



Welcome to 6th Form



Hello, my name is Tom Galli, and am delighted to be a co-Director of sixth form and the head of Year 12. My Teaching career began in the coalfields of Nottinghamshire where I grew up, (Although I hail from further ashore, being born in northern central Italy.) and seeing first-hand the impact of a lack of societal cohesion, inspired my fundamental belief that we must work

interdependently to succeed. In College, as in life, we must work together; with and through students, parents and teachers. I have been teaching since the turn of the century but previously worked for the civil service, the police force as well as a chef. Yes, I am pretty handy in the kitchen!

I joined Tavistock College in September 2008 as Head of Art and worked as a 6th form tutor as well as teaching Art, Photography and Media. The most satisfying aspect of my job is always when students, current and past, take time to tell me of their successes and achievements. Indeed, I have really enjoyed the first half term as head of year 12, meeting so many talented and enthusiastic young people. The transition from GCSE to A-level is immense and I am fiercely proud of the start they have made, and I am confident of their shared successes to come, both in college and beyond.

It is very important for students to be happy at college if they are to reach their potential, so therefore, 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"

It has been my privilege to work at Tavistock College for the past 7 years of my career. I began as a classroom teacher in the Social Studies faculty before becoming a Head of Year, then Deputy Head of Sixth Form for 4 years before being successfully appointed as a Co-Director of Sixth Form following Mrs Hubbard's retirement.



It is my intention to forge the Sixth Form into an outstanding provider of Post-16 education. As with all things worthwhile, this will require hard work and dedication, but I have every confidence that we will succeed, given the calibre of our students and the competency of our staff. My predecessors have provided the Sixth Form with solid foundations on which to build upon – our results this year were the best they have been in a decade, placing us amongst the top 25% of similar colleges in the UK. The ethos and atmosphere amongst the sixth form students is truly remarkable. I consider myself extremely fortunate to be working with such friendly, hard-working and good natured young adults. I am also supported by a fantastic group of highly motivated, skilled and dedicated individuals who make up the Sixth Form team.

The most rewarding element of my role is knowing I am able to make a positive difference to the lives of the students I work with. As a Co-Director of Sixth Form, I am responsible for ensuring each student is appropriately guided in planning for their future and sufficiently supported in reaching their goals. There is a fantastic quote by author Ayesha Siddiqi, which states: "be the person you needed when you were younger". These words are solid advice for anybody, but especially poignant for somebody in my position. Ultimately, I will do my utmost to encourage every student towards a future where they, like me, will find themselves loving the job they do.

Dan Jacob

Co-Director of Sixth Form and Head of Year 13

The First Half Term as Head Boy and Girl



My name is Lawrence Dobson and I'm Head Boy Tavistock College. I'm currently studying Mathematics, Physics and Business studies. Being Head Boy is no walk in the park, but I knew this when I accepted the role within the school. It has been busy ever since the first day. It all started last year when I spoke to all the current year 12s about the extra circular opportunities with the school. It was my first official speech and to say I was nervous I was an understatement but this was something to build on. My confidence is developing with each speech.

My name is Alice Kodritsch and I'm Head Girl. I'm currently studying English Literature, Geography and Business Studies. Despite the challenge and responsibility of the role, I appreciate the opportunity of being able to speak at open evenings and, this half term, having visited our 'feeder' primary schools along with members of our prefect

team. It is nice to be able to represent the college as I'm really proud of the time I have spent here – helping others see the college as I do makes me feel like I can repay it for the opportunities it has granted me. I am really looking forward to continuing my role and meeting with more students as part of projects and student voice meetings.

As Head Boy and Head Girl we have been encouraged to leave a legacy in the school. Our project aims to create a community for students of forces families within the college. At the moment we are arranging for potential speakers to visit the school and meet with these students in a comfortable and informal environment. This project is very early in the process as we plan to develop it throughout the year. If you feel that you would benefit from this programme or know someone that would then please get in touch with us via email or let your tutors know. We would really appreciate your input in both this project and future programmes put into place this year.

Thank you and we hope to meet with a lot more of you in the coming term.



Foyle Young Poets of the Year Awards



Cyrus Larcombe-Moore, a 16-year-old student from Tavistock College, was announced as a winner at the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Awards, as he was selected as one of only 15 winners chosen from over 10,000 poems entered by more than 6,000 young poets world wide.

Cyrus, whose poem My Ghost clinched him the renowned award, travelled to the Royal Festival Hall in London last week to receive his prize.

At the ceremony, held on National Poetry Day (October 6), The Poetry Society announced the top 15 winners and 85

commended poets of the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award 2016. Organised by The Poetry Society and generously supported by The Foyle Foundation, the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award has been held annually since 1998. It is one of the largest literary competitions in the world and is a defining award for young poets around the world. Writers from 76 different countries entered the competition, from as far afield as Nicaragua, Kuwait, Ethiopia and Uzbekistan.

As a winner, Cyrus was awarded the honour of getting his work published in an anthology as well as winning a space on a residential writing course. During the five day course in Shropshire, Cyrus will get the chance to participate in workshops, enhance his skills, as well as mingle with other poets.

Tavistock College principal Sarah Jones said: 'We are delighted that Cyrus has achieved such a prestigious award. We are thrilled that his work, which has always been outstanding, has been recognised.'

my ghost

Cyrus Larcombe-Moore

I spent two years banishing a ghost from my head.

So now it sits in my back garden.

And sometimes it stands by the kitchen window,

watching us scramble breakfast eggs

and burn toast.

And every now and then,

whenever I'm not alone,

it stands at the end of my bed.

and it will sleep in my cupboards

among the baggy t-shirts and jumpers.

And where ever it goes I smell chestnuts,

honey, cinnamon, raisins.

It still gives me butterflies,

and the smell clings to everything.

I just wish I could eat alone sometimes.

Sixth Form PE

As part of the PE faculty curriculum development this year there has been an inclusion of enrichment opportunities for students during Wednesday period 5. There are four pathways which are structured to develop skills and gain further experiences through sport. There is the opportunity for students to participate in the health and active lifestyle pathway which focuses on using the fitness suite for training programmes and other individual activities such as Yoga. There is also a team competitive where students can develop skills and tactical awareness in team situations.

As well as this there has been the introduction of the sports scholar programme in Football and Netball where students compete against other schools and have weekly specialist coaching and fitness sessions. This is all in preparation for a sports development tour to Florida in February half term.

Mr Hulbert



UCAS Update:

The UCAS process can be a daunting prospect for all concerned – deciding on the correct university and the appropriate course is a crucial and life-shaping decision. There is a great deal of pressure on students to write the perfect personal statement; the final deciding factor which helps to distinguish them from a sea of applicants with similar grades.

With the early entry deadline already passed, I have been privileged to read some truly outstanding personal statements. I am pleased to report that many of the students who have already submitted their UCAS applications have received offers from their chosen universities. I would urge any students with outstanding applications to do their utmost to beat the deadline, as competitive course places tend to fill incredibly quickly, and universities tend to favour early applications.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students for their hard work, the teachers for providing such excellent references, and the tutors for supporting each student through the UCAS process with such dedication and care. I look forward to reading the remaining applications, and eagerly await news of any further offers. *Mr Jacob.*

Diary Dates

- **Sixth Form Open Evening** – Thursday 10th of November
- **Remembrance Service** – Friday 11th of November
- **Future Teachers' Conference** – Monday 14th of November
- **Learn 2 Live** – Thursday 24th of November

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