



NEWSLETTER

No.798
w/c Mon 10th July 2023

“Lifelong learning is no longer a luxury but a necessity for employment.”

- Jay Samit

Dear Parents and Carers,

New Principal

You should have received a separate communication from the Chair of Governors informing you that following national advertisement and interview, Sara Jacobs has been appointed as Principal of Clyst Vale starting in January 2024. Ms Jacobs is, of course, currently Deputy Principal here at Clyst Vale, having joined us in 2019. Personally, I think this is great news. Not only has Ms Jacobs done a huge amount to improve the College’s curriculum and teaching & learning, which contributed significantly to our improving the Ofsted judgement, but she has played a much broader role as a senior leader. Also, by already being here, she knows and understands the values and ethos of Clyst Vale, and recognises that we are just a bit independent and different from many schools.

I remain in post until the end of December and will retain all the “official” and legal responsibilities of being Principal until then. However, this will allow a thorough handover period.

Strike Days—Thank You

Strike days are odd, and the impact on families varies enormously depending on individual circumstances. With a strike by one union, the impact on learning also varies enormously depending on whether or not a child’s teacher is on strike. So it is difficult to generalise. My non-striking colleagues provided remote learning and taught classes in school; some students will have had most of their lessons, some will not. We were fortunate that no big events were affected as reported in the media. On Wednesday Year 10 students were able to visit Exeter College to experience further education opportunities; this is an important part of our careers programme and valuable in helping students think ahead and gain focus. Unlike some schools, we continue to offer provision for children of critical workers and vulnerable students.

On the other hand, the strikes reflect both anger and concern in the education sector. It’s far from selfish teachers demanding more money; it is about the chronic underfunding and undervaluing of education. This affects all children in the UK, including yours. The underfunding is general; although special needs and post -16 sectors are particularly badly hit, and there is a desperate need for more capital funding. There is a recruitment crisis already with us nationally; even at Clyst Vale, an 11-18 school with a good reputation near a university city with good transport links, we have experienced difficulties.

Year 6 Transition Day

I am delighted to report that yesterday's Year 6 Transition Day went as well as expected. It is a very important day, of course, and helps students to familiarise themselves with the College, meet their tutor groups, and meet at least some of the key people. At the end of the afternoon assembly in a quick show of hands over 90% said that they felt happier and more confident than when they arrived a few hours before. There are many differences between Primary and Secondary, and students will have much to learn, but the first and most important thing is to feel confident, and the rest follows more easily. Thank you to all of my colleagues who were involved in the day, and a special mention to the Year 9 Ambassadors who were brilliant.

Careers Day

I mentioned this last week, but you will see a more detailed write-up and photos later in this Newsletter. Events like this contribute to our excellent reputation for careers education and guidance, but more importantly encourage students to reflect on their possible direction and we all know that having a goal or direction is motivating and an incentive to work harder.

Year 11 Prom

This went very well, although we still await the photos to prove it ! Thank you to Reed Hall for hosting; to Mrs Grant, Mrs Turner and Ms Prunty for all their organisation; to all of my colleagues who attended and helped and of course to parents and carers for all of your support and providing in many cases a much more elaborate taxi service than usual. A good time was had by all, and the evening was a fitting rite of passage for a lovely group of young people !

Thank You from UNICEF

I received a letter this week from UNICEF thanking us for our donation of £346.81, which was raised on the last non-uniform day. Thank you to all students (and parents) who contributed for your kindness.

Sports Day

One of the best days at Clyst Vale is the annual Sports Day and Festival on the Field, to be held next Wednesday. Some years I need to issue warnings about the heat, wearing hats and sunscreen, etc, but the forecast looks reasonable at 21 degrees. It is also talking about light showers, sunny intervals and a moderate breeze, but we'll see...

For students and parents new to the College, the basic details are as follows. Students arrive in PE kit and stay in it all day. All students will take part in something, whether it's tug of war or rounders. Students are advised to bring a big bottle of water. Food is on sale in Post-16, including a burger or sausage, but the range is a little less than usual. The day runs roughly as follows: inter-tutor events and athletics field events for most of the morning; lunch, and Festival on the Field; "traditional" athletics field events. The day ends with presentations and the announcement of which School has won.



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Staff Changes

Leaving today for a new post at Cullompton Community College is Mrs Emma Stephenson who has been Bridge Coordinator this year. Mrs Stephenson has established good relationships with students using the Bridge which is a challenging environment, and we wish her well.

Thank You to Our Invigilators

On Wednesday our Exams Team held a “thank you” tea party for the team of invigilators who supervised the summer exams. I was very annoyed I couldn’t attend and missed out on home made scones. More importantly, the “thank you” is well-deserved. We were worried about the amount of invigilation needed, and were very relieved that so many people stepped forward. Having external invigilators is an essential exam requirement, so we literally couldn’t have done it without them. We are always looking for recruits – if you are interested, or would do anything for a cream tea, please contact Exams Officer Amanda Kilby on kilbya@clystvale.org

Parking in Tower View

Please don’t. It’s a private road anyway, but even worse there has been some inconsiderate parking at the end of the day when doing the pick-up. I have received further complaints from some of the residents demanding that “the school” takes action. Legally-speaking, there’s not much I can do, but please, please, please can parents NOT park in Tower View. It might be convenient, but it’s causing problems for the residents, problems for me, and bad relations within the community.

T-Levels: from the Department of Education

Schools have received what is now an annual letter from the Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education asking us to bring T-levels to the attention of parents and students (especially in Years 10 and 11).

“T Levels are rigorous technical qualifications that enable 16–19 year olds to move onto a job, a higher apprenticeship or further study at university. T Levels have been designed with over 250 leading employers, so students can be confident that they will get the skills and knowledge that employers really want - and will be able to progress in their chosen career. All T Level students will complete a minimum of 45 days on an industry placement, spending at least 20% of the course getting on-the-job experience with a real employer. T Levels also attract UCAS tariff points in line with three A levels and over 130 higher education providers are currently accepting T Levels in their admissions criteria.

From September this year the following T Level subjects will be available:

Digital production, design and development

Digital business services

Digital support and services

Education and early years

Design and development for engineering and manufacturing



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Engineering, manufacturing, processing and control

Maintenance, installation and repair for engineering and manufacturing

Building services engineering for construction

Design, surveying and planning for construction

Onsite construction

Health

Science

Healthcare science

Management and administration

Finance

Accounting

Agriculture, Land Management and Production

Legal Services

Clear and helpful information about all post-16 choices, including T Levels, can be found by searching Get the Jump, a new content hub which has been created on the National Career Service website. There is also more detailed information on T Levels available at tlevels.gov.uk/students, including a search function where you can use your postcode to search for T Levels available in your area."

As seems to happen every year, the term is hurtling towards its end. Just one more turn of the timetable, but also significant events like Sports Day, Celebration Assemblies, the Annual Awards, departure of the Cambodia expedition, three year group trips to Woodlands, a Year 12 UCAS Day, Duke of Edinburgh Award Gold Expedition, not to mention work experience weeks for both Year 10 and Year 12. Thank you very much for keeping up with this and sending your children in every day dressed and equipped accordingly !

Best wishes,



Kevin Bawn



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Lady Seaward's CE Primary School Change of Age Range

Lady Seaward's in Clyst Honiton is within our catchment area and is a designated feeder school, so I am very pleased to pass on this consultation at their request.

"It is proposed to lower the age range of Lady Seaward's CE Primary School from 4 –11 years to 2 – 11 years of age with effect from 1st January 2024

Little Dragon's Pre School is an independently run, committee led Pre-School on the

school site with a capacity to take 20 children. The Pre School committee feel that they cannot sustain the increase in staff costs and have approached the school about merging the settings in order to best meet the needs of the children and the community.

If the proposal is approved, the main difference is that the pre-school will become a Nursery Class or part of a Foundation Stage Unit within the school. The children currently in the pre-school will be registered on the school roll. Parents will still need to make a separate application to Devon County Council for a place in the reception class.

The assets of the PreSchool will transfer to the School. The proposal will not affect the capacity of the School, nor the Planned Admission Number and will not put pressure on existing classroom space.

You can respond to the consultation by writing to: Mrs Michala Firth, Head of School, Lady Seaward's CE Primary School, Clyst St George, Exeter EX3 0RE or by emailing: admin@clyst-st-george.devon.sch.uk



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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



RED SCHOOL

7RDF

7RTM

8RBAT

8RHSP

9RSGA

9RZB

10RAO

10RMAH

11RER

11RGG

YELLOW SCHOOL

7YBH Fernando Pearce

7YGG -

8YMBR -

8YTZI -

9YPNE Lauren Shelton

9YSS -

10YDST -

10YSP -

11YMPR -

11YNS -

GREEN SCHOOL

7GLT Rose Mizielinska

7GMN Jess Woodger

8GCMC -

8GIM -

9GABr Alex Symons

9GDH Annie Glassco

10GAW Kadi Fofana

10GBA -

11GHE -

11GSW -

CALENDAR DATES

DATE	EVENT
Wednesday 12th July	Sports Day (13th July Reserve Sports Day) New Intake Parents' Evening
Week Commencing 17th July	Y10 & 12 Work Experience Woodlands Trips: Tues 18th—Y7 Weds 19th—Y9 Thurs 20th—Y8
Friday 21st July	LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM (Note Early finish 2pm)
Thursday 17th August	A & AS Level Results Day (9-11am)
Thursday 24th August	GCSE Results Day (9-11am)



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Supporting a Child with ADHD

2 hour online session



FACE Lead Facilitator, Jane Keyworth is delivering this session on 20th July 2023 as a one off talk from 6pm to 8pm
Book Now Online via
facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Clyst Vale and Libraries Unlimited's Book Sale

10th of July until the 21st.



Location; Clyst Vale library. To access – go through the main doors of Clyst Vale (reception,) then turn right and from there you will see the library entrance. Plenty of parking which always makes things that little bit easier. The book sale will be open to the public, **Mondays' 3.30-5.30pm, Wednesdays' 3.30-5.30pm and Thursdays 4-6pm**; these are the time that Libraries Unlimited operate also. We have a huge variety of stock to sell, a lot of adult books, so please, come in and stock up on books and if you wish join up with Libraries Unlimited too. All books will be priced at a 50p or a £1.



Year 10 Careers Day

On Thursday 29th June Year 10's had the opportunity to hear from a range of employers about the different roles and apprenticeship opportunities. The Navy gave an overview on what things the Navy does on a day to day basis, the different roles within the Navy and a team building exercise. Puffins Training (childcare) spoke about working with children, the apprenticeships you can do in childcare and the progression routes. Some students listened to a talk from the Army and the Ambulance Service getting more information on the different job roles in these services as well as being able to look at the equipment and sit in the ambulance vehicle. The day finished off with a talk from PGL training to give students more information on apprenticeships, how they work, how to find an apprenticeship and the type of questions an employer may ask them.



Clyst Vale Inter School Boys Touch Rugby World Cup 2023

Congratulations to all of the boys who participated in the annual Inter-School Rugby World Cup last week. This year it was related to the Rugby World Cup 2023 in France in September. The Touch Rugby version, the third of its kind at Clyst Vale, following versions in 2015 and 2019, respectively, is a 16-team tournament drawing of students across their School colour, in a vertical year format (Year 7-10).

The tournament kicked off on Monday lunchtime, with the group games culminating in style on Tuesday. The kick out stages took place on Wednesday and Thursday with the spectacle finale on Friday.

Congratulations must go to Yellow School, who completed a 1,2 and 3 finish at the top of the tree, with France taking home the spoils with a 3 try to 1 victory over their Fiji-an counterparts, also of Yellow School. In the Bronze medal final, Yellow School's Australia edged out Green School's New Zealand to seal the Yellow School domination of the Boy's tournament this year.

Throughout each lunchtime, the games illustrated a high amount of skill, footwork and athleticism, along with an outstanding level of cooperation, teamwork and respect for one another, so well done to all involved. A massive thank you must go to the staff which helped officiate across the week, including the PE department, Dr Turl, Ms Watt, Mr Gardiner, Mr Jones and of course, Mr Hill, our guest of honour for the final.

The girls have their turn this week, with the Strike days pushing the final on to Monday 10 July at lunchtime.



The Boys Results are as follows:

Monday 26 June:

Group A: 1.40pm

Pitch 1: New Zealand 6 v 4 France

Pitch 2: Namibia 4 v 10 Italy

Group B: 1.40pm:

Pitch 3: South Africa 1 v 3 Scotland

Pitch 4: Tonga 7 v 1 Ireland

Group C: 1.40pm:

Pitch 5: Portugal 0 v 13 Australia

Pitch 6: Wales 0 v 5 Fiji

Group D: 1.40pm:

Pitch 7: Argentina 5 v 0 England

Pitch 8: Samoa 4 v 1 Japan

Tuesday 27 June:

Group A: 1.40pm:

Pitch 1: New Zealand 5 v 0 Namibia

Pitch 2: France 5 v 3 Italy

1.55pm:

Pitch 1: New Zealand 4 v 4 Italy

Pitch 2: France 5 v 0 Namibia

Group B: 1.40pm:

Pitch 3: South Africa 1 v 4 Tonga

Pitch 4: Scotland 5 v 2 Ireland

1.55pm

Pitch 3: South Africa 5 v 0 Ireland

Pitch 4: Scotland 2 v 6 Tonga

Group C:

1.40pm:

Pitch 5: Portugal 0 v 5 Wales

Pitch 6: Australia 2 v 1 Fiji

1.55pm:

Pitch 5: Portugal 0 v 5 Fiji

Pitch 6: Australia 7 v 4 Wales

Group D:

1.40pm:

Pitch 7: Argentina 1 v 3 Samoa

Pitch 8: England 3 v 1 Japan

1.55pm:

Pitch 7: Argentina 2 v 3 Japan

Pitch 8: England 3 v 3 Samoa

Wednesday 28 June

Quarter Final 1:

1.40pm:

Pitch 1: New Zealand 2 (Green) v 1 Scotland (Yellow)

Quarter Final 2:

1.40pm:

Pitch 2: Tonga (Red) 3 v 4 France (Yellow)

Quarter Final 3:

1.40pm:

Pitch 3: Australia (Yellow) 5 v 2 Argentina (Green)

Quarter Final 4:

1.40pm:

Pitch 4: Samoa (Red) 5 v 7 Fiji (Yellow)

Thursday 29 June:

Semi Final 1:

1.40pm

Pitch 1: New Zealand (Green) 4 v 5 France (Yellow)

Semi Final 2:

1.40pm

Pitch 2: Australia (Yellow) 1 v 4 Fiji (Yellow)

Friday 30 June

Bronze Final:

1.40pm

Pitch 1: New Zealand (Green) 3 v 4 Australia (Yellow)

Final:

1.55pm

Pitch 1: France (Yellow) 3 v 1 Fiji (Yellow)

Quora

Quora should only be accessed by users that are 13+. Quora is a question-and-answer site. You do need to set up an account to see and post replies.

Due to the nature of the site, users can communicate with strangers, either through the Q&A boards, spaces or via private messages. Private messaging can be turned off in settings and users can block other users.

Quora is a platform where users can post publicly. If your child is using this site, then please ensure your child understands that they should not share personal information. As content is user generated, talk to your child about how information they read online may not be factually correct. Your child may also come across content and topics that are not age appropriate.

You can find out more about the safety and security of Quora here: <https://help.quora.com/hc/en-us/sections/115001205786-Safety-Security>

Reporting to Social Media Sites

CEOP provide an overview of how to contact several different social media sites: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Reporting-to-social-media-sites->

Grand Theft Auto (GTA)

Rockstar have announced they are working on Grand Theft Auto 6 (although no release date has been confirmed yet), so this is just a reminder that GTA is rated 18+ by PEGI, largely because of bad language, violence, glamourisation of crime and the depiction of drugs. **GTA is not suitable for those under this age.**



Grand Theft Auto can be played across a range of devices, such as Xbox and PlayStation.

Grand Theft Auto Online is a multi-player version of the game and is included with Grand Theft Auto 5. Players can play this version alone, or they can invite players to a game, or be involved in games with random players. The settings can be changed so you only play with those on your approved friends list.

What do I need to be aware of?

- Mature content – the content is unsuitable for children
- In game chat (although this can be disabled and other players can be muted (depending on the device and version)).
- In game spending

It is important to talk to your child regularly about what they are playing and to discuss with them why some games are just not appropriate for them to play and the importance of checking age ratings.

What can they play instead?

You can use this database to search for games based on your child's age: <https://www.taminggaming.com/cgi-bin/taminggaming.cgi>

What is misogyny? Prevent and tackle hate online against girls.

Internet Matters have created this area on their website exploring misogyny, highlighting where children might see it online and discussing how we can tackle misogyny:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/online-hate/what-is-misogyny/>

Online Challenges

Our children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse all situations yet so it is important to talk to your child about hoaxes and challenges that may appear on the internet. Some challenges are fun and provide no risk, however there will be challenges that are risky/dangerous. Your child may see others complete certain challenges online without



being harmed and therefore may want to repeat them **and not consider the potential risks to themselves**. Make sure they know that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) about what they see online, particularly if they plan to try a challenge or if something scares or upsets them.

We would always advise that if your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense. Reassure your child that challenges that suggest that bad things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:
<https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/advice-for-parents/tackling-the-hard-stuff-on-social-media-to-support-young-people/online-challenges-are-they-harmless/>

TikTok have also produced this resource to help you talk to your child about challenges and the potential risks:
<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-sg/online-challenges/>

Sextortion

Sextortion is a form of blackmail; it occurs when somebody threatens to publish a sexual image/video of them unless they do what the blackmailer says (usually send money). The blackmailer may have originally tricked the person into sharing a sexual image or the image may have been obtained without the victim's knowledge or consent. Unfortunately, teenagers have been the victims of sextortion, so it is important to chat to your child about this topic. We understand that it can be difficult to approach such conversations but 'Thorn for Parents' have created conversation starters as well as a script to help you to start the conversation:
<https://parents.thorn.org/guides/sextortion/>

Where to get help

The Metropolitan police detail more information about what sextortion is, what to do if you are targeted and how to report it:
<https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sexual-offences/sextortion/>

Vinted scams

Have you used Vinted to buy and sell used clothes? Please be aware of potential scams. Vinted have published an article highlighting how scammers might target Vinted users and how you can protect yourself. You can read the full article here:

<https://www.vinted.co.uk/help/628-recognise-spoof-and-phishing-messages>

Take It Down

Take It Down is a service for people who have images or videos of themselves nude, partially nude, or in sexually explicit situations taken when they were under the age of 18 that they believe have been or will be shared online.

This service will help you to have the image taken down or stop it from being shared on participating platforms. You can remain anonymous.
<https://takeitdown.ncmec.org/>

What is Virtual Reality

Did you know that many VR headsets have a minimum age rating of 13?

Childnet have produced this article detailing what virtual reality is and the considerations that you should consider before using:
<https://www.childnet.com/blog/virtual-reality-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers/>



RE: Year 9 students who will be taking GCSE PE / Sport Studies – Polo & Squad Tops

If your child has chosen to study GCSE PE or Sport Studies in Year 10. During the course he/she has the option to purchase a course polo shirt and/or Squad Top.

The polo shirt/squad top will be worn for practical GCSE PE or sport studies lessons and when students officiate or umpire tournaments within the College. The polo shirt and Squad tops are of a high quality, light-weight breathable material and will be printed with the student's last name on the reverse, both tops will have the Clyst Vale Community College Crest on the front left.

This optional Polo shirt will cost £21.00 whilst the Squad top costs are £21.50.

If you would like to purchase a polo shirt for your child, please make payment by Monday 3rd July 2023. Payment can be made online through the online payment system www.schoolgateway.com. This can be accessed via the Clyst Vale website at <http://www.clystvale.org/>

These polo shirts will be personalised with your child's surname. We cannot send them back if the size ordered is incorrect.

You will receive an email regarding more information and sizes this week.

Any further questions please let me know.

Mrs Broomfield



**ORDERING DEADLINE EXTENDED TO
MONDAY 10TH JULY**





Clyst Vale Library is a dual use library located within Clyst Vale Community College. The library is open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and is open to the students at Clyst Vale Community College throughout the week.

The entrance to access the library is through Clyst Vale's main entrance (reception,) then turning right, from there you will see the libraries entrance.

Public opening hours; Monday **3.30 – 5.30pm**, Wednesday **3.30- 5.30pm** and Thursday **4 –6pm**

EduLink and contacting the College

Please do not address emails, or replies to EduLink messages, to EduLink@clystvale.org. It is an unmonitored mailbox and will not go to anyone. Parents/carers need to reply to EduLink messages via the app, online, or via email, as this will then be directed to the staff member who sent the message to you. Or, please contact the relevant school ATHOS or the teacher.

There is also a contact form and details here: <http://www.clystvale.org/contact-us/>



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