

## Principal's Update



**Sara Jacobs**  
Principal



I wish to extend my thanks to you for the positive start that your child has made to the Spring Term. Welcoming everyone back has been an enjoyable experience, students look smart, they are polite and respectful and it is rewarding to see them take pride in being part of the College community. As we embark on this new year, it signifies the start of a fresh chapter for your child—a chance to establish new goals, cultivate friendships and create lifelong memories. The central theme for this term is 'participation'. We are lucky at Clyst Vale to have a broad range of activities for students, and I sincerely hope your child makes the most of these opportunities.

In lessons there is a strong emphasis on learning, and it has been a pleasure to be able to walk around the college and see purposeful and productive lessons. Our staff are keen to reward students who are meeting our expectations and working hard, when you see your child has been rewarded for their participation in lessons please do spend time discussing their achievements with them. This term we welcome three new members of staff; you can read a little more about each of them in the following section.

As a Rights Respecting School we are dedicated to cultivating an inclusive environment that embraces diversity. This week marks the commencement of our 'cultural fortnight'. During this week students have the chance to build a deeper understanding and appreciation for the diversity that exists in our world and are reminded about the importance of being open-minded global citizens.

Thank you for your continued support, education is a partnership between the College and families and it is crucial that we work together to create an environment in which every child can thrive.

*Sara Jacobs*  
Principal

## What's on Next Week

Monday 15 January—Year 9 Meningitis ACWY and Tetanus/Diphtheria/Polio vaccinations

Friday 19 January—CVCC Amnesty Group Cake Sale for UNICEF (see accompanying poster for more info)

Saturday 20 January—Ten Tors Weekend Camp

## Key Dates for Spring Term

12 to 16 February—Spring Half Term Holiday

Friday 29 March to Sunday 14 April inclusive—Easter Holiday

## Key Dates for Summer Term

15 April - Non Pupil Day

16 April—Students Return

27 to 31 May —Summer Half Term

24 July—Summer Holiday Begins

## Our New Deputy Principal



**Lisa Martin**

Deputy Principal

I am delighted to be introducing myself as the new Deputy Principal at Clyst Vale. This first week has been a whirlwind as I get to know the students and staff and immerse myself in the college ethos and way of life; the young people I have met at the college have been kind, helpful and unfailingly polite and are an absolute credit to their families and community.

I have joined Clyst Vale from a secondary school in Somerset, where I spent nearly ten years, initially as the Head of English, and later as an Assistant Headteacher leading on curriculum, teaching and learning and literacy. I am a huge believer in the power of education to transform the lives and experiences of young people, and, as an English teacher, am passionate about ensuring young people develop a love for reading and the ability to write and speak articulately and with confidence.

Clyst Vale is unique in its approach to young people's development, and this week has shown me that the college commitment to building mutually respectful relationships and enabling students to grow in to outstanding global citizens is more than simply a sound-bite; it is lived and enacted every day by the staff and members of this college. I am proud to now call myself a member of this community and am looking forward to working with yourselves and your children in the coming days, weeks and months.

## Bonjour/Hola from the New Modern Foreign Language Teacher



**Miriam Theeten**

Teacher

My name is Miriam Theeten. After working as a Modern Foreign Language teacher for 15 years in Honiton, I am delighted to join the staff at Clyst Vale Community College in teaching French and Spanish. It has been great getting to meet my tutees and students this first week although I'm still pretty clueless about the school layout beyond the MFL corridor. If I look lost, I probably am!

Over the next term, I am looking forward to helping students enjoy and engage with language learning. I love to motivate my students and make learning an interactive, comfortable and enjoyable experience. I always aim to give my students the opportunity to express themselves and have more talk time, so they can build confidence and get to improve their language skills. I encourage my students to ask questions, take risks and overcome the fear of making mistakes as this is part of the learning process.

I think teaching is one of the most rewarding jobs a person could do, especially when I get to see all of the amazing progress students make!

## The New Addition to the Maths Department



**Grahame Womersley-Westlake**

Teacher

My name is Grahame Womersley-Westlake. This is my 5th year teaching maths, but I have been working in schools for over 10 years having had a teaching assistant and cover roles previously. Most recently, I have been working down the road in Cullompton.

I have joined Clyst Vale for the opportunity of teaching Post 16 and because of the excellent welcome I received during my interview earlier this year.

I have really enjoyed my first week here especially meeting my classes and getting to know the students I will be working with as well as those around the college. I have already made to feel very welcome by both staff and pupils as I settle in.

I am looking forward to continuing with the rest of the Maths department to help students achieve their very best and enjoy their time here at the college.

## School Transport News



We keep close track of Clyst Vale buses which arrive late at either end of the day, and report persistent problems to Devon School Transport. However, parent power is highly effective, too. If your child takes school transport, and you're not happy with the service provided, please contact them yourself in addition to us using email [studentservices@clystvale.org](mailto:studentservices@clystvale.org). The number for Devon School Transport is 0345 155 1019, e-mail [schooltransportservicequeries-mailbox@devon.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransportservicequeries-mailbox@devon.gov.uk).

No Pass No Travel scheme, and spot inspections this term. We were expecting a check from Devon Council Transport Team last term, this did not happen so it is likely they will be checking the passes soon. Added to this, there has been a noticeable increase in students wanting temporary bus passes because they've left the proper one at home. For both of these reasons, if your child gets on Clyst Vale transport, please make sure they have their pass with them. If your child has lost their pass they will need to get a temporary bus pass from Student Services by lunch time. You will also need to apply for a replacement via this [link https://services.devon.gov.uk/web/replacement-travel-passes/application](https://services.devon.gov.uk/web/replacement-travel-passes/application) . The cost of a replacement bus pass is £5.00.

Please be aware that unless your child is registered to be on a certain Clyst Vale bus, we cannot issue a temporary bus pass for them to travel, for instance to go to a friend's house.

## Reminders...

### Year 9 Meningitis ACWY and Tetanus/Diphtheria/Polio vaccinations Monday 15/01/2024



These vaccinations will be held on Monday. If you have consented for your child to receive the vaccination, please ensure that they are wearing a short sleeved shirt for easy access for the nurses. It is also advisable that they have eaten breakfast and have a snack with them.

### Year 9 Parents' Evening Thursday 25/01/2024



Booking is still open for the Year 9 Parents Evening via <https://cvcc.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. If you have any problems or queries please contact Student Services by email to the following email: [studentservices@clystvale.org](mailto:studentservices@clystvale.org) or telephone 01392 463910.



**Have you submitted your  
Post 16 application?**

**Deadline - Friday 26th January 2024**  
[www.clystvale.org/post16](http://www.clystvale.org/post16)

## Clyst Vale's Budding Entrepreneurs

Today our Year 10 Enterprise students were visited by business owners from the local community to find out about the benefits and challenges of setting up and running your own business venture.

Students had spent time preparing questions to ask our local entrepreneurs, and covered a range of topics. From identifying gaps in the market, forming the initial vision for a new project, scanning for threats and dealing with challenges. This work will form a part of the coursework element for students' course as well as inspiring them in their future.

We are always delighted to work alongside the local community, and would like to thank the following for their support:

Will Ballard—Calibre Cleaning Devon  
Kay Gibbons—K&K Legal Consulting  
Jon Racford—Football Fun Factory  
Marie Pulman—Animals2Usouthwest



## Cultural Fortnight Activities

We are halfway through this year's Cultural Fortnight. As a College we are focusing and engaging students in discussion around the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010. There have been lots of activities taking place to celebrate Cultural Fortnight and on Wednesday some students created Pride Flags to display around the College—here are a few!

This was a fantastic activity, and the students created some brilliant Pride Flags. Next week there will be more events around the school for students to take part in, including Mental Health affirmations in the Hall on Monday and the Cultural Cake Sale next Friday.



## Student of the Week

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| No Permission to Name 7YCFL<br>Jessica Moyes 7GHE<br>Owen Whitmarsh 7RER<br>Rory Hynd 7GRTU<br>Archie Roles 7YCBO  | No Permission to Name 8YGGA<br>Tabi Hall 8GMN<br>Brooke Baker-Holmes 8RTMa<br>Zak Howland 8RDF<br>Sophie Bennett 8GLT<br>No Permission to Name 8YBH | James Rainton 9RNS<br>Rudy Startup 9YSWA<br>Lily Johns 9GCMC<br>Daisy Wilding-Webb 9YMBR<br>Emily Gill 9GDJ<br>Sophie Magowan 9RBAT |
| Year 7   | Year 8  | Year 9  |
| Ryan Burridge 10RZB<br>Will Luffingham 10RSGA<br>Freya Bayley 10YSS<br>No Permission to Name 10YADA<br>Tom Ruddlesden 10GDH<br>Eve Van Het Bolscher 10GABR | Joel Wilson 11RCMO<br>Ethan Board 11GGT<br>Otto Moxey-White 11GAW<br>Daisy Mitchell 11RMAH<br>Charlotte Curwood 11YDST<br>Harry Bunday 11YLH        | No Permission to Name 13HP  |
| Year 10  | Year 11   | P16 Commendation  |



## Key Contact Information

**Reception: 01392 461407 Email: [admin@clystvale.org](mailto:admin@clystvale.org)**

|                |                               |  |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Sara Jacobs    | Principal                     | <a href="mailto:Jacobs@clystvale.org">Jacobs@clystvale.org</a>     |
| Lisa Martin    | Deputy Principal              | <a href="mailto:martinl@clystvale.org">martinl@clystvale.org</a>   |
| Paul Sutton    | Deputy Principal (Pastoral)   | <a href="mailto:suttonp@clystvale.org">suttonp@clystvale.org</a>   |
| Ann Hopkins    | College Manager               | <a href="mailto:hopkinsa@clystvale.org">hopkinsa@clystvale.org</a> |
| Allen Bailey   | Assistant Prinicipal          | <a href="mailto:baileya@clystvale.org">baileya@clystvale.org</a>   |
| Louise Telford | SENDCo & Assistant Prinicipal | <a href="mailto:telfordl@clystvale.org">telfordl@clystvale.org</a> |
| Claire Haynes  | Head of Post 16               | <a href="mailto:haynesc@clystvale.org">haynesc@clystvale.org</a>   |
| Lisa Jones     | Early Help                    | <a href="mailto:jonesl1@clystvale.org">jonesl1@clystvale.org</a>   |

# School Trips

## Shepton Mallet Prison Trip

In the penultimate day of the Autumn term we were delighted to take Year 10/11 GCSE Religious Studies students to Shepton Mallet Prison for the day. An interesting day was had exploring the prison, developing their understanding of the prison system and discussing the ethics around Capital Punishment. Our students were amazing ambassadors for the school.



# Extracurricular Clubs & Activities



“We made some tasty yoghurt and white chocolate coated flapjacks in Cooking Club yesterday”

## Spring Term Clubs

The Club List for the Spring Term is being finalised and will be shared next week. Watch this space! In the meantime, why not attend Homework Club?

## Games Club

For Year 7-9  
Thursday Lunchtimes  
1.30-2.00  
HU5 (Ms Jenkins)



Are you interested in making some fun and interesting dishes, desserts and treats? Are you creative and enjoy cooking and baking?

Cooking Club



Email : [collinse@clystvale.org](mailto:collinse@clystvale.org) if you are interested.

Limited numbers. First come, first serve. Available to year 7/8 and 9 from after half term until the summer.

Every Thursday after school  
3:30 -4:30/5pm in DT3



## GCSE Art and Photography Catch-Up Sessions



Thursday B Lunchtime - with Mrs Walton in AR2  
Thursday B Lunchtime - with Mrs Wakefield in IT4

- All GCSE Art and Photography students are welcome to attend any of these sessions
  - Students can bring lunch to eat whilst working
  - Make sure parents/carers know if you are staying after school
- Arrange a way to get home safely after 4:30pm for after school sessions

## DRAMA CLUB



Do you love acting and performing?

If so come along to one or both of the following sessions:

Wednesday after school from 15.25 to 16.45 (Starts: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September)

and

Friday lunchtime from 13.30-14.10 (Starts: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September)

Drama club takes place in PA1 with Miss Ruscoe

Working towards a performance evening at the Barnfield Theatre in November.  
Come join in the fun!

Homework Club in  
IT2

Monday to Friday  
Lunchtime 1.30-  
2pm



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND GO TO  
HOMEWORK  
CLUB**

# Vacancies

## Caretaker

**Salary** £23022 - £23797 (actual salary)

**Job Type** Permanent

**Location** Devon

### Description

Clyst Vale is a thriving and vibrant 11- 18 Community College situated five miles from Exeter. Visitors to Clyst Vale usually comment on the friendly, orderly atmosphere, the courtesy of our students, and the purposefulness in lessons. We have clear expectations and systems, but far more important are the excellent working relationships we establish between staff and students, as well as staff and parents. We remain the only Secondary school in Devon to be accredited Gold Rights Respecting School status.

The Role: Starting as soon as possible we are looking to recruit a good, all round, general caretaker. Ideally you will have a range of maintenance/DIY skills to enable you to undertake general maintenance as well as the usual caretaking duties. The hours and salary are as below, however there is scope to work part time and finish earlier than advertised for the right candidate. The salary would be adjusted to reflect this, please indicate if you are looking for less hours.

Hours of Work: Term Time 36¼ hours per week x 39 weeks 07:00 – 15:00 Monday - Friday Holiday time 36¼ hours per week x 13 weeks 09:00 17.00 Monday – Friday. This position is offered at a starting salary of CVCC grade C £23022 - £23797 (actual salary).

We are looking for: - Experience of general maintenance/DIY - Basic computer skills, eg email, internet search.

We can offer - A unique opportunity to work within a Rights Respecting School with a strong community ethos and a supportive CPD programme

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS check is required for all successful candidates.

To apply, please click on this link <https://www.clystvale.org/vacancies/>. Closing date for all applications is Sunday 21st January 2024. Interviews will take place on Monday 29th January 2024.

## Job of the Week

These are provided through the MYPATH careers webpage.

### ACTUARY

An actuary is a business professional who deals with the measurement and management of risk and uncertainty.

An actuary uses maths and statistics to estimate financial impact to help minimise risk.

An actuary uses a combination of maths, business, economics to do their job.

[JOB OF THE WEEK - EPISODE #01 - ACTUARY \(youtube.com\)](#)

# 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.

(Attendance Officers)

Direct line: 01392 463911

Email: [studentabsence@clystvale.org](mailto:studentabsence@clystvale.org)

(Assistant to Head of Post 16)

Direct line: 01392 462697

Email: [voyseys@clystvale.org](mailto:voyseys@clystvale.org) and copy in Head of Sixth Form: [haynesc@clystvale.org](mailto:haynesc@clystvale.org)

## Supporting Learning at Home

A huge thank you to all of our families, parents and carers for the work that goes into supporting your children with their learning at home. The impact that families have on our young people's learning and academic development is huge, however we do recognise that it can be tricky to know how to support your young person as they begin to develop independence and study more in depth and complex subject matter.

The top tips provided for families by Parentkind are a fantastic place to start if you are looking for ideas about how to support learning from home. As always, if you have any questions about specific homework or subjects please do get in touch so we can work together to resolve these.

[Supporting learning at home | Parentkind](#)



## Edulink & contact With the College

Please do not address emails, or replies to Edulink messages, to [Edulink@clystvale.org](mailto:Edulink@clystvale.org). It is an unmonitored mailbox and will not go to anyone. Parents/carers need to reply to Edulink messages via the app, online, or via email, as this will then be directed to the staff member who sent the message to you. Or, please contact the teacher or [admin@clystvale.org](mailto:admin@clystvale.org).

There is also a contact form and details below.

<http://www.clystvale.org/contact-us/>

## Stationery for Sale

Mock/GCSE pencil cases are available from the Library at a cost of £4.50 per pencil case. The clear pencil cases include one pencil, a blue pen, a red pen, one highlighter, a ruler, a compass, a protractor, a rubber and a sharpener.



## Clyst Vale Library

Clyst Vale Library is a dual use library located within Clyst Vale Community College. The library is open to the public 3.30 to 5.30pm Monday and Wednesday and 4.00 to 6.00pm Thursday, and is open to the Students at Clyst Vale Community College throughout the week.

The entrance to access the library is through Clyst Vale's main entrance (Reception), then turning right, from there you will see the library's entrance.



## Looking for a New Home

Before we dispose of it... is there a local cub or hall that would like our old hall projector screen? It is 3x3m in a 4:3 format and is electric and very heavy.

Please contact Reception on 01392 461407 to arrange collection



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