



Welcome back after the half term holiday. I hope you all had a peaceful and restful break and that your child is fully charged and ready to tackle the next part of the Autumn Term. Over the next few weeks we will see our year 11 students sit their PPE exams. We recognise that this is a stressful time, but one that enables them to show us where they are in their learning and a chance for us to give them some formal feedback on their progress so far. It is also a chance for them to have a trial run on how it is going to feel next May. It was good to see so many parents attend the recent year group progress evening.

We have various trips taking place over the next few weeks. At present we have some years in Normandy participating in a History visit. Next week, some students in years 12 and 13 will be leaving for an art trip to Venice and then the week after we have a language visit to Japan taking place. These experiences alongside sporting and creative arts events help students understand the histories, hardships, highs and lows of countries, communities and individuals on a much wider scale, thus understanding new perspectives. We pride ourselves at Tavistock College in offering high quality experiences outside the classroom, which will ultimately support our students inside the classroom.

Another event taking place next week is our annual Remembrance service. This will involve all students in years 9 and 13 attending a service at St Eustachius church on Friday the 10th November. This is a significant event within our school year whereby students come together in an act of solidarity, in remembrance of those who lost their lives fighting for their country. Students in other year groups will also participate in understanding the reason why we remember them, as part of the tutor programme.

As ever, please check the diary element of the fortnightly focus as there is lots going on. *Mrs Stephens*



Key Dates

Year 12 & 13 N18 re-sits

4 – 8 November 2019

Governors Resources Meeting

Wednesday, 6 November

6:00 – 8:00pm - Conf Rm

Year 10 Parents/Carers Evening

Thursday, 7 November

3:45 – 6:45pm Main Hall / Refectory

Remembrance Service Year 9

Friday, 8 November

9:00am – 12:30pm - St Eustachius Church

Exams - Maths GCSE Paper 3 Resit

Monday, 11 November

12:30 – 3:00pm

Year 8 Options Evening

Tuesday, 12 November

4:30 – 7:30pm Hall and Language Block

Mr Ruse

Year 12 & 13 Parents/Carers Evening

Thursday, 21 November 3:45 – 6:45pm

Main Hall / Refectory

Careers Interface 360

This week saw the academy host its first Careers Interface 360 event, a mix between a traditional careers fair and speed dating. The event was designed to give students an opportunity to meet a variety of people from different businesses and industries and be able to find out more about the skills, qualifications and daily routines that feature in those jobs. What made this event very different was the fact it was aimed at year 8 and reflects the fact that the academy is now looking at careers education as an integral part of a students' curriculum for their entire time at school.

Nearly 20 different jobs and careers were represented at the event including construction, engineering, digital media, marine industries and healthcare services. In attracting a range of employers we paid attention to the local labour market characteristics so as well as having local businesses represented the key priority sectors identified by Plymouth City Council were also showcased. Thanks goes to all the employers and businesses who gladly gave up their time to make this event so successful.

Employers were impressed by the inquisitive nature of the students questions whilst student feedback was incredibly positive, remarking, how in the space of 1 hour they were able to meet so many different people and discover so much new information. I would like to thank Nigel Halford who acts as our College Enterprise Advisor who co-ordinated the event. His work behind the scenes has been invaluable in the last year and enabled us to really strengthen our careers education across the



curriculum and we are now in a position where we are working to a nationally recognised 'Investor in Careers' quality mark.

If any local businesses or employers are keen to work closely with the academy and assist with things such as our work experience programmes then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Ruse, Assistant Principal



Political Speed Dating

Tavistock College recently held another of its unique 'Political speed dating' events where a group of year 7 students were given the opportunity to meet and question a number of local councillors on a range of issues. The 'speed dating' format meant that the students were able to speak to 13 different local councillors, who in turn had to address a range of issues and topics at great speed in their responses. The year 7 students raised a number of important issues which were important to them at a local level. Environmental issues such as litter and the use of plastic, mental health amongst young people and how to make Tavistock a more inclusive town were topics that generated much discussion.

Abigail Wilcox in year 7 commented that "It was lovely to speak to people from the local council and to hear their opinions on our questions". Harley Ware, another year 7 student remarked that "Lots of local councillors came in to Tavistock College to Speak to us about their point of view. I felt that I was listened to and it was interesting to hear their opinions on the issues we raised".



It was really interesting to hear the issues raised by our students. There was a real buzz throughout the event and the conversation never seemed to stall. Whilst this event focused on issues of a local nature it also demonstrated how our young people are becoming increasingly politically engaged with the world around them. Councillor Neil Jory, Leader of West Devon Borough Council said "It's always a pleasure to engage with the fabulous young people at the College" whilst Councillor Lesley Crawford exclaimed "it was a pleasure to see young people engaging so well with

political issues". Already, the college is looking at how to further develop some of this community awareness amongst our student body. An increased environmental focus within the college in terms of litter and recycling and some student involvement with the 'Tidy Tavi' initiative appear to be the next steps generated from this fantastic event.

Sarah Jones, Principal of Tavistock College said "I am grateful to the councillors for giving their time to allow the students to express their views and engage in political debate. This is not an opportunity available everywhere and is yet another example of the community spirit that makes Tavistock such a positive town"



Royal Marines, Look at Life course October 2019



An invitation from the Royal Marines for our students to visit their Commando Training Centre at Lympstone provided a great opportunity for our 6th form students to look at life in the Royal Marines. A series of practical activities delivered throughout the week, by Royal Marine instructors, allowed the students to take part in many aspects of the Potential Royal Marines Course (PRMC).

Activities included: endurance course, assault course, running/fitness testing, swimming and water based activities, camouflage/concealment and fieldcraft exercises during this very tough but successful week.

Training in the Royal Marine environment meant a very physically demanding week for the students and four meals per day were provided to give them the 4000+ calories that new recruits to the service need in order to maintain the energy



levels!

Supporting the physical aspects of the week were some excellent lessons in communication, teamwork and many of the necessary skills to be successful in the services environment.

With the Royal Marines now open to female applicants, our mixed gender cohort meant that some of our students would be among the very first females to access parts of the PRMC.

Our links with Armed Forces Careers (Plymouth) continue to develop and thanks to this opportunity from the Royal Marines, our students have again accessed careers information and guidance of the highest quality. *Mr Hosking.*

'And The Crowd Goes Wild'

Heritage Project involving male students from Tavistock College

This week Performing Arts students and ex students had the opportunity to experience being voice over artists for a heritage project. We were approached by artist Laura Hopes in search of young male voices who could bring to life the testimonies of young men in a Young Offenders Institute, as their voices are prohibited from being recorded for legal reasons, for an installation art project. The project aims to 'celebrate the value of sport and physical activity revealing the (largely) hidden histories of this idea through research at one particular institution - Portland Stadium Bowl'. Laura interviewed many young offenders about their lives, physical activity and specifically football, and their verbatim text was used by sixth formers Joseph Crosher, Ashton Jones, Zachariah Richards and form Performing Arts students Archie Allen and Caleb Prouse. As the Performing Arts technician Caleb also provided all the technical support for the voice overs. The performers were commended by Laura for their professional approach to the work and their vocal skills and are looking forward to seeing the final product. The project 'And The Crowd Goes Wild' will be shared with local schools, libraries, local history groups, and most importantly, inside the YOI. Screenings of the film will also be included within B-side's 2020 festival programme on Portland.

Information from the artist

And the Crowd Goes Wild – Portland Stadium Bowl Heritage Project

This heritage project will celebrate the value of sport and physical activity and explore the concept of reform, revealing the (largely) hidden histories of this idea through research at one particular institution.

The majestic site, usually closed to the public, is monumental and surprising in its scale, and through it we are made aware of its industrial past, as the quarry whose stone built the Borstal itself and the surrounding village, the attendant histories of prisoners of war in the quarry's initial stages. Its transformation by the Borstal boys into the stadium, under the direction of the PT instructor, Burt Bridges is shown in the beautiful archive photography held at the Grove Prison Museum, depicting Sports Day events for 'the boys', and the gleaming white Portland stone a backdrop for the carefully levelled terraces, pitches and pavilion. In the publication and film work, Laura plans to share the collections of objects, images and documents in the museum's archive and the opening up of the site during the festival period to the general public. Football kits, team photos, boots, banners and balls are just some of the artefacts held in the museum, and each becomes a sort of touchstone revealing the histories and memories entangled with the stadium, and the histories of people and communities which have accrued around the site, YOI officers and their families, kids who snuck onto the pitch to furtively play football, those inside the YOI now denied access to the stadium.

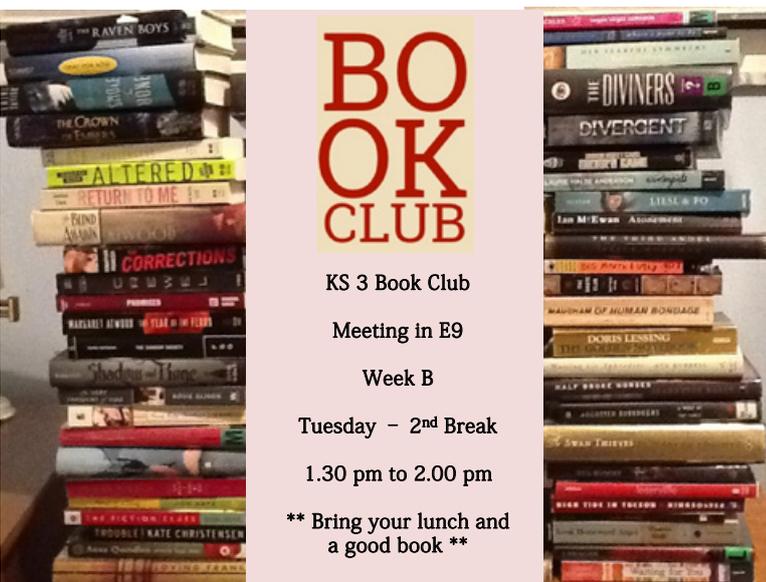
Through collecting oral histories, the totemic power of these artefacts can be transferred into powerful stories and memories that activate this site permanently and can be disseminated more widely through the communities than merely opening the site for a week can. The action that pushes the gate ajar, the publication and film then wedge open.

Following the collation and editing period for the publication and film, Laura will share the results with local schools, libraries, local history groups, and most importantly, inside the YOI. Screenings of the film will also be included within B-side's 2020 festival programme on Portland

Year 7 Performing Arts student success!



This is Year 7 student Oli Houlberg who after a tough round of auditions will be performing as one of the regional cast in *Nativity The Musical* at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth! We are very excited to have Oli in the Faculty!
Mrs Pearson



BOOK CLUB

KS 3 Book Club

Meeting in E9

Week B

Tuesday – 2nd Break

1.30 pm to 2.00 pm

**** Bring your lunch and a good book ****

Tavistock

COLLEGE

