



TARPORLEY NEWS

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A MESSAGE FROM MR DEAKIN:

We are well into the summer term and the period is one of transition in school. Although students and staff are busy as always, one notices how things are “moving on”. Firstly, we say goodbye to our Year 11 and Year 13 students – details of which you can read in the newsletter. Of course, it’s not a real goodbye as the examination season begins and students are still very much “with us”. Staff start to visit primary schools and we begin to see Year 6 as our “new Year 7s” and Year 7s suddenly realise they will no longer be the youngest students in our community. And further up the school Year 9 have chosen options. So, as always in school, time moves on apace and that is one of the great things about working in a school: there is always forward momentum. Enjoy this newsletter.



Year 12 Chemists Capture Carbon

On 17th April, seven Year 12 Chemistry students completed a project on “Reducing the Carbon Footprint of Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College” by presenting their research findings to a panel of scientists and engineers at Tata Chemicals in Northwich. The students also gained valuable knowledge and understanding of Carbon Capture technology by visiting Tata Chemicals’ Carbon Capture & Utilisation facility, which reduces the amount of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere by capturing the CO₂ gas instead, so it can be used in their manufacture of sodium carbonate.

The team from Tarporley were one of only four colleges in the local area chosen to take part in the project and, although they did not win the prize for best project, the people at Tata Chemicals were very impressed by their presentation skills and teamwork.



United Kingdom Mathematics Trust

Recently 140 year 7 and year 8 mathematicians competed in the UK Maths Trust Junior Challenge. Our students got some incredible results including 32 Bronze awards (top 50% of the country), 21 Silver awards (top 25%), and 5 gold awards (top 10%). Our gold awardees are Carlos 7AJ, Corey 8JO, Theo 8CW, Joel 8CW and Eva 8AR. Special mention to Joel and Eva who have been invited to take part in the next round; the Junior Kangaroo, only the top 10,000 students in the country get to take part.



KS3 pupils have been getting involved with Tarporley Parish Council Arts Project. The theme for the art project was chosen to be the fox by local Tarporley residents. This will culminate in an Art Trail in the village, which incorporates 6 public works that will be located along the high street.

Since March, Mrs Jones’ Street Art club have made over 1000 origami foxes that will be hung in different locations around the high street. Well done to everyone who has been involved!



Duke of Edinburgh season is now underway, the first being the Silver Practise expedition to the spectacular ‘Roaches’ in the Peak District. A fabulous group of pupils eased through their expedition with great teamwork, a positive attitude and accurate navigating. The weather was very kind, the rain we mostly watched in the distance and the wind was only a gentle 40mph! Luckily there was a tall dry stone wall to camp behind! Gold award students are already headed out this weekend with the Bronze award starting in June.



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STEMette's Tap & Tinker Workshop

Students from Year 9 were invited to a STEMMette's workshop, in which the pupils were introduced coding and asked to create a web page to provide information on phishing and scams. The pupils were also treated to a video call from a member of GCHQ/ Mi5 who discussed the importance of cyber security and the role it plays within the National Intelligence Service. Once completed, the girls had to deliver a presentation on their creation.

A big well done to all involved!

It's going to be an exciting term for STEM Learning. Please look out for notices from tutors on how to get involved in STEM opportunities. FI Club and Farmvention clubs are underway.

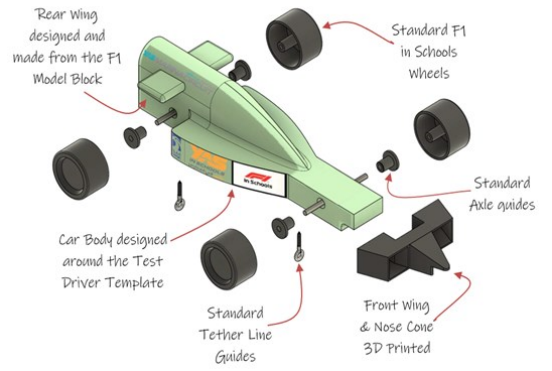


STEMD club start next week, Monday 3.15-4.15 open to KS3 students. With a range of exciting activities each week. Activities ranging from Eco design, Electronics, Architecture and Design. Please sign up with Mrs Almond to attend.

After a small break due to Year 11 Revision, the FI in Schools teams are back on track! Their final design ideas are being checked against the regulations before they get into the workshop to start building their cars, all starting with the standardised 'model block' which they will turn into their race car before testing begins closer to Summer.

Last week Technology Staff and some wonderful year 7 STEM ambassadors had the pleasure of inspiring the next generation of creators working with reception children at a local Primary school to create their own "Bugging-ham Palace".

I am delighted to announce that we will be taking part in the IET Faraday Challenge again next season. This is an opportunity for year 8 pupils to take part in a National problem solving and STEM competition. In the current league table Tarporley High School Team 4 made it to the National leader board with a score of 81 points. The current winning team have a total Score of 90. Great effort from all involved.



BRIGHT SPARKS

STEMD CLUB

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Design

Farmvention

By the time of this newsletter being released, over 30 Year 7 and 8 students will have started their Farmvention Challenge. Looking at the engineering and design cycle, with a focus on agriculture and sustainability, students will participate in a total of 5 sessions based around the STEM subject.

Mrs Almond D2 Monday 3.15-4.15pm



In Year 9 we have launched a new fun house system to encourage a little healthy competition. Each house is linked to tutor and represented by a creature. Points are awarded for extra curricular commitments and positive attitude. Currently in the lead is the house of Roberts Williams; closely followed by the house of McNeill. Watch this space!

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Not a dry eye in the house. Except from Mr Pryor who for once held his emotions check to say goodbye to the Year 11 cohort. The student arrived in wearing two shirts, one of which was to be signed with messages of memories, personal tags, nicknames and wishes of future fortunes. They continued about their lessons all day in such a fantastic manner, there was a real atmosphere of celebration, it reminded us on why we do such a day. Staff were signing shirts taking pictures with the teachers that meant most to them and who had made an impact of their educational pathway. This is a day that as a teacher you remember that our job is not just to teach but to inspire and make relationships that brings the student along with us. The student attended the leavers assembly and messages from staff were moving and personal, in a way that remembered each class and the fun they have had over the years. Student were subjected to their year 7 pictures, picture of Y6 Conway and many more through the years. The day was a real testament to all those who formed a positive culture to the year group. Good luck to all of them.



24 year 10, 11, 12 and 13 Spanish students recently enjoyed a sunny weekend in Barcelona with Miss Wainwright and Miss Faulkner. Students explored many aspects of Spanish culture and had the opportunity to practise their Spanish language skills! Students visited the Sagrada Família, Parc Güell and even got to experience a live Flamenco show!

We were so impressed by all of our students who made a real effort to immerse themselves in the language and culture, from ordering food in the local Boquería market, to navigating the Barcelona Metro!

MANAGING EXAM STRESS

There are loads of factors that lead to exam period stress. Having said that, the usual suspects are:

- Pressure to do well.
- The need to get high grades so that you can stay on track for your dream job.
- Trying to have control over SOMETHING in your life because everything around you is changing, e.g. going to a new uni, moving schools.

These fears and concerns are completely natural. Honestly, your mates are probably feeling exactly the same, even if they never really talk about it. Problem is, sometimes those feelings seem to be too big for you to handle. But we promise, there are things you can do to help.

Stress is the reaction people have to excessive demands or pressures. That's why it's very common to feel stressed around exam season. You might feel there's a huge amount of pressure to do well, or anxious you can't fit all the revision in. The build-up to results day can also leave you feeling overwhelmed and run down.

What to do when you're stressed for your exams?

- Make time for yourself away from your studies to wind down. For lots of people this might be something like relaxing in a warm bubble bath, listening to soothing music and shutting out the world for a while. But honestly, you just have to do whatever else floats your boat, like sailing a boat for instance.
- Take time for your mind and body to relax. Close your eyes and take deep breaths, chat with friends, try some breathing exercises, meditation or yoga. Even just watching a bit of your favourite TV show can help you switch your brain off for a moment.
- Take regular breaks from revision to avoid burnout.
- Take time to exercise. Yes, it may be difficult at first but regular and frequent exercise has been scientifically proven to be a good stress reducer.
- Make sure you're eating well. Remember, skipping meals will deplete your energy and leave you feeling drained.
- Talk to your family and friends. Making time to see your mates will help you unwind and let you offload any problems.

Try not to stay up too late revising. It might be tempting to cram late at night when you've got an exam the next day, but it's actually counterproductive. Instead, try a good night's sleep (and a regular sleep pattern) since that'll help keep your mind fresh.



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Sixth Form News

On 12th June, we said a fond farewell to our amazing Year 13s, giving them a day that they will never forget. Students collected a leavers pack containing: a Year Book, a Recipe Book with recipes from their tutors for student living, a full year team photo and a university checklist for kitting out their new room in halls of residence. Mr Voyce also made every student a doorstep – so they can wedge open doors in freshers week, in halls, and make lots of new friends! In addition, students signed T shirts as a lifelong memento and sat through a two hour assembly where we shared hilarious stories, fond memories and photos/videos to be nostalgic and amused about – in equal measure! Our Year 13s have made such an impact on our school community, acting as role models and they are incredible young adults. As a Sixth Form team, and as a team of subject teachers, having a role in helping them reach the next stage of their life-journey is something that we do not take lightly. It is a privilege to watch our students develop into mature, kind and charismatic individuals and we will miss them greatly!



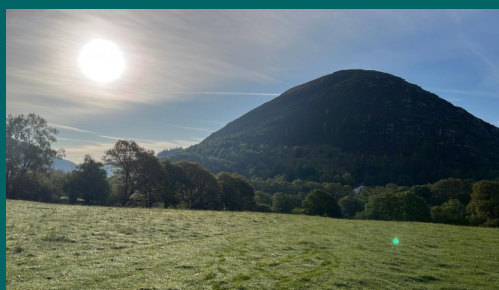
We encourage students to sign up for super-curricular and enrichment activities to broaden their horizons and to learn new skills. Over the last term, we have had a group of students learning British Sign Language – and it has been fantastic to see their communication and signing skills develop. We have been very lucky that qualified instructor, Andrew Mayers, has been able to teach this certificated ten week course in college. This is the second year we have run this course and it is something we will continue, as it is such an important and useful form of communication.



In addition, we have a two day fully certificated course running next week for sixteen students. It is a Mental Health First Aid course, run by MHFA England. The course increases young people's confidence in understanding and supporting people with mental health issues, meaning they can support themselves and others in the long term. The course is run by Healthbox and through their training and certification, MHFAiders will become part of a workplace wellbeing

community. Supporting young people's mental health is something we value highly. A Levels, exams and teenage years can be challenging and this course has been run successfully for many years now, empowering our students well.

With thanks to Miss Gregg and Mr Jones, our team of intrepid Year 12 Explorers are preparing for their Gold D of E exhibition and volunteering placements. They are completing their practice exhibition next week – packing their rucksacks with blister plasters and high energy foods – and we would like to wish them lots of luck! This is such a valuable enrichment opportunity, building valuable skills, from leadership and decision-making, to orienteering and life skills. We hope the weather is kind!





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Well done to all our eleven Year 13 students who have recently completed their EPQ. This is an additional qualification – an Extended Project Qualification, awarded by AQA – and involves students writing a 5000 word report, production log and doing a presentation to a live audience on a topic that they have researched independently. This is a highly academic and challenging undertaking, especially when completed alongside A Levels. One student produced her own exhibition as her ‘artefact’ and this was a huge success. Ella’s photography exhibition was exemplary. Ella also managed to couple her exhibition with charity fundraising and raised £591 for a charity very dear to our hearts: the George Heath Foundation. This charity has supported Sixth Form projects in the past as well as local causes, and is in memory of a former Sixth Form student who was also a keen Photographer. Well done Ella!



Year 12 students have been working with the Kelsall Wellbeing Hub as a new wave of Tarporley students to participate in this research-led project. After collecting data from the research and schoolwide survey, which our year 13 students conducted, this group was able to make strides towards implementing activities that will change the lives of young people in our community. The students presented their findings to the head of the Hub as well as the chair of trustees and they were blown away with the outcomes and suggestions. Now students will look to support implementation of social media, clubs and activities so that the Kelsall Wellbeing Hub can support young people with resilience and wellbeing.



Once again, our creative and skilled team of journalists, writers, photographers, artists and graphic designers have produced the latest TERM magazine. This Sixth Form magazine has run since 2015 and the quality of the writing and imagery just never fails to astound! Particular congratulations to Beth, Alice and Seth whose work and commitment have been exemplary. We would also like to shout-out to Lucy (our amazing cover star) and also Liv (our highly skilled photographer). We have entered the SHINE National Media Awards for 2023 and we await news of our entry. We have been nominated for awards every year since 2015 and have attended the prestigious Awards Ceremony in Stationers’ Hall in London each summer. The Awards Ceremony this year will be on

