



Issue 8 (wk 11/5/2020)

Welcome to the latest issue of the weekly newsletter that aims to keep our communication lines open between home and college.

I hope you and your families were able to enjoy the sunshine over the Bank Holiday weekend. The commemorations across the country marking the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day were poignant and allowed us all to reflect on the sacrifices made by the generations before us.

At the weekend Boris Johnson broadcast his road map to the nation about how this period of lockdown may change in the weeks and months ahead. Schools have received updates and further detail on a daily basis since. **From 1 June 2020**, the government expects that secondary schools and colleges will be able to offer **some face to face contact with year 10 and year 12 pupils**. This will not be a return to full timetables or pupils back in school or college full time, rather some support to supplement pupils' remote education. In line with implementing protective measures and reducing contact, schools and colleges should limit the attendance of the year 10 and 12 cohort in the setting at any one time and to keep students in small groups at all times. These two year groups have been prioritised because they are preparing for key examinations next year, and are most at risk of falling behind due to time out of school or college.

Tavistock College will continue to offer places for vulnerable children and those of key workers. We will provide finalised information and details on the website and in other formal communications so that you will know exactly when Tavistock College will be able to once again offer a place for your children.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Phil Ruse

Assistant Principal

GCSE Pod

GCSE Pod is one of the many online tools that we have seen benefit our students in recent years. It has become even more relevant in recent times due to its ease, accessibility and the benefits it offers to GCSE students in their independent learning.

A series of free webinars are being offered as an introduction to parents. Full details as follows:

PARENT WEBINAR - Introduction to GCSEPod

May 13th	17:00:00	https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UlwWCH1NR6mA-pv_HyZgSg
May 15th	12:30:00	https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D8c9SAfgQHyW2hBHxpMV0A

Quick reminders:

- Attendees don't need a microphone. Just headphones or speakers.
- Webinars work on tablets as well as computers.
- Joining instructions will be sent via email following registration.

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Message for Y11 Joining Tavistock College Sixth Form

It is great to see that so many of you have joined the Google classroom set up to easily give updates and information about joining Tavistock College Sixth Form in September 2020. Access can be gained via this link:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/OTI1NTY2MTg3ODha>

and entering class code: pxrkp7x

Please ensure you engage with the induction booklet and pre course tasks as outlined through the link below. This research and work will be crucial in ensuring that you are starting on the right courses for you and that you have a full appreciation of the course content before you start.

<http://www.tavistockcollege.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Sixth-Form-Induction-2020-2021-Booklet.pdf>

Any specific queries regarding the Sixth Form should be directed to Mr Galli; t.galli@tavistockcollege.org

Message for Y11 Students

Back in year 8 we had some wonderful people in from the Devon air ambulance to talk to the year group about the work of the air ambulance service. Unfortunately, despite desperate pleas from me they were unable to bring their helicopter, however this did not detract from us all understanding the vital work they undertake.

However, a brave member of the year group, Ellie Roper, is addressing the issue of being involved with air born machinery as she takes to the skies to perform a skydive on behalf of the Devon air Ambulance (DAA) Please read her explanation below and if you feel able to support her that would be fantastic.

I know you are all being fantastic and looking after the family around you. Keep observing social distancing as the government allows us a bit more freedom. Stick to the rules and stay safe, ready for the next stage of your education or training careers. Many of you are finding support from teachers here and from Careers South west, please do keep emailing me if you need support or information about how you are going forward for next year.

Take Care

Mrs Greener

Charity Skydive

Prior to lockdown and school closures, one of our students, Ellie Roper, had arranged a Non Uniform Day to help her fundraising to support the Devon Ambulance. Here is her message:

My skydive is for Devon Air Ambulance. Even during these times, their paramedics are still working, although their helicopters have been grounded they're still working with other services, mainly the new Nightingale hospital in Exeter. Babcock in Plymouth are currently working on a protective screen to have between the paramedics + patients and the pilot so their aircrafts can get up and running again. During these times like every other business/charity they need our help. I want to raise as much money as possible for the Air Ambulance especially during these times. Any donations, big or small would be a massive help. Thank you

Ellie

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ellie-roper2>

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Quality in Careers Standard

The leadership team and governing body are delighted to announce that Tavistock College is currently working towards the Quality in Careers Standard award, through Investors in Careers. We aim to achieve this award by Spring 2021.

Our aim is to provide an outstanding careers education programme which really enhances the wider education of all our students. We strive for the highest standards of excellence so that our students leave Tavistock College with the qualifications and grades they need to access the next step in their lives, and the personal skills and experiences which allow them to make the most of these future opportunities.

Tavistock College already scores well above the national averages in all 8 aspects of the Gatsby Benchmarks, an international 'gold standard' in careers education for young people. Aspects such as our work experience programme in Y10 and Y12 and the individual advice and guidance students receive at pivotal transition points at college are well established. However we recognise there is still much work to do to ensure our curriculum interleaves careers education opportunities at appropriate times and that all individuals can benefit from the right input and opportunities that really trigger a desire to pursue their individual, future career path.

Further details can be found via the college website: <http://www.tavistockcollege.org/learning/careers/>

I am always delighted to hear from parents, carers or local businesses who would like to get involved in supporting the careers education of our students, whether that be through our work experience programmes, work shadowing opportunities, workshops or mock interviews. Do get in touch if this is of interest to you: p.ruse@tavistockcollege.org

1 A STABLE CAREERS PROGRAMME	2 LEARNING FROM CAREER AND LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION	3 ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EACH PUPIL	4 LINKING CURRICULUM LEARNING TO CAREERS
5 ENCOUNTERS WITH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES	6 EXPERIENCES OF WORKPLACES	7 ENCOUNTERS WITH FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION	8 PERSONAL GUIDANCE



School Games Active Championships

The School Games Active Championships is a national activity campaign to help young people across the UK to #StayInWorkOut using the video-based platform powered by TopYa!. New challenges will be available every Monday, Wednesday and Friday to engage with.

Primary and secondary-aged children can join the School Games Active Championships at any time with **free** active challenges being set via videos within a designated School Games version of the TopYa! Active app. All they need to do is download the app, register as a player and type in the **Invite Code 23880**.

Children practise the challenges, then submit their best video using a mobile device to receive personal coaching feedback from the TopYa! team of experienced virtual coaches. Points are earned for each video submitted, leading to climbing leaderboards and winning prizes!

The TopYa! Active app is committed to online safety and meets rigorous COPPA and GDPR safeguarding standards. No one can communicate within the app. All children can do to communicate with one another is give each other a virtual 'high-five', which functions like a social media 'like'.

Video content is suitable for young people of all ages and abilities, with regular submissions from National Governing Bodies of Sport.

How do I get involved?

Children:

1. Download the TopYa! Active app from the App Store or Google Play
2. Create your Player (child) account
3. When prompted to enter an Invite Code enter **23880** and then choose Primary or Secondary School League based on which type of school you attend

If you are under 13 years old, ask your parent or guardian set up the TopYa! Active account first, and then create player (child) accounts afterwards.

Parents:

Create your own account, and then create your young person's account(s). Skip the invite process and simply tell them their username or let them use your device to submit challenges. (They need your permission to use the app if they are younger than 13). All activity on the app is COPPA and GDPR compliant, providing a safe online space for children to complete skill challenges, upload videos and get thoughtful virtual coaching feedback. Follow these steps:

1. Download the TopYa! Active app from the App Store or Google Play
2. Create your Parent account
3. When prompted to enter an Invite Code enter **23880** and then choose Primary or Secondary School League based on which type of school your child attends
4. Then create your kid(s) account(s)
5. Let them work on the activities on their own device or film and upload videos from your device on their behalf!



Outstanding Ballet Results

Before Lockdown commenced a number of our students undertook their Royal Academy of Dance Classical Ballet examinations. As the results below show the standard achieved by these students is fantastic and testimony to the hard work and commitment they have shown. It also showcases the time and expertise provided by Suzanne Bergonzini through her SJS Dance Academy.

Emilia Bevan Grade 4 High Merit

Emilia Barrett Grade 6 High Merit

Caitlin Turner Grade 6 Distinction

Isabel Hiscocks Grade 7 Distinction

Tess Phelpstead Grade 7 Distinction

Amelia Harrison Grade 8 Award High Merit

Message from Tavistock Library

I am writing on behalf of Tavistock Library to tell you about some of the ways we can help you to support your students and their families during the current lockdown situation.

Our online resources

We have a range of free resources that all library members can access online:

- Download and stream free eBooks, eAudioBooks and eMagazines, with more than 3,500 titles on [Overdrive](#) (eBooks and eAudiobooks), and 1,000 unlimited use eAudiobooks through [RB Digital Devon](#)
- A selection of eMagazines are available on [RB Digital Devon](#)
- A range of eAudiobooks via [BorrowBox](#)
- Online reference resources at [Devon Libraries](#) including AncestryUK, Oxford dictionaries and Naxos music
- Online content and live streaming events via social media. Check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TavistockLibrary/> for more information

Hay Literary Festival

The Hay Literary Festival has gone digital this year and it's free. They are also running an exciting schools programme which we are going to promote to KS3 English classes. Each KS 3 year group will focus on one of the festival's featured Young Adult authors and home learning activities will be based around that genre or book, with some fun activities and competitions too. Authors taking part include Michelle Paver (Wolfbrother); Cressida Cowell (How to Train your Dragon); Onjali Q Rauf (The Boy at the Back of the Class) & Liz Pichon (Tom Gates). All resources will be posted on Class Charts. The main programme also features top writers and influencers speaking on a range of topics from Shakespeare to Science. Something for the whole family. Adults can register for events at the main website - www.hayfestival.com (#ImagineTheWorld).

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2019-20: The Year in Review

It doesn't seem right to produce a school newsletter without any reports or articles about the very people that make the school what it is, our wonderful students. Clearly there is not much to report at the present time so what better opportunity than to use these weekly editions to reminisce about fantastic trips, sporting events, school productions and student achievements that have taken place during the first two terms this academic year.

This week we look back on an event from November 2019 which saw a number of students participate in the Japanese exchange. This bi-annual visit to Tokyo and our partner school provides an amazing opportunity for our students to experience a different culture, whilst staying with host families really helps them to further develop their mastery of the spoken Japanese language.

2019 Japanese Exchange



The College educational and cultural exchange trip to Tokyo continues to make a strong and lasting impression on all the students who participate. This year eighteen students from years 10,11 and 12 stayed with host families in Edogawa ward on the east side of Tokyo where they were warmly welcomed by Mayor Saito. He praised the level of Japanese of our students and talked about how the relationship has deepened between Tavistock and Edogawa now that over 330 pupils from Tavistock College have been to Tokyo since the exchange programme first started in 1999. As well as visiting the iconic



sights of Tokyo including Meiji Jingu Shrine, Harajuku, Asakusa, Shibuya and the Daibutsu (Great Buddha) in Kamakura. The students spent a few days in Japanese schools taking part in a variety of lessons at Hirai Primary School, Ninoue Junior High School and Tamagawa Seigakuin Senior High School. They enjoyed the opportunity to play the traditional Japanese harp (koto), calligraphy lessons and the taiko drum demonstration. Students were struck by the fact that Japanese students change into indoor shoes when they enter school and clean the school thoroughly at the end of each school day. They were also surprised by how crowded the trains were! Throughout our stay the Japanese schools, families and officials from Edogawa ward looked after us wonderfully. We will have the chance to reciprocate when the Japanese contingent visit us in March 2020.
Chambers sensei



Quotes from the Students

"My host family was so kind and looked after me really well." Avie Venner

"I enjoyed visiting the host schools and joining in the different cultural activities" Oliver Crosher

"Visiting the different shrines and temples showed how amazing the culture is" Niamh Iles

"Tokyo is an amazing place and I was delighted the student I hosted in

March came to spend the day with us in Harajuku and Asakusa." Tess Phelpstead

"The trains were incredibly crowded but you soon get used to it." Elliot Langdon

"My host family took me up the famous Sky Tree which was fantastic with incredible views of Tokyo". Joseph Crosher





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