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Welcome to the latest issue of the fortnightly newsletter that aims to keep our communication lines open between home and college. This fortnightly newsletter will be around academic support and will dovetail with the Principal's fortnightly focus.



Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

I want to share the importance of teamwork. Research shows that high performing teams are more successful. They have specialist skills, are goal-oriented and achieve clear, outstanding results. Together they collaborate and innovate to produce work at the highest levels. This is a big focus at Tavistock College and one I am privileged to be part of. We have a strong sense of solidarity, with expert teachers in the classroom modelling and explaining concepts, having high aspirations for each student.

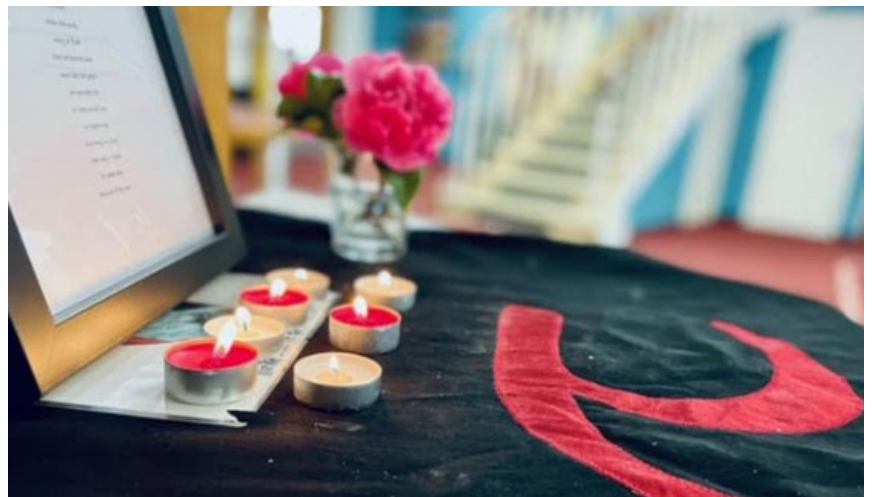
We have an outstanding pastoral support team driven by HoY running down to tutors. They are role models for social responsibility and caring for others. This support includes the invaluable work of our internal mentors. They listen, give advice, motivate, deregulate and demonstrate social and life skills to enable students to cope with different situations. This builds resilience, independence, self help and self responsibility. These are essential qualities in life.

It is important that students make good choices in life and at college. This could include targets for subjects, a revision timetable or friendship groups. We are a family at Tavistock College with an outstanding community behind us. We all work towards the same goals gathering advice and learning as we go. The relational policy has had lasting impact since it's introduction on the 8th March. We seek to create safe environments for all members of the community, because strong relationships are cornerstones of our ethos and operating procedure. Relationships are at the heart of education. To support the growth and support we are looking to evaluate the use of RTL and move towards a "learning recovery" centre where students are triaged and given support such as core skills, resilience and learning strategies to reintegrate them back into their lessons.

Finally we reflected together as a college on the year since the first national lockdown. We look forward to a brighter future together. The college paused to reflect on the grief and loss that continues to be felt by so many people and families, and pay tribute to the immeasurable service of those who have supported us all over the last year.

I hope you all have a lovely Easter break and enjoy time as a family. I hope you all have a well rested break and we look forward to seeing you on the 19th April.

James Stroud
Assistant Principal



Help shape the future of our Education System

The Foundation for Education Development (FED) is dedicated to promoting a long-term vision and plan for education in England, and is launching their National Consultation Report at the end of April 2021. More information is available on their website [here](#). As part of this consultation report the FED have launched a short survey which we would like to encourage staff, parents, and students to complete. Their plan is to capture '100,000 Voices' in the next 3 weeks from across the education spectrum. Please see the message below:

Do you want to help shape the future of our Education System? Please take 60 seconds to answer these simple questions and support The Foundation for Education Development

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EducationSystem>

or go straight to our website [Fed Education – Foundation for education development](#).

Lateral Flow Testing over the holiday

Thank you for your support with the lateral flow testing (LFT) of your son/daughter at home. The most recent Department for Education advice is;

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school and college, it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term.

- test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)
- report results [online](#) as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school or college for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases

Students will be provided with the appropriate number of testing kits from school on Thursday 1st April. If for any reason your son/daughter will not be in school at this time please speak to their Head of Year to arrange collections of testing kits.

The college has been asked to continue to support track and trace with identifying pupils who might have come into direct contact with a confirmed positive case throughout the first 6 days of the Easter holidays. Therefore, if your son/daughter returns a positive LFT or shows any symptoms, they need to book a PCR test and isolate until the result. If the result of the PCR test is positive can you please notify the school by emailing office@tavistockcollege.org

Supporting young people through Challenging times.

We are really excited to be offering free opportunities for Parents and Carers in South Devon to join three online sessions to enable them to enhance their support of young people through Challenging times.

South Devon and Dartmoor CSP have commissioned Safety and Resilience Consultancy to lead three sessions which follow on from the excellent toolkit which was developed for families. Sessions start on Tuesday 13th April and will offer an opportunity to explore and navigate the challenges parents/carers and young people are facing with the threat of gangs, exploitation, and social expectations in 2021. As a CSP we see families as an equal partner in keeping the children in our communities safe. The power of parents has been made very clear through our previous work with Parents Support Groups. This opportunity is preventative so it is relevant for all families. This isn't a parenting course, it is an opportunity to raise awareness whilst empowering parents to be able to support their children. It will offer an understanding of the reality of the challenges our young people face in these changing times. The sessions are really aimed at parents and carers of secondary age children.

Anybody joining can keep their cameras off and microphones on mute if they want, but there will also be opportunities to get involved in the discussions if they choose to.

We see this very much as a pilot project and hope that as parents and carers are more used to engaging with schools online etc that they will give this a go! If effective we would look to find ways to deliver across more areas of Devon.

If you have any questions about the sessions please contact Chloe and Emma at Safety and Resilience Consultancy safetyandresilienceconsultancy@gmail.com

Rebecca Hewitt

Community Safety and Safeguarding Manager

Changes to the Test and Trace support payment for parents

Parents and carers of children who have been advised to self-isolate by their education setting or by NHS Test and Trace are now able to apply for a [Test and Trace Support Payment](#) or discretionary payment of £500, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The extension of the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme, which is administered by district and unitary local authorities in England, ensures that parents receive the financial support they need if they are unable to attend work due to childcare responsibilities.

Parents and carers should apply to their local authority to receive a payment. Applications for the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme are made via the local authority in which the parent or carer resides, not the local authority where the setting is situated, if these are different.

To be eligible applicants must meet all of the criteria that:

- they are the parent or guardian of a child or young person in the same household and need to take time off work to care for them while they self-isolate. This is limited to one parent or guardian per household for the child or young person's self-isolation period
- they are employed or self-employed
- they cannot work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and will lose income as a result
- they meet all the other means-tested eligibility criteria for a Test and Trace Support Payment or locally determined criteria for a discretionary payment
- That their child or young person:
 - is aged 15 or under (or 25 or under with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC)) and normally attends an education or childcare setting
 - has been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or by their education or childcare setting because they have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19)

Parents/carers should contact the school if they believe themselves to be eligible for this benefit by emailing office@tavistockcollege.org

Summer term cycling at Tavistock College.

Being physically active is a great way to improve fitness and maintain positive mental health.

'Cycle to school in summer term' is a program to encourage more cycling and to reward those students who cycle to school.

Every Tuesday and Thursday, throughout summer term, (excluding the last week) students who cycle to school will be offered a voucher to exchange for a bottle of water and a piece of fruit.

Vouchers must be collected from Mr Hosking (outside PE) between 0825 and 0835. Vouchers can be exchanged in the refectory at recess 1 or 2.

Please stay safe when cycling, choose a safe route, wear a helmet and check your bike regularly for faults.

First vouchers will be available on Tuesday 20th April.

Mr Hosking

Stay healthy during summer term...



FREE BOTTLE OF WATER & FRUIT!

- Cycle to school any **TUESDAY** or **THURSDAY**
- Free bottle of water/piece of fruit when you cycle to school on these days
- Starts Tuesday 20th April

Details from Mr Hosking

Ambassador Volunteer Project

We are currently recruiting new Ambassador Volunteers.

We hope that some of many of you will have already heard about Ambassador Volunteers. For those who are just hearing about us or want more information you will be able to find that on the DIAS website: <https://devonias.org.uk/about-us/the-ambassador-volunteer-project/>

An Ambassador Volunteer comes in many shapes or forms.

Fundamentally, we are looking for parent/carers at the right place in their life and SEND journey who have capacity to give a little back within their own community, doing what they are probably already doing. We are also looking for people who work closely with parent carers of children with SEND who feel they may be able to benefit from a closer connection with DiAS and the Parent Carer Forum Devon.

The AV project is looking for people who are already actively involved in some way in the community perhaps you attend a support group, or you lead or help run a support group for parents in a school or in your community, perhaps you are very active online, have you had positive experiences with schools or other services? This volunteering role could be perfect for you!

The basic aim for a volunteer is to be a link into their community cascading information from DiAS and the Parent Carer Forum Devon, feeding back through me to these organisations to ensure policy makers are listening to parent voices.

New Induction training for people interested in becoming an Ambassador Volunteer is now available. The training will be in three hour virtual sessions the sessions will run 10-1 with a short break. The session will be the first step in training to become an Ambassador Volunteer.

Wednesday 28th April 2021

Tuesday 11th May 2021

Monday 14th June 2021

If you are interested in the Induction training please complete the form through this [link](#) and we will be in touch with you shortly.

There are Ambassador Volunteers actively connected and supporting parent/carers of children with SEND across Devon. If you would like to get connected to their networks please get in touch with: Ambassador Volunteer Coordinator-megankenneallystone@devon.gov.uk and we can put you in touch with an Ambassador Volunteer network near you!

Running Challenge



Congratulations to Anna. Anna's latest running challenge has been completed, raising an amazing £200 for the MIND charity!

She is certainly enjoying her course and hopefully she will carry on with her running.

Family Support

Grants and funding

Financial support through West Devon Council welfare support fund. https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/grant-and-funding-support/#indiv_fam

Back To School After Lockdown

Tips From An NHS Psychologist
<https://www.mytutor.co.uk/blog/back-to-school-after-lockdown-tips-from-an-nhs-psychologist/>

Barnados

See Hear Respond by Barnados.
www.barnados.org.uk/see-hear-respond
A partnership to help children, young people and families cope with the Covid-19 crisis.

Free Solihull online courses

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

Link to the courses www.inourplace.co.uk
access code TAMAR.

Support for parents

www.parent-talk.org.uk/devon

Free training from DIAS

Aimed at parent/carers supporting their child with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/demystifying-send-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-tickets-127732273669>

If you would like to know more please email:
megan.kenneallystone@devon.gov.uk

Chat Health School Nurse

Text Messaging Service 07520631722
An anonymous, confidential text messaging advice service for 11-19 year olds that enables them to contact their school nursing team with questions.

The Alcohol Education Trust

www.talkaboutalcohol.com a range of really fun and engaging games and activities which help students to 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>

The police PREVENT Act Early campaign

Coronavirus helpline

To answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)
Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email:
DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Kooth online

Mental health and wellbeing support to farming families. Services are anonymous and can be booked ahead of time.
www.rabi.org.uk/kooth

Mind

The CoronaVirus (COVID-19) pandemic is affecting all our lives. Reliable resources and tips to help you cope during this time.
<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/>

Youth Intervention

Answering questions about law and Policing, this Instagram account @yourpolice.uk Guidance on rights, law and terminology, plus quite a lot of information on consent, healthy behaviours and behaviour change.

Early Help Resources

This is a really powerful set of videos about seeing parent conflict through the child's eyes. <https://www.seeitdifferently.org/>

Talk to a youth worker

A very simple on line form that young people can fill in - they will then get a call back within two working days. www.spacepsm.org

Balancing mental health and screentime with Yoga!

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/nhs-fitness-studio/yoga-with-lj/>

Hub of Hope

Hub of Hope is a website provided by Chasing the Stigma. The purpose of the website is to provide information about mental health issues. We have done this by creating a national mental health database which brings together organisations and charities who offer mental health advice and support, together in one place. <https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

How safe are Apps, Games and Websites?

If you type the name of the game/app/website into <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> it gives you a quick, easy to understand snapshot as to what the app is, how safe it is etc.

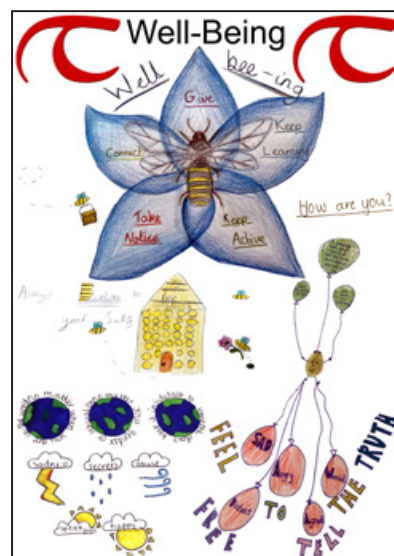
Holiday Activities and Meals

Please find below a link in relation to holiday activities and meals for children for your information.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/document/free-easter-holiday-activities-and-meals-for-children.>

Supporting Mental Health at Tavistock College

For more information please contact Mr Hosking.
n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org



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