at the two-day Amnesty International AGM at Nottingham University which she attended in her role as an Amnesty Youth Councillor; it is quite an achievement in itself for a Year 10 student to attend a conference and AGM full of adults, let alone receive an award, so once again, I find myself incredibly proud of students and staff who are committed to human rights.

Sports Award Evening

Next week the PE Department hold the annual Sports Awards Evening, a recognition of the sporting successes of our College teams and individuals. While sporting excellence is of course highlighted, there is also a strong emphasis on the qualities of sport: teamwork, leadership, and the determination and resilience to improve.

Take Your Child to Work Day

Next week also sees the annual “Take Your Child to Work Day”, which we are pleased to support as an element within our Careers Education programme; this is on Friday, for Year 8 students only. Very many thanks to parents and carers for assisting us with this – it is a valuable and “safe” introduction to the world of work.

Exam Procedures and Expectations

It's already on the website, and in the Exams Booklets received by students, but in a belt-and-braces assembly I went through the most important rules and expectations with Year 11 this morning. This covered illness, late arrivals, and the very strict rules surrounding internet-enabled devices and smartphones. The main messages were that exam board rules are much stricter than school rules, based on the principle of eliminating any opportunity to cheat, and there is no negotiation. Final decisions are the Exam Boards' and are binding.

Year 11 Only Revision/Homework Club

This might need a snappier title.... On Thursdays for the next few weeks Mr Endacott is running a Year 11 only revision room. It is similar to homework club, in that students bring their own revision or can use computer-based revision activities, but with two main differences: it is for Year 11 only, and if students remain for an appropriate length of time they are rewarded with free cake and a drink. As with homework club, students can remain until 5.00pm, and transport is a parental responsibility. This opportunity is in addition to the other revision sessions run by subjects at lunchtime and after school.

Character Education Updates

Following on from last year's successful project with four East Devon Schools, we are involved with further projects coordinated by Ms Prance. One is a University of Exeter-led research project into building resilience, which will involve approximately 25 Year 7 students in a rolling programme throughout the term; King's and Sidmouth are also involved in this project. We are also involved in an "Early Help for Mental Health" project, building on last year's emotional well-being strand of the larger initiative; this is to help build character in students facing particular challenges, targeting individuals in Years 7 to 9. Very soon we will be presenting last term's Character Education Awards to the individual in each tutor group who has displayed exceptional qualities of community, resilience, leadership or curiosity; this is clearly great news for the individuals, but also allows us to keep alive and current the core principles of character education.

General Election, 8th June

Once again, the Government has failed to consult me on the suitability of a general election date, and it clashes with the Year 8 Parents' Evening. However, we have no plans to change this, as there will be plenty of opportunities for parents and staff to vote before or afterwards. Ironically, the date also clashes with the A-level Government & Politics exam, the very group of students likely to be particularly interested in proceedings. In the past, led by Mrs Padden, we have often run large-scale mock elections or hustings with local candidates, but clearly this is not wise slap-bang in the middle of the exam period when three year groups are on study leave.

Shirts 'n' Skirts

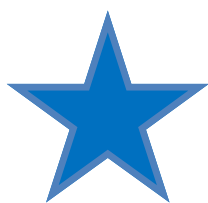
As I say each year, we don't have a different summer uniform. It's still white shirts/blouses with a tie, and black skirt or trousers. It's still a jumper and/or a coat that looks like a coat, not a hoody or tracksuit top. Students do not have to wear a jumper; but if they have an additional layer on underneath the shirt/blouse it must be plain white so that colours and logos do not come through. If we get any decent sunshine later in the term, students are expected to keep their regular shirt/blouse on at all times, including lunchtimes – i.e. no sunbathing in a purple top with straps. The two bugbears in the summer term are untucked shirts and skirts which are too short. We will continue to nag about both, especially short skirts which are on the verge of being immodest.



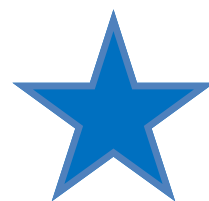
Dr Bawn



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



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



YELLOW SCHOOL	
7YJPU	Lily Davey
8YME	Harrison Ware
8YMM	Rachel Davey
9YJCO	Anwen Fraser
9YSP	Freya Harris
10YMPR	Grace Porter
11YCW	Reece Warren

SILVER SCHOOL	
7SMBR	Fin Thomas
10SNG	Ben Howes
10SNS	Harri Lawrence
11SDJ	Kiara Ashford
11SSG	Will Fowles

Ski Pila 2019

If your child is interested in being part of the next Ski Trip in 2019 they need to collect a letter from Mrs Woolacott or from the folder outside of the PE office.

Pila is an excellent beginner resort with over 70kms of pistes offering high altitude, snow sure skiing for everyone from complete beginners to those who have previously skied. The price will be **£969.00** which includes the following:

- Travel from College to resort and return journey (luxury 49 seater coach fitted with seat belts), plus ferry, together with use of coach whilst in resort
- Ski lessons (morning and afternoon for six days)
- Hire of skis, boots and poles
- Full area lift pass
- Full insurance (including 24 hour Medicare, ski breakage and snow guarantee)
- Full board accommodation, including hot lunch on the slopes
- Après ski activities, such as ice-skating, tubing, ski test and Presentation Evening
- College Ski hooded sweatshirt

Behaviour and achievement points will be taken into consideration prior to students being accepted on this trip.



CALENDAR DATES

Mon 24th April	Y12 House of Commons & Lords trip
Wed 26th April	Y9 Boys' vaccinations—9.15
Fri 28th April	Y10 Boys' & Girls' vaccinations
Mon 1st May	Bank Holiday
Tues 2nd May—Fri 5th May	Y10 Mock Exams
Fri 5th May	Baroness Tavistock visit
Fri 5th May—Sun 7th May	Ten Tors Main Event
Tues 9th May	Y7 Parents' Evening 4.30pm—7.00pm
Wed 10th May	LLC Fun Run
Thurs 11th May	Y12 & Y13—7.00 pm Northcott Theatre (Othello)
W/C Mon 15th May	GCSE Exams start
Thurs 18th May	Y7—Y10 Boys' & Girls' Vaccination Mop Ups

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

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

Silver School: Julia Knowles (01392 463906; knowlesj@clystvale.org)

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

Green School: Catherine Hellier (01392 463913; hellierc@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

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.

All uniform 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

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

Tel: 01392 461407 **Library:** 01392 464010

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

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

