

Fortnightly

For Students & Parents



Thank you to all of our parents who have contributed to the curriculum consultation. This ended on 31st January.

The vast majority of parents indicated that they were keen for their children to have four options in their KS4 curriculum and would like us to preserve the opportunity for students to make choices in Y8. However, there were some who would like to see their children have a longer period of time studying a language and creative subjects.

We have devised a curriculum model that meets both of these requests. We plan to allow students in next year's Y9 to have extra hours in history, languages, geography and the creative subjects whilst still starting their four chosen options. Obviously, all core subjects will be studied in the regular way. The curriculum model has been approved by the Academy Committee members and the timetable will be constructed in the early part of the summer term.

To assist parents to understand the new curriculum model a KS4 Evening will take place on 26th March. All parents are welcome to attend, but the meeting will be most relevant to parents with students in the current Y8 and Y7.

Assemblies are an essential formal process where the year group gets together to share success and important information. As a Cooperative School, we actively encourage student leadership, young cooperative groups and other initiatives. For example, this week two KS5 students have delivered assemblies to promote "Mission Blue" (see poster), an environmental project to reduce plastic waste in our oceans. To raise money for this project there will be a mufti day on the final day of term, 14th February 2020. Students will be required to wear an item of blue clothing to promote "Mission Blue", for a donation of £1, which will be used to fund the project. Also using the medium of assemblies, four younger students promoted the Tavistock Radio station and encouraged interested students to join their team. This station can be found on our website. During the two weeks either side of half term, year 11 students will take final PPEs (Pre-Public Examinations). All core exams will be in the hall to simulate summer GCSE examination conditions. Other PPEs will take place in class. The PPEs will be robust with the aim of replicating official examination conditions, allowing each student to understand their current attainment level.

I hope that their effective revision strategies mindset growth serve them well! Please find a link below which details useful revision strategies that are based scientifically proven methods of revision and retention of knowledge. It is essential that students effectively revise with quidance from parents/ carers.

The resource for revision strategies and ideas can be found from a quick search on youtube: "How to Study Effectively for School or College [Top 6 Science-Based Study Skills] or clicking the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=CPxSzxylRCI *Mr Stroud*





Key Dates

Exams

10 - 15 February - Hall

LAMDA Exams

Tuesday, 11 February Dance Studio - Mrs Pearson

Governors Ethos Meeting

Wednesday, 12 February - 6:00 – 8:00pm Conf Rm

Mission Blue, Charity Mufti Day

Friday, 14 February

Half Term

17-21 February

Exams

24 February - 6 March Sports Hall

Vaccinations

Year 8 girls and then Year 8 BOYS 2 March - 8:30am – 3:30pm - IC1

Parent Forum

Focused on Apprenticeships

3 March - 4:00 - 6:30pm - IC - PRU

Year 12 Unit 1 Theatre Royal

4 March - 9:00am - 6:00pm - EPE

Drama GCSE

Final Year 11 C2 practical

9 - 12 March - 9:00am - 12 March, 6:00pm

Main Hall

Vaccinations

11 March - 8:30am - 2:30pm

I/C 1 and 2 - MHA

Year 7 X & A parents/carers evening

12 March - 3:45 - 6:45pm - Main Hall / Refectory

Yr 12 Work Experience

16 - 20 March 2020

Year 11 BTEC Dance final recordings

16 - 20 March - 9:00am - 4:00pm - dance studio

Year 10 Drama MSND Component 3 Exam

Thursday, 19 March - 9:00am - 3:00pm - EPE

Year 7 Y parents/carers evening

19 March - 3:45 - 6:45pm - Main Hall / Refectory

LAMDA Exams

Friday, 20 March - 8:00am - 5:00pm

Dance Studio - EPE

PE House Matches

23-27 March - SHU

Leading Parent Partnership Award

A national award for outstanding parental engagement in schools.

Tavistock College is aware of the importance of parent and carer engagement. We want the very best for our students regardless of their background and ability. Effective and positive parent partnerships can have very real and lasting impacts on improvements in pupil behaviour, attendance and achievement. We are currently working toward the LPPA and we would like to invite you to complete a very short questionnaire (please see link, below). Your feedback is always greatly appreciated and valued. Thank you in advance for your continued support.

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/S69M2DM

Guildhall Heritage History Project This term a group of 40 Y7 students are working on a local history tours project with the Tavistock Heritage Trust. This is part of

the wider programme to refurbish the Guildhall and promote the historical heritage of Tavistock and it's wider area. The project will see our students plan, develop, run and evaluate some local history tours for a group of students from Tavistock Primary School.

This week saw the first planning meeting for our students where they explored different themes and areas of focus for the historical content, started to research some of the quality factual content they will need to include and began to risk assess and plan for the practicalities of leading part of an outdoor education activity.

This project provides a great opportunity for our students to develop and share their own historical knowledge whilst being part of a tangible outcome that enhances the local community and links positively to our biggest feeder primary school. I look forward to updating everyone on the finished project. Mr Ruse



ALevel Geography Students Visit the Council Chambers

This week our Y12 and Y13 A Level Geography students were hosted by Councillor James Ellis at the Council Chambers of Tavistock Town Council.

He provided a fascinating talk about the wider role of the council, how it fits into the national political structure and the challenges and opportunities it faces in providing for the people of Tavistock. This talk really enhanced the A Level Geography curriculum where students have to analyse and critically evaluate the work done by various agencies and organisations in solving problems at local, national and global scale.

The students were then encouraged to take part in a full mock council debate where a mayor and deputy mayor were 'elected' from among the group and a proposal was then made and debated about whether Tavistock Town Council should declare a 'Climate emergency' and the town become fully carbon neutral by 2030. Somewhat surprisingly the group voted overwhelming against the proposal. However this was not done on the basis of disregarding the wider climate emergency facing the world but on the basis of the financial and logistical implications in the short term of a town council declaring such a motion. This provided a fascinating insight into the world of local politics and its wider ramifications. We are extremely grateful for the time and expertise provided by Councillor Ellis.



Occupational Therapy Students

Charlotte and Kathryn are Occupational Therapy Students from the University of Plymouth who are working at Tavistock College on placement until Easter 2020.

Charlotte and Kathryn will be working with both staff and students to promote mental health and wellbeing by enabling participation in meaningful activities that are fundamental to school life.

Charlotte is in the final year of her BSc (Hons) in Occupational Therapy. Working in various clinical settings within the NHS, Charlotte has experience in enabling individuals to be able to live as independently and



safely as possible. Charlotte has a background of volunteering with young people and is passionate about promoting positive mental

health in education.

Kathryn is in the final year of her Pre-registration Masters in Occupational Therapy. Kathryn has a BSc (Hons) in Psychology and has previous experience supporting young people with



complex physical disabilities to access education. Kathryn is passionate about raising awareness of mental health and how it can be looked after for both the students and staff at the College. Both Charlotte and Kathryn are committed to

promoting the value of Occupational Therapy in mainstream schools.

National Apprenticeship Week

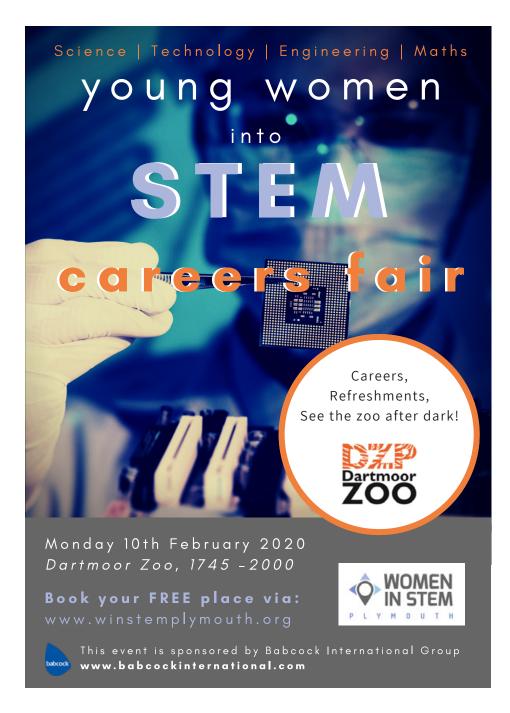
This week the college celebrated the annual National Apprenticeship Week. Year 10 and 11 tutors have explored a range of resources with their tutor groups whilst curriculum subjects have been displaying subject specific advice and career paths around the college. Last week a group of 6th form students attended the National Apprenticeship Fair at Exeter Westpoint and a large group of Y10 and 11 students attended an Apprenticeship 'Big assembly' to hear individual accounts from current apprentices around the country.

The number and variety of apprenticeships available to our students has grown hugely in recent years, whilst higher level apprenticeships now provide a viable alternative to a University degree in some careers. We are building a fantastic alumni network of students who have gone on to apprenticeships since leaving the college with careers ranging from carpentry, marine engineering, business management, and retail to game keeping.

Can I please draw your attention to a parent forum event that will run on Tuesday 3rd March where expert advice will be available on apprenticeships and other aspects of your child's careers education at the College. In the meantime the government website is a fantastic starting point to find out more about apprenticeships in the local area:

https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

Mr Ruse, Assistant Principal



Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 11th February the college will be involved with the annual Safer Internet Day. This day is designed to raise student awareness around the importance of staying safe online and the potential impacts of their own digital footprint. This has implications for all aspects of our students lives, whether that be the impact they can have on friends and peers through their online communication to the impression they can make on future employers when they search their social media history as part of their recruitment process. This year the theme centres around educating people's behaviour online so everyone can 'be free to be me'. The importance of online safety is embedded across our curriculum through digital literacy and computing lessons, the tutor programme and assemblies. Some advice and guidelines written for parents and carers by the UK Safer Internet Centre can be found at the end of this edition of the Fortnightly Focus.

Mr Ruse, Assistant Principal



Singing Success



Congratulations to Alfie , he scored 84% and won a trophy in his first singing competition at the Saltash Drama and Music festival.

Devon Ability GamesOn Wednesday 22nd January I had the pleasure of attending

On Wednesday 22nd January I had the pleasure of attending the Devon Ability Games at The Life centre in Plymouth. Thirteen SEND students attended the event to represent the college and truly showed me the meaning of our cooperative ethos and sportsmanship. The students were supported by Mrs Barratt-Love, Mr Jenkins, Mrs Piper and Miss Biggs plus our two OT students Miss Lewis and Miss Baines.

Our students were able to participate and compete in a wide range of sports including Archery, Table Cricket, Sit Down Volleyball and New Age Curling. They were also able to access a range of sporting taster sessions to develop and hone their skills. The most popular of which were abseiling, bouldering and fencing.

Team Tavi brought home the Gold Medal for New Age Curling!

Successfully competing across a range of heats were Isaac Crimp, Matthew Wimlett, Leo Cope, Maxim Fraser, Kayleigh-Boo Elliott, Owen North, Harrison Bell and Harold Critchley all contributing to the final win of 4-0 against Kingsbridge Community College. Lara Davey showed exemplary skills in Archery and was awarded the medal for Spirit of the Games and was a real asset to the college.

84.65

A huge thank you to the students and staff for making this event happen and so special. In a busy loud chaotic environment our students represented the college in an exemplary fashion. I am always so proud of what our students achieve. It is with great excitement that I announce that I submitted a successful bid to the Trustees for the equipment that is used in these games to facilitate new age curling and table cricket to strengthen and develop our whole school inclusive approach to sports. Mrs Baring - SENDCo





U15s

Tavistock College U15 boys and girls teams have competed in the Devon championships, held at Kingsley School in Bideford.

4 teams competed, with the winners to progress to the SW regional finals.

U15 girls (1 win,2 lost) had some excellent performances during the tournament, with a stand-out victory against Great Torrington School and a narrow (1 goal) loss to Kingsley School. Goals from Claire Small and Amy Roberts combined with some excellent goalkeeping from Imogen Abel played a large part in the success of the day.



Claire Small, Matilda Murdoch, Amy Roberts, Pip Briggs, Samantha Baker, Charlotte Ewings, Imogen Abel and Chelsea Hart

U15 boys had some notable success, beating both Kingsley and Great Torrington schools. Some excellent goalkeeping from Jack Hall kept the games alive at several points and goals at the other end frequently proved successful. Top scorer Will Paxman was supported well throughout and some brilliant attacking play from the rest of the team was notable.



We are looking forward to hosting Kingsley School at home for a return fixture later this term.

Jack Hall, Brandon Allen, Mathew Brimacombe, WIII Paxman, Ben Bryant, Finley Shaw, Ryan King and Fin Lothian

U13 Girls Cricket

the U13 girl's cricket team represented Tavistock college with pride during last week's West Devon competition. The recently formed host team, captained by Ella and Evie Baker, played some excellent cricket as the day progressed.

Competition from Okehampton and lyybridge proved to be very tough and the experience gained from the tournament was invaluable. With future games to look forward to, the team is keen to progress further.

Girls cricket training is on Monday lunchtimes and new players are always welcome.

Autumn Mathews, Leigha Kite, Ella Baker (C), Evie Baker (C), Morgan Richardson, Lara Davey, Bryony Brown, Harriet Hayley, Holly Egan, Carla Morrison and Isobel Boule



Sports Personality of the Year

The eighth Sports Personality of the Year awards evening took place in a packed main hall at the college on Thursday 23rd January. This is an evening hosted by the Tavistock College Physical Education faculty to celebrate the achievements of the fantastic PE students at the college. Whether this is through achievement in curriculum time; successes in examination courses; contribution to the college through sport or outstanding practical performance in the local community and beyond the evening demonstrated the shared attributes of all the students to have a positive mindset to improve, pride in their work, high levels of skill and the



competitive edge to be successful. They also all have the ability to find an extra % or source of energy to continue to beat personal bests or break records or in a team environment reach further in competitions.

The evening also saw winners from the local primary feeder schools and the community sports centres, as well as awards for contribution to PE at the college and the local community.

The evening's proceedings were enhanced by many students from the PE student leadership team speaking on the evening. There were many awards given out during the night which concluded in the Ashley Tossell Sports Personality of the Year award winner from a shortlist of 8 students. Some of the award winners included.

Hannah Bragg award Sophie Isaacs

Primary performer award Harry Witcher



Contribution to college through sport awards

Year 7 - Megan Griffiths

Year 8 – Isabelle Boulle

Year 9 – Orla Maguire

Year 10 - Abraham Reid

Year 11 - Will Russell

Year 12 – Jenny Green

Year 13 - Jaeden Parnell-Moses

Curriculum awards

Year 7 – Achievement – Rebecca Boyd **Co-operative** – Jonny Nolan

Year 8 - Achievement - William Trebilcock

Co-operative – Kaya Mpofu

Year 9 - Achievement - Kiera Beeks

Co-operative – Georgia Buckingham

Year 10 - Achievement - Ryan King

Co-operative – Katie Detlaff

Year 11 – Achievement – Lewis Higgs **Co-operative** – Katie Edwards

Outstanding practical performer

Year 7 - Fynn Baker

Year 8 - Phoebe Milburn

Year 9 - Charlotte Hay

Year 10 - Ruby Stacey

Year 11 - Rosie Andrews

Year 12 - Elliott Overnell

Year 13 - Luke Cressey

Trustees team of the year award

BTEC Sport level 3 group -

Sophie Isaacs, Emily Frost, Lauren Harvey, George Pankhurst, Jaeden Parnell-Moses and Jacob Hill.

Examination qualifications

GCSE PE – Jenny Green
V-cert Health and fitness – Tabitha Myler
BTEC Sport level 2 – Isabelle Bray

BTEC Sport level 3 – George Pankhurst

Sports leaders – Claire Small Girls active – Summer Matthews

Sport for all – Reece Winter



Principals contribution award

Judo squad -

Reuben Frise, Olivia Willson, Alannah Hopkins and Charlotte Hay.



Ashley Tossell Sports Personality of the Year

1st – Jenny Green, 2nd – Charlie Elkington, 3rd – Ruby Stacey

The following is the citation written about the winner Jenny Green

The word mastery means comprehensive knowledge or skill in a particular subject or activity. To demonstrate mastery in PE this requires the highest levels of practical skills and a thorough understanding of a wide range of topics that relate to PE. Jenny Green has demonstrated this. To achieve a grade 9 in any subject is an outstanding

achievement, but behind the scenes the endless hours of hard work and dedication to achieve this should not be overlooked. Jenny stands for much more than this fantastic achievement and for most students this would be enough and onto pastures new. Jenny continues to challenge and work tirelessly to have a positive impact on the PE faculty and the opportunities for other students.

She has given up her own time to mentor and work with Year 11 GCSE PE students to support them in the journey towards their final exams. Giving words of wisdom and advice to students about what it takes to achieve success in PE. All of this while she has work demands elsewhere across the college. She continues to work with the student leadership team, demonstrating how to be a role model for other students. Jenny consistently shows the desire to see PE improve and challenges the faculty on how we can be the best we can be.

As well as this she has represented the college in a practical setting and continues to play for the first team netball squad. Showing the passion and competitive edge you would expect.

Jenny is a fantastic role model and deserves to be shortlisted for the Ashley Tossell sports personality of the year.

Thanks should also go to the vast team of people involved with this production who give up their time and energy to make this show happen each year. Onwards to next years SPOTY!!!! *Mr. Shaun Hulbert*







UK Safer Internet Centre



UK Safer Internet Centre:

The European Commission-appointed UK Safer Internet Centre is made up of three partners; Childnet International, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation. Together we raise awareness about internet safety, develop information materials and resources and organise high profile events such as Safer Internet Day. Resources include a parent's guide to technology, information about parental controls and safety tools on social networks and other online services. You can access a range of resources from across the UK, Europe and wider afield at www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents.



Childnet:

Childnet International is a non-profit organisation working in partnership with others around the world to help make the internet a great and safe place for children. The Childnet website hosts all the online resources detailed below, as well as a number of recommended resources for young people, parents, carers and teachers. The Parents and Carers area also contains key advice, information on reporting and detailed information on a range of online safety topics in the hot topics section. www.childnet.com



South West Grid for Learning:

The South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) is a not for profit, charitable trust dedicated to the advancement of education through information and communication technologies. They provide safe, supported broadband internet, teaching and learning services for 2,500 schools in the South West of England and e-safety education and training regionally, nationally and internationally. They provide professionals, parents and children with advice, resources and support to use internet technologies safely to enhance learning and maximise potential. www.swgfl.org.uk



Internet Watch Foundation:

The Internet Watch Foundation is the UK's hotline for reporting illegal content found on the internet. It deals specifically with child abuse and criminally obscene images hosted in the UK and internationally. The IWF works in partnership with the online industry, law enforcement, government, and international partners. It is a charity and a self-regulatory body with over 100 Members from the online industry. www.iwf.org.uk

Safer Internet Day information, resources and further support



Safer Internet Day:

Celebrated globally every year, Safer Internet Day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. This year's global theme is 'Together for a Better Internet' and in the UK, the theme is 'Free to be me: exploring identity online.' The campaign will particularly empower young people to explore how they manage their online identity, and how the internet shapes what they think of themselves and others. www.saferinternetday.org.uk



UK Safer Internet Centre:

The UK Safer Internet Centre produces weekly blogs which offer information and advice on a range of topics. They are written to reflect current and emerging trends as well as questions received during training sessions. Some useful ones for this year's theme are:

- Cyberbullying advice for parents and carers
- Sharenting: how am I adding to my child's digital footprint?
- Why is online sexual harassment an issue for women and girls?



Common Sense Media - 6 Ways Your Kids Can Protect Their Online Identities:

Common Sense Media have produced a short video with some helpful advice on supporting your child to protect their identity while using the internet.

www.commonsensemedia.org/videos/6-ways-your-kids-can-protect-their-online-identities



Planned Parenthood — How do I talk with my pre-schooler about identity?

Planned Parenthood have conversation starters and practical ideas to help you talk to children under 5 about their identity. There is also a short video with further guidance.

www.plannedparenthood.org/learn/parents/preschool/how-do-i-talk-with-my-preschooler-about-identity



The Children's Society – Identity:

The Children's Society have advice and top tips for supporting young people who are struggling with their identity. They also have links to more advice around the connection between identity and self-esteem. www.childrenssociety.org.uk/mental-health-advice-for-children-and-young-people/identity







Safer Internet Day information, resources and further support cont.



Family Lives – Helping your child stay connected with their culture:

Family Lives is a charity dedicated to supporting parents and carers with looking after their families. They have advice around helping your child to embrace their cultural identity and stay connected to it, including a video

www.familylives.org.uk/advice/primary/health-and-development/culture/

childline ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Childline – Sexual Identity and Gender Identity:

Childline have a number of web pages with advice for young people who are feeling confused about their gender identity or questioning their sexual orientation. They have links to specific advice and short videos with more information. www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/sexual-identity/



NSPCC – Talking about difficult topics:

The NSPCC have some advice around how to start conversations with your child about sensitive subjects in order to help keep themselves safe.

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/talking-about-difficult-topics/

Resources to use with children and young people



Family Agreement:

As a family you may wish to set up a family agreement which is a great way to start a conversation with your whole family about how you all use the internet and discuss together how to behave in a positive way when online at home, at school or at a friend's. www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement



Digiduck Stories:

The Digiduck story collection has been created to help parents and teachers educate children aged 3 - 7 about how to be a good friend online. The collection includes a book, PDF and interactive app. www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories



Childnet Primary Pages:

You may wish to work through this series of interactive quizzes together with your child to help you talk about how to stay safe online and what to do if things go wrong. Aimed at children aged 8-12, the quizzes include topics such as online gaming, social media and sharing things online. www.childnet.com/young-people/primary/get-answers



Safer Internet Day Films:

Our SID Films provide a great way to start a discussion with your child about how the internet makes them feel and what tips they have about staying safe online. There are different videos aimed at younger and older children. www.saferinternet.org.uk/sid-films

Information for parents and carers



Let's talk about life online:

Advice for parents and carers on how to talk with their child about staying happy, positive and safe when online. www.childnet.com/resources/lets-talk-about-life-online



Information and Advice for Foster Carers/Adoptive Parents:

The UK Safer Internet Centre has worked together with Islington Council to create leaflets for foster carers and adoptive parents. The leaflets, which are free to download and easy to print, include top tips and conversation starters to help foster carers and adoptive parents get to grips with internet safety. www.saferinternet.org.uk/fostering-adoption



Keeping Under Fives Safe Online:

Children love using technology and are learning to navigate websites, online games and consoles, and touch screen technology like tablets and smartphones from a younger and younger age. This advice contains top tips for parents and carers for keeping children aged five and under safe online.

www.childnet.com/resources/keeping-under-fives-safe-online







Where to report/get help



Need help?

Information about what to do if a child comes to you for help, and advice about how to report online concerns such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content or illegal behaviour. www.saferinternet.org.uk/need-help



Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP):

A police agency tackling child sexual abuse and grooming online. This website includes a unique facility that enables parents and young people to make reports of grooming or child sexual abuse online. www.ceop.police.uk

CEOP's Think U Know website contains information for children and parents, as well as a link for children to report sexual abuse or grooming online. www.thinkuknow.co.uk



Internet Watch Foundation:

Part of the UK Safer Internet Centre, the IWF is the UK's hotline for reporting illegal content found on the internet. It deals specifically with child sexual abuse and criminally obscene images hosted in the UK and internationally. www.iwf.org.uk



Report Harmful Content:

Provided by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the Report Harmful Content website gives advice on how to report online problems. It can also mediate where appropriate or explain why content has not been removed, and can provide assistance in removing harmful content from platforms. reportharmfulcontent.com



NSPCC:

The NSPCC has partnered with O2 to provide an online safety helpline for parents and carers to answer questions and address concerns about a child's online safety: 0808 800 5002.

They also provide the Childline helpline for children where they can talk to someone for advice and support at any time by contacting 0800 1111 or chatting to a counsellor online at www.childline.org.uk



Young Minds:

The UK's leading charity committed to improving the wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Information and advice for young people and parents/carers can be found at www.youngminds.org.uk and they also offer a free confidential helpline for parents on 0808 802 5544.



