

NEWSLETTER

No. 702
w/c Mon 1 March
Week B

THOUGHT OF THE FORTNIGHT

"I have always imagined that Paradise will be some kind of library."
Jorge Luis Borges

Reporting of Covid-19 positive test results throughout Lockdown (including evenings and weekends)

To report a positive Covid-19 test result during normal school hours, please contact Student Absence on 01392 463911 or email: studentabsence@clystvale.org

If out-of-hours, we have a dedicated phone number, solely for reporting positive Covid-19 test results at evenings and weekends. This isn't for suspected cases, non-Covid-19 illness or absence, or advice.

07818 212 931

We would prefer you to text positive Covid-19 test result information to this number, including:

Name of student; Tutor group; Dates of 1. When symptoms appeared; 2. Test; 3. Test result

If necessary, someone will contact you having received this information. Thank you!

Dear Parents and Carers

The Proverbial Buses

CV01. "Catching-up". You wait ages for a government announcement to arrive, and then three turn up at once, albeit without a clear route, the possibility of stalling and with some odd looking drivers. In reverse order of urgency, the announcement of additional funding for "catch-up" is welcome, although there is much more detail to emerge; also, many secondary-aged students will catch up just fine, and I was pleased that Gavin Williamson acknowledged that "catch-up" is the broader curriculum and not just the academic, which will do far more for emotional health. I doubt that I will be announcing much CVCC detail on this before Easter; however, I should say that we have already begun using the first tranche of funding on targeted students, through 121 Tutors, Coachbright, and replacing the pre-covid Year 7 catch-up funding which has been withdrawn.

CV02. Exam grades. Yesterday the results of the consultation on grading of public exams were announced, with the government's roadmap for this particular bus. There is a lot to this. What is most positive is that it gives some certainty for students; there are no algorithms; there are no externally-marked tests; the work students do between now and early June counts towards their teachers' assessments; in other words, at least some of students' biggest worries have gone. Will students receive a barrage of these externally-set/internally marked tests? No: not all subjects would need them, and they would be spaced out – there would be no benefit in holding a sort of mock week. We will seek to give fair grades, but we are definitely not going to deliberately set up systems which could disadvantage students!

I always prefer to offer the "CVCC view" rather than a media piece; however, this BBC article is good at pointing out the key issues facing schools in general:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-56196295>

You can find the DfE document on....

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/964597/6747-1_decisions_-_GQ_consultation_on_awarding_grades_in_2021.pdf

....but here is a quick summary of the most important points:

- Teachers must assess their students' performance, only on what content has been delivered to them by their teachers, to determine the grade each student should receive.
- Teachers can use evidence of a student's performance from throughout the course to inform their judgement.
- Teachers should determine the grades as late in the year as is practicable, to enable teaching to continue for as long as possible.
- Schools and colleges should use a broad range of evidence across the taught content to determine the grades before submitting the grades to the exam boards.
- Students should continue to work on their non-exam assessment (NEA), including for Project qualifications. NEA will be marked by teachers and will contribute to the overall grade, whether or not it has been completed.
- In GCSE, AS and A level art and design, the student's grade must be based on the portfolio¹ only, whether or not it has been completed.
- In GCSE English language, GCSE modern foreign languages and A level sciences (biology, chemistry, physics and geology), centres should determine and submit a separate grade or result for the endorsement element. This result or grade should be based on work that has been completed towards the endorsement.
- Exam boards will provide a package of support materials to include questions, mark schemes, data about how students typically performed in individual questions and exemplar materials, as well as advice for teachers about content coverage, topic selection, marking and making grading judgements. This will be based on past questions and will include a proportion of previously unpublished questions for every subject.
- Use of these exam board support materials is not compulsory; they will be part of the range of evidence teachers could use to determine the grade.
- A student who is unhappy with their grade will first ask their centre to check whether an administrative or procedural error had been made.
- Where a centre does identify an error in the grade submitted to the exam board, it can submit a revised grade.
- Where a centre does not believe an error had been made, a student can ask the centre to appeal to the exam board on their behalf.
- Results days will be on 10 August for AS and A level, and 12 August for GCSE results.

I have been asked when Year 11's "last day" will be. The only date we have is that grades should be submitted on 18th June; I assume that this assumes no covid-related setbacks between now and then. I appreciate this isn't very helpful for parents who are contemplating holidays. It would seem that dates in July might be reasonably safe, but please don't hold me to that. (If at all possible we will have a "last day" as a rite of passage in College for Years 11 and 13, but it's too early to be specific.)

CV03. Return to College and Mass Testing.

- I have written a separate letter to parents about this. It's lucky I enjoy puzzles, as it's like one of those old-fashioned problems. *"You have to do 1000 tests for 6 groups of 150 and 1 group of 100. The groups must not come into contact with each other. 45% of each group arrives on school transport. If you can do 20 tests an hour per testing bay, how long will it take to test a year group if a) you have 4 bays, b) 6 bays, and c) 8 bays? Remember that the probability of arranging 8 bays on any given day is 0.8, and 10-15% of the groups will not be tested so some of them will need to be tested on another day (without mixing); you are also running a KWV provision for approximately 100 students and introducing a full timetable at the same time. Show your working."*
- Not for the first time, schools have been put in a difficult position (I am behaving myself, as some Headteacher colleagues are talking of invidious positions and hospital passes). Once again, we will juggle while unicycling (OK, not me personally), do our utmost to ensure the best interests of students remain to the fore, and keep as many people as happy as we possibly can. LFTests are highly recommended by government but cannot be made compulsory and require consent. The government are insisting that masks should be worn at all times in school, but if a student/parent refuses then the child cannot be punished or denied education. The only possible approach is to encourage all students (and parents) to have tests and wear masks. The vast majority will do so because it is (probably, on balance, slightly) safer than not doing so; and it is also of benefit to large numbers of other people, even if there might be some risks to the individual. This paragraph will incense a small number of parents who are opposed on principle to LFTs and/or masks; and a small number who believe that untested bare-faced children should not be allowed in class or even the College. So, the only approach we can take is to follow government guidance, and statute where it applies; a school cannot depart from this. And we must assume for planning purposes that we will be testing almost all students; and we will be giving lots of reminders about mask-wearing. Individual cases will be considered on their own merits, although of course we are fully aware that no LFT can or will be done without consent. We are also following public health instruction; and we have just had a covid outbreak with three of my colleagues still too ill to return to work.
- We await information on how home-testing will work, once students have had their initial three tests.
- In brief, the phased return will be Year 11 and Post-16 on Monday 8th March; Year 10 on Tuesday 9th; Year 7 on Wednesday; Year 8 on Thursday; Year 9 on Friday. KWV will phase out day by day as each bubble "pops" and joins the full year group. Apart from keeping year group bubbles apart, a key rationale here is to achieve a smooth start, and to minimise the disruption to learning; however, when we are marching year groups around to have their tests, there will be some considerable disruption. It will be like running vaccinations twice a day for ten days.
- School Transport will operate a full service from the morning of Monday, 8th March. It's too complicated to do anything else. IMPORTANT: new guidance from the Dept of Transport (ie government) is that if there is one positive case then everyone on the bus will need to isolate for ten days. (Exactly how this works for public transport I do not know, but I have enough other things to think about.)
- And PLEASE complete the LFT consent form whether or not you consent: there is an option to withhold consent. I am really sorry it is a clunky form; we didn't design it, and we're not allowed to change it. here is the link to the form: [Student Consent form for Covid-19 testing](#) , and you can find the accompanying letter and Privacy Notice on our website, at <http://www.clystvale.org/c19/>

On-line Safety

- This is a fast-changing area with a need for eternal vigilance from parents and frequent reminders from us in lessons, through campaigns, and in our regular communications. Fortunately, there is tons of information and support on the internet now.
- For example, there are almost weekly crazes on Tiktok and other platforms which are mostly harmless but occasionally not. Lockdown and the changing seasons is not helping this, as children (like lambs and rabbits at this time of year) become more skittish and adventurous, and have time on their hands. For this, and so many other reasons, students need to be back in school. Even if the method of their return is going to be fun.

- We have also recently promoted an on-line resource from Thinkuknow, and I would recommend visiting the Thinkuknow website regularly: Thinkuknow.co.uk
- This is from net-aware (CEOP is the police-run Childline Exploitation and On-line Protection). Apps, games and social media sites reviews for parents

[Apps, games and social media sites reviews for parents](#)

Further help and support. If you're a child or young person and want to talk, contact Childline online or call 0800 1111. Anyone who's worried about online grooming or sexual behaviour online can contact CEOP. If you discover any criminal content when you're online you should report it to the Internet Watch Foundation www.net-aware.org.uk

Sixth Form News

- We have had an increase on applications compared to last year, including an increase in Year 11 students wishing to remain here. This is great news. Now we know we will be back soon, Miss Haynes will arrange interviews for applicants.
- Sociology students had a wonderful virtual session with Rina Marie Hill, a London barrister on the Eastern circuit. Rina spoke to the group about a variety of issues related to Gang Culture and organised crime, both nationally and more locally to Exeter, using a case study from 2017.
- Devon County Post-16 Transport. This is for Year 11, really (it's a ploy to make sure everyone reads all of the Newsletter). It has been communicated separately, so this is just a quick reminder that further information and details of application can be found here: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/guide/post-16-transport>

Free School Meals

FSM vouchers have been sent out and should arrive via email today (Friday), or recorded delivery if posted (four families). Because the deadline for ordering was before the confirmed return to school date we have ordered each student two weeks of vouchers in the first instance.

Thank You from St Petrocks

Our collection before Christmas raised £385.68. St Petrocks write, "Your kindness will help us make a lasting difference in the lives of local people without a home; we greatly appreciate your support in these challenging times. Please pass on our thanks to all those involved in making this donation." The letter also provided an update on how the St Petrock Centre remains open; there is support for Exeter City Council's homeless programme during lockdown; and a rough sleeper support team are out each weekday morning to engage with people around the city.

Station Road Road Closure: The Sequel, Premiering 29th March

I was pleased for Broadclyst residents that the half-term closure was only in place for four days. However, news of a much scarier sequel has just broken. Gas main work in Broadclyst Station means that there will be a road closure along that section of road. This means a hefty diversion. It also means Heaver and FedEx lorries having to access and leave their depot past CVCC and through the Baptist Chapel chicane. Broadclyst Parish Council has been really proactive and concerned about public safety; there will be Police presence every morning, as well as volunteers morning and afternoon. The intention is that between 08.00-09.00 and 15.00-15.45 through traffic is discouraged for the safety of student pedestrians and to allow access for School Transport and Stagecoach buses. It has not been possible for contractors to move all of the work into school holidays – something to do with access to the railway line. However, hopefully only four school days will be affected, Monday 29th March to Thursday 1st April, as well as the following week.

Great to see snowdrops, daffs and primroses out, along with daylight at each end of the day. The vaccine roll-out is a big success – I have had mine – and while we still need to keep the tightest controls in place to avoid a repeat of earlier this month, it's nice that for many people

Very best wishes, take care and stay safe,

Kevin Bawn
Principal



Broadclyst Parish Area – Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

Our Parish
Our Plan
Our Choice



Broadclyst Parish Council is inviting residents to have their say on the Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan. The consultation period began on 4th December and runs until the end of next month (Sunday 28th February).

There are 3 elements to the Plan – the vision, the policies and the projects.

The feedback form invites you to rank how important you feel various aspects of the Plan are, as well as having plenty of space for ‘free text’ feedback.

Policies include the proposed Community Sports Hub, heritage trails, renewable energy production, housing, pedestrian and cycle routes and protecting woodland and green spaces. Projects include public transport and active travel initiatives, regenerating orchards and addressing flooding.

The Neighbourhood Plan gives communities direct power to

- develop a shared vision for their Parish;
- allocate sites and shape development for their Parish;
- shape growth by design codes for their Parish, and
- protect and enhance special places within their Parish.

The Parish Council is now seeking your views on that shared vision, policies, community actions and projects that will shape the future of the Parish.

To access further information and the feedback form, please click on the link below, which will take you to the relevant section of the Broadclyst Parish Council website:

[Broadclyst Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation](#)

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
w/b 08 March	Y11 Core Subject Mock Exams - CANCELLED
Thurs 11 March 4pm-7pm	Y7 Parents' Evening - probably online (TBC)
Sat 13 & Sun 14 March	Ten Tors/DofE Practice Weekend (TBC)
Weds 17 March (TBC)	Deep Learning Day (if back in school!)
w/b Mon 22 March	Y10 Exams (TBC)
Tues 23 - Fri 26 March	Y12 Geography Fieldwork Residential (TBC)
Thurs 1st April	Last Day of Spring Term
Tues 20th April	Start of Summer Term
	Half Term
Fri 23rd 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.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Principal: Kevin Bawn, BA PhD

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EX5 3AJP

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

Library: 01392 464010

