



This is the last Fortnightly Focus of the academic year and it is always a pleasure trying to include the huge variety of events and celebrations that are currently taking place. In school, it is a really timely moment to look back and consider everything that has been achieved this year. A number of students will be eagerly awaiting GCSE and A Level results in the summer. These always provide a wonderful sense of achievement and satisfaction for those

students directly involved, enabling them to move on to the next stage in their education and lives. However we urge all students and their families to reflect on everything that has been accomplished during the academic year. That will include progress and the quality of work being produced in lessons. However it may also involve representing the school in sporting events or in any number of the creative arts productions that have taken place in recent months. It may be the variety of student leadership roles that so many of our students have embraced, whether that be our HumanUtopia heroes, Sports leaders, prefects or 6th form student leadership team. It will often include those intangible things that are impossible to measure. The resilience shown by our students in overcoming difficulties. The perseverance and work ethic involved to improve in a particular area of school life. It is important that all of us, teachers, students and parents & carers alike take the time to reflect on all these different things.

In this issue I have included a welcome from our new 6th form Head Students. They are fantastic role models for our younger students to look up to and emulate and it is great to hear their passion and desire to be part of further improving the lives and opportunities for our students. There is also an opportunity to read about some of the fantastic work experience placements recently completed by our Y10 students. It's fantastic to witness the tangible impact this can have on a student. Hopefully hearing from some of our Y10s will inspire the Y9 students who should already be starting to think about their work experience that will take place next summer.

Finally can I remind you that the new college year begins on Tuesday 3rd September. In the meantime I wish all students and their families an enjoyable and restful summer break.

Mr Ruse

Assistant Principal



**Dartmoor**  
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## Key Dates

DATE	EVENT	TIME
16 July	SEN Celebration Morning Octagon	09:00 – 12:30
17 July	Celebration Evening Main Hall - Mrs Hastings	18:00
19 July	Last day of Summer Term	
15 Aug	GCE Results Day	
22 Aug	GCSE Results Day	
2 Sept	Staff Training Day	
3 Sept	First Day of Term	

## Message from our Head Students

We recently appointed a new 6th form student leadership team. These include our Head Students and a number of other roles, including our student house captains. Our three Head Students would like to take this opportunity to introduce themselves:

I feel very privileged to be given the role of head boy. It's something I've always wanted to do since starting secondary school. Over the next



two years I hope the other head students and I can improve the college community and help influence the school to be the best it possibly can be. Tavistock college is incredibly important to me as it has not only provided me with an amazing education, but has also made me feel welcome since day one. Hopefully I can contribute positively to everyone's time at the college and continue to improve the school environment.

*Luke Cressey*

I'm very proud to be head girl at Tavistock College as not only has this been my school for the past 6 years but it's also been where I met some



amazing people and made so many memories for life. Tavistock College has a true community feel and gives all its students a sense of belonging, and I'll forever be grateful that I've got to experience this throughout my time here. In the coming year, as head girl I hope to pass on this feeling of solidarity and unity to younger years and continue to help Tavistock College to grow not only as a school, but as a community.

*Darcy Brown*

I am very pleased to be Head Boy alongside my two fellow Head Students and am really looking forward to what we can achieve along with our prefect team over the next year. I have always been grateful for the academic



support Tavistock College has given me, so it has been very rewarding sitting down with Darcy and Luke over the past few weeks thinking about how we can make sure our year groups has some kind of long-lasting effect on the school once we have left- I am really excited about what we have planned and am keen to emphasise to younger years that they should always feel free to speak to me if they have any suggestions about how the school could be improved. Please do know you can stop me anytime you see me around school; I'd love to speak to you!

*Beau Waycott*

# Product of the Year 2019

This June Tavistock College's technology faculty hosted their 8th year of their popular event Product of the Year. Over 60 students exhibited their projects to over two hundred visitors. The exhibition included students with their work from 8 different categories including design and technology, catering, textiles, product design and computing. Visitors commented on the huge diversity of things to see and how wonderfully well the students could articulate their designs. Organiser of the event and head of technology at the college Pete Keegan said 'the standard of work this year was spectacular. I felt so incredibly proud of our students, especially watching them discuss their projects so passionately with complete strangers, what a wonderful celebration of their hard work and their journey so far into the exciting world of STEM.' The exhibition is also run as a competition, with visitors getting the chance to vote for their favourite projects in each of the categories. After voting closed there was some fantastic live music from Jemma Stacey and Jack Langsford while the last of the 190 voting cards were counted up. There was much anticipation for the results and Mr Keegan was joined one stage by Principal Sarah Jones for the prize giving. The college would like to congratulate all the students who took part and especially the winners who were:

St Andrews CofE Primary for the award for primary school excellence in D&T

Harrison Newns with multiple projects for best KS3 technology projects.

Alex Stoneman with his electronic sweet dispenser for best Y9 or 10 D&T project

Lily Waterman with her armor inspired dress for best Y9 textiles project.

Teegan Scourfield with her cream tea which comprised of double chocolate scones with orange jam and whipped double cream for best bake off product.

Vilius Radavicius with his Image recognition system for best computing project

Elliott Overnell with his multi-functional coffee table seat for best Y11 D&T project

Charles Masters with his frog inspired USB desk fan for best Y12 product design project

Alexander Painter with his pangolin inspired articulated desk lamp for best A Level product design project

Jemma Stacey with her incredible dresser table for the big prize of overall product of the year 2019

We would love to thank our event sponsors who kindly donated prizes, these included Tavistock Taekwondo TAGB, Brigid Foley and Dartmoor Links Magazine.



## Tavistock College Anchor Afternoon Tea

Tavistock College's Anchor group students served an Afternoon Tea to be proud of. Students organised an event that brought parents, carers, students and staff together to enjoy a wide selection of delicious homemade cakes and scones.

Students visited the Bedford Hotel where they had the most wonderful time learning about the history of the afternoon tea, sampling a perfect Devonshire cream tea and learning how to serve customers. Student's continued their research in school to perfect their menu by researching target audience preferences and taste testing different cake recipes.

The afternoon before the event, parents and carers were invited in to cook with their children to help prepare for the Afternoon Tea. There was a real sense of community spirit with everybody working together. The result was worth it, In total, 11 cakes - from lemon drizzle, to a piped coffee and walnut cake and strawberry cupcakes were made along with 45 scones!

The Afternoon Tea was a perfect end to the school year, providing an opportunity to celebrate our school community and student successes.



We would like to thank the Bedford Hotel, with special thanks to Mike Coombes Marketing Manager and Sarah Howard, Owner/Director for giving us their time, expertise, kindness and of course, the most delicious cream tea. Also thanks to Tesco for their generosity in donating ingredients and parents/carers and who have supported this event.

*Mrs Harris*



## University Visit

Recently a group of Y12 students visited Plymouth University to attend a specific taster day which introduced Psychology at under-graduate level. As well as seeing the facilities available and getting a feel for life on campus, our students actually received some lectures from the University professors. Tegan Hughes in Y12 described how "I took a lot of information from the day that I now use in lessons. We learnt about ways of studying the brain which is also part of our A-Level course. We went to labs and actively saw someone studying a brain with an EEG monitor, subsequently I can now recall that information so well when doing assessments or revising. Overall I had a really good day, it wasn't just educational but a good insight to university life".

**PSYCHOLOGY  
WITH  
PLYMOUTH  
UNIVERSITY**

# Y10 Work Experience

Recently over 200 students completed their Y10 work experience week. Many spent a fantastic week with local businesses and employers whilst some students went further afield to benefit from spending time with major companies or organisations in the South West and even beyond.

As well as gaining a really valuable insight into career opportunities and the real world of work, the week also encourages students to develop their transferable skills such as teamwork, time management and professionalism which are so highly valued by employers.

We have received fantastic feedback from everyone involved in work experience. This provides really useful information to further improve the programme next year.

## Students

95% of students rated their work experience week to be 'excellent' or 'good'.

84% of students felt more informed and knowledgeable about life after school and the world of work after completing work experience.

88% of students felt work experience had a 'positive' or 'really positive' impact on their future plans.

## Parents

87% of parents felt the work experience week was 'excellent' or 'very good' for their children.

It was interesting to see approx 30% of parents identify 3 different things as being of most value in the week; seeing the world of work, thinking about their future and taking them out of their comfort zone. This undoubtedly highlights the value of having such a week within the curriculum.

We have also noted that over 50% of parents stated they would have welcomed a parental information evening about the process. This is something we will introduce next year to help the school and parents & carers to work more collaboratively in securing high quality work experience.

## Employers

89% of employers felt students were 'professional' or 'highly professional' on how they conducted themselves on work experience.

86% of employers felt students were 'enthusiastic' or 'highly enthusiastic' on placement with them.

## Work Experience Case Study

Duggy had an amazing week learning about the value of money, being in a happy job and meeting many people who live and work in the rural economy. He travelled to South Yeo Farm where he met Gill and Ian Dixon and mixed with a wide range of animals. He learned how each breed has its place and how it allows the farm to make money.

With Paul at The Hen House Farm Duggy undertook a routine of cleaning, safety inspections and breed identification. He got to work alongside Paul and see how his incubator and try before you buy hen and Coop Hire allow people to access the rural dream. We traveled to local suppliers and got to meet some fantastic people along the way.

On reflection Duggy commented "Its been a great week and Ive learned a lot about being around animals, staying safe and working to the rhythm of the weather".



## Work Experience Case Study

As part of the Manufacturing Schools Challenge Tavistock College has a partnership with Schneider Electric, based in Plymouth. Part of this arrangement involves bespoke periods of work experience being arranged for our students, giving them a real insight into the breadth of different careers involved within a global electrical engineering business such as Scheider. Two of our Y10 students describe their week below:

We were on work experience from Monday 24th to Friday 28th June. The week started with a health and safety induction and risk assessment review. Neither of us expected there to be quite so many things we needed to be aware of, everything from what we were allowed to lift to The Health & Safety at Work Act 1974. Across the whole week everyone we met was very welcoming and happily explained their roles to us. We received a wide sample of the different careers and skills needed in industry as a whole as well as the kind of day to day work specific roles entailed.

One of the highlights for the week was the project planning. This was a good experience because it demonstrated a very systematic and logical method of problem solving that is transferable to any field of work. Another highlight was seeing the myriad uses of CAD software and the childish pleasure of being allowed to design and 3D print a key ring (very cool).

The process was made easier by the flexibility of timings. Our only suggestion for improvement would be to include more practical activities/tasks.

*Abigail Whitehead  
and Natasha  
Romenal, Y10*



## Positive Employer Comments

We received positive feedback from all staff members and customers regarding this student. He worked hard throughout the week and managed his time and working tasks well. We would happily offer him or other students work experience in the future.

She represented the college extremely well and was polite, friendly, enthusiastic and very willing to engage fully with her preschool experience. She happily carried out anything asked of her and also identified things that she could do to help staff and facilitate children's play on her own initiative. We thoroughly enjoyed having her company and help for the week and the children loved her!

This student was a super asset to the team this week and has worked very hard and in a very professional manner.

We saw a big confidence increase as the week went on where they were engaging more and more.

I cannot speak highly enough of him. I witnessed him independently approach a customer today in a particularly chaotic moment of IT problems and buildings project manager visit, he asked what they needed and having watched someone else provide the same service he took himself off to find the product. I quickly arranged for a colleague to support him but allowed the transaction to continue (He would not be able to hand out prescription lenses unsupervised) He was smiling and confident the whole week and really increased in confidence as the days progressed asking relevant and searching questions. He would make a fine Optometrist and we would be pleased to hear from him in future. We loved having him around. A genuine help to the team and we will all miss him next week

# Matilda

A year ago we applied to the Royal Shakespeare Company to become one of their Champion Schools in their Change My Story project.

Change My Story has been devised on a region-by-region basis and includes a national search for up to 50 Change My Story Champion Schools who will work with the RSC and their regional theatre to stage a special edited version of Matilda The Musical as their school play. Any state maintained school will be able to apply for one of the 50 places which involves committing to a two-year programme of creative work, including professional development and training opportunities for teachers and working with five other local schools to share the skills and knowledge from the programme. Jacqui O'Hanlon, Director of Education at the RSC, said: "Our growing bank of evidence shows that using RSC approaches can stimulate a child's use of vocabulary and confidence with language, as well as support them to develop resilience, empathy and meta-cognition. All of the initiatives we're announcing today are aimed at making those approaches available to as many young people as possible and helping to develop their confidence with language, reading and writing in a way that makes them better equipped to take their place in the world".

The current school production of Matilda is the result of what has happened since Tavistock College was selected as one of the 50 National 'Matilda Champion Schools' in association with the Theatre Royal Plymouth. The RSC has worked with our directors over two days and have visited the college three times to help support early rehearsals and prepare for the production.

The oldest students have only just turned 14 but most are 12 or 13. For a significant number this is their first experience of a large

production, for some their first time on stage ever! They have worked incredibly hard, gained confidence, made new friends across year groups, been braver than they thought they were, found skills they never thought they had and genuinely changed their own story. They have performed to all the incoming Year 7 students and tutor and the RSC Director of Programming and Theatre Royal Young peoples Officer came to see the opening night. They were impressed by how cohesive and slick the performance was with all performers in all roles totally energized and committed. They were delighted that the production was really unique to Tavistock College and that students had genuine ownership of the cartoon-esque characterization and highly choreographed songs.

During the next year we will share the skills learned during the project with peers - both staff and students - from the wider school, community and local primary and secondary schools. But first, next week we will share our work with the Royal Patron of the RSC!



# Oxford University 2019 Aspire Trip

On Thursday July 11th Mr Chambers and Mrs Greener took a group of 25 students to Exeter College on the Oxford University Aspire trip. The group comprised of fourteen year 12 students and eleven from year 10. We left at 6.30am and arrived at 11.00 to be welcomed by Waverly March, the Academic Support Officer at Exeter College who took us to the Rector's Drawing Room where we were introduced to Professor Conall Mac Niocaill, the Senior Admissions Tutor. He gave an enlightening introduction to Exeter College and talked through the admissions process and timeline. Making us all feel very welcome he emphasised that any student who possessed the necessary passion and genuine interest for their subject would be looked upon favourably. He also explained the nature of study through lectures and tutorials in small groups held in College as well as and the academic rigour involved. 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. We had the opportunity to discuss such aspects as the application process and the importance of the personal statement. Moreover, we looked at the wide range of employment possibilities and learned how Oxford University helps with the provision of bursaries and finds internships for students in the summer holidays. We were surprised that Oxford has three terms which are only eight weeks long and that students must leave their accommodation in the holidays to allow guests for academic conferences to use them. We all 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. Next we were given an enjoyable tour of Exeter College, including the Quad and the Chapel. We learned that Exeter College was founded in 1314 and is the fourth oldest College. With only 334 undergraduates it is an intimate, friendly and inclusive College with a wide variety of clubs and societies. After having a picnic in the beautiful gardens with views over Radcliffe square with a backdrop of College spires, we walked to the much larger Keble College which was more modern with



impressive student accommodation.

Then we returned to Exeter College where we were lucky enough to be given a lecture on Russian history and politics by James Day who works in Oxford University and who had previously attended the Exeter College. He talked about the thesis he wrote for his PhD and gave us a true sense of the passion students at Oxford feel for their subject and gave us a small insight into the calibre of work that's produced there.

At 3.00pm 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 9.00pm 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 Keble College and visit the city of Oxford.' *Christian Toms year 12*

'I found it very useful and interesting. It was nice to chat to the current students and hear about the interview and application process' *Beau Waycott year 12*

'The Oxford Aspire trip was beneficial on so 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 and soak up the atmosphere' *Natasha Dettlaff year 12*

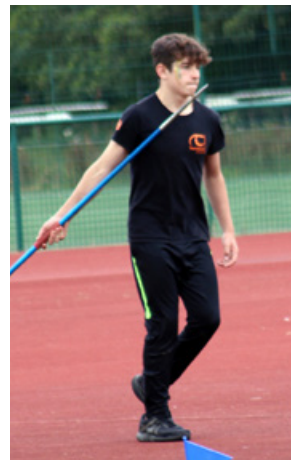
'This has made me want to come back and experience Oxford in more depth' *Niamh Iles year 10*

'I loved all the history and tradition' *Elysia Huxham year 10*



All of us who went on the Oxford University Aspire trip would like to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Trustees of Tavistock College who largely funded this trip enabling the 25 students to enjoy an inspiring and life-enriching experience which will surely encourage us to apply to Oxbridge. Without their benevolent support this trip would not have been possible.

*Mr Chambers*



## Sports Day 2019



The 2019 sports day took place last week and proved another great sporting success. With lots of new college records set and more pupils than ever wanting to represent their college house. Athletics has been a growing strength locally and this has filtered into the college with success at local championships and many athletes part of the local athletics club. Bedford were the overall winners on the day after all 120 events across track and field.

1st - Bedford - 347 points  
2nd - Tremayne - 311 points  
3rd - Drake - 306 points  
4th - Glanville - 239 points  
5th - Fitzford - 188 points



New records were set in the following events by these talented athletes.

Tyler Bonnet - 100m - 13.09s  
Tremayne boys - 4x100m relay - 58.25s  
Drake girls - 4x100m relay - 1.02.12s  
Isobelle Boule - high jump - 1.40m  
Phoebe Milburn - Javelin - 18.90m  
Phoebe Milburn - Shot put - 7.25m  
Nick Maczugoski - high jump - 1.40m  
Dylan Taylor - javelin - 26.25m  
Nick Maczugoski - triple jump - 9.75m (Previous record stood since 2005)  
Dan Holman - Shot put - 10.30m  
Will White - 800m - 2m17s  
Will White - 200m - 26.23  
Drake boys - 4x100m relay - 56.19s

Emma Luckham - 800m - 2m44.53s (previous record stood since 2008)  
Ewan Dix - 1500m - 4m49s  
Charlotte Walker - triple jump - 8.64m  
Josh Cook - 200m - 24.22s  
Josh Cook - 400m - 56.94s  
Ruby Stacey - 60m hurdles - 11.15s  
Ruby Stacey - high jump - 1.50m  
Tyler Hunt - triple jump - 11.23m  
Nathan Prout - javelin - 32.26m (beating his older brothers record by 2 metres)

Congratulations to all on the day!  
*Mr Corkell*



Individual houses did perform well on each year group with Bedford not making a clean sweep. Instead Glanville were top in year 7, Tremayne in years 8 and 10, with Bedford in year 9. Onto the individual athletes who set new records alongside the pupils who were taking part and setting new personal bests while collecting valuable points for their houses. This balance of inclusive sport and elite sport is what makes sports day so special.



# Devon Ability Games

On 4 July I had the pleasure of attending the Devon Ability Games at Marjon. Jointly organised between PE (Rhona Doyle) and SEND (Julie Edwards), twelve SEND students and eleven sports leaders truly showed me the meaning of our cooperative ethos. Supported by Tamsin Flemming, Sam Biggs, Lucy Barrett-Love and Sylvia Preece our students were able to participate and compete in a wide range of sports including Participating 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.

Team Tavi brought home the Gold Medal for Table Cricket and the Silver in New Age Curling. However, students received medals not just for sporting success but the values that they embodied within their teams and the event as a whole.

Paige Seagar won a medal/award for her passion and Zoe Stephenson won two medals/awards for her self belief and respect. A huge thank you to the students and staff for making this event happen. I am always so proud of what our students achieve. We look forward to the DMAT Ability Games in September. *Mrs Baring*



## Rosie Andrews

### 4th place in national competition

Last weekend Tavistock College students, Rosie Andrews, competed in the final round of the National MTB Cross Country series near Norwich. Here is what she had to say about the event.

"The circuit was mainly flat with a few short climbs and short descents which suited me very well. It was very hot, dry and dusty which made the race fast, and tough. I was gridded 8th and took a place on the front row. The start was fast but I managed to get into 3rd place and we left the main arena. I kept 3rd place for quite a bit of the race until I found my chance to take the lead. I maintained this for quite a while but lost the lead to the 2 girls sitting on my wheel. I was then back in 3rd place and was putting distance between me and 4th. At this point I was super confident that I was going to get my first podium. 2 laps went by and was starting my 3rd and final lap and I couldn't see 4th place anywhere, about half way round the last lap I started hearing some gear changes and some movement, I turned around to see 4th place right behind me! I started pushing hard but she was just sat on my wheel. There was an open straight towards the single track before the finish so if I wanted to get on the podium I had to attack now, and she must of had the same idea because we both sprinted but my legs were like lead and she managed to get in front of me, I stayed with her through the single track but as tiredness started to set in I started to drop off the pace and that's when I knew I wasn't catching her.

So I was happy to take 4th place which is my best result in a National EVER! Overall in the series I have finished in 5th place, which is great as the personal goal I set myself at the beginning of the year was to finish top 5.

Thank you to Tavistock College Benevolent fund, Tavistock College, DRD Sports and Social Club, Certini Bicycle Company and my dad."

## Year 10 Athletics Leaders

The year 10 PE leadership pathway did a fantastic job on Tuesday 2nd July with a primary school athletics event. They were responsible for planning their sessions, organising equipment, and delivering their sessions to 60 year 5 pupils from Tavistock Primary School. The leaders were confident, engaging, and received the highest praise from the staff from Tavistock Primary School. Well done to all involved. Miss Hodge



## Swimming Gala

Many thanks to our dedicated and hard working PE team for reinstating and reinvigorating the school swimming gala. Teams from all five houses competed in a thrilling afternoon of hard fought races at the Mount Kelly pool on Tuesday 9 July. Most notably, two long standing records were broken by Orla Maguire and Charlotte Walker who finished one race each in record time. The Y7 competition



was won by Bedford House, Y8 winners were Tremayne and the Y9 victors were also Tremayne. The house cup was awarded to Tremayne House. All students were a credit to themselves and their houses! Well done to all the competitors for a great event. Grateful thanks to the PE team, Mr Corkell for coordinating, Tavistock Swimming Club for helping to judge, Phil Harbottle for recording all the results and to Mount Kelly school for the use of their superb facilities.

# Tavistock

## COLLEGE

