



The new academic year is now well under way and our new year 7 students have received their prized house badges. Whether in Bedford, Drake, Fitzford, Glanville or Tremayne the House System creates a fantastic sense of belonging for our students. Whether it is seen when sharing in sporting success, in the solidarity shown with other house members through achievement in lesson, or even just when engaging in conversation in the refectory queue with someone with the same

badge the House System is hugely important to Tavistock College. One look in the main hall at the honours boards detailing past alumni and house captains reminds you of the extent to which the names of Bedford, Drake, Fitzford, Glanville and Tremayne are embedded in the history of Tavistock College.

The senior team have spent the week engaging with student voice groups from our respective houses, hearing their views on what the school is getting right and what can be made even better. This genuine consultation with our students, who are after all, the most important stakeholder in our school, is fundamental to ensuring those co-operative values of solidarity and self-responsibility are brought alive on a daily basis. There is much within this edition of Fortnightly Focus that demonstrates how our students, staff and the local community in which we operate are working together in so many exciting and rewarding ways to improve the life chances for our students.

Phil Ruse, Assistant Principal

School Nurse

Some changes have been to the school nurse provision within the College. These changes come directly from central government and as with many of the cuts within education; it unfortunately does lead to a reduction in the school nurse provision at Tavistock College.

Sue Payne will be our new Virgin Care/ NHS nurse. She will be available to see students in college every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 10am – 1pm. 'Drop in's' will still be available in the Phoenix Suite, commencing on the 16th October.

Duke of Edinburgh

The following 14 students successfully completed their Bronze level DofE Assessed Expedition over the weekend - a fantastic achievement!

Year 10 - Heather Allmark, Connie Ballard, Joseph Crosher, Holly Eaton, Jenny Green, Natasha Griffiths, Jonathan Moore, Jennifer Murdoch and Lily Walke.
Year 11 - Libby Kerswill, Olivia Kinnear, Connor Billington, Thanae Garland-Tsirka and Emily Handel.

Mr Jerrett



Diary Dates

Governors meetings

Curriculum Committee

4 October @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

College Uniform

Consultation

5 October @ 6pm in the Octagon

Non Pupil Day

11 October

Half Term

23 October - 27 October

Governors meetings

Curriculum Committee

15 November @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Resources Committee

22 November @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Chairs Committee

6 December @ 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Full Committee

6 December @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Christmas Break

18 December 2017 - 1 January 2018

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 Cornwall or Devon took place in Bedford Square on Saturday 20th May and was a great success, with students from Tavistock College selling apple juice from apples grown at the College, art and photography work, freshly baked cake and even an ex-student selling her own fashion label items of clothing.

The next Teenage Market is scheduled for Saturday 21st October, from 10am until 4pm and we look forward to showcasing even more creative and entrepreneurial talent from within the College.

You can register your interest by clicking on the link below or come and speak directly to Mr Ruse.

<https://theteenagemarket.co.uk/events/tavistock-teenage-market-2/>

Response to National Funding Formula

Announcement – September 2017

Following the Secretary of State for Education's announcement about school funding on 14 September 2017, Headteachers working across 17 counties – from Cornwall to Norfolk - believe that you have the right to know the facts that will affect your child's education for years to come. The implications of the newly announced funding formula are profound.

Is £1.3 billion enough?

It should be acknowledged that introducing a new national formula was complex and challenging. This Government is the first in a generation to try and grasp the nettle. Schools that have previously been at or below the "breadline" do receive some improvements to their funding position, but the universal view of Headteachers across the 17 counties is that this is not enough to make a real difference.

In July 2017, the Government announced that schools would benefit from £1.3 billion of additional funding. This does not, however, make up for the £3 billion overall reduction that was already announced and planned for 2015-20. Over a five year period, there is a shortfall of approximately £1.7 billion. The Institute of Fiscal Studies states that during 2015-20 school budgets will have been cut in real terms by 4.6%.

This means that there is simply not enough money in the system. As a result, the Department for Education is unable to implement a new funding formula that meaningfully addresses the two principal aims of their new policy. These are, firstly, to fund all schools adequately and secondly, to ensure that schools **with the same socio-economic / school based characteristics in one area of the country will be funded the same as another in a different part of the country.**

So, how do the new arrangements work?

Instead, due to the £1.7 billion shortfall, the new funding formula is dependent on a series of limits (capping) to either how much a school can gain or potentially lose from the formula. The caps are largely arbitrary and mean that any new per pupil funding is often based on the previously discredited formula.

Better funded schools gain funding protection, which means that their relative positions are unaltered. We have no real issue with this. Schools such as ours know how challenging and difficult it is when budgets are reduced and squeezed to the limit. The problem is, however, that in order to fund these protections, the Government is limiting what many other low funded schools will gain under the new formula. Crucially, these differences will not last for a year or two, they will last for years and years.

What does this mean for our schools?

The examples shown below are truly shocking. Parents and Carers need to be clear that schools in very similar socio-economic areas will continue to have entirely different levels of funding. This often amounts to hundreds of thousands of pounds in the primary sector and even millions of pounds across the secondary sector.

Devon– Secondary School with 1400 students 2018-19

Average per pupil funding – Devon =	1400 x £4884 = £6,837,600
Average per pupil funding - Reading =	1400 x £5106 = £7,148,400
Difference between Devon and Reading	£310,800
Average per pupil funding - Greenwich =	1400 x £6451 = £9,031,400
Difference between Devon and Greenwich =	£2,193,800
Average per pupil funding - Hackney =	1400 x £7840 = £10,976,000
Difference between Devon and Hackney =	£4,138,400

Far from being resolved, your child's education will still be at the behest of a post code funding lottery. Some schools with the same socio-economic characteristics will be able to afford teacher/pupil class sizes of 20, whilst others will have to make do with 35. Some children will have three Teaching Assistants in their class, whilst others from similar backgrounds in a different part of the country will have none. At the end of the day though, all pupils will take exactly the same Key Stage 2 tests and go on to take the same maths and English GCSEs. Their futures are simply not being fairly catered for.

By the same token, "similar schools" with entirely different budgets will be made accountable via identical league tables and OFSTED inspections. How can this be fair or reasonable?

So what do we do now?

As stated previously, costs will continue to rise and again differently funded schools will have different abilities to soak them up. All school budgets will be under severe pressure, but some will be under much greater strain than others.

As Headteachers, we simply want to see every child's school in England, funded adequately. It is not about all schools receiving identical amounts of money, but it is about the fair application of a formula right across the country.

We recognise that there has been some improvement to our budgets and that as a country we must live within our means. We cannot, however, suggest the new formula is, in any way, satisfactory. The finances of very low funded schools are still insufficient to provide the service that your child deserves.

Your influence as parents/carers is utterly vital. Please discuss these issues with your local MPs and local representatives. There are also many active local parent groups who you can engage with. We will continue to lobby vigorously too and provide further updates shortly.

In his budget in March 2018, the Chancellor must do better to support your child's education. MPs and education ministers must continue to bang the drum until every child's education is fully and fairly funded.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Jones

Principal

On behalf of 17 counties



Apple Co-operative

The new academic year has brought the start of the Apple Young co-operative again. This project has been successfully run for a number of years and involves a group of year 7 students taking ownership and responsibility for all stages of the process in producing Tavistock College's own apple juice. This group operates as a genuine young co-operative with democratic decision making, equality within the group and a true sense of self-help and self-responsibility in how the students work successfully together as a team. In the last couple of weeks they have harvested enough apples from the College orchard to make 190 bottles of apple juice. This will be on sale at several community events in the lead up to Christmas, starting with them having a stall at Goose Fair on Wednesday 11th October.



Chicken News

A competition to name the six new college chickens, inspired some 'eggciting' entries from Year 7 students and staff.

Congratulations to:

Chloe Dean and Maya Maude 7G - **Eggwina**;
 Connor Norman 7TA - **Poachy**;
 Mr Jacob - **Hen Solo**,
 Catherine Tipton - **Princess Layer**;
 Megan Burden 7F - **Henlay** and
 Charlie Tucker 7D - **Eggberta**!



GreenPower

This September the college's GreenPower team took part in a superb day of racing at the famous Castle Combe race circuit in Somerset. The team which consists of students from year eight, nine and ten were excited to see how their single seat electric formula 24 car could perform. The team's current car 'Silver Surfer' was first made 18 months ago by the previous GreenPower team and since then has been raced and dramatically developed by the current team of young engineers. Despite the 5am departure from college on a Sunday morning, the students were brimming with enthusiasm for the racing ahead. As a group led by year 9 team captain Luke Maynard they had spent the weeks

leading up to the day, prepping and testing the car, arranging tool boxes for every scenario and planning the racing strategy. The event did not disappoint, the race circuit fast and long and the competition from other schools from all over the country allowed students to gather vital information and inspiration for the engineering developments ahead. The team raced brilliantly in both the 90 minute endurance races, with around 50 other cars on the track, there was never a dull moment. Seeing the students solving an array of complex engineering problems as they arose just demonstrated the value of the learning journey the students have embarked on over this last year. The team recruits for new members from year 8 every autumn, Mr Keegan and representatives of the team will come into an assembly soon to launch the application process for this extra-curricular team. We are currently building a new car which the team plan to race next season alongside Silver Surfer. If you are interested in being involved as a sponsor or if you can offer technical assistance to the team, we would love to hear from you, please contact p.keegan@tavistockcollege.org



SKRUM Partnership

Tavistock College is excited to announce that we have entered into a Schools Partnership Programme with a charity based in Swaziland, Africa. Since 2008, SKRUM has coached and educated children at local schools and communities in Swaziland. SKRUM introduces children to sport and in partnership with the relevant government bodies, also takes the opportunity to educate the children in HIV/AIDS (Swaziland has up to a 42% infection rate) and gender & health awareness. The partnership will have three arms to it, namely raising awareness, fundraising and volunteering.

We have a group of 9 students that have applied to be ambassadors for both the charity and the school, a huge part of this role is to lead a group of students to fundraise money to enable the college representatives to fulfil our pledge to fundraise £3,000 to take to Swaziland during July 2018. This money will pay for three water harvesting systems for three schools in Swaziland, as well as purchase over 50 fruit trees to plant in two communities so that the people of that community can eat the fruit for years to come. As Ambassadors the students will build these water harvesting systems and plant these trees, over a 5 day period in the deprived communities of Swaziland. They will also be raising awareness through HIV and AIDs education.

As well as the financial pledge, we have pledged to take a substantial amount of playing and training equipment and kit to allow us to leave a legacy to the schools and communities that we visit, to allow them to continue to train and develop in the sport of Rugby. Over the coming weeks and months we will be fundraising in many ways and we would love for you to support us. We are extremely grateful to our Uniform and PE kit suppliers Fitness for Sport who have donated our fundraising shirts so that we can stand out during events. If you would like to make a donation to the Charity please contact myself on t.forster@tavistockcollege.org. Mr Forster



Dartmoor Experience

A small group of year 9 students recently visited Dartmoor alongside their Head of Year; Mrs Greener and Mr Jerrett. The aim of the day was to take the students outside of their comfort zone and to see them developing their leadership, problem solving and teamwork skills. The day included hiking, map reading, cooking and tent pitching. The students are going to share their experiences in a forthcoming Year 9 assembly which will be fantastic to see and hear.



Year7 Netball Tournament

Yesterday, myself and Miss Rudman (trainee teacher) took 14 Year 7 girls to Ashbury Golf Club for a cooperative schools netball tournament. The event was attended by 12 schools from the area, and it was their first netball tournament for the school. The A team consisted of Issey Schraibman, Alba Stewart, Fenella Dickson, Ava Dickenson, Emma Luckham, Ruby Gauler, Chloe Anderson and Georgia Soan, with the B team made up of Amy Easterbrook, Liberty Kappes, Orla Maguire, Aleesha Bray, Emilia Bevan and Cora Iles.

The girls competed in separate pools, playing 5 schools each. The A team had a great start, beating Collumpton 2-1, then exerting their dominance over Kevicc, winning 8-nil with some exceptional shooting by Issey Schraibman. Two tough games came next; Okehampton B and Holsworthy B, but the girls worked hard to secure two 1-1 draws. The only disappointment of the day came when faced with an outstanding shooting duo in the Budehaven team, resulting in a 3-nil loss. Despite this, the A team qualified for the semi finals, and even though they had already played 5 games, achieved forth place in the overall competition. Coache's player goes to Ava Dickenson whose skill level and perseverance were unbeatable.

The B team were put into a tough pool, and demonstrated resilience and hard work to achieve some great results. They came from behind; 2-nil at half time, to win their first game against Holsworthy A, continuing with this winning mentality to beat Tiverton 3-nil in their second game. Two well organised teams were the next opposition, and unfortunately the girls could not penetrate the defense consistently, losing 5-nil and 5-1 to Okehampton A and South Molton respectively. The B team at this point were determined not to finish with their heads down, and worked tirelessly to end on a high beating Dawlish 6-2. Coache's player goes to Liberty Kappes whose shooting enabled the team to finish in a respectable third place in their competition.

Ms Hodge

Year 8 Rugby

The Year 8 rugby team won their first league fixtures after returning with 2 victories against All Saints academy and Heles school. A promising squad with players to return, Tavistock were full of attacking skill and defensive determination as they scored freely in both matches with a total of 20 tries and only 3 conceded. With Bailey Andrews, Josh Anderson and Cohen Hart all representing the college for the first time, they were supported by the rest of the team to make great debuts. Top try scorer Brandon Allen with 6 was one of many stand out performances as Tavistock were full of confidence.

This week the team secured another 2 wins, the Year 8 boys keeping their unbeaten record.

Wins against Coombe Dean and Heles with 14 more tries ran in over both games make Tavistock the team to beat.

Player of the day goes to Ben Bryant with an outstanding performance at fly half both in attack and defence.

Further games next Tuesday will provide a new challenge for this Year 8 team: Tylo Coupland, Will Paxman, Tom Martin, Ben Bryant, Brandon Allen, Oliver Ridley, Bailey Andrew, Ryan King, Josh Andrews, Cohen Hart, Finley Lothian, Callum Baker (captain), Murray Brown and Aiden Weeks.
Mr Corkell and Mr Deves



Results

19 September Year 8 Rugby Tournament at Horsham Fields, Plymouth. Tavistock played two games and won both v Heles & All Saints.

26 September Year 7 Football, English Schools Football Association Cup v Plympton Academy (H) Tavistock won 2 - 1 on penalties.

26 September Year 8 Rugby Tournament at Horsham Fields, Plymouth. Tavistock played two games and won both v Heles & Coobe Dean.

27 September Year 11 Netball Tournament at Heles. Tavistock 4 - Studio School 4

27 September Co-operative Trust Football & Netball Tournament at Okehampton. Year 7 Boys Won the Shield, Year 7 Netball girls came 4th.

Stop Press

Molly Davies & Lucy Cooper, both in Year 12 successfully completed the UKCC Level 1 Badminton England Assistant Coaches Course. They are now qualified as Assistant Badminton Coaches.

Congratulations to them both.

Year 7 Football

The Y7 football team have successfully navigated the first round of the ESFA national cup competition with a thrilling 2 - 1 after extra time and penalties. Today's visitors Plympton Academy had a strong first half performance but tactical changes at half time saw Tavistock increase their intensity with a high press and effectively placing additional pressure on the Plympton defensive unit. Josh Downing Hughes CAPT led by example and was inspirational in his leadership of his team mates. He was supported admirably by Elliot Piper, Archie Wall, Euan Hogan, Jayden Higgins, Liam Wheeler and Reuben Pascoe. Tavistock exerted attack after attack during the second half seeing them hit the cross bar on 5 occasions and the post once. The Plympton goalkeeper pulled off a string of first class saves and was nominated their player of the match. The boys are now looking forward to the second round and are participating in the cooperative schools competition tomorrow. The whole team was outstanding however Liam Wheeler and Josh Downing Hughes were immense. *Mr Mifsud*



I had the privilege of taking the Y7 football squad to Ashbury hotel for an all day cooperative inter school tournament. We entered both an A and B team in this competition and I was assisted by Mr Stacey. The boys were absolutely first class both on and off the pitch. The A team won a total of 7 matches on their way to the final including an extra time winner v Tiverton college. Well done Jayden Higgins, Archie Wall, Josh Downing-Hewes, Reuben Pascoe, Elliott Piper, Liam Wheeler, Will White, Euan Hogan, Aaron Walker and Morgan Richardson who all contributed. The final match was another nail bitter ending 2-2 after extra time and we won on pens 5-4.

Results:

v Budehaven 1-0 win, v Holsworthy 3 - 0 win, v Kevic 3-2 win, v Okehampton 2-0, v Cullompton 1-0

Semi final v Tiverton 2-1 win

Final v Budehaven 2-2,

5-4 win on penalties.

Top goal scorer :

Liam Wheeler 6

Coach's player of tournament;
Jayden Higgins.

The boys have drawn Saltash in the second round of the national cup more info to follow.

Mr Mifsud



Tavistock

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