



Dear parents, carers and students

Welcome to this edition of the 6th Form Fortnightly Focus.



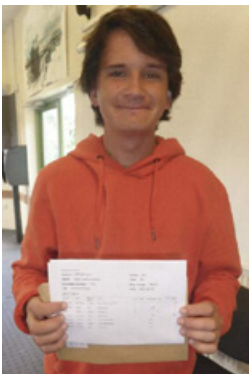
Hello, for those of you new to sixth form, my name is Tom Galli, current head of Year 13 and Director of sixth form. The start to the year in sixth form, either year 12 or 13 can be daunting and I'm pleased to see how well students have settled back into college life. The summer holiday soon fades as the business of hard work begins afresh. Students in year 12 have just completed their subject suitability tests and the results of these will be crucial to ensure students are on the right courses for them to succeed. Year 13 students should be well into their A level studies, June may seem a long way off, but mock exams and coursework deadlines are not too far just around the corner. We celebrated some of our best A level and Btec results last year with our average grade higher than ever. Good communication between home and college is vital and the weekly bulletin allows everyone to be aware of what is happening and please look out for any opportunities that arise. We introduced the Sixth Form Focus last year and hope that parents and students alike have found time to read and enjoy the articles. It allows us to communicate in more depth and share the success of our students. Last year, students helped write articles and opinion pieces and I would very much like for any aspiring writers, journalists or any student with something to say to get involved. It is very important for students to be happy at college if they are to reach their potential, so therefore, I will always be available to students and parents should any concerns arise. For the 6th form, I have added "We Enjoy" to the college strap-line, because although there will be trials and tribulations and a lot of hard work, I want students to enjoy their time at Tavistock College. "Together: we Care, we Challenge, we Excel, we Enjoy"

Diary Dates

- 3 October** - Venice trip parents meeting 6.00 pm Octagon
- 4 October** - Enrichment fayre
- 11 October** - Goose Fair Non pupil day
- 13 October** - UCAS early entry deadline
- 23-27 October** - Half term

Sixth form students celebrate A-level success

TAVISTOCK TIMES GAZETTE - LINDSAY TURPIN -18 AUGUST 2017



Tavistock College is celebrating one of its best sets of A-level results in recent years.

Sixth form students have performed exceptionally well overall with many successes in both academic and vocational courses.

Many students have met or exceeded their offers from their chosen universities across the UK and gained a pleasing number of A* and A grades across a range of subjects.

One student whose hard work had paid off, included Peter Alexander, 18, who was the top performing male student and gained an A* in physics, A in mathematics and a Distinction* in BTEC music. Peter from Buckland Monachorum said he was delighted with his results and will soon be off to Southampton University to study computer science and electronics.

On his success, Peter said: 'It is thanks to Tavistock College music and creative arts department because without the confidence from them I wouldn't have had the confidence to do anything else.'

Daisy Trewartha-Wyatt was the top performing female student and gained A*s in fine art and English literature and an A in psychology. She is pictured with her mum Kate who is training to be an art teacher at Tavistock College. She will now attend Loughborough University to study graphic communication and illustrations

Another happy student was Rosie Brown, 18, from Tavistock who received an A* in English language, A in media and an A in GCE religious studies. She will soon be off to Birmingham University to study philosophy.

'I have no plans for the future, I will see where the course takes me and the opportunities that may come up. 'I feel I

have worked really hard for this and had a very stressful revision time, but the teachers have been brilliant and my family have been so supportive.'

Other notable results were from Amy Willcocks who achieved an A grade in psychology and a double Distinction* in BTEC health and social care; Kaleena Uzzell gained two As and one B in psychology, law and RS and plans to continue her studies in law; Elizabeth Wilson gained two As and one B in psychology, history and art and she will continue on to study history.

Students also saw success in the BTEC courses, such as Phillipa Allwork who gained a double Distinction* at health and social care and Distinction* in BTEC applied science. She will attend BUWE (Bristol) to study Early Childhood; and Stephanie Hutchings who achieved a double Distinction* in BTEC and a Distinction* in BTEC public services. She will attend the University of St Mark and St John to study Sport development and management.

Head of sixth form Tom Galli said: 'I am very proud of the hard work of the students and the results they have achieved. The majority will go on to their chosen university courses or further destinations. Overall our grades have improved and I am very pleased with the results.'

Principal Sarah Jones said: 'The grades gained this year are a reflection of the hard work and commitment shown by the students — I am immensely proud of them all. 'It was not an easy journey for some, but the results speak for themselves. Year 13 were a credit to their college and the teachers are delighted with the outcomes from such a wonderful group of students. We all wish our students the best of luck for a successful future in whatever they choose to do.'



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

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



National Engineering Recognition

A level students from Tavistock College from have won the Innovation Award as part of a national competition run by the Education Engineering Scheme. The team of three students, Rebecca Banks, Joe Carver and Steven Isaac, who worked with a Rittal CSM, were presented with their award in a ceremony in London on 6th September 2017. EDT hosted the Future Industry Leaders Awards 2017 (FILA17) at The Institution of Engineering and Technology in London

The team designed and tested the Twist Seal, a technical solution to the problem of sealing cables which run out of IT enclosures. Rebecca, Steven and Joe had previously won the South West regional award. The team were tasked with designing, developing and evaluating an improved method of sealing the interface where server cables leave the rack to minimise air pass through. After benchmarking current designs, the new design was to be developed, the cost of designs was not to exceed £7 per metre and be easily disassembled. In order to ensure that the team were able to make improvements to current methods, they were asked to benchmark existing designs by a developing a test for different cable sizes where leakage can be measured when the initial interface pressure difference is 0.2" of water. This was achieved with the help of the engineers at Rittal CSM and the use of a simulated server cabinet, a pressure censor, fan and air flow moderator. Once these results were achieved, the team began researching and testing possible improved solutions, eventually producing the 'Twist Seal'. The initial model had several disadvantages, but continued testing and development led to a product that was cheap to produce but very effective. The team's determination to succeed led them to create a product that was not comparable to any other currently on the market, this has now been patented and the team have been named as the inventors.

Sarah Jones, Principal at Tavistock College said "Winning the Best Innovation Award is a huge accolade for the team and the college. We are so proud of them. The team discussed their product to complete strangers in London many of whom are professional engineers. They have all grown in so much confidence over the year and the award is very much deserved"

Each year EDT offers over 40,000 science, engineering and technology experiences to young people across the UK. Through their projects and placements they see the exciting and life-changing journeys these individuals undertake, transitioning from academic learning into application, generating some truly outstanding results from their projects, as well as witnessing the personal growth of these talented young people.



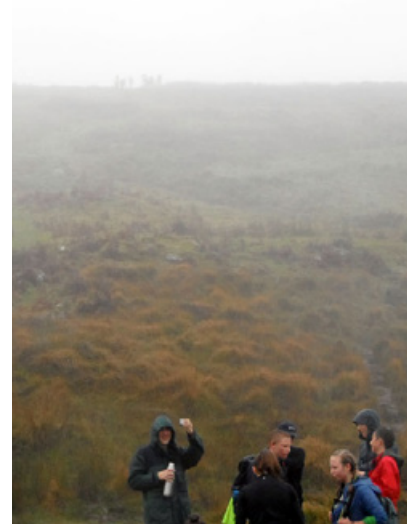
Charity Walk

The following students successfully completed the 23 mile Abbotsway charity walk yesterday from Buckfast Abbey back to Tavistock in typical Dartmoor wind, rain and fog!!

Despite a bit of moaning (... not too much!!) throughout the day, to walk 23 miles in those conditions for the benefit of others (...especially from the viewpoint of a teenager's mind) is a superb achievement, and we are all super proud of them!

Year 11: Darcy Brown, Olivia Kinnear, Beatrice Muncey, Josie Handscomb and Jack Davey

Year 12: George Bumford, Tom White, Sam Bates, Jason Blake and Jacob Houlberg. *Mr Jerrett*



Alumni

Pictured are ex Tavistock College students: Chloe Solman, now the Marketing and Communications Manager at Richmond Theatre for Ambassador Theatre Group. And Richard Brindley who is playing Swing in the national tour of The Railway Children.

They completed Performance Studies A level together in 2009, Chloe went on

to do Theatre and Performance Studies (with Arts Marketing) at Warwick University, and Richard read Drama at Exeter and then Musical Theatre at The Royal Academy of Music.



The Sutton Trust

The Sutton Trust is an organisation that supports students in applications for higher education. Places can be supported both at home and abroad. Deputy head girl Rebecca Banks in year 13 is currently going through the process in applying for Computer Science at Stamford University in the United States. UK University summer schools cost on average £4000 to attend, which is why the Sutton Trust support is so invaluable. <https://www.suttontrust.com/programmes/>

1st Team Rugby

We have a 7s trip to Rosslyn Park next year, this is the biggest school 7s competition in the UK & will also have top names from rugby there, so we need a team for that consisting of years 12/13, training is on Thursdays over on the pitch.

Mr Deves needs as many as possible to get this college back where it belongs within Devon Schools Rugby AT THE TOP !!!

The Teenage Market

The Teenage Market is a national initiative 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 next Teenage Market is scheduled for Saturday 21st October, from 10am until 4pm and we look forward to showcasing the 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/>

Gallery Space

Jessey Clemens



The eye of the ship

This bay is a prime example
Of a horseshoe, a crescent
The arc of a meteor streaking
Where two ends begin again
Each to the other its last point.

A narrow strait of split rock
The Herculean design fools you.
Is this our sea? A Roman sea?
A pier, with a jaguar figurehead
Bigger than the boats, corrects this.

The illusion is fractured, frayed,
Tarnished the polish on the
Surface of this white facade
That fights with the eye of the bay
For who will lure the eyes of the ships.

From the water, from the cliffs
From a distance, it's Imperial
But out of a bedroom window .
Or the morning mist of a windshield
Would you know? It's just home.



Cyrus Larcombe-Moore

Parking Permits

Application forms for sixth form parking permits are now available from the sixth form office. This year there is no charge however you need to take the form home and get it signed by a parent/guardian. (You can get a refund if you have already paid)
You must display the permit on the dash.

Students must use the main car park. 50 spaces have been allocated for students.

REMINDER as per the college attendance policy, students should not book driving lessons during the college day

