



Student & Parent

# Fortnightly

04-12-2015

# FOCUS

## Student Attendance

Student attendance at Tavistock College is monitored constantly throughout the Academic Year, with monitoring letters going out to all parents whose child's attendance has fallen below 95%. These vary from Head of Year concern letters, requests to provide Medical Evidence and in extreme cases legal meeting where a parent could be prosecuted for failing to send their child to school. Please inform Mrs Morewood – Attendance Officer should your child be seeing a hospital consultant for any genuine medical conditions. Where possible please provide the school with photo copies of any appointment dates you may have. We can then offer support for your child should they have any length of time off school which may affect their education. The school works with Miss MacDonald; Education Welfare Officer, who not only helps deal with students whose attendance has fallen below 90% but also helps support students who find it difficult engaging / coming back into full time education.

To report student absence please contact Mrs Morewood – Attendance Officer before 9am using option 4 on the automated school telephone. Please state you child's name, tutor group, reason for absence and if possible the date of return. If you would like to speak to the Attendance Officer please request a call back.

Punctuality is also monitored closely at the College and any students that continue to arrive late to AM registration and lessons will be placed of Tutor / HOY report. Please be aware that registers close at 9.05am and 2.15pm students arriving after this time will receive an unauthorised late mark. Please ensure your child is on site ready to register at 8.40am and if they arrive late after 9.05am they must sign in at the Attendance Office in Reception. Please provide a note to explain the reason for lateness as this will prevent the school from sending any unnecessary School Comms Messages home.

Due to government changes the school is no longer able to authorise absences during term time, so please be aware that should you take your child out of school during term time you may receive a fixed penalty notice. We are very compassionate regarding students whose parents belong to the Armed Force - contact Mrs Morewood should your child need time off school to see parents returning from tours of duty. Any absences need to be applied for in advance, using the S2 absence request form; this includes absences for 1 or more days. The College is unable to authorise Medical appointments for a whole day; please provide a medical appointment card to support the appointment when completing an S2. We do understand the difficulty with orthodontic appointments in Plymouth but wherever possible try and make the appointments at the start / end of the school day this will ensure only minimum disruption to lessons.

Due to the focus on attendance we have, we achieved our target of 95% last academic year. We appreciate your support and understanding and hope we can work together to sustain this improvement over the whole school year.

Any other queries and concerns regarding your child's attendance please contact Mrs Morewood directly, the Attendance Office is situated in the main reception area.



## Dates for the diary December

**10th December**  
Year 9 Parents &  
Options Evening

**11th December**  
Swirl Day.  
Savoury Swirls  
available to buy in the  
refectory

**16th December**  
College Carol Service  
2pm and after school

**18th December**  
Christmas Jumper Day  
Last Day of Term

## Getting to know your staff

**Mr N Stewart**

### 1) What's the best part of your job?

It is great having a job where you can make a difference. Passing exams is very important, but so is learning to be a happy individual who contributes positively to society and I hope that I can help people achieve both of these.

### 2) When you were little what was your dream job?

I wanted to be a vet, I was mad keen on the whole James Herriot serious of books and TV shows. Unfortunately I am squeamish so that idea did not last.

### 3) If you could have one wish, what would you wish for and why?

My wish is to have a happy supporting family with my kids doing well. I have that so I am happy.

### 4) Football or Rugby?

To play – rugby. To watch – football.

### 5) If you've had a really rubbish day, how do you cheer yourself up?

Going on the moors with the dog.

### 6) If you could have a superpower for a day, what would it be?

To know what to say.

### 7) What is your favourite song EVER?

Dee-Lite Grove is in the Heart.

### 8) Who is the most inspirational person you know?

My wife – if she can live with me then anything is possible for humankind.

### 9) Give us one interesting fact about yourself.

I have played Aussie Rules football for Great Britain. We lost to Denmark.





# Sport Results

**Thursday 19th November**

Year 7 & 8 Netball v Plymouth College (A)

Year 7 lost 10-3

Year 8 drew 6 all

**Thursday 19th November**

Public Services Leadership Activity to Pew Tor

**Monday 23rd November**

6th Form Football Team v Year 11

6th Form won 3 – 1

**Wednesday 25th November**

Year 10 v All Saints

All Saints - 29 Tavistock 19

**Tuesday 1st December**

Primary School Indoor Athletics

hosted by Tavistock College in the Sports Hall. Tavistock College Year 10

Public Services Sports Leaders helped with this event

## Forthcoming Sporting Events

**Thursday 3rd December**

Year 7 & 8 Netball v Launceston College (A)

**Monday 7th December**

Physical Education Leadership Conference at Tavistock College.

1st XV Rugby v St. Boniface's College (H) 3:30pm KO (approx.)

Year 12 BTEC Public Services visit to Plymouth Armed Forces Careers Office meeting with the AFCO staff and an attempt at the Royal Navy Recruit entry test and a visit to the Plymouth Crown Courts.

**Tuesday 8th December**

Year 7 v Year 8 Football at Tavistock College KO 3:30 approx

**Wednesday 9th December**

1st XV Rugby v Mount Kelly (A)

Touch Tennis Tournament in the Sport's Hall 11:30am – 2:30pm

**Thursday 10th December**

Under 13's & Under 15's Boys Cricket @ Okehampton College. 10:00am start

**Tuesday 15th December**

Year 9 & Year 10/11 Netball v Callington (H) 3:30pm start (approx.)



## Y10 boys Rugby v All Saints Academy

Tavistock College 19 All Saints 29

On 25th November Y10 Rugby team played in a very competitive match against all Saints.

Tries from Jason Blake (2) and Connor Baker (1) and 2 conversions from Reece Johnson helped lead a very spirited fight back after a difficult 1st half. Tavistock were 19-5 down at half time but were far better organised and disciplined after the break – leading to a 2nd half performance that they should be proud of. *Mr Hosking*



# Merry CHRISTMAS