



# NEWSLETTER

**No. 614**  
**w/c Mon 28 January 2019**  
**will be Week A**

## **THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT**

*"One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say."* **Bryant H McGill**

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **The Annual Rhythms**

Although "Blue Monday" was invented in 2004 as a marketing ploy to sell holidays, and has little psychological basis, there is no doubt that this time of year has its challenges; it is also important to counteract any gloom with positive experiences. I think that this Newsletter illustrates this time of year perfectly.....

### **"Annie"**

"Annie" is like an enormous injection of positivity and illustrates most of the very best qualities of Clyst Vale and its young people. There is inevitably a focus on the performance, and many of these have been superb; you can see the young people with potential star quality. The orchestra is overlooked literally but not metaphorically: they are performers, too, and we are extremely fortunate to have such capable musicians. The crew and back-stage helpers contribute a lot more than people, even sometimes the cast, realise. So, it is a huge team effort, developing all the soft skills of teamwork, leadership, compromise, empathy, and mutual support; a lot of the traditional hierarchies disappear in the common effort. There is an extraordinarily powerful message for life that commitment, determination and practice pays off. One surprising feature is how few adults are involved: two in the orchestra, one stage manager, a couple of backstage helpers plus chaperones, and two in the sound box. In other words, students have enormous personal responsibility in regulating themselves and knowing where and when to be.

Special mention has to go to Miss Williams; you only have to read the credits in the programme to realise that she has put her heart, soul, weeks of her life and her wide range of talents into this production, and I am delighted for her that the first two nights have been so well-received, and that four of the five performances have sold out. There have been numerous crises along the way, again providing lessons for life: there's no time to stand around moaning or blaming people, when quick problem-solving is needed and everyone mucks in. We are enormously grateful to a variety of people for so many things: what "goes on behind the scenes should stay behind the scenes", but one of the stars of the show was taken suddenly quite ill, requiring a stand-in at three hours' notice who had not even seen the script or been to the Barnfield: so, thank you to Fred the spaniel for his acting debut, and we wish Tally the retriever a speedy recovery.

OK, musical theatre isn't everyone's cup of tea, and only 10% of the College population is involved, but there is no doubt that "Annie" has been a real lift and an inspiration. I am so grateful and proud of everyone who has contributed to the show.

## **Year 9 Girls' STEM Day**

Something else which was really interesting and enjoyable to see was the STEM Day for Year 9 girls. This is part of a nationally funded initiative to encourage girls to think about science and engineering as it is widely known that women are significantly under-represented in this sector of the economy; we haven't suddenly embarked on single-sex teaching, although this was another interesting aspect of the day. The day involved designing, building, coding, driving and marketing a robotic-style car. What impressed my colleagues and me was the incredibly high levels of engagement and cooperation within and between the groups.

## **League Tables**

Secondary School performance tables were published yesterday by the Department of Education. These relate to the summer 2018 results, so if you are an assiduous reader of this Newsletter and the College website you will not learn anything particularly new. The league tables confirm that we are generally above national and Devon averages for attainment; that a number of measures have improved from 2016 and 2017; but that overall we are "average". So, on the one hand, this is all right, and we're not letting anyone down, but on the other hand we have been "above average" before on many occasions and are determined to get there again.

## **Social Media**

"Blue Monday": when *some* people are down, they cheer themselves up by making other people feel worse. We're in one of those phases where out-of-College use of social media is exacerbating fallings-out within College. These have nothing to do with learning and in fact hinder it, take up a disproportionate amount of time, and at times the unpleasantness is shocking. Meanwhile, on the national news this week has been the case of 14-year old Molly Russell, and Instagram's failure to deal with distressing suicide posts, which is even more serious than cyber-bullying. Like all technological advances, the internet is unbelievably powerful and useful, yet simultaneously unbelievably potentially dangerous. Do you know what your child is doing on their phones and tablets? Are they bullying/being bullied? What are they accessing? What are the privacy settings? Is their platform of choice open to anyone and everyone? Who's talking to them? Talk to them about it.

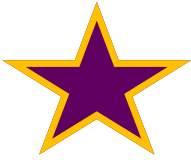
## **Buses**

To a tiny minority of students the message is not getting through that bus transport to and from College is an extension of the College day, and all students must be safe on those journeys. If there are students behaving poorly on a bus, especially if this is a pattern, we would like to know so we can address it. This includes Stagecoach as well.

## **Phones and Earphones**

I would like to clarify a point about this. We have a smartphone ban between essentially 08.50 and 15.20. Smartphones should not be turned on, and should be in a student's bag. Therefore, there is absolutely no point in a student having earphones strung through their clothing, because they cannot be used. In fact, it might even suggest that the student is awaiting an opportunity to switch on and get plugged in, which automatically breaks the smartphone ban. If a student has earphones dangling out of their shirt collar, then it is entirely reasonable for a member of staff to challenge this, ask for the earphones to be removed and put away, if appropriate confiscate them for the rest of the day, and also make sure that the phone goes into the bag (depending on the exact circumstances, a phone confiscation might be justified).





# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



## YELLOW SCHOOL

7YNS	Bethany Harris
7YMPR	Erin Blagdon
8YRB	Jamie Horwell
8YKHO	Kayleigh Martin
9YJPU	Charlie Crispin
9YMBR	Emma Spruce, Hafina Clavey & Martha Bolt
10YMM	Tyler Gray
10YZK	Josh Griffiths
11YSP	Tom Biden
11YMHI	Tamzin Street

## RED SCHOOL

7RGG	Tommy Pullyblank
7RHCH	Jack Crawford
8RHC	Madeline Newman
8RTMA	Ellie Clark
9RCJ	Nick Sloan, Bethan Hatt & Lara Gulec
9RCM	Kayley Cutting
10RZB	Addie Whiteman
11RAR	Fay Beer
11RLA	Niamh Truscott-Jane

**NETBALL CLUBS**

YEAR 9, 10 & 11  
MONDAYS  
3.20 - 4.30 PM

YEAR 7 & 8  
THURSDAYS  
3.20 - 4.30 PM

## GREEN SCHOOL

7GSW	Esther Justus & Jake Gregory
7GNB	Elliot Fox & Evie Browning
8GGT	Malakai Seaforth-Lytton & Livvy Carter
9GHE	Chloe Jeffery
9GIM	Henry Walker, Theo Munro & Lily Roberts
10GDH	Summer Tooze
10GPE	Harvey Board & Ellen Shorland
11GBA	Poppy Neville & Charlie Roberts
11GABR	Emily Taylor & Millie Franklin

## STUDENT ABSENCES YEARS 7 - 11

The number for absences is 01392 - 463911 or  
email [studentabsence@clystvale.org](mailto:studentabsence@clystvale.org)



# SPORTS NEWS

## KS4 BADMINTON

It was the second leg of the badminton fixture against The King's School, Ottery on Monday with the older students taking to the courts. A very strong Y9 boys' squad were the highlight result winning all of their matches. Led by Max and supported by Jacob Thomas, the singles quickly went their way as the top seeds mixed precise and delicate net play with great power in their smashes, clears and drives. Will and Jack won their doubles and then went on to mix up partners and succeed again with their new partners. For Jack it was a first competitive match for the school and he should feel especially pleased with his efforts under pressure.



The older boys fared less well and, whilst all the boys showed glimpses of the skill they showed in years gone by, they certainly looked a little rusty. Charlie covered the court well in his singles game and Max also showed great athleticism as they battled to stay in their singles games. The Year 10 boys sadly came up short in their doubles games despite some coordinated and skilled play by Louis and Tom Davey in their doubles match. For the Year 10 girls it was a first competitive game for a number of them and a new environment for the sporty GCSE PE students to adapt to. Flossy partnered Natasha and both girls showed some lovely shots to lose narrowly. Lara, who was supporting the older girls' team, won her singles at a canter with her usual mixture of power and agility. Chloe and Eloise were great throughout and, whilst nerves occasionally surfaced, they always played their best with a smile on their face. The girls swapped partners and this led to a good win near the end for Eloise and Lara but overall the rubber was lost.

With the older boys there were a number of county standard players on show and the speed and shot selection was exceptional. Edwin versus the Kings' number one seed was a great spectacle that drew stares from other players and parents alike. All of the games were close, with Will Blum pushing Fraser from Kings' close as did Olly and Joe Blackburn who were testing their skills with one eye on GCSE PE scores. In the end it was only Joe and Olly who could scrape a win so another rubber down. The friendly match was lost 3 rubbers to 1, a reversal of the Key Stage 3 fixture last week. Many of these students will meet again in the county finals next month for more fun and fantastic badminton. As always Clyst Vale played with great spirit and enthusiasm and were a great advert for badminton in the Exeter district.

Mr Powell  
Head of PE

## COUNTY SELECTION FOR SAM MILLS

Many congratulations to Sam Mills in Year 9 who has been selected to represent Devon in the South West Cross Country Running Championships in February. He achieved this by coming second out of all Year 8 and 9 boys in the whole of Devon last Saturday in Newton Abbot. Three of our younger runners, Tamara Dow, Lucy Massey and Harvey Tarrant are also to be congratulated for representing Exeter and East Devon at the above event. A great achievement, well done all four of you!



# CALENDAR DATES

<b>SPRING TERM 2019</b>	
Wed 23 - Sat 26 Jan	College Production of 'Annie' at Barnfield Theatre 7pm all evenings plus 2pm on Saturday
Mon 28 Jan	Y9 Girls' HPV Vaccinations
Tues 5 Feb	Y11 Pre Exam Support Evening 6.00 - 8.00
Sat 9 - Sun 10 Feb	Ten Tors Practice/Bronze D of E Weekend
Thurs 14 Feb	Y9 Options Evening 4.30 - 6.30
Fri 15 Feb	Non-Uniform Day (Force)
Mon 18 - Fri 22 Feb 2019	SPRING HALF TERM
Thurs 28 Feb	Y9 Parents' Evening 6.30 - 8.30
Fri 8 March	Y9 BCG Vaccinations
Tues 12 March	Y10 Parents' Evening 6.30 - 8.30
Wed 20 - Fri 22 March	Y12 Geography Residential - Dorset
Fri 29 March	Take Your Child to Work Day
Thurs 4 April	PE Sports Awards Evening 6.00 - 9.00
Fri 5 April 2019	Non-Uniform Day (Guide Dogs for the Blind) LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM
<b>SUMMER TERM 2019</b>	
Wed 24 April 2019	START OF SUMMER TERM
Sat 27 - Sun 28 April	Ten Tors Practice Weekend
Thurs 2 May	Y7 Parents' Evening 4.15 - 7.00
Mon 6 May	Bank Holiday
Tues 7 May	Y12 Parents' Evening 4.30 - 7.30
Fri 10 - Sun 12 May	Ten Tors Main Event
Fri 24 May	Y11 and Y13 Study Leave Starts
Mon 27 - Fri 31 May 2019	SUMMER HALF TERM
Wed 12 June	Y6 Non Feeder Evening 6.00 - 8.00
Fri 28 June	Y11 Prom 6.00 - 11.00
Mon 8 July	New Intake Parents' Evening 6.00 - 8.00
Tues 9 July	Sports Day
Fri 12 July	Y12 Final Day
Mon 15 July - Fri 19 July	Y10 Work Experience Week
Thurs 18 - Sun 21 July	Y12 Gold D of E Practice
Fri 19 July 2019	LAST DAY OF SUMMER 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 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](mailto:studentabsence@clystvale.org)

### For Year 12 - 13 Absences

Please ring:

Jassy Barrington (Post-16 PA)

Direct line: 01392 462697

Email: [barringtonj@clystvale.org](mailto: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](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](http://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](mailto:admin@clystvale.org) **Web:** [www.clystvale.org](http://www.clystvale.org)

**Principal:** Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

