

Principal's Introduction



We are coming to the end of another very busy and successful year. Ofsted Inspectors visited the College in December and judged the College to be Good. I hope that parents and the community were reassured by this and will help us to make the college outstanding. We are certainly not resting on our laurels and there are many plans in place to improve the College further.

In our new Development Plan we are focussing on improving all subjects but with a particular emphasis on Mathematics and English. There will be a far greater focus on Key Stage 3 next year with intervention in Years 7 and 8

to improve literacy and numeracy. We know that if students struggle with these basic skills that it can impact on their achievement across the board. We will also be looking at improving the achievements of the most able students. We know if our aspirations are high that this improves things for all students. This focus will not just be seen in terms of additional opportunities but also in the classroom. We have organised an A/A* pilot group for intervention in this year's Y11. This has been very successful and can be rolled out in other years.

A number of staff are leaving the College in the summer, some who have been at the College for a number of years:-

Mrs E Rowe
Mrs A Morgan
Mr J Collacott
Mrs C Raeburn
Miss A McKeown
Miss J Johnson
Miss J Strongman
Mrs J Wilson
Miss C Squires
Mr C Mckean
Mrs M Hulbert

We wish them all well for the future.

We have appointed new teachers for September including Mr Mark Roberts our new head of English. Mark is already an experienced Head of Faculty lead and comes to the college with a track record of outstanding results from his previous school.

I would like to remind you of key dates in the holidays.

12 - 15 August 19 - 22 August 27 - 28 August	Summer School
Thursday 14 August	A Level Results Day
Thursday 21 August	GCSE Results Day
Thursday 4 September	First Day of Term for Students

I hope that you enjoy the summer break.
Helen Salmon
Principal

Key dates

12 - 15 August
Summer School

14 August
A Level Results Day

19 - 22 August
Summer School

21 August
GCSE Results Day

27 - 28 August
Summer School

4 September
First day of Autumn Term
(Week A)

8 October
All day Non Pupil Day

27 - 31 October
Half Term

19 December
Last Day of Autumn Term

6 January 2015
First Day of Spring Term





Tavistock in Bloom

Tavistock College welcomed the Royal Horticultural Society judges for the Britain in Bloom competition this week as part of the Tavistock town entry for this prestigious competition. The college is also entered in the stand alone category for individual entries, the In your Neighbourhood section, and although results will not be known until September the college gardens did look wonderful for the judges.



Two Year 9 students from the college gardening team, Jack Kelly and Ronnie Day, met the judges at the college entrance and showed them round the site, pointing out the new lavender and fruit beds by the Ndeeba room, the Year 10 RS class planting of marigolds and geraniums to brighten up the picnic area, the heritage orchard and the Year 7 English class ornamental shade trees by the running track, and lastly the courtyard garden where the History class Dig for Victory beds and the vegetable produce garden is in full swing.

We then went for lunch with the judges at the Bedford Hotel, where Amy Stephens and Steven Isaac were able to discuss their work in the gardens with the judges and the mayor.

The whole college gardening team has worked very hard recently to bring the site to such condition - thanks to them all!

Business Success

Year 10 Business studies students took part in a national marketing competition run by the Institute of the Motor Industry which focused on Brand, Product and Promotion. It involved the students working in teams and designing a new car for a target market of their choice. Students from Tavistock College have won both first and second prize with their incredible car designs and spent yesterday visiting the Jaguar Land Rover Site at Gaydon. For more details about this day and many of the other Real World learning events that have taken place this year please visit <http://realworldtavi.blogspot.co.uk/>



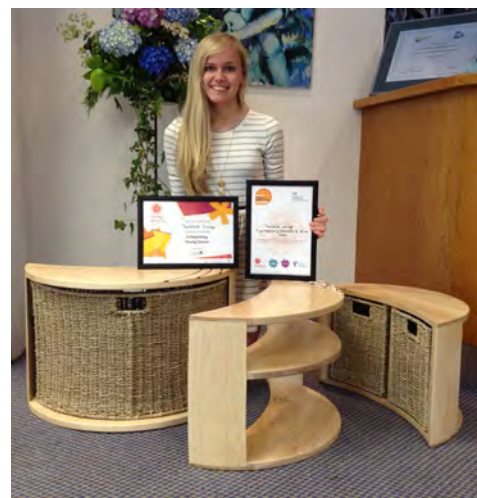
Winning Team:
Car Name - Primero
Olivia Bates
Camilla Snowden
Megan Summers
Shauna-Leigh Page
Amy Willcocks

Runners Up:
Car name - Olympian
Ellesse Blackmore
Georgia Dunn
Millie Tillot
Abbi Staples
Megan Rundle

Big Bang Winners

A Level Product Design students wow the judges at this years' Big Bang South West competition. Students Emily Spry, Benji Samuel, Ben Hosking and Bronwyn Rundle amazed visitors and won over the judges at this prestigious event. Their highly professional design outcomes were 'breathtakingly impressive' according to one judge. All four students did extremely well and pitched their products to the judges with great confidence and passion for design. The quality of their work really stood out in the Exeter University exhibition hall and Emily was particularly successful, taking home not one but two awards for her contemporary nest of tables inspired by Leonardo Fibonacci. Emily's first award was for her product as a 'Viable commercial enterprise' and the second for her quality of engineering. Emily has also been selected to go through to the national finals in March where she will be up against the top young designers of Great Britain. "I am absolutely chuffed that I managed to win this award as an important factor throughout this project was the commercial viability of my product, so for my project to be recognised for this is amazing!" Emily says.

Emily is an exceptional student, whose passion for excellence often brings her in line with first class degree level work. No-one deserves this recognition more and we were delighted that Emily is continuing on to A2 at Tavistock in September and cannot wait to see what she will produce.



Japanese visitors



The Japanese students will study English language every morning and then take part in a number of activities including a visit to Whitchurch primary school and horse riding on Dartmoor. They will also attend an official welcoming reception in Tavistock Town Hall hosted by the mayor of Tavistock.

We would like to extend our appreciation to Mr Masami Tada, mayor of Edogawa ward, for establishing the Edogawa Youth Wings programme which brings together the young people of Edogawa and Tavistock.

Edogawa Youth Wings Programme Summer 2014

We are delighted to welcome 20 junior and senior high school students and two leaders to Tavistock from Edogawa ward in east Tokyo between July 21st and 31st. They will be hosted by Tavistock College students from every year group including six year 7 students. Mrs Helen Salmon, principal, greeted the students and wished them an enjoyable experience staying with Tavistock students during their 10 day visit.



Japanese Teachers visit

Tavistock College

A group of 5 junior high school teachers and 5 senior high school teachers from around Japan visited Tavistock College on Wednesday July 2nd. As part of a course organised by the Japanese Ministry of Education the teachers of English had come to the University of Exeter to participate in tailor-made skills classes and methodology input sessions. The course gave the teachers a valuable opportunity to step back from their busy lives and examine their teaching from a different perspective. The group had expressed a keen interest to observe Japanese being taught as a foreign language. As Tavistock College has an outstanding reputation for its involvement in this area and Crispin Chambers' contribution to this is recognised nationally, it proved a highly valuable experience for the Japanese teachers to observe a Japanese class at the school. Following the lesson observation there was a one hour discussion in which the teachers shared current teaching and learning strategies in both Japan and the UK. The teachers expressed their sincere appreciation to everyone in the MFL department for making them feel so welcome.



Solar Schools Campaign

Tavistock College is well on its way to purchasing its own Solar Panel installation, thanks to the fantastic fund raising efforts of staff, students and the local community. The project to raise £20,000 for solar panels is being supported by Solar Schools, part of the government backed 10:10 organisation which aims to reduce carbon emissions in public and private organisations. Solar Schools provide support to Schools and Colleges throughout the country who are raising money for solar panels, by offering support and advice on fund raising ideas, applications for grants and providing facilities for on-line donations.

July was a busy month with several events organised. Tavistock Athletics club in conjunction with Tavistock College Sports Centre held a family athletics day where everyone was encouraged to try new sports. 11th July saw our duck race with lots of involvement from the local community. Several departments also held their own events. Miss Monk and her team worked with Year 12 cookery students to present an exquisite fine dining night and Mr Lambert and the music department held a brilliant Summer Concert – we certainly have a lot of musical talent here at the College! Photos and blogs on all our past events can be found on the College Website or on our page of the Solar Schools website

Everyone will have a well-deserved rest over the summer holidays but it will be straight back into fund raising in September. Follow us on Twitter@tavicollsolar for regular updates on forthcoming events - a few more car boot sales as the first one was such a success, a community book and record fayre (donations welcome!) music event in the town hall, a Christmas Fayre, a Grand Prize Draw and lots more. We still have a long way to go though. The project with Solar Schools ends next March so we need to raise as much money as possible before then. Everyone can help. Please donate £5.00 online at <http://www.solarschools.org.uk/tavistockcollege/> (or follow the link on the College website www.tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk) to buy a personalised solar tile for our virtual roof or come along to one of our events. If you would like to help at an event, donate a prize for a raffle or even organise an event, please contact Linda Coe, Premises Manager, 01822 813228.

And finally, a big thank you to everybody who has already donated or supported one of the events. Your donations have made this project achievable. And of course thank you to all the staff, students and members of the PTA who have given up so much of their time to organise and run events. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK EVERYONE!



Improving Literacy

We love to read

Tavistock College continues to work hard to foster a love of reading amongst students. It is widely acknowledged that reading for pleasure has a direct impact on academic success and well being. The College has been devoting time and resources to encouraging students to read, not just within subject areas, but to read for enjoyment. In years 7 and 8 the students follow a motivational programme called Accelerated Reader which links progress to rewards and encourages students to read widely and attempt increasingly harder books. In Year 7 they also spend a part of each day reading for pleasure during DEAR sessions (Drop Everything and Read).

Some students who need a little extra support or guidance have been fortunate to be linked with a community reading mentor. These are trained members of the community who give their time to come into the College library and read with students, chat about books and encourage students to read books they would not have previously chosen. This scheme has proved hugely successful with the vast majority of students now saying they enjoy reading more and are ready to try different books. The mentors also find the programme worthwhile and enjoyable. Sara Cunningham, one of the trained mentors said: "It is a really rewarding experience and I feel like I am giving something back to education." Justine Clements remarked: "I feel like I am helping with education in our community."

Although most mentors have chosen to continue with their role in the new academic year, the College is keen to extend the team and would welcome new volunteers to come forward and find out more. If you think you might be interested and have as little as one hour a week to spend helping students, please contact the Literacy Administrator: Charlotte Meneer at the College cmeneer@tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk



Students recently completed a survey about how to improve the reading mentor scheme.

A few key results from the survey:

- 20% more students now enjoy reading compared to September 2013
- 69% of students say being on the programme has made them read more
- 89% of students say that being on the programme has increased their confidence in reading
- 83% of students say that help from a reading mentor has improved their reading ability

Top reasons students have enjoyed the programme this year (Question 6);

- Reading out loud to someone
- Reading a variety of books

Top answers for improving the programme (Question 11);

- Find out from the students when they would be happy to attend the programme
- Getting to know your mentor before starting the programme

Taking the views of students into consideration, we aim to hold an evening session in October, when parents, students and mentors can meet each other informally. We feel this will enhance the programme.

Poetry Festival



Tavistock Co-operative Learning Trust presents:

From the Tamar to the Tavy: a flow of words from children

Poetry Festival - September 29th to Oct 4th

"From the Tamar to the Tavy: A flow of words from students"

Literacy lead teachers from all the Trust schools and Mary Tavy and Brentor school have been enthusiastically planning for our Poetry Festival on the week beginning September 29th. The Festival has been kindly supported with a grant from Babcock, Devon and will see children from all 11 schools thinking about and writing poetry based on photographs of the beautiful area in which we live. Every school will have a poet in residence and we are grateful to the Poetry Society for their help with sourcing poets. There will be a "Slam" competition held in Tavistock College main hall on October 3rd at 10.30 with each school sending a team to compete before a panel of judges, including a published poet. The College are also welcoming the "Slambassadors:" a company who work with young people supporting the writing of poetry to be performed. These students will perform at the Slam. On Saturday October 4th, the Festival will meet the community, as the Town hall will be taken over to display the photographs and poems from all the participating schools and children will perform live poetry. There will be a community competition based on a local photograph with details in the local press. We are all keen to see the poetry which can be produced by the young people of Tavistock College and the 10 local primary schools.



Gifted and Talented

Enrichment for Able, Gifted and Talented students.

Students who, according to FFT data, are predicted to achieve 7 or more As or A stars at GCSE are placed on our Able, Gifted and Talented list. We also include other students who show a particular aptitude for certain subjects and are always ready to update our list should a student make significant progress. Recent activities include:

Year 7

A group of 42 talented writers are involved in a creative writing project which will lead to the production of a book of their writing and photographs. Having read "War Horse" by Michael Morpurgo, they have all met Fitz, a 16 hand event horse. He came on site to allow the students to see him as a part of their inspiration. They will then visit the War Horse Country park in Iddesleigh and attend a creative writing session in College.

Year 7 students also visited Exeter University Astrophysics Department and attended a session run by a representative of the Parliamentary Education service, in which they learnt about the workings of the two houses in parliament and devised their own manifesto.



Year 8

The group have been introduced to Latin and those interested will have further opportunities. They also attended a session with the representative from the Parliamentary Education Service and took part in a debate.



Year 9

A group of 11 students chose to pursue a GCSE course in Astronomy. They studied the course in after school sessions for 9 months and have just taken their GCSE. We keenly await their results!

Latin classes have continued for those who have chosen.

An undergraduate, and past student of the College, George Rodgers, delivered a workshop on Aeronautical Engineering. He led a practical session and spoke about degree courses in engineering and possible career pathways. He highlighted the additional opportunities available to women in engineering and of the need to love Maths. George is now in his second year and after spending a year studying in Singapore hopes to become an engineer with F1 racing cars. He did, however, emphasise the wide and diverse opportunities open to those who want to pursue engineering at University.



Year 10

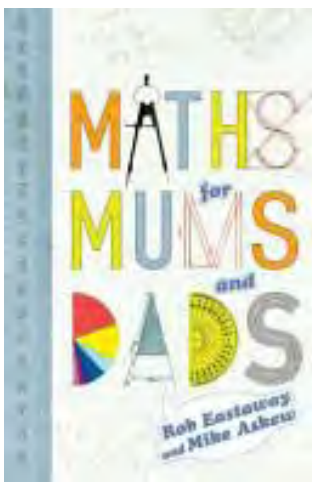
Year 10 students spent two days in Cambridge, staying at Downing College and learning about the University and the application process. They also saw "The Mousetrap" in the evening.

Some students visited Oxford University on a bespoke Year 10 visit day.



Numeracy

'Can you help me with my maths homework?' If, like most parents, this sentence fills you with a sense of dull dread or even panic, then this is the book for you! We thoroughly recommend this book (and no, we're not connected in any way with the authors)... this amusing, interesting and inspirational book gives you a great insight into the way mathematics can be experienced by pupils.



Spot the difference!!!



When trying to find the average of some numbers, remember to put brackets around the numbers you are trying to find the average of, otherwise you will only divide the last number, not the total of the numbers.

Scientific Calculators

In our experience, pupils that use their own scientific calculator on a regular basis for classwork and homework are more confident mathematically and tend to do better in assessments. We would recommend the Casio fx-83GT plus which we are able to offer at cost price via the college. If you would like further information please e-mail t.adams@tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk.

So, what is the answer to $10 - 3 \times 2$?

- Is it a) 14 ,
- b) -4 or
- c) 4

Answer at the bottom of the page*

Soapbox Derby – Gravity racing

This Summer two teams of budding engineers from the college designed and built soapbox derby racers and went on to compete at the Buckland Monachorum event. The teams both consisted of four students, one working with Mr Moore and the other with Mr Keegan. After winning first place in the engineering strand for the contest the previous year, the teams had a real challenge if they were to match or better that success. The teams worked tirelessly over lunchtimes and after school to get the karts ready for the event. The racers were ready in time for some testing in the college car park which drew in a big crowd of onlookers. It was fantastic to see two karts of such different designs, they could not have been more different. The karts were judged by some experienced engineering minds on the Friday night before the event, and the teams were delighted to collect some awards for their efforts. The Y8 team comprising of Bryce Lovell, Harry Williams and Tom Harrison picked up 'Best engineering' and 'Best Creativity' and the year 9s who were Jack Kelly, Ezra Rickman, Steve Isaac and Joe Dawe collected third place for their very impressive engineering.

Race day was finally upon us and rain was set to make for a slippery hill. We also discovered that the course had been extended to include the top section of the hill which adds considerable speed to the runs so the karts would need to perform well. Mr Keegan went first racing in 'Red Lightning', approximately a third of the way down the hill it was evident that rear wheel steering was a bad idea and a big speed wobble sent Mr Keegan into a dramatic slide and roll that unfortunately rendered the kart un-drivable. In the second kart Bryce took on the challenge, skipping the initial section of the hill to ensure the course

would be safe and the kart would handle as expected. The kart 'William' flew down the hill, looking steady and controlled, a great achievement and a huge crowd pleaser with it's almost invisible driver and hot rod aesthetics. Overall, the students had a great success, they learnt a great deal about engineering, team work and problem solving. They thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. The Design and Technology department are now branching out into Greenpower formula 24 and are looking for local sponsors who share their enthusiasm for developing young engineers.



*Answer c)...remember to use BIDMAS, the order of mathematical operations. You might be surprised to learn that we do not read maths left to right, but rather we follow the operation in the order: Brackets, Indices (things like squares), \div , \times , + and - . So in the example above the 3×2 comes first (6) and the subtraction $10 - 6$. Your scientific calculator will give you the correct answer as it 'knows' BIDMAS, however if you use a normal calculator it will not so you will have to tell it what to do more carefully.

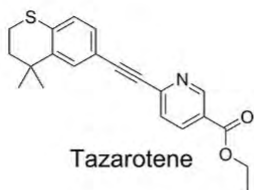


Design and Technology students raise over £300 for St Luke's hospice with their innovative products.

Design and Technology students raised £328 for St Luke's hospice with their innovative products. A group of 14 year 10 students studying a GCSE in Resistant Materials set out on a project to learn about scales of production, business enterprise and manufacturing systems. The students came up with the concept of a 'bottle balancer' that would support a bottle of wine in an aesthetically pleasing and interesting way, students added a further unique selling point with a second function as a mini cheeseboard. Working in an effective production line with students rotating around a series of distinct roles and responsibilities, students manufactured over a hundred beautifully crafted bottle balancers. The students selected beautiful hardwoods from sustainable sources and created a range of stunning products. The marketing team comprising of Dan Towl, Billy Rowe, Josh Coombe and Luke Peck then spent many hours at college events selling the products to members of the public. An additional laser engraved personalising service was available at an additional cost and the students became efficient at running the enterprise as a small charitable business. Raising this money will be a great help to St Luke's Hospice and the group should be immensely proud of themselves. Wayne Marshall, Community Fundraiser at St Luke's Hospice said, "This fantastic enterprise initiative supporting St Luke's has impressed us all at the hospice. As well as raising awareness of their local hospice, the Design Technology Students at Tavistock College have also raised a substantial amount of money towards patient care. We would like to congratulate and thank all involved." –Pete Keegan



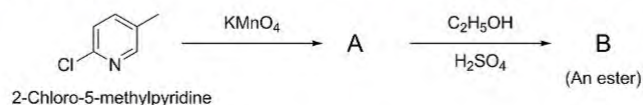
The drug tazarotene (sold under the trade names of Zorac® or Tazorac®) can be prescribed as a cream that can be applied to the skin to help to treat acne and certain other skin conditions. It is commonly sold as a 0.05% cream by mass.



- (a) The molar mass of tazarotene is $351.46 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$. Assuming that tazarotene cream has a density of 0.90 g cm^{-3} , calculate the concentration of tazarotene in the cream in mol dm^{-3} .

The synthesis of tazarotene is shown below. Not all of the reaction by-products are shown.

The synthesis begins with the conversion of 2-chloro-5-methylpyridine to Ester B.



- (b) Draw the structure of Compound A and Ester B.

Chemistry Olympiad

This was just the one of the challenges for the year 12 and 13 chemists that took part in the RSC's international Chemistry Olympiad.

The Chemistry Olympiad consists of many tough Chemistry questions – which are more advanced than A-level and reflect degree-level ideas.

Tavistock chemists did very well, with Jade Hughes receiving a bronze certificate – no mean feat! Our other entries all received certificates.

This was the first time that Tavistock College has entered the Chemistry Olympiad and we hope to be even more successful next year.

If you would like to know more about the challenge – or see the question paper please ask Mr Allen

Meeting the councillors

Year 7 students from Tavistock College, accompanied by Year 12 Law students and staff Helen Harris and Sally Hubbard, recently visited the Town Hall for a round of quick fire, interactive political speed dating as part of the college's curriculum enrichment for the gifted and talented cohort. The event made a great impression on both sides – the councillors were delighted with the good manners and penetrating questions asked by the students, while the Year 7s found the councillors to be very friendly and helpful. Beau Waycott said it was a 'unique day' while James French went so far as to describe the visit as 'a quality learning experience'! The unanimous response was that the session was really interesting and Ashleigh Coventry commented that it was wonderful to have their opinions heard.

The college is extremely grateful to all the councillors (Robin Musgrave, Ian Walton, Malcolm Ashmole, Ted Sherrell, Diana Moyse and Jessica Evans) for giving up their time and would like to thank Debo Sellis, for helping to organise the event. *Helen Harris*





Focus on the Arts



Alice

The Lower School Production of Alice (Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass) was a phenomenal success and saw 56 young people from years 7 – 9



act, dance and sing their way through a complex and intriguing script. Since March under the direction and choreography skills of Miss Giles and the musical direction and composition of Mrs Stephenson the cast worked to produce a show of a professional standard whilst incorporating their own ideas. The set was designed by Ms Mckeown and year 9 and 12 Creative Arts Students and saw UV lighting being used to enhance the surreal feel. The cast were very proud of their efforts 'all our hard work has paid off – it was such hard work but I'm so pleased I did it!' and 'really excited to see an audience of 350 people over the 3 performances'. Audiences said that it was 'amazing and professional' 'I cant believe how disciplined and focused they were' 'Fantastic, creative and a triumph'.



The Art and Photography Exhibition 2014 was a huge success and saw an exceptionally high standard of work from year 10 – 13 students. Parents, teachers and friends praised the creativity, imagination and technical ability of the exhibitors with a sense of genuine awe at many of the works. The opening night was very well attended with a positive buzz from everyone there. Particular congratulations must go to Jasmine Snowden, Saxton Miles and Abigail Hall who have all secured placed to further their Art and Photography study and Higher Education level.

Art Exhibition



Summer Concert

On Thursday the 3rd July over 50 pupils took part in the Creative Arts Faculty Summer Concert. There were a variety of acts from all year groups. Each act performed to an extremely high standard to a packed out hall.



Congratulations

Jessamy Clemens - grade 3 Bass (Merit)

Laura Taverner - grade 5 Theory

Samuel Roberts - grade 3 Bass (Distinction)

Thanae Garland-Tsirka - grade 1 Piano

Emma Elder - grade 7 Piano

Annie Westlake - grade 1 Theory

Jessamy Clemens - grade 1 Theory (Distinction)

Conor Coley - grade 1 Theory (Distinction)

Kerry Watkins - grade 1 Theory (Distinction)

Conor Coley - grade 5 Bass (Merit)

Martha Peach - grade 4 piano (Merit)

Hannah Watson- grade 1 piano (Merit)

Kirsty Heard - Grade 8 cornet

PTA News

Tavistock College PTA is a friendly group of parents from all year groups that get together a couple of times a term. We discuss various items relating to the College, invite guest speakers to enlighten us, for example, Rob Long informing us "How to Live with Teenagers" and Andy Phippen talking about "Internet Safety" as well as organising fund raising events to raise funds to help improve the College environment in any way we can for our children.

This year especially we are raising funds to install Solar Panels which involves the whole community. A fashion show was staged in conjunction with St. Luke's Hospice where the students modelled clothes donated to the charity shop, a local hairdressing salon offered her services for free and over a hundred students were involved making it a fantastic evening.

The funds we have raised in the past have helped fund a school trip, booked a theatre group, bought bean bags for the Library, games for rainy days and much more.

If you would like to make a difference to your child's experience at Tavistock College come and join the PTA, or if you would rather be a "friend" and have your contact details available and receive all email information but not attend meetings please contact Jane Beard on janebarnes1@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

Jane Beard. Chair of Tavistock College PTA

ALL parents are invited to join the College PTA. The PTA supports the College and all students by organising events for parents, events for students and developing links with the College and wider community. We are a proactive group and welcome any parents from any year.

We would especially like to invite all new year 7 parents to join us at our first meeting on Tuesday September 16th 6pm Octagon Do join us !

Do you care for the child of another member of your family or friend?

We know that being a grandparent, aunt or uncle is very special. Sometimes families and friends need to go further and take on a significant caring role, some parental responsibility or legal guardianship for a child of a family member or friend. This can be challenging emotionally and physically.

If this sounds like you, would you like to meet others over a cup of tea or coffee for information and support? This will be an opportunity to share your experiences and look for ways to lighten the role, together.

Please contact Community Lynx on 01837 650933 or email mlovell@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk



Community Lynx

Community Art

We would like to draw your attention to the Mural on the underpass between the College and the Meadows.

Several students from college have been involved over the last week but a big thank you must go to Tara Twine in Year 12 who designed and led the project.

These images do not really do it justice so if you need to cross the road or you can spare the time, please go and check it out.





As the end of term approaches we are sad to be saying goodbye to our current Year 13, but are looking forward to current Year 11 becoming an outstanding new Year 12. Of our leavers, 80 students have applied and received offers or confirmed places for a university degree course from this October. This represents 65% of the year group, with another eight students, at least, planning to apply through UCAS next year. Of those going, 30 students have offers from a Russell Group university. (This is a list of some, though not all, of the most academic and competitive universities). Among many success, Joe Dax, who left in 2013, has a place to read History at Oxford University and Flo Rogers has an offer to study medicine at Imperial College. Around eight students are applying for extremely competitive places in performing arts colleges, whilst a high number of our potential graduates look to go to Exeter, Cardiff, Bristol, Swansea, Plymouth, Marjons or Falmouth. We are fortunate to have

all these good and respected higher learning providers within reasonable striking distance. Another ten or so leavers are looking to join the armed forces – mainly the Royal Navy or Marines - and eight are proceeding on to apprenticeships. The higher level apprenticeship route is competitive but opportunities are rapidly expanding in this area and there are many interesting opportunities being developed to take up places - post A levels – in work based training with 'paid for' degrees and a salary on offer. Around twenty leavers are taking gap years with many exciting and worthwhile ventures being planned. These include volunteering in Uganda with a medical charity and teaching in South Africa.

With current Year 12, we are running intensive tutor sessions and another 'Preparing for the Future' day in mid-July, looking to help students look forward to and plan for their futures, preparing CVs and UCAS applications but more importantly helping them to navigate the huge range of possibilities and choices that they face. There has never been so much choice but this of course can be daunting. Thanks to governor and parent, Nigel Larcombe-Williams, we have set up a networking service where students can request meetings with a successful or senior representative from a particular area of employment. So far a student has had a meeting, via Skype, with a chief executive from an NGO in Sri Lanka that helps sufferers of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and two students have had a telephone conference with award winning Shakespearean and TV actor Maggie Steed. Other meetings are planned covering the fields of archaeology, medical consultancy, mid-wifery, the police service and working as a solicitor.

Congratulations to Rebecca Venning who has won the Under 18 West Devon Mayoral Award for 2014. Rebecca has been involved in youth work since 2007, volunteering in her local and other youth clubs. Rebecca sits on the South West Youth Panel, a body which awards money to local youth projects, and has become a champion for young people's services. Her latest enterprise saw her travel to Westminster to lobby the Government for improved national funding for youth projects. Lucy Poyntz was also a prize winner in the Mayoral Awards, recognised for her outstanding commitment to TASS, regularly visiting elderly and infirm people who live in our local area. Equally deserving of recognition is Melissa Turner who has devoted almost as much time to TASS. Thanks and recognition have also gone to Sam O'Boyle and Max Phillips for the huge amount of time they put into running clubs and activities for young people in our area. They've also travelled up to Barnstaple to help set up services in other parts of the county. Another student worthy of huge praise is Beth Horton, who has just completed her Diploma in Child Care. Beth organised, set up and run a very successful 'Zumbathon' event in June. This raised £800 for charity, £200 for our Solar Schools appeal and another £600 for CLIC Sargent, supporting young people with cancer and their families.





Careers and the future

Plessy and Burts chips



On 17th July 2014 the year 9 group that have been enjoying a programme of visits, visitors and activities that are designed to raise their aspirations travelled to Roborough to two local successful businesses. The companies took the time to do tours of their facilities and explain how the business works. Plessy treated the students to a true delegates experience with seating in the board room and several speakers about the business and the experience of working there. They



also got to dress up into suits that keep their skin and hair particles from contaminating the microchip and LED technology that is made in an extremely clean environment. Key quotes from the students were "learning about the employment process was interesting" (Phoebe Still.) Harry McCarthy said on leaving the bus "he had enjoyed the whole experience" the students got a chance to meet both graduate employees and apprentice employees and think about the different routes forward when they finish full time education. The students who visited Burts got to create a new flavour of low fat crisp for men and also brought home free samples of the product!. A good morning that opened our eyes to the success of local businesses.

Inspiring Gardens

Selected Year 9 students who enjoy working outdoors went to the Royal Horticultural Society show gardens at Rosemoor on



Inspiration Day this July, on a visit tailored to exploring the possibilities of a career working outside. The students came from the Learning Outside the Classroom group and from the Year 9 History class that planted and harvested the Dig for Victory bed, as part of their studies of the Second World War.

At Rosemoor the students met four different gardeners who had all come to work there via very different routes. One gardener, in charge of the community allotments and irrigation, had taken a degree route: the forester, however, alarmed the students when he began by asking them: 'Anyone here interested in entomology? Lepidoptery? Arboriculture? No one?' There was a stunned silence, which he broke by saying: 'Me neither at your age! I did all my qualifications and learning for my job after I left school!' A third gardener had changed her career in midlife and was now passionate (or as she said, bonkers) about tomatoes while the fourth was seen in hard hat and boots cutting back hedges with powered tools. After a tour around to see the different areas where the gardeners worked, students were set practical tasks of propagating cuttings and splitting geranium roots, and were then free to explore.

Walking round the gardens was an experience the students really appreciated. One student, Cam Gunn, commented on the quality of the grass which he described as 'truly amazing': another student, Ben Eggins, said that while cutting the hedges 'would be fun for the first ten minutes, after that it would be hard work: but that's why they call it work, and why you get paid to do it, Miss!'

The day introduced the students to the wide variety of career options working out of doors, from floristry to agriculture to football ground management, golf course care, irrigation work and outdoor play area creation as well as the more traditional work in garden centres and private gardens. It was a really inspirational day for all concerned, and we all came back with new ideas for the future. Helen Harris

Spotlight on...

Fred Jenkins - Independent Careers Adviser from Careers South West.

Fred Jenkins is our independent careers adviser, he works for Careers South West based in Plymouth. www.careerssw.org



Fred has many years' experience in careers information advice and guidance and normally visits Tavistock College once a week. He works in conjunction with Cathy Sharp Tavistock College's Careers coordinator, Under Local Authority provision he advises students with special and additional needs and their parents/carers, attending review and transition meetings. Tavistock College also use his services from careers South West to provide Independent Careers Information, Advice and Guidance to Key Stage 4 and 5 students, predominately students in Year 11, helping them to map their future pathway post 16 and 18. He can advise on further education options available to students be it University, Further Education College, Apprenticeships or employment opportunities.

Fred also runs sessions to groups of students on the local labour market, Further Education and apprenticeship opportunities, CV and personal statements and interview tips.

Students can be referred to Fred Jenkins via Head of Year who will contact Cathy Sharp to organise an appointment.

Work Experience:

Year 10 students went out on placement the week of the 14th July. 98% of students gaining a placement and the chance to experience the world of work first hand.

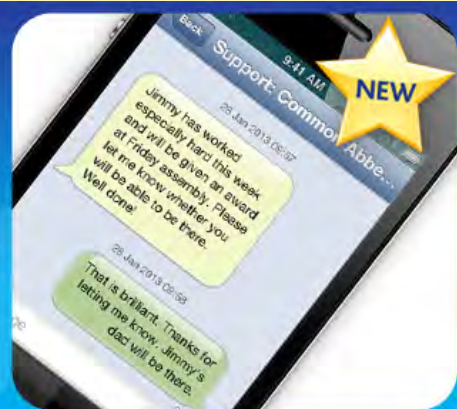
For current Year 9 students going into Year 10 it's never too early to start looking for a placement for next year!



Improving Links with College

To keep your child/ren safe and ensure their well-being, we are constantly looking for ways to improve our links with you and keep everyone up-to-date and well informed. As sending written information home is sometimes unreliable; we have decided to implement Schoolcomms, an electronic school communication system. This will enable you to receive all your information from school quickly and reliably. We can send letters by email to your inbox and short messages directly to your mobile phone as a text message, or if you have an Apple or Android mobile phone, by app message.

Free instant
messages
with our
School
Gateway App



Improved text messaging system

From time to time, we send information to parents via text message to your mobile phone. A new, free, smartphone app for parents is now available for download called 'School Gateway' for Apple (iPhone 3GS or later, iPad, iPod Touch) and Android (2.3 / Gingerbread or later) devices.

Please could you download this new app to your phone (it's free) as it will help us improve communication with parents – and save the school money.

The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:

1. Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/Google Play or on your phone go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android)
2. Install the app and if you are asked then say yes to "Allow Push Notifications"
3. When you launch School Gateway for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the school
4. The system will send a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and the app will be activated for you.

As soon as you've got the system set-up, all of the text messages we send you will appear in the app; you'll receive notifications/alerts as normal.

SIMs Learning Gateway

Recently we wrote home to you about SIMs Learning Gateway. This is a web portal which allows you to access real time information about your child's behaviour, attendance and achievement data. It also tells you specifically what homework your child has on a particular night. We hope that this will help to strengthen our communication so that the students achieve even better. We need the blue form to be returned to us as soon as possible so that we can issue passwords. If you need a new letter or did not receive one from us in the post then please email g.young@tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk.



Communication

We have invested considerable time and effort into improving our lines of communication with parents, carers and the local community as a whole. You can now keep up to date with day to day College news and essential information via these sources:



[Facebook.com/TavistockCollege](https://www.facebook.com/TavistockCollege)



Twitter: @tavicollege



[pinterest.com/tavicollege/](https://www.pinterest.com/tavicollege/)



www.YouTube.com/tavicollegeuk



www.tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk

Groupcall: This is a facility where we can text parents short messages direct to your mobile phone.

In addition we also have the facility available for you to sign up to updates from the College direct to your personal email account.



Important Information

Risks Your Child May Face Online

As with the real world, there are risks online and it's important that you teach your child how to navigate them.

Cyberbullying

Grooming

Inappropriate websites

Losing control over pictures or video

Online reputation

Overuse / addiction

Viruses, hacking and security



Offer reassurance and support. Your child may be in need of emotional support or feel like they have nowhere to turn. It is rare that cyberbullying is only taking place online and is often someone your child knows through school or a group they attend. Their school should have policies and procedures for dealing with cyberbullying. Your child could visit CyberMentors. This is an online counselling service with a difference; the counsellors are also children and young people. This site has proved very popular and offers practical advice - www.cybermentors.org.uk



Tell your child that if they are being bullied to always keep the evidence. Whether it's a text message or email, tell them not to reply to the bully or delete the comments. Ask your child if they know the bully or where the messages are coming from. Often it is someone within the school environment and can be dealt with quickly and effectively with assistance from the school.

Block the bullies. If someone is bullying your child on a social networking or chat site encourage them to block or delete the individual so that they can't be contacted by them anymore.

What tools are available to help me keep my child safe?

Technical tools-such as parental controls

Reporting tools-explore the Click CEOP reporting pages

Education tool-use the Thinkuknow programme with your child www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Report any bullying content to the website it's hosted on. If content has been posted, for example a video or image, which is upsetting your child you should report it to the website, for example, Facebook. Learn how you would report content on sites like Facebook and YouTube; every site is different. Contacting the website is the only way to get the offensive content removed, unless it is illegal. In cases of illegal content for example indecent images or videos of young people under 18, contact your local police or report it to CEOP.

Child Protection

Tavistock College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people.

The Child Protection Officers for Tavistock College are:

Senior Designated Child Protection Officer

Aimee Mitchell, Vice Principal

Designated Child Protection Officer

Alexandra Thomas, Health and Multi Agency Co-ordinator

Deputy Child Protection Officer

Jo Northmore, Behaviour Intervention Manager

Deputy Child Protection Officer

Jane Brown, Inclusion Hub Coordinator

Deputy Child Protection Officer

Justin Mifsud, SENCO

If you have any concerns regarding the safety and welfare of any student please feel free to discuss your concerns in confidence with any one of the Officers.

All can be contacted via the school switchboard on: 01822 614231

Guidelines about the new County Safeguarding Guidance – 'Keeping Children Safe' 'Paragraph 227 states that – Parents/carers using Facebook, Twitter and other social media to make derogatory remarks about staff is not acceptable under prohibition on reporting or publishing allegations about teachers in section 141F of the Education Act 2002



Important Information

Educational Visits and Trips

Please note that ALL cheques for trip/visit/activities MUST be made payable to Devon County Council and NOT Tavistock College.

Monies can be paid at the hatch in Student Services at the following times each day 0830 - 0855 and 1055 - 1120

Can you please ensure that the following information is clearly written on the back of cheques:

- Student name
- Tutor group
- Details of what the payment is for



Transition News

We have welcomed all year 5 children from the area to experience a Step Up session at the College. This gave them all an opportunity to experience some workshops, meet staff and ask questions about the opportunities available at the College.

We also held an Open Evening for children in Years 4 and 5. Anyone who missed it can come to our next Open Evening on September 18th 6pm. All welcome.

Any parents who wish to visit the College during the normal working day are welcome to contact us and we will be glad to show families around our College

Transport

Reminder to parents that they need to apply to Devon County Council for school transport.

Contact: Peter Cain 01392 383000

New Year 7

First day of school is September 4th and students should make their way to the main hall. They need to bring their school equipment and bags of enthusiasm. Tutors will be ready to meet them.

Settling In Evening: Oct 15th Parents will be invited into College to meet their child's tutor.

Uniform is available from Lawsons in Tavistock and School Trends on line. However, it is possible to buy a black blazer from any other store and sew on the badge. Badges are available at the College at £2.20. Ties can also be bought from the College for £6.95. These are the current prices which we hope to maintain



Online payments for school meals

Our provider for online payments for school meals changed in June from ParentPay to Schoolcomms. To get up and running with Schoolcomms you need to open a School Gateway account using the email address and mobile phone number registered with the college as your primary contact details. Have a look at the Parents Communications section of our website www.tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk for full details on how to set up your School Gateway account. Once set up you will be able to top up your account, see a record of payments made and a list of your son/daughter's meal choices. The quickest and easiest way to access your account is via the School Gateway App – it's free to download and is available for Apple (iPhone 3GS or later, iPad, iPod Touch) and Android (2.3/Gingerbread or later) devices and can be downloaded from the Apple App Store/Google Play.

We acknowledge that some parents have experienced difficulties during the changeover to the new system and we would like to offer our apologies for the inconvenience this may have caused.

Schoolcomms
all together, smarter



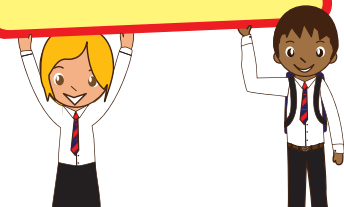
Important Information

Why have a code of conduct?

We know that most young people behave well on school transport, but occasionally the behaviour of a few can make the journey unpleasant for everyone, and can sometimes endanger others.

We have a code of conduct because we want everyone to stay safe and travel in comfort. To make sure this happens we need all young people and their parents/carers to agree to abide by this code of conduct.

By accepting school transport assistance you are agreeing to abide by this code of conduct.



Remember - we have the power to ban pupils who don't behave properly

Our code of conduct should give you a clear idea of what is expected of you, and if you follow the guidelines it contains your journey to school will be safe and enjoyable. We all have a responsibility to make sure this is the case.

If you don't keep to the code of conduct your parents or carers will be told and you may not be able to use school transport any more.

If you lose your place on school transport how will you get to school?

Thanks to:

Clyst Vale Community College
South Dartmoor Community College
Ivybridge Community College
Queen Elizabeth's Community College

For their feedback in helping to produce this leaflet

For more information about school transport please contact **0345 155 1019** or visit www.devon.gov.uk/school_transport

CODE of CONDUCT



For **young people** who use school transport

Printed May 2014



School Transport

• Tavistock College supports the (DCC) Devon County Council's "No Pass No Travel Scheme" that operates on transport to and from this school.

• 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.

• Please ensure that your child has their travel pass before they leave home every day.

• 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). School attendance is very important and it is best to be prepared for any of these eventualities.

• DCC will carry out regular pass checks throughout the year.

• Drivers are not allowed to carry passengers who cannot show a valid pass.

• If your child loses their pass during the day they should go to the administration office 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 info available at: http://www.devon.gov.uk/school_transport

Here's what you need to do to travel safely

Your pass

Your pass is for **you** only and must always be carried if you want to use school transport.



NO pass NO travel!

If you lose your pass phone **0345 155 1019**

How to be a good passenger

- Treat the bus driver and your fellow passengers with respect.
- Do as the driver asks.
- Stay in your seat and keep your seat belt on.
- Look after your possessions and the bus.
- Take any litter home with you.
- Keep noise to a reasonable level.
- If you see someone behaving badly or bullying others always report it to the driver or your school.
- Don't distract the driver except in an emergency.
- Don't carry real or replica weapons.
- Don't throw things.
- Don't eat, drink or smoke (smoking is against the law for everyone on buses, taxis and trains).
- Don't use bad language.
- Don't damage the vehicle - if you do your parents or carers will have to pay for the damage.

You and your parents or carers are responsible for making sure that you get to and from the pick up point safely, at least 5 minutes before the bus is due.

If you're late the bus won't wait

If the bus or train is late only wait at the pick up point for **20 minutes**.

Agree a **plan** with your parents or carers about what to do if transport doesn't arrive.

If there is a **storm** or **snow** listen to the local BBC radio station, phone your school before setting out or visit devonschoolclosures.info for school closure information.

Remember if your parents or carers take you in to school in the morning they must also be prepared to collect you in the afternoon if the weather is still bad.



College Uniform

We are pleased to inform you that College uniform can now be purchased from Lawsons, 1 Parkwood Road, Tavistock who stock a selection of College blazers, jumpers, ties, trousers and shirts. Alternatively ties and badges are still available to purchase direct from the College Inclusion Hub at the following prices:

Clip-on Ties £6.95

College Blazer Badges £2.20



College Uniform



PE House System
Current Overall
Positions
Sports Day

Sports Day 2014

Position	House	Points
1 st	Daley	375
2 nd	Ennis	350
3 rd	Simmonds	277
4 th	Ainslie	263



Wimbledon 2014

On day one pupils had an early start, we were collected from college at 5am for the journey to Wimbledon where we watched games on Court number 2. Pupils were fortunate to see many seeded players across both singles and doubles and the weather was fantastic. Pupils also had the opportunity to view other games on the outside courts, brush shoulders with the tennis elite and take part in tennis challenges in the tennis experience tent. Finally, time was taken to rest on 'Murray mount' and view Nadal on the big screen whilst eating strawberries and cream. When the days play finished, the group walked through Wimbledon and had a pizza together to talk over their experiences of the day before heading to the hotel.

On day two we recharged and headed in to central London, we had a sightseeing tour that took in many of the city's world renowned sights from Big Ben to the Tower of London. The remainder of the morning and early afternoon was then spent visiting the Olympic park with a sporting educational focus around the impact and legacy of the 2012 games. Thanks must go to the other members of staff who helped to make this trip possible: Mrs Doyle, Mrs Horn and Mr Glover. *Mr Corkell*



Year 9 Sports Leaders

As part of the Year 6 taster day for students who will be attending the college in September, our Year 9 Sports Leaders delivered an athletics based session for nearly 180 students.

This session was divided into four workshops – sprinting, jumping, throwing and multi skills and were planned by the students previous to the event.

The Sports Leaders then delivered these sessions on the day for an hour and were so impressive.

The leaders ability to communicate and encourage the Year 6 students was fantastic and a real credit to the college. *Mr. Hulbert*