



6th Form

# Fortnightly

11-07-2018

## FOCUS

**Dear parents, carers and students**  
Welcome to this edition of the 6th Form Fortnightly Focus.



**Dartmoor**  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

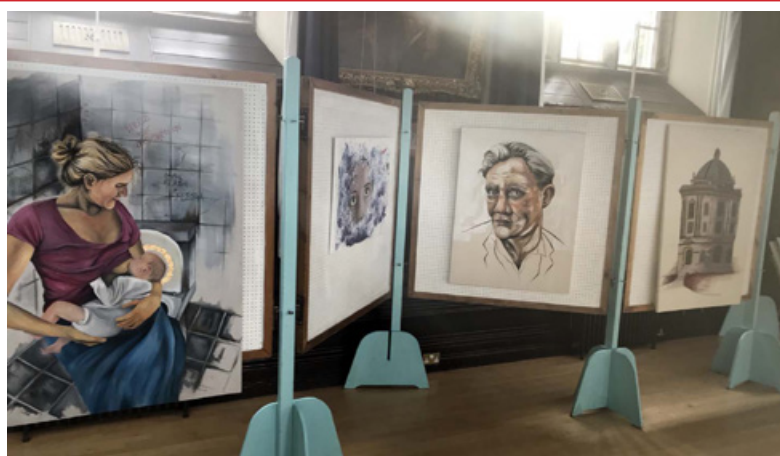
It has been a difficult and immensely sad end to the year for Tavistock college. In Mrs Jones' words: "The school and our wider community were devastated to learn about the tragic loss of Hannah Bragg. Hannah was a bright, caring and thoughtful girl, who was always seen with a smile on her face and had an eagerness for taking part in all aspects of school life. We are devastated at this loss and send sincere condolences to her family and close friends." I take courage from the compassion and sensitivity shown by students in the sixth form in support of each other and students further down the school.

And so we come to the end of another year at Tavistock College Sixth Form. We say goodbye to year 13 with their graduation and prom, a fine year group who I will ever remember as my first sixth form students as Director of sixth form. I have enjoyed immensely being a part of their transition and journey from students at Tavistock College to the fine upstanding young men and women they are today. I am very proud of them and eagerly await their results in August. I'm sure we will be able to celebrate their success come results day.

I would like to thank our outgoing prefect team for all the hard work they have done for the college over the last two years and welcome in a new student leadership team led by Archie Allen and Amy Eaton. They are already organising a series of events to raise funds to renovate the "Octagon" the sixth form common room. We have also welcomed the current year 11 students at conference and look forward to a new cohort of sixth formers in September.

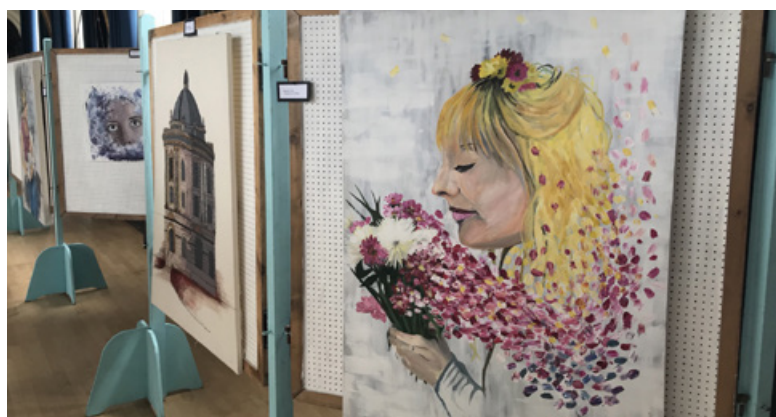
I will be inviting current year 12 students and parents to a UCAS information evening in the new term to provide support with the university application process. Representatives from several Universities will deliver a series of workshops on the UCAS process, personal statements and student finance. This is especially important for student and parents who have not had children or siblings go through the process before.

I wish you all a very long and restful summer, *Tom Galli*



## Fantastic Art

Fantastic work by Tavistock College artists exhibited at the Tavistock group of Artists annual show. The organisers commented on how detailed the students work was and it was of a very high standard. Work shown is by our 2017 A level students Camilla Snowdon, Beth Wilson, Daisy Trewartha-Wyatt and Sarah Coe.



## Diary Dates

**Summer Break** 20 July

**First Day of Term**

Tuesday 4 September

## Clean Covered Comfortable

Although we do not enforce a strict dress code for Sixth Form students at Tavistock College, we do request that they select clothing that ensures that they remain clean, covered and comfortable. With the temperature steadily increasing as we move towards the Summer holiday, it is understandable that students wish to remain at a comfortable temperature. However, it is important that students remain mindful that they are role models for younger students, and should therefore dress appropriately (i.e. for learning rather than social activities).

Staff and students have shared concerns about certain items of girls clothing which are considered to be too revealing, such as hot pants, crop tops, mini skirts etc. Similarly, we do not expect male students to attend College wearing vest tops or open shirts.

Many Sixth Form Colleges adopt a more formal dress code, expecting students to wear business attire. At Tavistock College we believe students should also be able to express themselves with their clothing in an appropriate manner. Please support the college by adhering to these guidelines.



# Student Leadership

I am Amy Eaton and the New Head Girl for Tavistock College. Currently I am studying for my A-Levels in Japanese, Business and Geography. I applied to be Head Girl because I wanted to make a difference to the school. I have represented my tutor during the lower school and wanted to continue representing different peoples view on a larger scale and being head girl will allow me to do this as I will be representing the views of students from the college in addition to this I am a sociable and caring person which I think will help me in this new role. Having been at Tavistock College since Year 7 it has given me a wide range of opportunities including going to Japan last year. In November I was lucky enough to go to Japan for 10 days. This fantastic trip allowed me to visit historical temples, meet new people and develop language skills as well as making friendships that will last forever. At this current point in time I don't know what I want to do in the future in the long term but would like to go to university to study Business Management and Japanese. Overall I am really looking forward to the next 12 months being head girl.



Hello my name is Archie Allen and I have been recently appointed Head Boy at Tavistock College. It is an opportunity I am very excited to take further so that I can try and help make a lasting difference within the school during the rest of my time here. I am hoping to work alongside the school leadership teams to improve upon the communication platform between students and teachers to increase trust so that concerns raised by both may be acted upon faster. Regardless of year group, I'd be more than happy to help you, whether that involves me trying to sort something out personally or by passing along any information to the relevant staff member. That is one of my roles as Head Boy, so please utilise me to convey your opinions and concerns to teachers if you don't feel comfortable. Though to do so I need people to talk to me, so don't be afraid to stop me in the corridors or come and find me in the art studio at break and lunch.



## Founder's Day

The new prefect team took up their duties at Founders Day this week, with Amy Eaton, Phoenix Rinkowski and George Drew introducing the service with a brief overview of the thousand years of history of Tavistock College. The house captains explained something about the various people from the 16th and 17th centuries whose names are borne by the college houses - the Duke of Bedford, Francis Drake, John Fitz of Fitzford, Sir John Glanville and Edmund Tremayne - while the head girl Amy Eaton and deputy head girl Emma Hardwick read extracts from the Rule of St Benedict, familiar to those students who attended the monks' school for 500 years, and the prayer written by Francis Drake. There was a moving address by assistant principal Philip Ruse speaking of the continuing ideals of community and solidarity and year 8 students presented children's books and toys for the Tavistock Children's Centre



## Political Speed Dating

Year 12 Law students Phoenix Rinkowski, Harry Smith and Emma Hardwick, joined by Bridie Crow and Lucy Watson, took part in the annual political speed dating event this week, where local councillors - from parish councils, West Devon and Devon County - met with Year 7 students in an interactive fast moving forum. Small groups of Year 7 students had 7 minutes to discuss any issues they wanted to raise with a councillor - then the whistle blows and its off to the next!

The councillors were as ever impressed with the challenging questions from the Year 7s, while the Year 12 students kept the timing and gently encouraged the younger students to keep the conversations going. Councillors were also impressed by the sixth formers - as one said, at first they thought they were members of staff. At the end Emma Hardwick gave a vote of thanks to the councillors and Phoenix called for a round of applause from the students. Many thanks indeed to all who took part



# Student Perspective

## Oxford University 2018 Aspire Trip

by Marnie Hoare

On Wednesday June 13th 2018 I was delighted to be part of the eleven Year 12 students who had the opportunity to visit Exeter College on the Oxford University Aspire Trip with Mr Galli and Mr Chambers. We left College at 6.30 am and arrived at Exeter College at 11.00am where we were met by Ms Hannah Wilbourne, Co-ordinator for Outreach and Undergraduate Admissions Officer. She had organised a comprehensive and informative programme and began by giving us detailed information about applying to Oxford discussing such aspects as the application process and the importance of the personal statement. I really appreciated the insight into life at Oxford and the in-depth analysis about the courses offered and the type of student Oxford is looking for. In this sense, the trip was a really valuable and interesting experience for all of us. We had the chance to meet current Oxford undergraduates, including Freya Chambers who was at Tavistock College and is now in her second year studying Classics at Corpus Christi College. They talked



about why they had chosen Oxford and their current social and academic life as well as where their future plans. They answered our questions giving an insight into course funding, accommodation, clubs, support for their academic studies and how they were contributing to College life. After the Q & A we were given an enjoyable tour of Exeter College by the undergraduates, including the Quad and the Chapel, before having lunch with them in the wonderful dining hall which gave us a feel of being in a 500 year-old College surrounded by all its history and tradition.

After lunch we were given a tour of Corpus Christi College by Freya which enabled us to make a comparison with Exeter College. Freya showed us the JCR (Junior Common Room) and the beautiful gardens and talked about the support available to students. She told us she is the Mental Health Rep. and explained her role. Then we returned to Exeter College where we learned about accessing useful resources as well as finding out more about individual subjects. There was a strong focus on the interview process which places emphasis on how students think as opposed to what they know and often there are no right or wrong answers. A key point related to the importance of having a genuine passion for a chosen course or subject. Ms Wilbourne also explained the importance of showing in the personal statement how experiences have developed self-qualities rather than merely listing achievements. At 2.30pm we were given feedback and a final opportunity to ask questions before enjoying some free time in Oxford.

We left Oxford at 4.00pm arriving back at the College at 8.45pm after a very enjoyable and successful trip summed up by some of the student comments below:

'The trip to Oxford was an amazing opportunity. It was lovely to be able to see the inside of Exeter College and Corpus Christi College and visit the city of Oxford. I especially loved that we got to talk to the undergraduates' Rhiannon Clack.

'I found it very useful and interesting. It was nice to chat to the current students and hear about the interview and application process' George Tucker

For me, the Oxford aspire trip was beneficial on many levels. It provided a clear insight into the Oxford application process and showed us student life as it really is. I also found the trip to be very informative about the selection of A-Level subjects and I loved the free time to walk round Oxford.





# Student Perspective

## Analysis of Metalhead:

Black mirror is a series of episodes each centred around a different theme such as, overprotection, guilt, fear, oppression ETC. The show often depicts futuristic settings where certain ideas and themes are explored in order to show how technological developments and changes affect the way people live their lives. For this article, I will be analysing the episode Metalhead which uses a narrative centred around the character Bella.

Bella attempts to find something to ease the pain of a boy named Jack. After locating the correct box Bella and Tony are attacked by a security robot. After entering a warehouse, Bella and Tony locate the box that they are looking for but are soon forced to leave after a robotic four legged guard is activated by Tony moving the box. After killing Tony, the guard continues to pursue Bella by following the tracker embedded in the needles that it previously fired at her and Tony. After killing Clarke, the robot starts up the van and continues to pursue bella. Bella turns off road through a forest but halts abruptly as she reaches the edge of the cliff. The dog bursts open the van door and climbs into the car with Bella. Bella manages to escape from the car which causes it to fall off the cliff. Bella escapes from the dog, pausing at a river to remove the tracker from her thigh. She then puts the tracker in a bottle carefully before throwing it in the river. After using a walkie talkie to try to contact her family the robot detects her transmission and begins to chase after the transmission. After ending the transmission, Bella spots the robot running ruthlessly across a field. Terrified, she begins to run away from the robot into a nearby forest. After hearing the robot close behind her, she attempts to climb a large tree, she repeatedly tries as the robot catches up to her. She manages to climb the tree. The robot scans the area using a motion detector and detects Bella's movement. After spotting Bella the robot attempts to climb the tree but fails because of its injured arm. The robot makes multiple attempts before collapsing in order to reserve its remaining battery. Bella manages to drain the robots power by repeatedly hitting it with sweets in order to make it activate and deactivate using its remaining battery. When the robot no longer responds, Bella climbs down from the tree and runs out of the forest. After escaping from the robot, she climbs over a large gate and comes to a large building. After using an extendable stick to get a pair of keys lying on the table. She unlocks the door and moves inside the building. After searching the ground floor for car keys, she decides to climb up the stairs to the second level.

The high angle shot used to show Bella climbing the stairs is eerily similar to the shot from Psycho immediately before Norman attacks. After climbing the stairs, she continues to search the upper levels of the building before coming across a pair of rotten corpses sitting up in bed with blood splattered everywhere. The husband is holding a rifle. Bella removes the rifle and finds the car keys from the corpses hands and clothes before exiting the room. The robot is shown to be recharged and uses an arm in order to open the gate. After entering the building it takes a knife and attaches it to its broken arm. (This could be seen as a reference to the film Psycho when norman is depicted with a sharp knife.) She grabs a tin of paint and throws the paint over its sensors blinding it. She then throws the empty tin against the wall making a loud noise. The robot attacks the wall digging away at it with the knife. Bella runs out of the house and enters the car outside, she attempts to start the car but fails. Frustrated, she weeps hopelessly. The camera shows the robot entering the car as its searches for Bella. The dog then leaves the car and sees Bella. She fires the rifle at the robot damaging its armor before it stabs at her leg. She fires another round at the robot destroying its sensor. Relieved, she falls to the floor. A small hatch opened on the robot and a small round ball disperses out of the hole. The ball explodes showering Bella in shrapnel. The camera cuts to a scene of Bella looking in the bathroom mirror. Several small lights can be seen in her face. Bella begins to remove the lights when she spots one lodged inside her jugular. Bella speaks into the walkie talkie and says she won't be coming back and that she loves her children and family. The camera pans away from Bella as she brings a knife up to her throat. The camera then pans over the landscape showing several identical robots traversing across the landscape looking for Bella. In the warehouse the fallen box is shown to contain a dozen teddy bears.

Metalhead frequently uses powerful media language in order to have a shocking effect on the audience. Examples of powerful media language could be the numerous references the episode makes to psycho. This episode could be seen as homage to the film psycho as it uses similar camera angles and sound effects when depicting the antagonist which is in this case the robot. An example of this is when the robot fires at Tony which causes him to fall off the ladder which kills him. Another example of this is when the robot draws out the kitchen knife from the board and continues to use the knife as a weapon when it stabs Bella. The episode uses a similar angle camera angle in order to depict Bella climbing the stairs to the angle used when depicting Arbogast climbing the stairs in Psycho. The Baroque style pieces used in the ending montage are used to have a deeply emotional effect on the audience by reflecting the emotional feelings felt by the audience when the item is revealed. The character of Bella is depicted as being a powerful character that is determined to escape from the robot. She is shown to be confident and skilled when avoiding the robot throughout the episode. The use of a forest setting when Bella is running from the robot is used in



order to make the audience feel tense because the robot could be hiding behind a tree or obscured from Bella's view. Forest settings are also very prominent in horror texts because they are often associated with isolation and distress. This forest setting could have been used in order put emphasis onto the feeling of loneliness that she suffers from after Tony and Clarke have been killed. Bella is standing on top of a large hill when she contacts the others. The fact that she is high up could symbolise the feelings of dominance or power that she may feel after overcoming the robot by escaping from it. This symbolism is altered when the robot is shown to climb higher and higher which could symbolise that the robot is regaining its strength and inducing panic into Bella. When Bella is attempting to get the keys off the countertop she drops them on the floor which makes a loud noise and she flinches this could've been used as foreshadowing for the consequences caused sounds later in the episode. As Bella climbs up the stairs and finds the husband and wife dead in the bed. She is disgusted and begins to feel sick. This could act as a metaphor for the apocalyptic event that we do not understand about.

The media language of the blood splattered on the bed frame and the placement of the shotgun in the rotten corpses hand implies that him and his wife committed suicide. This might have been used here in order to emphasise how dreadful the event was in order to cause people to commit suicide. Finally, the robot is shown to be able to easily unlock the gate when Bella was forced to climb over it. Consequently, this may have been used in order to show how much more adept the robot is and how it can easily overcome obstacles that proved to be challenges for Bella. Throughout the episode the robot is shown to be more powerful and adaptable than Bella. Examples of this is when the robot can detect her movement and find out where she is through the use of audio transmission or sound that she makes. The episode uses media language throughout the episode in order to make a small antagonist seem dangerous and deadly to Bella who is taller and bigger than the robot.

The promotional poster for Metalhead features a white silhouette of Bella with four jagged shadows pointing at her. This could be used to show the audience that Bella is being targeted and hunted down by the robots. The stark contrast between the black and the white could have been used here in order to replicate the view of the robot when searching for signals and motion. The fact that the characters depicted in the poster are very abstract could be used in order to show that very little about Bella or the robots is shown to the audience.

*Tommy Carter*

## Are Audiences Finally Tired of Star Wars?

'Star Wars' came out in 1977 - over 40 years ago. That's a long time to be a major franchise. Over these many years Star Wars has been presented in films, TV shows, graphic novels and toy lines. It is, and essentially always has been, a major money making franchise.

So what's the problem?

In this article I'll touch upon my opinions for context but I won't focus on them as they aren't really relevant.

A few days ago Disney announced that they were postponing their next two anthology films that were set to be released after Episode 9: 'Kenobi' and 'Boba Fett'. They're reason for this is simple: SOLO: A Star Wars Story seriously underperformed at the box office. It cost \$250 million to make (making it the most expensive Star Wars movie) but it only pulled in \$264 Million world wide... Disney does not consider that a success.

The thing is, this isn't really a surprise.

Many Star wars fans simply didn't bother going to watch Solo, with many actively boycotting it. That's fair enough, I know I'm not alone in saying that the trailers and the entire concepts for weren't hugely appealing. Those who remember the original trilogy will remember Han talk about winning the Falcon from Lando and the famous 'Kessel Run' he made in less than 12 Parsecs. Great verisimilitudes that built on Han's character and backstory. Do we need to see all that happen? Honestly no. Audiences wanted to send Disney a message and it seems they accepted the message rather poorly. Now, Star wars fans being Star wars fans, many are now unhappy that these next two films have been postponed, but just as Disney needs to learn so do the audience. Neither party can have its cake and eat it so to speak. Disney can't expect audiences to flock to the cinema just because they're releasing yet another star wars film, but audience can't feel like they're owed more films if they won't watch the ones that already exist.

I think the issue runs deeper than the mediocrity of Solo. Personally, I felt like solo was alright. A passable film with some decent acting and direction but it all just felt unnecessary. Personally, however, of the 4 Star Wars films to be released since 2015, solo has been my second favourite - beaten only by Rogue One. Of course, that is only my opinion as I know the majority of audiences enjoyed The Force Awakens making it the 3rd highest grossing film of all time. I believe that the root of the fatigue lies with 'The Last Jedi'. In my opinion, Last Jedi was again, passable and made some, and i repeat some enjoyable and unexpected choices. The issue is that it divided audience quite severely. I'm part of the minority that doesn't feel too strongly about the film either way. The Last Jedi really cut the fanbase in half, deterring the already limited audience for Solo.

What I'm saying is this: after a film as divisive and dividing as The Last Jedi, Disney should have held off on releasing their next film. Make audiences wait a little until they actively want another Star Wars film. I also think the next film they released should not have been Solo, a film many obviously didn't want to see. It was a poor marketing decision which has damaged the franchise, unfortunately. As a big fan of Star Wars, I really wanted the new films to blow me away - none of them have so far and now I, and a copious amount of fans, are upset about the fact we're going to have to wait for an unknown amount of time for Obi Wan or Fett to return.

Let's just hope this fatigue is a small blip and Star Wars can return to its glory days.

## Which university?

### Which university courses boost graduates' wages the most?

Going to university should mean you earn more over your lifetime. But how much difference does the choice of university and subject actually make?

The impact these educational decisions have on English students - after taking into account their background and how well they were doing academically before university - has been calculated for the first time by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

The figures show graduate earnings five years after leaving university relative to the average degree for a man or a woman. It's an attempt to measure separately the difference made by a type of degree at a particular university.

But remember, there's more to life than money...

### Difference in earnings by subject and university choice, five years after graduation

A previous study by the IFS revealed big differences in the earnings of graduates from different universities - partly because students attending different universities have different abilities and interests. The updated research is an attempt to account for these differences.

Perhaps unsurprisingly economics is top when it comes to impact on earnings for both men and women, with Cambridge on +£32,532 and the LSE on +£31,307 respectively.

At the other end of the scale creative arts is bottom. For men

the Conservatoire for Dance and Drama has an impact of -£19,962 and for women the Guildhall School of Music and Drama comes last with -£16,589.

One way to think of the figures is like this: if an individual had taken all the different subjects listed above, at the different universities, then this is the average impact the different universities would have had on their subsequent income.

The figures take into account the qualities of those students who attend each university. So, bearing in mind that Cambridge or Oxford would expect to have applicants of a high quality the figures attempt to show what benefit an individual can attribute to the effect of the institution itself.

For example, for men, studying business and management at Staffordshire has a similar impact on earnings as the average of all degrees, but studying economics at Cambridge adds the most to earnings five years after graduation.

Different figures have been supplied for men and women. This means the same degree may have a different financial impact for each gender. Where figures for a particular subject show a higher impact for women this may not mean women will be paid more than men, it simply means the impact on female earnings will be greater.

As the research is based in part on data from England's Department for Education, only English students are included in the analysis - even for universities that are based in other parts of the UK.

More details are available from the IFS. Earnings for different professions may vary over time. The figures are based on students graduating between 2008 and 2012. Some courses have been excluded because of lack of data.

## Ambrosia trip

As part for their legacy programme and 100 year of industry we were delighted to work with Ambrosia. Tavistock was represented by 4 A level Biologists (Tess Jordan, Becky Phelpstead, George Tucker and Prince Vilanueva).

Students produced an essay about aseptic techniques and a subsequent presentation. The essays and presentation were graded at Ambrosia by management and chief microbial officers. Students spoke eloquently and related the presentation brief to Ambrosia such as equipment, using local river water and techniques associated with custard.

After deliberation by the judges, Becky Phelpstead was the Tavistock winner, she received a work experience package and £50 spending money. They all received a goodie bag for taking part, see photo. Tavistock College was also awarded £200 towards the Science department.

While the judges were deliberating, students tasted some of their product ranges. Accompanied by an introduction how these products are made such as steam sterilisation and the process of "canning".

Students then toured the factory, one student said "it's like the Willy Wonker Factory" with pipes and tubes tracking across the ceiling transporting cans from one area to another. The guided tour was informative and students could relate their understanding to industry. They also visited the microbiology laboratory where scientists were tasting samples to ensure products were not contaminated.... They were not!

Overall it was a fantastic opportunity for students to observe and learn how aseptic techniques are used in industry. The student presentations were first class, they had confident presentation skills, outstanding subject knowledge and it linked excellently to the brief.

A personal thank you to Phil Ruse for initially setting up the opportunity to work with Ambrosia. I hope this is something that continues. *Mr Stroud*



I really enjoyed the trip to Ambrosia. I learnt new skills, considered different career pathways, and built my confidence. It was a great experience to present to members of the management team; I'd never spoken in a formal setting before. Although there were initial butterflies, we all rose to the challenge and got some great feedback. I now feel a lot more confident about undertaking a research project and presenting my ideas to others, even when those people are fairly expert in the topic! It was interesting to see the factory itself in the tour, and I was surprised at how heavily automated it was. With all the skills learnt and custard tasted it was a very successful day. *Becky Phelpstead*

"The trip to Ambrosia was really interesting, it was amazing to see how complex and coordinated the factory was, and to hear about some of the processes which help ensure the products are sterile and safe to eat. Doing the presentation was really useful and good practice for public speaking and although I was a bit nervous I actually quite enjoyed it. I had a really good day and it provided an insight into the food production industry. Thanks to Ambrosia and Mr. Stroud for organising the trip, I really enjoyed it." *George Tucker*

# Tavistock

## COLLEGE