

*"There's not enough silliness in the world.
Eurovision helps to keep it balanced." Terry Wogan*

Principal's Update



Sara Jacobs

Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome our students back to College after the Easter break. They appear relaxed, refreshed, and genuinely happy to be back at school, seamlessly settling back into their routines.

During the Easter break, 47 of our students, including footballers and rugby players, embarked on an enriching trip to Madrid. Despite some initial weather challenges, the students had a fantastic experience. The footballers had a slightly curtailed training session due to rain, while the rugby team enjoyed a brilliant session with Jaime Nava, an ex-Spain First XV captain. The trip included a visit to the famous Bernabéu Stadium, home of Real Madrid, where students watched stars like Mbappe and Modric in action. Despite some students falling ill due to a virus, the group handled the situation admirably and continued to enjoy football and rugby training, as well as a visit to the Warner Brothers Theme Park. Our staff went above and beyond to ensure the well-being and enjoyment of all students, and I am very grateful to parents/carers who recognised how challenging the situation would have been for our staff and thanked them on their return.



You may have read in the news this week that the Government is planning a review on school uniform to limit the number of branded items and therefore reduce costs for parents and carers. This is something we are very mindful of and will be reviewing our uniform in line with guidance when it is published. On the topic of uniform, I cannot stress enough the importance of your support for the College. Please reinforce expectations regarding wearing the correct school uniform appropriately and pay particular attention to the length of your child's school skirt. Our ability to address this is significantly improved when our expectations are being reinforced at home. As the weather warms up, we remind students to continue wearing the correct uniform. Should the warm weather persist, we will send out separate communications regarding any adaptations to the uniform policy.

Last week, it was fantastic to have the opportunity to celebrate with our parents and carers the sporting achievements of students from Years 9 – 11 during our annual Sports Awards. These students have represented the College in a variety of sports, fixtures, and tournaments across the year. Congratulations to all students who received recognition. We were fortunate to have Jack Yeandle from Exeter Chiefs as our guest speaker to hand out the awards. It was a memorable evening that highlighted the achievements and dedication of our students.

For parents and carers of Year 11 students, we recognise your current focus is on supporting your children through the upcoming summer exams. Year 11 students have now started their summer exam series, and their conduct has been exemplary. This week, they have completed Art, Art Photography, and MFL speaking exams. Next week, we will move to exams in the main hall. You should have received communications from both myself and Mr Pearce regarding the arrangements during this exam period. After half term, Year 11 will be on study leave, which will be beneficial for their preparation. However, it is crucial that they maintain attendance up until this point to ensure they are fully prepared.

Finally, next weekend, the 10th and 11th May, marks the Ten Tors event. It is impressive to see how far our students have come, having undertaken all the necessary training. Participation in such events offers an invaluable enrichment opportunity, fostering resilience, a sense of accomplishment, and cherished memories of their time at college. I would like to extend a public thank you to Mr Eales, Miss Barratt, Mr Hewlett, Mr Womersley-Westlake, and our dedicated team of volunteer parents, ex-students, and friends of the College who invest significant time in preparing our students for this challenge.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend and we look forward to seeing students back in College on Tuesday.

Ten Tors Challenge 2025

Since last November a group of approximately 56 year 9, 10 & 12 students have been training hard for this year's Ten Tors Challenge which takes place on Dartmoor 10th – 11th May 2025. We wish all the students taking part every success on their routes - they've all done fantastically well over the last 6 months training, contending with the full range of British weather on the walks from heavy rain to sun, hail, gales, low cloud, mild & freezing temperatures plus a bit of snow but mainly lots and lots of fog/mist – so everyone's looking forward to hopefully being able to see more of the moor in some sunshine hopefully! Also been camping on campsites, as well as wild camping, around Dartmoor in a range of conditions too. Hopefully they are well equipped with the skills, experience and kit to conquer the challenges of walking 35/45/55 miles, in 2 days, whilst carrying all their camping/safety gear, navigating, plus walking the many hills and valleys of Dartmoor – we wish them all well on their challenge! It will be possible to follow their progress around the routes via the Ten Tors website (www.tentors.org.uk/).



The Army awarded us 4 teams in September 2023 (2 x 35-mile, 1 x 45-mile, and for the 2nd time a 1 x 55-mile!). Students from years 9 & 10 are mixed throughout the teams so it has been great seeing the different ages working so well together. The 55-mile team comprises half Clyst Vale students and half from Torquay/Truro forming together to make the team, so we wish them all well on their daunting challenge of walking 55 miles, in 2 days, with heavy rucksacks.

All the Ten Tors training events could not happen without the help and assistance of many volunteers freely giving up their weekends to ensure the students were safe out on the moor in all the varied weather conditions. So a big thankyou must go to those that helped this year, in no particular order: Graeme, Cathy, Harry, Dan, Annelise, Mr Hewlett, Miss Barratt, Mrs Keene, Harriet, Tim, Andy, Darren, Mr Womersley-Westlake & his wife, Dave C, Ms Watt, & Ms Jacobs – a mixture of CVCC staff & students, parent helpers and ex-students who came back to help. Many thanks to all of you for all your help, we couldn't have done it without you so no matter how big or small your contribution, it's most appreciated!

We would also like to wish all other Clyst Vale students participating in the Ten Tors challenge with other organisations like the Cadets, Explorers and others, every success too. Look forward to seeing many of them around the Army camp on the Friday 9th May as they explore the Camp, plan their routes, and enjoy the atmosphere before embarking on the challenge 7am Saturday morning!

Mr Eales, Ten Tors Manager



Madrid Trip 2025

Forty seven of our most keen and able students departed from Clyst Vale late on the Thursday before the Easter break. Right from the start it was clear behaviour was not going to be an issue and the long journey overnight to Stanstead and the usual check in chaos was managed with ease by the boys and girls. A team of footballing girls, a team of footballing boys and the rugby team landed in Madrid jaded but good to go. However, the gods of weather frowned on the footballers who had their first Real Madrid training slightly curtailed as rain lashed down and lightning appeared across the ground. Sadly, their match was called off as the pitch was now under water. The rugby team lucked out and arrived on the tail of the bad weather to be greeted by Jaime Nava (ex Spain First XV captain and a long term Spain coach Santi. A brilliant session ensued with the lads being pushed technically to achieve on the superb artificial pitch.

Tea and bed time was a pleasure as hungry students devoured the hot buffet and pleasing for parents many took advantage of the salad bar and fruit display! Despite some fairly unruly students on the floor above, Clyst Vale hit the pillows ready for Saturday.

The day was one packed with footballing stars as we all arrived at the famous Bearnabau Stadium, home of Real Madrid. The students and staff sat in awe as Mbappe, Vinicius Jnr, Modric and Rudiker all strutted their stuff below us against a talented Valencia side. The evening was relaxed as the students took advantage of the free Padel courts and replenished on the food provided in the lovely outdoor covered seating area.

On the Sunday we all enjoyed a superb day at the excellent Warner Brothers Theme Park. Queues were short and all students got around the park and sampled the thrills on offer. However, at this point some students began showing signs of illness which later turned out to be a virus passed on from another school to our students. To say the students were brave is an understatement and as we left the park and the virus spread, not a single student complained or pointed fingers. Those that were fit swapped round bedrooms without issue, those that were ill were given areas to rest and recover and the parents were superb when contacted offering calm and reasoned advice on what measures to take along side those already provided.

The next day was somewhat hampered by illness, but having been sick myself in the night I stayed with the unwell students and again can only complement them on their maturity in the face of illness and disappointment, along way from home and their families.

The football training was once again good and the rugby training and match was fabulous. There was more training for both the boys and girls on the final day, plus more padel and some lovely down time visiting an excellent mall for some shopping.

Arriving back at 2am in Broadclyst all parents were ready to welcome home the weary travellers and very kindly a Whatsapp group had clubbed together to buy some lovely goody bags for the five members of staff who ran the trip.

I have taught for many years and cannot imagine any other group of boys and girls who would have made the most of the trip and coped with the chaos as well as the boys and girls from Clyst Vale. Thank you to Miss Watt, Mr Brooks, Mr Flemming and last minute replacement Mr Workman helping make this trip possible. Mr Stapleton who organised the trip could not attend for good reason and is now the proud father of his first child.

Mr J Powell, Head of PE

College News



Clyst Vale Sport Awards 2025

Last Thursday 24th April Clyst Vale had our annual Sports awards where we have over 100 students were in attendance. This event is an Year 9 10 11 invite only event and the students have to fully commit to one sport for a season. It was a great chance for Year 11 parents to also attend so they can celebrate the success of their students for the final time, with over 80 Year 11 parents attending it was a great night from start to end.

The Guest Speaker this year we were totally honoured to have secured Jack Yeandle Exeter Chiefs Captain come and speak to your Sporting students. He spoke about his Education and where his career path started and where he is now. Then many PE staff spoke about the success this year with the Team sports and recognising new sports in the curriculum with Table Tennis too, with a certificate for each team on progress and attainment.

The Year 9 students who were invited for the first time were able to be inspired and motivated by Jack Yeandle our guest speaker and work towards 'colours next year'. In Year 10 student have chance to win a Half colours certificate in showing their great commitment to school sport and then go into to receive Full colours and a medal in Year 11.

Also we as a school give a RRS (Right Respecting School)awards to student who go beyond their school club and offer coaching and time to others to allow them to also succeed int heir sport.

Year 10 and 11 students are talented at sport and there were numerous Half colours given out and over 60 Full awards awarded, The Prestidge award of the evening is the Young Ambassador , a student who has contributed massively in their 5 years at school through numerous school sports and seen as a role model to others.

This year 2024 winner went to Brooke Barlow.

The evening was great success and hopefully will inspire the lower year to continue in their sport as their path at Clyst Vale continues up the school.

From a proud Mrs Broomfield





Play on the Park

A brilliant day was had by a selection of Y10 boys and girls from the Clyst Vale football squads. With the home season finished for Exeter City we were lucky enough to be invited to come and join a friendly football tournament on the men's and women's first team pitch at St James' Park. Games of 6-a-side between a handful of schools were played out in wonderful sunshine in front of the legendary 'Big Bank' stand. The boys and girls took advantage of the near perfect surface to play some super football. Captains Ellis and Grace led the charge and dazzled on the immaculate surface. All ended with handshakes and whilst there were no official winners both boys and girls finished well in comparison to the other schools. Huge thanks to Laura and Dan for organising and inviting us as well as to the community team who officiated. Perfect behaviour from all throughout and we all left with dreams of professional careers in front of huge stands a little closer.





Well done to Holly Middleton in Year 10 who has successfully passed her Level 1 Basketball Coaching Exam.

Net Ninja's

Just to make you aware that ex student Dave Follett is running a badminton club on Fridays from 5-7 at Broadclyst Sports Hall. The first hour is younger than secondary age and the second is geared for improving players. Below is the details from the organisers:

Net Ninjas Junior Badminton Club, is a new community-focused club launched in 2024 and based in Broadclyst. Our aim is to develop the next generation of badminton players while fostering a love for sport, fitness, and personal growth.

Due to high demand, we're pleased to announce that we have secured an additional weekly session at Broadclyst Sports Hall. Sessions now take place every Friday evening from 5-6 and 6-7pm, with this later time specifically set aside for our older age group (Year 7 and above). This additional session is starting on 16/05/2025.

This second session has been introduced to give our younger players a pathway to progress as they grow and develop their skills. It also provides an ideal opportunity for GCSE students who have chosen badminton as their PE sport, offering structured, skill-focused coaching that complements their academic studies.

Net Ninjas caters to children from age 3 upwards, with around 15-20 participants attending weekly. Our sessions are designed to improve hand-eye coordination, footwork, racket technique, and ball skills – all in a fun, engaging environment. We focus on the fundamentals of badminton while also promoting confidence, agility, and a healthy lifestyle.

We are proud to be led by David Follett, the current England Para Badminton Number 1 and World Number 7 in mixed doubles. David brings a wealth of coaching and international competition experience to the club, and he also works across primary, secondary, and special needs schools, inspiring young people through his coaching and public speaking engagements.

The weekly cost to attend is £4, making it an affordable way for students to get involved in a structured and inclusive badminton programme.

Mr Powell, Head of PE

Post 16 News

Summer now seems to have arrived in Post 16 – earlier this week, the students installed the volleyball net on the field, which is a sure sign of sunnier weather!

Y13 will very soon be starting their final exams; to mark the official end of their P16 courses, we will be holding a BBQ for them on Friday 9th May at lunchtime, to celebrate this milestone and send them on their way.

On Thursday this week, Y13 EPQ students gave their final project presentations in front of an audience made up of Governors, peers and staff from the P16 team. Topics ranged from hydro power in Zambia, to psychotic depression; from the water quality of the River Clyst to the uses of sericin. Students presented their topics thoughtfully and in a professional manner, and handled all questions calmly and knowledgeably. [Congratulations](#) to all students involved, who should feel rightly proud of the hard work they have put in up until now and how they were able to convey their research to a non-specialist audience; this was a thoroughly impressive session. Thanks to Mrs Padden for providing refreshments in the form of a delicious Devon cream tea!

From Monday, 12th May, Y13 Study Leave officially begins – although many subject teachers will continue to make themselves available in timetabled lesson slots to run revision sessions and help with exam preparation. This week in Wednesday's Tutorial, Adam Williams joined Y13 for one last time, to reinforce his well-being strategies for the exam period ahead and to help with techniques for reducing stress and anxiety. The Post 16 Team will all be on hand throughout exams, should students need any additional support at this time. Next week, Adam will have his first session with Year 12 students, along similar lines.

For Y13 students heading off to University in the autumn, there is a looming 16th May deadline to apply for Student Finance (the loans that cover tuition fees and living costs). This has been on students' radars for some time, and this week letters have gone home to parents and carers outlining the application process.

Our Year 12 Parents' Evening is coming up on Thursday 8th May; invitations were sent out last Friday to make bookings. Should anyone experience any difficulties accessing or using the system, please contact Sue Voysey in the first instance (voyseys@clystvale.org).

All students in Year 12 should now have plans in place for 5 full days of work experience in the summer term. Our work experience week is 14th – 18th July. If students do not have a placement to attend, they will be expected to come into school on those dates instead. Please get in touch with any queries about this.

The Y12 CPS session this week made for quite an entertaining spectacle. Students took part in a first aid session, where they learned and practised CPR techniques on the school's first aid dummies. This was done to the musical accompaniment of the Bee Gees classic 'Stayin' Alive', which apparently provides the perfect rhythm for chest compressions!



Student of the Week

<p>7GAW Bert Squires -7GLBA 7RKJO 7RCMO 7YDST No name permission -7YEHA</p>	<p>Isabella Pilling & Amelia Roberts 8GRTU Daniel Hunter—8GTBE Alara Pacar & Tayla Endicott—8RER Connie Scott 8RMCU Lilly-Mai Phillips-Wills8YCBO River Chapman - 8YCFL</p>	<p>9GMNA 9GLTH 9RDFE Joseph Carpenter -9RGWW No name permission—9YGGA Sam Humpherys -9YBH</p>
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<p>Jacob Kyffin—10GCMC Cherry Carpenter—10GMTH 10RBAT Ed White—10RNS 10YMBR Jack Hemment 10YCHW</p>	<p>Eve Van-Het Bolscher—11GABR Karly David & Dan Culshaw—11GDH Alfie Thompson—11RZB Finley Topliss—11RSGA Kacie Dixon—11YSS Brooke Stewart & Kye Brenchley-Stokes 11YADA</p>	<p>Tinaye Shayamano 13JP</p>
Year 10	Year 11	P16 Commendation



Each week our tutors are encouraged to recognise and reward one member of their tutor group for something outstanding. This could be an academic achievement, a demonstration of resilience or an act of kindness.



If you see a familiar name above then be sure to ask them what amazing thing they've done.

Key Contact Information

Reception: 01392 461407 Email: admin@clystvale.org

Sara Jacobs	Principal	Jacobss@clystvale.org
Lisa Martin	Deputy Principal (Curriculum)	martinl@clystvale.org
Paul Sutton	Deputy Principal (Pastoral)	suttonp@clystvale.org
Ann Hopkins	College Manager	hopkinsa@clystvale.org
Allen Bailey	Assistant Principal	baileya@clystvale.org
Louise Telford	SENDCo & Assistant Principal	telfordl@clystvale.org
Claire Haynes	Head of Post 16	haynesc@clystvale.org
Lisa Jones	Early Help	jonesl1@clystvale.org

Year 11 Prom and Yearbook

The payment system on School Gateway has been opened for a seamless end to these payments.

Dinner money will continue to be on the new MCAS App (My Child at School).

Prom Dresses

We have a selection of Prom dresses in school which are available to borrow for the Prom.

We ask for a £30 deposit, which will be returned if the item is returned clean.

BROMCOM

Please do not address emails, or any replies to Bromcom messages, to bromcom@clystvale.org.

It is an unmonitored mailbox and will not go to anyone. Parents/carers need to reply to Bromcom 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. There is also a contact form and other details below:

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

Summer Term Dates

Wednesday 23rd April to Friday 18th July 2025 (half term w/c Monday 26th May)

Attendance, Absence and Requests for Absence

Reporting an Absence

If your child is absent due to illness or a medical appointment, please report their absence, along with the reason, via the My Child at School **desktop browser**. Alternatively, you can complete the Absence Notification Form using the link below or email :

studentabsence@clystvale.org.

[Absence Notification Form](#)

If your child is in Year 12 or 13, please report their absence to voyseys@clystvale.org.

Absences must be reported daily for the duration of your child's absence.

If you know in advance that your child will be away from school, please inform us at your earliest convenience.

Additionally, kindly notify us of any lateness or scheduled appointments.

The school actively follows up on unexplained absences. If your child is absent for an unauthorised event, the details may be referred to the Educational Welfare Service which could result in a fixed penalty notice. Please be aware that the College may request supporting documentation for any absence.

Typically, work is not provided for students during their absence, as our priority is to ensure they recover fully and return to school as soon as possible.

Lateness

Attendance is formally recorded twice daily: in the morning at 8:50am and in the afternoon at 2:10pm. It is essential that students are prepared to begin their tutor period promptly at 8:50am and are punctual for each subsequent lesson.

As required by law, registers must be taken in a timely manner, and there are consequences for lateness. Students who arrive after registration closes will be marked as late, and those arriving after 9:25am will receive an unauthorised mark.

If a student is absent without prior notification, we will inform parents/carers as soon as possible if your child has not arrived at school in the morning. To ensure prompt communication, parents/carers are strongly encouraged to keep their contact details up-to-date via the Bromcom App.

Attendance is recorded during every lesson to monitor internal truancy and comply with safeguarding regulations. Students are required to sign in upon late arrival or sign out if leaving during school hours. Parents/carers must notify the school and provide a valid reason for their child's departure.

No student may leave College without authorisation from staff under any circumstances.

Students feeling unwell must report to reception and are not permitted to contact parents directly through phone calls, texts, or messaging apps to request collection.

Medical Appointments

We encourage students to maximise their attendance, as research highlights a strong correlation between regular attendance and examination success.

Many medical appointments can often be scheduled in a way that allows students to attend school both before and after their appointments. By doing so, they can minimise missed learning opportunities while maintaining high attendance levels.

We kindly ask parents/carers to ensure that their child attends morning registration, even if a medical appointment is scheduled later in the morning. Similarly, where possible, afternoon appointments should be arranged after **Period 4**, during lunchtime. We also encourage students to return to school following lunchtime appointments, if feasible.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child achieve maximum attendance and academic success.

Supporting Learning at Home

What financial support can parents get?

Juggling home and school life is tough for every parent, but there are some financial support options available. Find out what you could be entitled to by following this link [Supporting learning at home | Parentkind](#)



Clyst Vale Library

Clyst Vale Library is open to the public 3.30 to 5.30pm Monday and Wednesday and 4.00 to 6.00pm Thursday.



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Parents/carers need to reply to Bromcom 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. There is also a contact form and other details below:

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

Stationery for Sale

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.



Second Hand School Uniform

Thank you for supporting the community and local charity shops. The sale of preloved uniform is proving successful.

If you have any items that are no longer needed but still in very good condition, please donate them to one of the local charity shops. Both shops have set aside rails designated for college uniform.

Clyst Caring Friends is located in Broadclyst village and our local Barnardo's shop is in Cranbrook.

Their opening hours are:

Clyst Caring Friends, Broadclyst (01392 467555)

Monday—closed

Tuesday to Friday—09.30 to 15.30

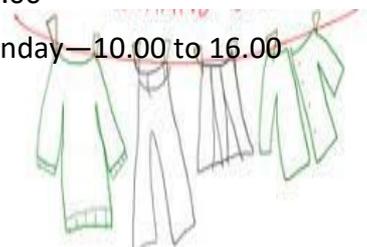
Saturday—09.30 to 12.00

Sunday—closed

Barnardo's, Cranbrook EX5 7DR (01404 514934)

Monday to Saturday—09.00 to 17.00

Sunday—10.00 to 16.00



Follow our Facebook Page via the link below:
[Clyst Vale Community College | Facebook](#)



FIND OUT ABOUT ARMY CAREERS

Join the biggest team you'll ever be part of - a career with the Army offers you an opportunity to develop yourself and your skills alongside people who share the same values as you.

We have roles available in a wide range of areas that we are recruiting for now.

From adventurous training to being paid to play sport, there are so many opportunities in the Army to do more than the everyday. You'll make friends for life, get qualifications that will benefit you in your career and beyond and be part of a team that will be with you every step of your journey.

Come and meet us at our next event near you:

Experience the Workplace with the British Army! Free 1-Day Programme for Years 9 - 13 Students 27th, 28th, 29th OR 30th May
Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Wyvern Barracks, Barrack Road, Exeter EX2 6AR
Cost: Free (Just bring a packed lunch)

<https://forms.office.com/e/GUFzkSGMu8>

**SEARCH
ARMY JOBS**



During the May Half Term, we are offering Year 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 students a **free** opportunity to participate in our **1 Day British Army Experiences of the Workplace** programme.

When: 27th, 28th, 29th OR 30th May 2025

Time: 10:00am until 15:00

Where: Wyvern Barracks, Barrack Road, Exeter EX2 6AR

How much: Free, just bring a packed lunch and drink

Who for: Year 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 students from Devon schools and colleges

This 1 day programme is an opportunity for students to learn about different jobs and sectors, and to see how their academic subjects relate to the world of work. It also helps students to develop skills that are valuable for their future careers, such as communication, teamwork, problem solving, and adaptability.

Places are limited, and in the case of oversubscribing, we will endeavor to offer a place in future programmes to those who are unable to attend this one.

Link to apply - <https://forms.office.com/e/GUFzkSGMu8> or follow the QR code below.

Deadline to apply: Friday 16th May 2025

Application outcome notification: w/c 19th May 2025

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with either myself or Simon Hebson Simon.Hebson101@mod.gov.uk

We look forward to receiving your applications.

Kind regards

Caroline Stanmore

Enterprise Coordinator

Devon, Plymouth & Torbay Careers Hub

Mobile: 07779 547999

Email: caroline.stanmore@devon.gov.uk



EXPERIENCES OF THE WORKPLACE

Experiences of the Workplace -
British Army - May 2025

