



As we enter the final half term of the academic year the pace of everyday life at Tavistock College shows no sign of slowing down. I feel particularly proud of our students at the moment for several reasons. Our older year 11 and year 13 students continue to stoically embrace the challenge of their linear courses and countless number of exams. They should be congratulated for their mature and respectful approach to the exam season and the support that they are providing for each other. A long, and well deserved summer holiday is now just around the corner.

Our key stage 3 students and both year 10 and year 12 have an important period of end of year and PPE exams taking place during the weeks beginning Monday 19th and Monday 26th June. The College has had to take the decision that all of these exams must take place during lesson time and within the timetabled lessons. At this current time of unprecedented cuts in real term funding for schools it simply isn't an option to commit large sums of money to the invigilation needed for mock exams in the main hall. We also didn't want to take subject teachers away from their course business of teaching and learning in the classroom. There have been so many fantastic events in recent weeks and this edition of the Fortnightly Focus gives you a glimpse of the array of sporting, creative, entrepreneurial and academic talent and achievement that is on show every single week at Tavistock College. The recent staff v student rounders competition was a fantastic event. Seeing the college come together in a supportive yet highly competitive event was a great way to end the half term, even more so when it enabled a large sum of money to be raised towards the great work done locally by St Luke's Hospice. My personal highlight had to be at the recent SMSC Education day at the University of St Mark & St John, one of our co-operative partners. At one stage one of the Y3 teachers from Horrabridge, Amy Smith who left Tavistock College in 2012 was helping our year 10 students to interview her year 3 students. The past, present and future Tavistock students all working collaboratively was a great sight to behold.

Phil Ruse, Assistant Principal

Diary Dates

27 June

Meet the Tutor Evening Y6/7

30 June - Sports Day

3 July - 7 July

Year 11 Work Experience

3 July and 7 July

Y6 Taster Days

4 July - Graduation Day

6 July - Y11 Prom

10 and 11 July

Y7/8 Team Building day

12 July - Founders' Day

13 July

Open Evening 6-8pm

18 July

Celebration Evening

21 July

Last day of Summer Term

The First Teenage Market

The Teenage Market is a national initiative that is designed to increase the involvement of young people in the business, enterprise and commerce of towns and cities around the country. The concept is simple in giving young people the space and opportunity to sell their home-made or sourced products without having to worry about the fees, overheads or insurance requirements that are often needed to sell in a public space. The first Teenage Market to ever take place in the Cornwall or Devon took place in Bedford Square on Saturday 20th May.

Despite the persistent rain the day was a great success. Market stalls ranged from our ever popular year 7 Apple co-operative apple juice, to sixth form artists and photographers showcasing their creative talents to home-made baking and stress balls aimed at young people. Entertainment was provided by Joe Crosher in year 9 and there were even some ex Tavistock College students present supporting Frances Spry and her fledgling fashion business.

The next Teenage Market is scheduled for Saturday 21st October and we look forward to showcasing even more creative and entrepreneurial talent from within the College.



Art & Photography 2017

Friday 7th July
4:30 to 7pm
Tavistock College

Online payments

Don't miss out on important electronic communications and services - make sure you are signed up to School Gateway and download the App now - it's free! This allows you to make payments online and offers an excellent messaging system allowing you to reply to emails and text for free when using the app.

Remember to download the School Gateway app to enable you to make cashless payments to Tavistock College. Please refer to the college website and Online Payments under Parent for full details on how to activate your account.



Tavistock College Election Results

Summary

- LABOUR win the 2017 Tavistock College General Election with 39% of the votes cast. Nearly double the votes received by the Conservatives (21%) in second place.
- The Green Party convincingly become the third main party represented at the College with 19% of the votes.
- Labour won the vote in every year group, with the exception of year 7 where the Green Party dominated.
- Voting turnout was 52%. An excellent figure considering Y13 and the majority of Y11 were not available to vote.

LABOUR
39%
CONS.
21%
GREENS
19%
LIB DEM
9%
UKIP
8%
SPOILED
3%

Year 7

1st Green Party 35%
2nd Labour 26%
3rd Conservatives 24%
4th Liberal Democrats 7%
5th UKIP 5%

Turnout – 14 out of 16 tutor groups returned results (88%)

Year 8

1st Labour 42%
2nd Conservatives 18%
3rd Green 15%
4th UKIP 13%
5th Liberal Democrats 12%

Turnout – 5 out of 7 tutor groups returned results (71%)

Note – Y8 assembly ran on election day and affected turnout.

Year 9

1st Labour 37%
2nd Conservatives 20%
3rd Green Party 16%
4th Liberal Democrats 10%
5th UKIP 9%

Turnout – 5 out of 7 tutor groups returned results (71%)

Year 10

1st Labour 37%
2nd Conservatives 24%
3rd Green Party 16%
4th UKIP 12%
5th Liberal Democrats 11%

Turnout – All 6 tutor groups returned results (100%)

Year 11

1st Labour 35%
2nd Conservatives 26%
3rd Liberal Democrats 24%
4th UKIP 7%
5th Green Party 5%

Turnout – 2 out of 6 tutor groups returned results (33%)

Note – a major maths exam fell on election day, affecting turnout.

Year 12

1st Labour 62%
2nd Conservatives 16%
3rd Liberal Democrats 7%
UKIP 7%
Green Party 7%

Turnout – 5 out of 6 tutor groups returned results (83%)

Photographic Competition

Over all theme of this year's competition is "Environment"
There are 3 competition age groups: 4 to 9 years. 10 to 14 years. 15 to 18 years.

There are 4 categories in each age group, they are as follows:

Wild and wonderful. 2) Tenderness 3) Growing things 4) People at work.

You may enter 3 photographs in each category at £1 per entry.

Photographs should be printed on A4 Glossy Paper
Attached or printed on the reverse must be the entrant's name, date of birth, address and telephone number and school attended.

The category entered must also be attached to the photograph or written on the reverse.

Photographs may be submitted from June 12th 2017 until 10 a.m. on the final submission day of Wednesday 4th October 2017. Judging will take place shortly after.

The entries will be accepted at the reception desk at Tavyside Health Centre, Abbey Rise, Tavistock. PL19 9FD, together with the entry fees.

Envelopes should be addressed to The T.P.A and marked "Photographic Competition".

We regret that we are not able to return the photographs entered into the competition but they may be collected after the exhibition by arrangement with the T.P.A.

The Prize Giving will take place in the Conference Centre at Tavyside Health Centre in October (date to be confirmed)

As in previous years, the prize for the winning photograph of an enlargement on canvas is again being generously sponsored by Dartmoor Photographic.

The engraving of the Maureen Reynolds trophy and all the monetary prizes for the category winners are once more sponsored by Mr Eric Reynolds.



Dog Blog

If you want real, true adoration, come to school not as a teacher but as the school puppy. Everyone wants to make a fuss of you and life is generally wonderful and endlessly fascinating.

Shola is our college dog – she is a 4 month old Irish setter puppy who has been socialised with this in mind from the beginning. Her name was chosen from over 300 suggestions put forward by the students and she was presented in assembly when she was just 9 weeks old.

From the very first she has loved her work – she will trot jauntily down the corridor, tail wagging, looking out for children (and staff) to make a fuss of her. She has an adoring public and she expects everyone to love her.

Shola brings smiles to faces throughout the college – she comes to staff briefings in the early morning (which can distract staff from notices, but does lead to a relaxed atmosphere), then in this exam season it is off to meet and greet any students waiting to take their exams. From a long line of students queuing many will stroke her ‘for luck’ as they go, and staff can also benefit – before Maths GCSE many of the Maths teachers also came over to stroke Shola. She has a real ability to identify students suffering from stress, which her presence seems to alleviate. Before one exam we had a student so stressed she felt she couldn’t take the exam, but meeting Shola brought a smile to her face and she was then able to go in to sit her exam. In a class with some students known to be worried and anxious, Shola will invariably choose to sit beside those students rather than the other, calmer, students.

College life fascinates her – last week she discovered the college chickens and was riveted to the window watching them peck and scratch in the straw the other side of the glass. PE is always interesting and she always wants to go and play whatever game the students are playing (although she is kept off the pitches for health and safety reasons).

In any day in college she will meet well over 100 students and staff.

Yesterday we had 20+ year 7 PE students fussing her, 2 governors and the SEN department: the entire admin office came to a halt to say hello, she assisted in A level Law and History (where a student said she was the best thing all day), came to the staffroom at break and met more staff, sat in the concourse and received her due adulation from another 30+ students, and said hello to the college rabbits and guinea pigs. Between times she has a quiet bed in the History office, where she sleeps on her back, most inelegantly,

deeply asleep like all young animals.

If she is hungry the kitchens insist she has fresh meat (it was cooked turkey last time) and students are always looking to see if Shola is in today – if the answer is yes, students have been known to drop everything in the corridor and rush in to see her. ‘She’s so soft!’ they marvel as they stroke her silky coat – and it is smiles again all round.



SMSC Day at Marjon

A group of year 11 media studies students recently visited the University of St Mark and St John for a collaborative SMSC education day entitled ‘Modern Britain’. This gave an opportunity for our students to analyse the diverse nature of British society in terms of culture, race and religion through their subject specific skills within Media Studies. The really unique aspect of this education day was its collaborative nature. Horrabridge, Lifton and Tavistock Primary school students were all involved as well as a group of undergraduates from Marjon’s education and media faculties. Our year 10 students were really taken out of their comfort zone in having to interview and work with primary students from the early years, year 3 and year 5. Their investigative journalism work was captured at the end of the day in a series of newspaper articles. At one stage one of the Y3 teachers from Horrabridge, Amy Smith who left Tavistock College in 2012 was helping our year 10 students to interview her year 3 students. The past, present and future Tavistock students all working collaboratively was a great sight to behold.



Political Speed Dating

Year 7 students, accompanied by the Year 12 Law class, met local councillors for a political speed dating event at the college recently. Small groups of students had 7 minutes to question the councillors - then the whistle blew and they were off to the next one. Councillors from Devon County, West Devon Borough, Tavistock Town and various local parish councils were present in this popular annual event organised by Helen Harris for the college and Debo Sellis for the councils as part of the college’s work on democracy.

Students asked challenging questions on a range of local issues, such as education and environmental matters, particularly recycling. Bus fares, voting ages, health matters and local speed limits also came up for discussion.

Councillors were enthusiastic about meeting the youth of Tavistock and were friendly and helpful, guiding the children through their viewpoints and explanations.

Many thanks to all who took part. *Mrs Harris*



Diary of a Foyle Young Poet

By Cyrus Larcombe-Moore Foyle Young Poet of the Year 2016

<http://poetrysociety.org.uk/competitions/foyle-young-poets-of-the-year-award/prizes/diary-of-a-foyle-young-poet-2/>

If poetry was a place, The Hurst would be that home of writing. I have never experienced anything quite like being solely surrounded by like-minded people, and people with the same goals, hopes and dreams of attainment as each other. It is something I will always cherish. To be encompassed by such inspiring vistas, to enjoy good company and learn as much as I did about a craft I hold so dear, was quite magical.

The group sessions, spent with pens held tightly and sat around a table where we were all equals, were at first intimidating but once one understands that everyone around that table is there to push you to achieve more, you relax and words flow from you and from all the other writers too. There is no true silence at The Hurst, for wherever you go you will always find someone writing, and the sound of insistent scribbling is comforting.

Individual sessions taught me the most. The Poets [W.N Herbert, Malika Booker, and special guest Sarah Howe] were kind yet honest and provided us all with valuable snippets – which, when added together from those short periods of time, give you a well sculpted idea of where you need to go, and what you next need to write, or edit, or leave behind. These more intimate one-on-ones are what I enjoyed most and found most useful. No feedback clashed with the other and both [judges, W.N Herbert and Malika Booker] have changed the way I write poetry for the better. We built a community in the short time we had together at the Hurst. All were friends; late comers felt as if they'd been with us for months; and one always could find support in another member of the group. I'm not sure if we were lucky and came together as a group of people who could simply get on and gel without issue, but it certainly felt I had been friends with each member of the 15 for much more than a few days. I think it was the subtle combination of intimacy and escapism. You were able to isolate yourself completely or remain with a handful of people for days at a time. This dynamic brought a comfort to the friendship, as it allowed us the sanctuary of each other and of being solitary. Truly something I doubt I will experience again and wish I could. The food was good, the people were wonderful, the location was beautiful and the time I had was splendid. I would do it again if I could, and I would do it again after that and again after that. It was without question one of the best weeks of my life. I have met people I hope to know for a long time, and expect their names to be published in the near future. I tell them we will do this again, and I'm sure we shall. Some bonds aren't broken by distance and I think the connections made between poets in those few days will remain.

The Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award 2017 is now open for entries. The top 15 winning poets will attend an Arvon residential course, and are published in a winners' anthology. 85 commended poets are also published in an online anthology. All 100 winners receive Poetry Society membership, a goody bag and an invite to the awards ceremony at the Southbank Centre.



Athletics

on 13th June the Year 8 athletics team competed against schools in the Plymouth and West Devon area. There were some outstanding individual performances, as well as both the boys and girls teams working together to perform to the highest standards. This was also combined with fantastic support of each other. This was reflected in the girls finishing 6th and the boys 4th in the team competition.

There were many top two finishes and all the results are listed below.

In particular - Izzy Bray with an outstanding endurance run finished 3rd in the 800m and then jumped over 7 metres to 2nd in the triple jump.

Jacob Bevan, Charlie Elkington and Tyler finished 2nd in the 100m, 200m and hurdles respectively and then powered the boys relay team to 2nd.

Tabitha Myler - finished 2nd in the high jump.

Joe Dix - finished 3rd in the high jump and then paced the 800m perfectly to win the final.

Will Russell - gave an endurance masterclass to win the 1500m final by half a lap.

Year 8 boys results

Hurdles - Tyler Hunt 2nd (final)

100m - Jacob Bevan 2nd (final)

200m - Charlie Elkington 2nd (final)

300m - Dan Luckham 4th (heat)

800m - Joe Dix - 1st (final)

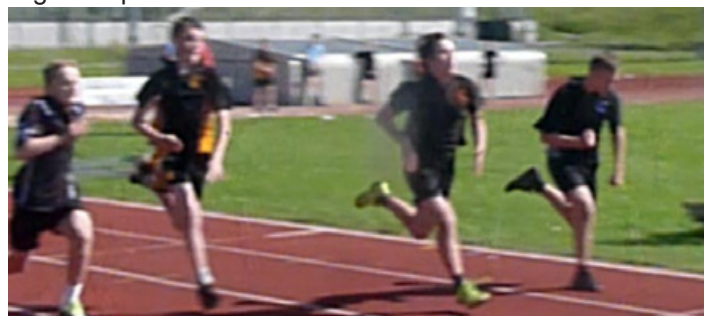
1500m - Will Russell - 1st (final)

4 x 100m relay - 2nd

Javelin - Seth Waycott - 6th

Long Jump - Freddie Fuller - 5th

High Jump - Joe Dix - 3rd



Year 8 girls results

Hurdles - Charley Mudge - 4th (heat)

100m - Grace Baker - 3rd (final)

200m - Charlotte Myler - 3rd (heat)

300m - Shannon Bray - 3rd (heat)

800m - Izzy Bray - 3rd (final)

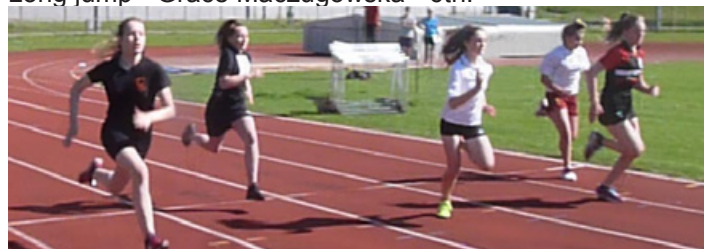
1500m - Abi Whitehead - 4th (final)

4 x 100m relay - 3rd

Triple Jump - Izzy Bray - 2nd

High Jump - Tabitha Myler - 2nd

Long jump - Grace Maczugowska - 6th.



All the students performed with high levels of commitment and as always were a credit to the college. The pride in their desire to achieve and also support others was outstanding.

Mr Hulbert

Year 7 Football

The Year 7 football squad competed in the Devon football finals recently.

The competition was in a league format of 8 teams, with the girls having to play 7 games of 10 minutes in the gruelling heat.

Tavistock girls realised the huge task ahead after narrowly losing the first two games, but showed great resilience to be unbeaten in the next four games. It was with immense pride and commitment that the girls were able to bounce back from the early setbacks to produce some outstanding football.

Even though we lost the last game an overall 5th place in Devon was a fantastic achievement! There were many outstanding performances including the string of brilliant saves from Chloe Knight in goal to keep four consecutive clean sheets and amazingly scoring straight from a goalkick. It is also important to highlight the player of the tournament Tilly Murdoch. Her powerful runs from midfield were brilliant and resulted in being our top goalscorer. She is definitely a footballer to keep an eye on.

The girls were a credit to the college and again displayed the persistence, work ethic and team spirit mixed with skill to be successful at the highest level.

Results

Tavistock 0 Paignton 1

Coombeshead 2 Tavistock 0

Tavistock 0 Park 0

Tavistock 1 (Tilly Murdoch) Wynstream 0

ISCA 0 Tavistock 0

Tavistock 1 (Tilly Murdoch) Exmouth 0

Lipson 2 Tavistock 1 (Chloe Knight)

Under 12 girls football squad: Chloe Yorath (captain), Sophie McKenzie, Tilly Murdoch, Claire Small, Emily Lees, Hannah Lumley, Chloe Knight, Maisy Ayres, Jess Ward and Marisa Clementine.

Mr Hulbert

Swimming Champion

Jack Plummer (Year 9) Qualifies for British Swimming Summer Championships

Congratulations to Jack Plummer (year 9), who has qualified for 6 events at the British Swimming Summer Championships in July and 2 events at the Swim England National Summer Meet in August. To qualify for the British Championships, swimmers from around Britain compete to set one of the top 24 times for each event. The next 20 times for events set by swimmers from England go forward to the English National Meet. In Jack's age group there are about 1,000 competitive swimmers, so competition is tough.

Jack was in the top 24 swimmers in the 50, 100 and 200 metres Freestyle, the 100metres Breaststroke, the 50 metres backstroke and the 200 metres individual medley. For the English Champs he has qualified in the 50 metres breaststroke and 100 metres backstroke, in each case missing out on the British Champs by just 4 places in the rankings.

This is a huge achievement and a credit to his swimming clubs (Tavistock SC and Plymouth Leander) and to his hard work and commitment. He is competing in the 15 year old age category and because his birthday falls late in the year, this means that he is racing against boys that are often nearly a year older than himself. He trains for over 14 hours a week, swimming for 2 hours every day. Jack has been competing for over 8 years now and is no stranger to swimming at this level, having previously been a New Zealand junior national champion at swimming and surf lifesaving and last year was an English Schools swimming champion in the 200 metres Individual medley.

Jack swam at the British Champs last year as well and while he recognises that this will be a tough competition for him, he is looking forward to the challenge and the opportunity to further improve his times.



Go Slow! on Dartmoor

MAXIMUM

40

GIVE WAY
TO STOCK



The tradition of grazing on Dartmoor National Park dates back to medieval times. Today, there are literally thousands of animals still grazing on Dartmoor Commons. When visiting Dartmoor remember to **GIVE WAY** to Cattle, Sheep and Ponies.

They are most prevalent along roadside verges and they have the right of way, so take MOOR care.

Warning: Animals will sleep on the roads at night to keep warm.

Hitting an animal with your car on Dartmoor can be deadly and very costly.

If, despite careful driving, you are unlucky enough to hit and injure an animal on Dartmoor, you must:

- **STOP** and check the animal and then
- **Report** the incident to the police by calling 101 or the Dartmoor Livestock Protection Society on 07873 587 561 (or 999). This is a **legal** requirement. You must do this as quickly as you can, whether the animal is killed or not.



- Remember Grazing Animals have Right of Way
- Animals, like children, are unpredictable and will run out in the road unexpectedly.
- Never exceed 40mph on Dartmoor roads and reduce your speed dramatically at night and during poor weather
- It is against the law to ride motorcycles, bicycles or motor vehicles off-road on Dartmoor (£500 fine)

Kill your speed..



Not me

Tavistock COLLEGE