



As we approach the half term break, I hope that you have all had a great start to 2017 and are looking forward to Spring!

As I said last time I wrote, we are very much entering the business end of the school year with events coming thick and fast, both from within the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.

As you read this we will have a 36 strong tour party in Florida on our Level 3 Sports Development Tour focusing on netball and football, while our skiers and snowboarders are on their travels to the Italian mountains to develop their carving skills!

March will see the college's first Easter service which will be in that last week of term, of which you will all be welcome to enjoy with us at St Eustachius church. We all hope that you have a restful half term and we look forward to seeing the students back on Monday the 20th February (which incidentally is a week A!)

Over the last few months we have kept you up to date regarding potential movement for the college towards academy status, please see this link for latest information.

<http://tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk/hf/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/170209-Communication-Brief.pdf>

Parent Forum

Wednesday 1st March sees our next Parent Forum, and following some consultation with parents we have decided to change the structure to allow more parents to access what's needed for them.

So on March 1st, 6:30-7:30pm in the Atrium (top of the language block) we invite you to come and sit in 2 of our 4 teacher / expert led sessions based around issues that our parents have raised.

We will run each session twice, allowing parents to attend the two that most interest them, with each session running for approx. 25 mins.

The sessions are

- Dealing with mental health in young people
- Improving children's literacy, activities we can do at home
- Social Media – guidance for parents
- Improving my child's numeracy, activities we can do at home

We hope that you take the opportunity to attend these sessions, and I very much look forward to seeing you there!

Mr Forster



Holocaust Memorial Day

On Friday 27th January, Year 9 students at Tavistock College took part in a global event to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. They, along with 500 other schools around the world, gathered to hear Mala Tribich's testimony broadcast in a live web event which allowed them to hear first-hand Mala's experiences of the Holocaust.

Caitlin Harper:

'I really liked hearing Mala's story about life as a Jew in World War 2. It taught me a lot about how they were treated and what the camps were like. I think that schools should do more things like this because it really teaches people about big and important events in History.'

Ben Harper

'On Friday, we went to the hall to watch a Holocaust survivor talk about her experience of the concentration camp, her name was Mala. When she said that her cousin went missing I felt sad for her because I thought she was shot and killed. I don't know how she avoided the gas chambers but she was lucky because if she went in there, she would not have been able to tell us her experience and we would have no idea about the Holocaust.'

Keely Andrew

'I felt that it was very eye opening to be able to hear from Mala Tribich and how her life went from living life with a full family to having just her brother and cousin. I feel like it was very important to be told by an actual survivor of horrific events because as a younger generation we need to hear these things so that we can ensure they never happen again. Now most people should know that genocide is wrong and if we can prevent it then we should.'



Theatre Royal trip

On Wednesday 1st February the Year 12 Level 3 Performing Arts course took their first industry trip. We went to the Theatre Royal Plymouth to work with Pipeline Theatre Co and look at scriptwriting techniques. Working with Jon the Artistic Director and Pipeline's writer, students had the chance to look at how scripts can develop from what the writer initially starts with. There was a chance to perform on The Drum stage and try out sections of Pipeline's script before doing a backstage tour of the Theatre Royal. Students were surprised at how 'functional' back stage is - its not as glamorous as expected and the anecdotal stories from Hannah our guide helped us really understand the workings of the biggest production house in Britain. Next stop was TR2 over at Cattedown where the secondary cast of Mama Mia were rehearsing and everywhere we went we could hear snippets of 'Dancing Queen'! we saw and tried on many costumes and had an exclusive glance at some of the sets being built. After a quick pizza fill up we were back



in The Drum watching Spillikin - an original show by Pipeline Theatre Co with a robot as one of its cast members. The audible gasp from the audience at the lifelike response from the robot and the fantastic acting by the cast as leading character Sally descends into the depths of dementia will certainly stay with us for a long time. A fantastic first trip for the group with sustainable learning about the real world of theatre. Many thanks to Mrs Sharp for accompanying us.

Mrs Pearson



Diary Dates

Wed 22 Feb - Year 12 Parents' Evening

Thurs 28 Feb - Founders Day

Wed 1 March - Parent Voice Forum

Easter Break- Mon 3 April – Mon 17 April inclusive

Sport Fixtures

Tuesday 21st February

Years 7,8,9 & 10 Netball v Callington @ Callington

Thursday 23rd February

Years 9 & 10 Netball @ Liskeard (East Cornwall League Tournament)

Tuesday 28th February

Year 9 & 10 Netball v Callington (H)

Thursday 2nd March

Years 7 & 8 Netball @ Liskeard (East Cornwall League Tournament)

SCHOOL NURSE

Fortnightly Health Check

Please remember it is recommended that your child has an annual check up at the opticians and every 6 months at the dentist. If you do not have an NHS dentist and are having problems finding one then please contact 0333 006 3300. If your child is asthmatic they should also have an annual review with the Practice Nurse at your GP surgery.

CONFIDENTIAL DROP IN

Every Monday at lunchtime, for all year groups. In the Phoenix Suite (At the end of the music corridor, behind the hall)
No appointment necessary.
School Nurse - Nicky Freer



Getting to know your staff

Miss P Monk

1) What's the best part of your job?

The students, and the fact that no 2 days are the same.

2) When you were little what was your dream job?

I don't have a good memory- but it was becoming a food teacher (it was called Home Economics then!!).

3) If you could have one wish, what would you wish for and why?

Students to be able to wash-up properly! It's the thing I have to nag about the most, I blame the invention of the dishwasher.

4) Football or Rugby?

FOOTBALL (see my interesting fact).

5) If you've had a really rubbish day, how do you cheer yourself up?

Phoning my nieces and nephews they usually make me laugh.

6) If you could have a superpower for a day, what would it be?

To be able to fly – I'm not a big fan of driving.

7) What is your favourite song EVER?

Toploader – Dancing in the Moonlight.

8) Who is the most inspirational person you know?

Probably my Dad, he had a difficult and challenging job but was always took time out for fun, and he still volunteers well after retirement to share his knowledge and experience.

9) Give us one interesting fact about yourself.

I have a season ticket for Torquay United – no teasing, just sympathy PLEASE.



Tavistock COLLEGE

