



The exam season is now well underway and as a college we have been delighted at how Year 11 and some of our sixth form students have embraced the challenge and hectic nature of this time. I am also delighted to notice the peer support that students are providing for each other. Year 11 students appear to be providing a really robust and empathetic support network for each other and the younger students across the college are being fully respectful of the need for absolute silence around exam venues such as the Gym and Sports hall at specific times. This solidarity across the college is great to see and I urge all our students to remember this and the massive impact a simple positive comment or smiling face can have on our older students at this stressful time.

Keeping the theme of solidarity in mind the first Teenage Market takes place in Bedford Square tomorrow, Saturday 20th May. I am delighted to see such a range of students involved from our sixth formers selling their skilful art and photography work to our year 9s selling stress solutions, to our successful year 7 young co-operative selling apple juice. It's been brilliant to see year 12 students using their photography skills to provide some marketing shots for these younger students. It is impossible to put a tangible value on the transferable skills students can develop when involved in these sorts of activities.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you of the impending half term break and how the final half term of the academic year then begins on Monday 5th June.

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

First Aid in school

At Tavistock College we have two trained 'first-aiders' on call should students have accidents or are suddenly taken ill. The college does not have trained medical practitioners who can diagnose conditions or treat them. Appointments should be made with a qualified doctor or nurse practitioner at a health clinic if an illness occurs.



Students should only attend ask to see a 'first-aider' in the Central Admin Base if:

1. They become unwell in the school day (eg are vomiting, have a severe headache). A contact will be made with parents and a decision can be made if it is appropriate for the student should go home.
2. They have an accident or an emergency occurs (eg. bleeding nose, a slip or fall). A call will be made with parents and an ambulance will be called if appropriate.
3. They take regular medication and this has been stored with parents' permission for administration.

The school nurse works in a number of different schools. The school nurse for Tavistock College is available on Monday lunchtimes in the Phoenix Suite. Her name is Nicky Freer and she operates a drop-in service for students who wish to discuss health related issues connected to physical, mental or emotional health. She can sign-post students to medical practitioners.

FINANCE UPDATE

Online payments

We are pleased to advise that Tavistock College is now operating an online payment system for trips and college purchases. This system works alongside your cashless catering account and is really easy to use. To activate your account simply download the School Gateway app or visit www.schoolgateway.com enter you current email and mobile number connected to your son / daughter's college record and select 'SEND PIN'. The PIN will be sent to your mobile phone instantly. Use this each time you log into your account.

Don't forget if you already have a Gateway account, please download the App – it's free!

From the 1st June items available for purchase will show on your Gateway account. We will notify you when a new trip or item for purchase becomes available. Tie / planner purchases should be collected by your son/daughter from the student income window, in the Concourse during opening times.

For details please refer to the letter emailed to all parents on 12th May, also available on the college website or contact your HOY administrator if you have further queries.



Important Information

School Funding – A guide for parents

Dear Parent / Carers

Along with up to 3000 Headteacher colleagues across 14 counties I am writing to you in order to raise the issue of school funding and the significant current financial difficulties that all of our schools are now facing.

During all of our campaigning work to improve funding for each and every child in each and every school, we have been careful not to become involved in a politically biased or partisan way. Headteacher colleagues and I feel that ahead of the forthcoming general election it is crucial that parents, carers and all other interested parties raise the issue of school funding 'on the doorstep' with all prospective candidates.

It would be naïve to think that school funding is the only issue affecting everyone's lives but school finances are in such a dreadful state that we believe that it is vital to urge you to raise it as a key issue prior to 8 June.

As professionals we are only interested in securing fair and adequate funding for the children that we educate. This is under severe threat and has influenced our decision to contact you in a collaborative manner.

We hope that you will find the attached guide to be of use and make educational funding a cornerstone of the election campaign. The suggested questions could be put to any prospective parliamentary candidate so that we can all be fully informed as to the future of school funding in the very near future.

Thank you for your support.



Sarah Jones, Principal of Tavistock College

On behalf of 14 counties

Brighton	East Sussex	Peterborough	Wokingham
Cambridgeshire	Essex	Suffolk	West Sussex
Cornwall	Hertfordshire	Surrey	
Devon	Norfolk	Thurrock	



Education on the Doorstep

A straightforward guide for parents and carers to understand the key issues of fair and improved funding for our schools.

The Issues

- £3 billion is being withdrawn from schools budgets in England
- In real terms, per pupil funding is decreasing by approximately 8%
- Pupil numbers are also increasing significantly
- Recruiting teachers for specialist subjects such as Maths, English, Science and Computer Science is becoming increasingly difficult.
- Some schools have been asking parents for additional financial contributions.

The Effects

- Without adequate funding schools can't employ enough high quality teachers. Some schools are having to make teachers redundant because they can no longer afford to employ them.
- Schools are also having to make support staff redundant. These staff often work with children with additional needs. In the years ahead there is a great deal of concern that some of our most vulnerable children will not receive the support they need.
- Class sizes are increasing. This is worrying because children are less likely to get the personal attention they need from a teacher who knows them well.
- Some schools are reducing the number of subjects they teach. This means the curriculum is narrowing and individual talents can't be nurtured in the way of previous generations.
- Many of the extra, wider curriculum experiences are being reduced either because the school can't subsidise them or increased workload for staff means it is not reasonable to ask them to keep doing more.
- Some schools are struggling with poorly maintained classrooms and buildings and in some cases unresolved health and safety issues.

The questions for **ALL** prospective candidates for Members of Parliament

- What are your priorities with regard to the allocation of funding to all schools and each pupil?
- How will you ensure that school budgets are protected in real terms for the duration of the next parliament? Please avoid telling me that more is being spent on schools; we have more children of school age than ever and costs are rising.
- Some schools are looking to create classes of 60-100 children in the school hall because they cannot afford enough teachers. What are you going to do to prevent that?
- Our children should be provided with a broad curriculum, great support and enriching activities. How will you ensure that my child has the educational experience they deserve?
- How will you ensure education for children with Special Educational Needs is adequately resourced? A large funding gap in this area is detracting much needed funds from all schools.

Where can I get more information?

- The following report by the BBC explores school funding issues in more detail:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-39302746>
- The link below provides the results to a comprehensive survey completed by over 700 Heads in primary, secondary and special schools across 14 different counties. <https://www.surveymonkey.net/results/SM-2DC9HGZB/>
- Parents across the country are getting organised under the Fair Funding for all Schools campaign. This is an independent parent-led organisation which aims to give parents and carers a voice on school funding. You can find more information here www.fairfundingforallschools.org



Product of the Year

Tavistock College's Technology faculty hosted its 6th annual Product of The Year event on Monday 8th May and were delighted to celebrate the design talent with so many visitors.

The event consisted of an exhibition where 75 students proudly demonstrated their products to over 200 visiting members of the public. Visitors voted for their favourite product within 8 categories and also their overall favourite product in the exhibition.

The event also included a vibrant fashion show where fashion students displayed their garments down a cat walk, a Tech Zone which included some state of the art gadgets and robotic creations, the college's GreenPower Formula 24 racing team with their electric race car ahead of the season's racing and some fantastic live music from students Elysia Hix and Milly Norris.



Alex Ince and Charlie Phipps with their innovative lighting projects accompanied by product design teacher Mr Moore and Cllr Mayor Mandy Ewings



Bryce Lovell, Abel Bradford and Tom Harrison with their unique GCSE Resistant Materials lighting projects

"The creativity and innovation demonstrated by the students is mind blowing. An array of beautifully crafted products ranging from LED desk lamps which charged up mobiles to a 3D printed SLR camera."

Mayor Cllr Mandy Ewings

**Photos courtesy of
Tavistock Times Gazette**



Molly Pedler, Lydia Oaten, Amber Gunby, Rachel Perkin, Isabel Hillier and Amber Jutson (Charlotte Davis wearing Amber's skirt) with their GCSE Textiles Skirt projects which have been inspired by 'Patterns in Nature'.

"We felt such an incredible feeling of pride in our students on the night, so many examples of exceptional talent, resilience and commitment."

*Head of Technology Faculty,
Mr Keegan*



Key Stage 3 Bake Off 'A Scone based snack' - Dal Garside with his winning Sundried tomato, feta and olive swirls, Ben Watt (Berry and chocolate scones) and Niamh Iles (Pear and Ginger Scones)



Joe Carver, Rebecca Banks and Steven Isaac - winners of the regional Engineering Education Scheme competition 2017

Best Key Stage 3 Product Design
Shannon Argue

Bake Off

Daniel Garside and Hermione Shaw

Best fashion garment
Skye Steer, Amber Jutson, Anya Anstey

Best Year 10 Resistant Materials product

Ben Prout and Oliver Venning

Best Key Stage 5 Product Design
and also claiming the top prize for best in exhibition
Josh Coombe with his innovative chair which transforms into a step ladder.



George Dunne-Perry and Nathan Savage demonstrating some exciting and creative technologies in the 'Tech-Zone' with Mrs Neill

**PRODUCT
OF THE YEAR
2017**

Special thanks to the local businesses who sponsored the event which included Towls of Tavistock, The Technology Company, Brigid Foley, Sew and Sew, Tinhay, Jewsons and White Stuff.

Ten Tors and Jubilee Challenge

Over the past weekend 23 of our students took part in the Ten Tors Challenge and the Jubilee Challenge, all successfully completing their specific events.

There may be many challenging walks in Britain today, but Ten Tors & Jubilee Challenge is still alone in catering solely for young people and is the largest and most challenging event held nationally.

The determination, commitment and dedication that these young people have shown in preparing themselves for this event, most training every fortnight since December, 2016 should not be underestimated. A MASSIVE well done to everybody who participated.

TEN TORS

Year 10's – 35 miles

Darcy Brown, Beatrice Muncey,
Josie Handscomb, Olivia Kinnear,
Jack Davey & William Thompson.

Year 11's – 45 miles

George Bumford, Alice
Brimacombe, Tom White, Sam
Bates, Jason Blake & Dylan
Wood.

Year 12's – 55 miles

Darcey Hepworth, Ben Roberts,
Ryan Brimacombe, Nathan
Sellars & Joe Mulroy.



JUBILEE CHALLENGE

Jenny Ogle, Rachel Perkin, Lewis
Steer & Brandon Rowe.

Art & Photography 2017



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

Fidget Spinners

The recent craze for fidget spinners has I am sure been noticed by all parents and teachers alike. They have undoubtedly started to become a distraction in lesson time with the spinners affecting student concentration and application to their work and being a drain on teachers' time in dealing with them. They are essentially a toy, and have started to be marketed in a very aggressive way and importantly we are concerned about the distraction they hold for other students in the room. We recognise that there are a few students across the College who benefit from such a device in aiding their concentration as part of a specific learning need. As a result they will have specific permission from their Head of Year and the SEND team regarding their access to a spinner. For the majority of students these spinners are now banned and teachers will ask for them to be put away in line with the behaviour policy and students that don't comply with this direction will have the spinner confiscated. There are of course many other alternative aids to helping student concentration such as having a doodle book which won't provide any distraction to other students. We ask that parents are supportive of this decision and encourage students not to bring them into college.



Getting to Know the Department

Catering

The College is proud to have its own in-house catering service. Our catering staff enable us to produce on the premises most of the food we sell. Wherever possible we use local suppliers and fresh produce.

We believe that children need to have the option to make healthy choices and with this in mind we are continually introducing new products that give the students that choice. We have a wide range of fruit pots, salads, sandwiches, baguettes and tortilla wraps, all of which are freshly made on a daily basis. We also offer a range of hot savoury products, desserts, cakes and biscuits.

The cost of a school meal is set by Devon County Council, please view our price list for details of current costs. Food is bought using 'Schoolcomms' and the Refectory is a cash free area.

Non-plated food bought in the Refectory can be taken to classrooms to be eaten. Students are also welcome to bring packed lunches from home to eat.

Catering staff encourage students to try new dishes and are happy for them to 'have a taste' before they buy.



Dietary Requirements

In addition to a wide range of vegetarian options, we are able to cater for different dietary requirements. Our Catering Manager, Mrs Worth is very happy to discuss your child's needs – please feel free to contact her on 01822 613230.

What is the name of your department?	Catering Team
Who works in your department?	Clare Worth - Catering Manager 19 years at Tavistock College Di Krysta - Assistant Manager - 4 years at Tavistock College Debbie Bailey - 17 years at Tavistock College Carolyn Watts - 10 years at Tavistock College Gemma Davies - 7 years at Tavistock College Sue Solomon - 13 years at Tavistock College Sarah Lethbridge - 5 years at Tavistock College Mairi Kirby - 6 years at Tavistock College Trish Asquith - 2 years at Tavistock College
How do you all start your day at Tavistock College?	A 6am start for Clare. Start with checking all fridges and freezers are running to temperature. Light up ovens, then start cooking bacon!
What is the best part of your job?	Interacting with students.
Which is your favourite product you produce and why?	"Caramel Slice - lush" Debbie "Southern Style Chicken Fillet - real chicken - tasty" Sarah and Mairi "Homemade Chelsea Bun / Cupcakes" "Salad Bar - we all have something with salad for our lunch" Clare
Tell us a little bit about how your day runs in your department?	A busy department - teamwork - a well oiled team.
Do you have specific parts of the school year that you enjoy the most?	Summer Holidays! Christmas lunch fun
How many pieces of bacon do you use in a week?	960!
How many paninni's do you produce in a day?	130 - rising to over 200 when we have new Year 7s
Which menu item is your best seller?	Southern Style Chicken Fillet and cookies
Who is your favourite celebrity chef and why?	"Not Jamie Oliver" "Hairy Bikers" Clare "James Martin - easy on the eye" Gemma and Sarah
What is the most rewarding part of your job?	A 'thank you' from students and staff
If you didn't work in the Catering Department which Department would you want in work in and why?	"Principal" Debbie "T.A" Gemma and Sarah "Reception" Carolyn "Finance" Clare
Who is the funniest member of your team?	Trish is the funniest and the loudest!
Who makes the yummiest cakes or desserts?	Gemma is the Cake Queen
We know you listen to the radio in the kitchen, what song is most likely to get you all singing along?	"Any cheesy party songs, 5 gold rings at Christmas" "Rod Stewart or Queen" Clare "Steps" Gemma
What is the best part of your day?	Our lunch - when we can all chat Hometime!

Tavistock Athletic success at Plymouth and West Devon Championships.



We took a 37 strong Athletics squad (Year 7-10) to Brickfields to compete in this tough competition. This involved students competing in a range of events in running, throwing and jumping disciplines. The students straight from the first event, competed outstandingly well and managed to collect 18 top 2 finishes.

There were so many fantastic performances, but in particular some students managed to achieve across different events.

Becky McArthur (Year 9) won the 75 metres hurdles and then helped Eggbuckland relay team win their race, as they had only three runners.

Jack Plummer (Year 9) won the discuss and then finished 2nd in the 800 metres. This was a brilliant race with Jack clawing back a 40 metre deficit on the leader just to narrowly miss out on the victory.

Emily Frost (Year 10) showed her sprinting prowess with 2nd in the 100 metres and then helping the 400 x 100m relay girls team to also finish 2nd.

Leon Bray (Year 9) demonstrated an excellent all round athletic ability. Winning his 80 metres hurdle race with ease and finishing 3rd in the high jump. He then followed this up with a powerful 2nd leg in the 4 x 100m relay to help the Year 9 boys win the race.

All the students were superb and as always performed with commitment and the highest standards.



Tennis Success

Year 7 - 10 Students represented the college in the Devon tennis league this week.

Tavistock girls v Torquay Girls Grammar; Tavistock lost overall, but Olivia Clarke, Heidi Turnock, Izzy Hillier and Izzy Hillman won their games, with some excellent tennis being played by both teams.

Tavistock (boys and girls teams) lost against Kingsbridge after some very close matches. Wins for Claire Small, Olivia Clarke, Izzy Hillier. Wins in doubles for Izzy Hillier and Charlotte Able and Clair Short and Olivia Clarke.

U15 boys v Heles won 2 games out of 4 in the singles, but narrowly lost their doubles matches
Mr Corkell

Selected results

Hurdles

Junior Girls - 75m - Becky McArthur - 1st

Junior Boys - 80m - Leon Bray 1st, Tyler Hunt 2nd

800 metres

Junior Boys - Jack Plummer - 2nd, Joe Dix - 5th

100 metres

Year 7 boys - Ben Bryant - 2nd

Junior Boys - Josh Monk - 1st (heat)

Inter girls - Emily Frost - 2nd

400 metres

Inter boys - Gabriel Schreiber - 2nd

1500 metres

Junior boys - Will Russell - 2nd, Dan Luckham - 4th

200 metres

Year 7 girls - Maddie Nettleship - 2nd (heat)

Inter girls - Olivia Kinnear - 2nd (heat), Mia Cole - 2nd (heat)

Inter boys - Gabriel Schreiber

Triple jump

Inter girls - Sophie Isaacs - 2nd, Lauren Harvey - 3rd

Discuss

Junior boys - Jack Plummer - 1st

4 x 100m relays

Inter boys - Connor Johnson, Leon Bray, Ollie Thursby, Josh Monk - 1st

Inter girls - Olivia Kinnear, Issy Hillier, Mia Cole, Emily Frost - 2nd

These are outstanding results - congratulations to all involved.

Mr Hulbert

Sport Results

Wednesday 3 May

Super 8 Athletics (Y7,8 &9) Tavistock came 3rd

Thursday 4 May

Y7 & 8 Rounders @ Liskeard (ECL)

Year 7 won both games

Year 8 Lost 31/2 - 5 to Callington

21/2 - 4 to Liskeard

Thursday 11 May

English Schools & West Devon Schools Cup Athletics @ Brickfields (see article above)

Friday 12 May

Year 7,8,9 & 10 Girls & Boys Tennis v Kingsbridge

Year 7 & 8 Girls lost 4 - 3

Year 9 & 10 Girls lost 4 - 3

Year 7 & 8 Boys lost 12-0

Year 9 & 10 Boys lost 12-0

Tavistock

COLLEGE