

Fortnightly FOCUS

For Students & Parents

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Welcome to the latest edition of our Fortnightly Focus for students and parents for this academic year.

As we work our way through the summer term, we are getting closer to saying goodbye to our year 13 students and those year 11 students who are not returning to us for sixth form studies. We have been so impressed with their commitment and motivation around their exam period, which is nearly at an end. We have a number of events planned in the coming weeks to celebrate their time with

us: Year 11 Graduation on 5 July at Church, Year 11 Prom is on 7 July and our Celebration evening is on 19 July.

Similarly, we are also looking forward for our current students, particularly our year 10 and 12 students, who will be starting their mock exams next week. Students have been recently working on revision strategies and approaches in their lessons in order to prepare them, and encourage them to view revision as an on-going process to aid their learning.

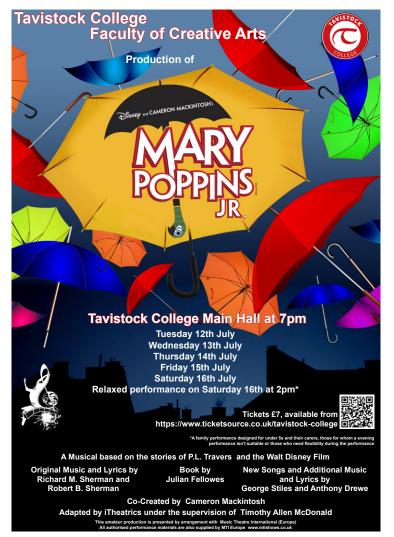
The summer term also brings with it a look forward to the next academic year and involves making plans for our curriculum. We have been carrying out work recently to ensure that, although two of our long serving Japanese teachers are leaving us this summer, any student who has started studying Japanese with us already will be able to continue their studies in the subject, and that Japanese will still run as an option, alongside other languages.

Finally, included in this newsletter are some more details on the extended consultation on mobile phone use in school. As usual, over the next few pages, there are a number of success stories that we wish to share with you to highlight the achievements and efforts of our young people, but in and outside of the school environment. There are also some pieces of information shared which we hope may be of use to some of our families.

As always, please take care, and don't hesitate to make contact with us if we can be supportive.

Emma Herod Assistant Principal





Mobile Phone Consultation

Extended Student Trial

Commencing - 20th June 2022 until the end of summer term.

As part of our initiatives to support students with their mental health, and our anti-bullying drive, the college has arranged staff and parental consultations regarding mobile phones and their impact on students' learning, relationships and well-being.

On June 13th we held a very successful one day trial with Year 7. All students in Y7 were asked to put their mobile phones in their bags as they entered the school gates and not to use them again until the end of the school day. The following day the students were sent a questionnaire asking them to detail their experience of being without their phones. The majority of replies were very positive, the general points raised were:

- Many students said they found it easier to be without their phones than they thought they would.
- Some had been concerned about knowing where and at what time classes started. Due to the preparation for the day completed during tutor time, for example hand writing their time tables, it was much easier than they had imagined.
- They felt less stressed than usual as they didn't have to worry about missing things on WhatsApp and on other social media platforms.
- Many students commented that the recess periods were more sociable.

Building on this, over the next few weeks running up to the summer break, we are widening the trial to include Years 7 to 10. This will enable us to collect further quantitative data that will help us finalise our mobile phone policy for the next academic year.

Trialing Timeline:

W/C 6th June - Students in Years 7-10

Students in Year 7 -10 will be prepared for the trial of being without mobile phones by being given information from tutors in the form of PowerPoint presentations, a loom video and guidance from their tutor. Time will be given to the tutor to prepare for the following weeks.

W/C 27th June - Students in Years 7-10

Students in years 7-10 will receive light sanctions if mobile phones are used inappropriately. Staff will log this on Class Carts to communicate home. **Their phones will not be confiscated during this week**, but they will be reminded about the rules for the forthcoming week. Multiple logs for individual students will result in a meeting with their relevant tutor.

W/C 4th July - Students in Years 7-10 (this is year 10 work experience week).

Full sanctions will be in place. Mobile phones will be confiscated if used during the school day. This will be logged on Class Charts and staff at reception will label and store confiscated phones. They may be reclaimed at the end of Period 5. If multiple logs occur tutors will discuss with the student and arrange a meeting with parents/guardians/carers.

Note: this includes after school clubs/activities.

Student Support

During the planning week (w/c 20 June) students will be given help in preparing to manage the school day without relying on their phones. This will include making handwritten time tables and tutors suggesting they make arrangements to meet with friends for breaks.

Key Stage 3 and 4 hubs

The hubs can be visited for:

- · Timetable and other school day information
- Making telephone calls home
- Worries and concerns. The Key Stage 3 hub will be open and supervised during recess times, should students want to speak to an adult or need time out.

Students will be advised to wear a watch and be reminded that there are clocks in the majority of classrooms, and that they can always ask a teacher for the time.

Teachers will be asked to design lessons where there is no requirement for on-phone internet research. Extra items such as additional text books, calculators and instrument tuners will be available.

Please be aware that any mobile device bought into school is at the owner's risk. The college accepts no responsibility for loss of, damage to, or cost incurred relating to mobile devices (including those confiscated).

Student Feedback - W/C 11th July

Following the extended trial, participating students will be asked to complete a questionnaire and share their views on their experience of being without mobile phones.

Parental Feedback - 29th June

Parents of the participating students will be invited to a Mobile Phone Forum at Tavistock College on the 29th June to discuss any ideas or concerns arising from the initial week of the extended trial. A letter will be sent out giving details of this forum. The information gathered, together with the results of the initial Y7 trial, earlier parental contributions and staff input, will all form

The information gathered, together with the results of the initial Y7 trial, earlier parental contributions and staff input, will all form the basis of the Tavistock College mobile phone policy for the forthcoming academic year. We thank you for your support in this valuable consultation process.

James Stroud

Building a basketball court in the Meadowlands

Why is this important?

Hi, I am writing on behalf of the Tavistock College Basketball Team and we think the reason for a new court to be built is that many basketball players in Tavistock say there is a severe lack of appropriate basketball courts in the Tavistock area. As a person who plays basketball for a team it is extremely hard to practice in my free time, as it is for many other people who play basketball . Building a court will inspire upcoming younger athletes to start playing, promote fitness and create relationships with the people from Tavistock and beyond. As basketball gets more and more popular throughout the UK, it is hard for people who play and people who want to start playing in small towns like Tavistock, because they are lacking the proper infrastructure for their athletes to get equal opportunity to larger areas.



Even though there are courts in Tavistock almost all of these have been 'taken over' by the people who smoke and use drugs making these courts almost like 'drug dens' which makes people scared to even try to play basketball there. If you're thinking 'won't this new court just

be taken over like the others?' Although this is possible it is extremely unlikely as all these courts that are being used as 'drug dens' are very tucked away and very hidden, unless you had done research or asked around you wouldn't know that they even existed, which makes it ideal for them to be used for smoking and using drugs. Whereas if a court was to be built in the heart

of Tavistock (Meadowlands) which is very lively and the heart of the community, it would remove the possibility of drug users populating the area and would also provide a replacement activity for many young people who currently smoke and use drugs which will overall make Tavistock a happier and more friendly place.

Signing this proposal will benefit Tavistock and you, so please join us:)

(This was written collectively by the Tavistock College Year 10 Basketball Team.)

We think making this basketball court it will promote happiness and excitement throughout the community in Tavistock and will be the place where memories will be made.

Scan the QR code (above) to sign the petition, or contact the school if you are able to help.



Rugby success

On Sunday the 15th May 2022 Bradley Lumley and Sheldon Higgins from year 10 represented Tavistock Rugby club playing for West Devon in the Exeter Chiefs DPP (developing player programme). Bradley and Sheldon played at Exeter Saracens against North, East and South Devon with all areas having some extremely strong and talented players. Bradley and Sheldon along with their team won all 3

games, with West Devon winning the whole festival. The selection process for the DPP programme consisted of 5 training sessions based on rugby skills and some game time and two official trials where their individual rugby play and skills were assessed throughout. Bradley and Sheldon were both very pleased and surprised to be selected out of a pool of approx 140 players who were all nominated by their rugby clubs for having potential. Both Bradley and Sheldon were and are still very proud to have been given the opportunity to play at the DPP and represent both Tavistock Rugby Club and West Devon.





Tavistock College Extra Curricular

Creative Arts Extra Curricular

Mary Poppins rehearsals have a separate timetable

Monday		
Jazz Band *MU3* Y7-Y13 3-4pm Mr Lambert	You need basic music skills - reading of music or chords	
KS4/5 Dance & Drama independent rehearsals *DR2* 3-4pm Mrs Pearson	Must be booked 48 hours in advance	
Tuesday		
Choir *Main Hall* 8.30-9am	Open to all year groups	
KS4/5 Photography Club *Photography Studio* Mrs Bassett	Y11 and Y13 only until middle of June	
KS4/5 Media Coursework *MS1* 3-4pm Mr Hunter	Come and develop your work	
KS4/5 Dance & Drama independent rehearsals *DR2* 3-4pm Mrs Pearson	Must be booked 48 hours in advance	
Wednesday		
KS4/5 Dance & Drama independent rehearsals *DR2* 3-4pm Mrs Pearson	Must be booked 48 hours in advance	
Creatavi Magazine Club. Please see Mr Hunter in MS1 for more information	Creatavi has a separate timetable - see Mr Hunter	
RSL Music Drop in Jam *Music Block* Y9-Y13 3-4.30pm	See Mr Lambert / Mrs Berryman for more info	
Thursday		
KS4/5 Dance & Drama independent rehearsals *DR2* 3-4pm Mrs Pearson	Must be booked 48 hours in advance	
Y7 & Y8 Drama Club *DR2* RECESS 2	RECESS 2	
KS3 Art Club *A3/A2* 3-15-4.30 Mrs Wyatt		
KS4 Textiles *A4* 3.15-4.30 Miss Harris		
LX Tech Club *Main Hall* Y8-Y13 Mr Prouse	This club runs on week B only	
Friday		
Open Mic *MU3* Recess 1&2 All year groups	Perform a song or be part of the audience	

P.E. After School Clubs 3.15pm - 4.15pm

MON	TUES	THURS
1st Team Football SHL	Years 7/8 Athletics DDO / CAR / BWH	Years 7/8/9/10 Trampolining JHO / NIN
Year 11 GCSE Revision SHL / HBL	Years 7/8/9/10 Rounders RDO / HBL / LHA	All Years Badminton ABE
	Years 9/10 Basketball NMU / Coaches	Years 9/10 Athletics DDO / LHA / BWH
	All Years Table Tennis JRU	Years 9/10 Diamond Running League JIN
	Years 7/8 Cycling NHO	Years 7/8/9/10 Cricket KWI / ATA
	Years 7/8/9/10 Tennis NIN / ATA	

Students can check the Bulletin during tutor time on Tuesdays and Thursdays for extra information about clubs and activities



Vacancies

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust https://www.dartmoormat.org.uk/job-vacancies.html

Dartmoor MAT

Supply Opportunities

Trustee Opportunities

Governance Administrator (Clerk)

Operations Coordinator

Education Welfare Officer

Primary Teachers - Trust Wide

Cleaners

Primary school vacancies

Okehampton Primary School

Afterschool Club Play Leader/Supervisor

Afterschool Club Play Assistant

Holsworthy Community College

Cleaner

Mealtime Assistant - 2 Posts

Cover Supervisor

Okehampton College

Teacher of Food and Catering

English Teachers

Teacher of Maths

Science Technican

Teacher of MFL

Data And Information Manager

Teacher of Science

Exam Invigilators

Caretaker

Cleaners

Catering Assistants

Tavistock College

Teacher of PE

Key Stage Administrators - 2 Posts

Executive Assistant and Systems Manager

Cover Supervisor

Exam Invigilators

Caretaker



Family Support

Keeping children safe online

The safeguarding area of the college website for resources and signposting.

Free Solihull online courses

- Understanding your baby
- · Understanding your child
- Understanding your teenagers' brain

www.inourplace.co.uk access code TAMAR.

Support for parents

www.parent-talk.org.uk/devon

Hub of Hope

Organisations / charities offering mental health advice and support. https://hubofhope.co.uk/

Chat Health School Nurse

Text Message Service 07520631722 Anonymous, confidential advice for 11-19 year olds

The Alcohol Education Trust

www.talkaboutalcohol.com Helping students learn how to make safe choices around alcohol.

Teen mental health

https://www.mytutor.co.uk/blog/teen-mental-health-a-guide-for-parents/

Police prevent

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=N8DPPQUem9A

Kooth online

Mental health and wellbeing support to farming families. www.rabi.org.uk/kooth

Mind

Reliable resources and tips to help you cope with the CoronaVirus (COVID-19) pandemic https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/

Free Outward Bound courses

FREE places on Outward Bound Courses to young people aged 16-22 who live in Devon.

Early Help resources

Seeing parent conflict through the child's eyes. https://www.seeitdifferently.org/

Youth Intervention

Law & policing, Instagram @yourpolice.uk Rights, law and terminology, information on consent, healthy behaviours and behaviour change.

Alleviating fuel poverty

Free Devon wide service.

https://tamarenergycommunity.com/

Parent Autism Awareness programme

Apply direct by email to: LDP-LearnerSupport@ babcockinternational.com

Child Mind Institute

Transforming Children's Mental Health https://childmind.org/

A guide to potentially dangerous apps for kids

Plus useful tips for protecting your child from online safety hazards

https://www.familyeducation.com/mobile-apps/a-complete-guide-to-potentially-dangerous-apps-all-parents-should-be-aware-of

NSPCC Helpline for victims of sexual abuse in schools

Sexual abuse in any form is unacceptable.

Telephone 0800 136 663, or email help@nspcc.org.uk.

Citizens Advice

Free advice: AdviceLine 0808 27 87 999 webchat www.ruraldevoncab.org.uk Email info@ruraldevoncab.org.uk

Message www.facebook.com/TorridgeNorthMidWestCA

YoungMinds

Fighting for young people's mental health https://www.youngminds.org.uk/

HappyMaps

Mental health resources for parents and carers, and for young people and children https://happymaps.co.uk/

'Let's Talk

Teenagers' is a series of online support sessions that are an opportunity for parents and carers of teenagers to hear about the challenges young people are facing



today. These evening sessions will be running on consecutive weeks throughout June, and will discuss the tools parents and carers can use to support their children and community, covering topics such as:

- drugs and alcohol
- body image
- mental health
- · social risks
- · safety online
- peer pressure

The project has been funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Safer Devon Partnership, South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership and Teignbridge Council for Voluntary Service.

"Having run these sessions in March, we were overwhelmed by the feedback from parents who felt more equipped to support their teens. We are pleased to be able to offer the sessions again to reach even more families and raise awareness of the risks young people face and provide tips on how to support them."

- Rebecca Hewitt, Chair of South Devon and Dartmoor CSP. Visit the Eventbrite page for more information or to book your place. These events are free.

Let's Talk Teenagers Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite

