



This has certainly been a busy final half term of the year. Whilst at times external events have dominated our thoughts during this difficult period it wouldn't be right to let the academic year reach its climax without the opportunity to celebrate and commend our students through the variety of reward and celebration events currently taking place. This busy Fortnightly Focus certainly reflects this.



**Dartmoor**  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Formal events are an annual feature for all year groups at the College. The recent Year 8 Founders day service provided a timely opportunity to reflect on the history of our school and its community, whilst still

looking forward for our students. The Year 11 and Year 13 students have marked the formal end of their time at Tavistock College with their graduation ceremonies and prom events. These occasions provide a real opportunity for students, parents and carers and our staff to look back on what has been achieved with pride and satisfaction, whilst being able to contemplate a variety of future directions and destinations for these fantastic students.

On Tuesday 17th July our annual Celebration Evening honours individual and group achievements during the year. Having just unpacked the delivery of trophies and seeing the preparations taking place in the main hall, I am truly excited at the prospect of this showcase event. The College will also be participating again in the annual Tavistock Carnival. Look out for our latest entry on Saturday 21st July as the carnival takes its usual route along Down Road and through town.

A feature of this half term has been the appointment of our new 6th form student leadership team. They have taken a really active role in recent celebratory events and the hugely successful year 6 taster days where we have been able to meet over 240 year 6 students at Tavistock College. Our student leadership opportunities are set to grow again next year with the creation of a wider prefect team. The future is certainly looking bright at Tavistock College.

Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming all students back to the College on Tuesday 4th September.

*Phil Ruse*

*Assistant Principal*

## Diary Dates

**Summer Break** 20 July

**First Day of Term**

Tuesday 4 September

**Year 4/5 Open Morning**

13 September @ 9:15 am - 10:45 am

& 27 September @ 9:15 am - 10:45 am

**Open Evening**

27 September @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

**Parent Forum - Internet Safety**

Tuesday 11 September

**Parent Forum - Anti-bullying**

Tuesday 2 October

## 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.



# Transition Choir

On one of the hottest days of the year so far Tavistock College welcomed over 200 students from 8 local primary school to sing alongside each other and the College choir, Vox. The primary schools also had the chance to be accompanied by a full band from Tavistock College. The Transition Choir lead by Tracey Harding and Elfyn Jones and funded by Devon Music Education Hub worked with Princetown Primary, Mary Tavy and Brentor Priamry, Milton Abbot Primary, Horrabridge, Bere Aston, St Andrews Primary and Whitchurch Primary, with each school preparing their own performance as well as learning 3 songs that all the groups sang together.

Tracey Harding said that it had 'been a pleasure to work with the primaries and share in some of their joy at music making. 'We are blessed in the Tavistock area to have such an array of talents in the children and also in the teaching staff and I thank all the teachers and parents who have given up time to make the Transition Choir happen. Bringing school communities and young people together is something I feel passionate about and this project has really shown the uplifting power of music.' Students took part in vocal and physical warm ups, took to the stage for their own performance and watched enthralled and impressed by others schools' work.

Joe Lambert, in charge of Music at the College, said 'It is well documented how important a musical education is to all parts of a young persons' development from the near mathematical decoding needed to read music, to the academic skills needed to translate the music and lyrics into a coherent performance that communicates to an audience. The discipline of learning an instrument, the health benefits of singing and the confidence brought through using music are all skills that will stay with young people as they progress. I am delighted that so many primary schools were able to take part and very impressed by the standard shown. Most importantly I was thrilled to see so many students happily singing with their friends and having lots of fun with their music'

The joyful, summer atmosphere was rounded off with the appropriate song choices of I'm Walking on Sunshine, Here Comes the Sun and Mr Blue Sky



## 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







## Sports Day 2018

Sports day 2018 was the year many records were broken and participation raised with more competitors than ever. Our guest athlete Adam Holland was there to present the winners medals and engage pupils. The college house system was the winner with pupils representing their house with pride and contributing the the house points. The overall winners are to be announced in end of term assemblies along with special mentions for the record breakers in each house. Congratulations to all athletes. *Mr Corkell*





# Graduation

Congratulations to all Year 11 and Year 13 students graduating this term.



## Rosie Andrews

This weekend I raced at Haldon Forest, which was round 5 of the SWXC Series. With unbearable heat throughout the day I was glad that my race was at 6:30pm, and I managed to get 1st Under 16 girl and 1st women overall on a dry and dusty circuit.

In the next 4 weeks I've got the final round of the Southern XC Series which I am currently leading. Then I have the National Champs in Essex riding the 2012 Olympic circuit, the following week I have a 2 day 3 stage MTB race at Newnham Park, part of this years 24/12 hour race. Then finally the last round of the National Series at Bulth Wells in Wales.

I've been selected to represent the South West in the MTB Inter regional champs also at the Olympic circuit in Essex. Thanks to my school (Tavistock College) and my parents for supporting me.



## Charity Golf



A recent staff charity golf event has helped raise £149 for the Meningitis Research Foundation. Ex student Sophie Nicholls is climbing Mount Kilimanjaro to help raise funds for this important cause.

Sophie has said " I want to say a huge thank you to Tavistock College for holding a great fundraiser for the

Meningitis Research Foundation. This charity works to make sure there is enough vaccines, awareness and treatment for meningitis to prevent people from going through what my mum did at 17yrs and so many other families who have lost people to the illness.

Choose a challenge is working alongside the Meningitis research foundation to help me go on a journey to the root of Africa and climb the world's highest free standing peak (Kilimanjaro) for a charity that will help so so many people in the course of preventing and treating this fatal disease. Thank you for all the help, I will send a postcard from the top!" Sophie Nicholls (ex-student)



## Youth Games

You will be pleased to hear that a number of pupils from Tavistock College (and some from Okehampton College) took part in the South West Rotary youth Games on Saturday at Dawlish and represented 'Team West Devon' in the badminton competition.

The Tavistock College pupils were:

Edward Tipton (Y9)  
Ben Stoneman (Y9)  
Natasha Romanel (Y9)  
Daisy Evans (Y7)  
Molly Davies (Y12) - Team manager and Coach

At the end of the badminton competition Edward, Ben

and Natasha, plus one other, had won the Badminton Gold medal, beating all the opposition teams in the process - often very convincingly.  
Alan Berry



# Tavistock

## COLLEGE

