



Dear Parent / Carer,

Students are now actively involved in Sixth Form life, with A Level courses well underway. Year 12s have settled in absolutely brilliantly and we have been delighted to welcome back those students who sampled other larger colleges, and then decided to return to us. Many staff have commented on the year group's positivity, studious approach and real sense of fun – we are so excited about the many opportunities that the next two years will bring.

We have an active twitter page which we would encourage all parents and students to follow; we regularly post Sixth Form news, updates and enrichment / vocational updates - please follow us!

Our first academic monitoring point is this week – and students will receive grades from all of their subject teachers. This is an important time to reflect on progress so far – meetings with tutors / the Sixth Form team / parents (where necessary) will follow. Please see important Sixth Form dates/events at the end of this Newsletter. We are looking forward to working with a wonderful new year group.

Mrs McMillan

Director of Tarporley Sixth Form



TARPORLEY SIXTH FORM



@Tarporley6th

CONWAY RESIDENTIAL

We were excited to visit the Conway Centre, after two years away, and really bond with our new year group. It was fantastic to welcome our new cohort and everyone got fully involved. Activities throughout our stay included a range of tasks – watersports, debating challenges, creative tasks, forest fun and problem-solving exploits - encouraging teamwork, communication and decision-making.

The highlight had to be the iconic 'Lip-Synch Battle' where every student took part, choreographing dance moves to iconic tracks – from the Spice Girls to Queen. Each event was scored in an inter-tutor challenge and the results were announced with great anticipation – 12VB were victorious! We also enjoyed a visit and tour around Bangor University, so students could begin considering post-18 pathways and aspirations from day one.

Congratulations Year 12, for your contributions to what was a fantastic residential and we look forward to more exciting (and evidently competitive!) times ahead. Keep stepping out of your comfort zone, make the most of every opportunity as Sixth Form is what you make it!





YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

In order that our students leave with valuable skills to make them even more attractive to universities and employers, we are having a **work experience week – 6th to 10th March, 2023**. We plan to use the same company that the school has worked with for many years: MPLOY SOLUTIONS LTD, but students will secure their own self-placements, linked to their course or career aspirations. MPLOY carry out appropriate risk assessments and oversee the whole process. We feel this is a very useful and beneficial experience for our students, developing their career awareness, interview skills and communication abilities. Mr Brownley has delivered two sessions on how to go about this on our two PSHE days, and has emailed parents with additional guidance. Students have also heard from former students who have obtained fantastic apprenticeship roles, visited college that have offer practical employability advice.

Students should begin to apply now and also use any relevant contacts they / you have to secure the most valuable placements in March. All Year 13 students have referred to this experience in their University / Apprenticeship applications - and some received part-time and full-time job offers on the back of it. Mr Brownley has compiled an excellent newsletter with virtual vocational experiences- also available on our website. Please contact him if you would like further information:

jbrownley@tarporleyhigh.co.uk

OPEN EVENINGS AND ROLE MODELS

We were so proud that so many students – more than 150 over two evenings – stayed to assist during our Open Evenings last half term. So many gave their time and represented us so well. We had numerous emails and comments from parents, who felt that our students were articulate, kind, approachable and informative. Superb role models! Many thanks to all and to our Year 13 Head Students and Harry and Alessia from Year 12, who delivered speeches on the evening, to a packed hall.

BUNBURY WI EVENT

Students volunteered to entertain the Bunbury WI who were keen to have entertainment and contact with our amazing young adults during a celebratory dinner. Well done to: **Annabelle, Hannah, Connie**, who got involved with our Year 13s, providing an array of activities, from singing, to acoustic music, poetry readings and some terrible jokes by our comedy compere, **Jamie**. It is lovely to be able to get out into the community again.

ENRICHMENT

Mr Gibbons is our 'Sixth form Student Development Lead' and he helps coordinate the many enrichment opportunities that students can become involved with during their time at Sixth Form - it is up to students to get involved and be pro-active as there is so much available. We plan to launch our incredibly popular British Sign Language Club on Wednesday after Xmas – and First Aid courses start this month. Our Sixth Form football club have been hugely successful, winning all five games so far. Our netball team have also been similarly successful! Some of the Enrichment clubs, academic opportunities and experiences available in Sixth Form, are listed below:

- Sports Fixtures
- Medical / Law Societies
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
- TERM Magazine
- Sixth Form Smart Council
- Debate & LGBTQ+ Club
- Whole School Council
- Women's Liberation Society
- Bar Mock Trial
- UK Youth Parliament & Youth Senate
- EPQ
- First Aid Accredited / BSL Course
- Charity Fundraising
- Volunteering in the Community
- KS3 Classroom Support





BESST TRIAL – KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

We have been invited as one of only 60 schools in the UK to participate in a clinical trial run by BESST, at King's College, London. Nineteen students applied and were subsequently selected to complete a survey on wellbeing, mental health and stress management. The results will be analysed by academics and could have national impact; additionally we were selected to attend a workshop run by the university, with strategies to aid positive mental health. This is a fantastic opportunity for students interested in scientific research trials, or Psychology – the advice they were given will be shared via student-delivered assemblies.



REMEMBRANCE PARADE

Congratulations to our fantastic Year 12 Ambassadors who represented us and laid our wreath at Tarporley's Remembrance Parade. It was a very moving ceremony and Ella and Michael really did us proud this weekend!



GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Students will receive an assembly delivered by Year 13 Gold Duke of Edinburgh students this Thursday. The presentation is an assessed component for the qualification, but students aim to inform and inspire Year 12s to get involved. The Gold Award builds invaluable skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, resilience and is an excellent addition to personal statements / vocational applications. Mr Jones and Mrs Gregg who oversee this scheme will be there to sign up students and advise: get involved!



EPQ

Mrs McMillan, Mr Brownley and Mr Gibbons will be launching the Extended Project Qualification next week. It is an additional qualification, the equivalent of half an A Level. It is rather like a mini dissertation involving a 5000 word report, presentation and production log on a topic that is independently researched and outside of the students' exam syllabus content. It is highly regarded and very academic but should only be undertaken if students are confident that they are coping well with A Levels and are able to take on more additional study. Time management and commitment are essential here!



UK UNIVERSITY AND APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH FAIR

Building on our trip to Bangor University in week one and our revision / study skills session from Northumbria University on PSHE Day 1, it was exciting to visit this exhibition, where all the main universities and some apprenticeship providers and employers were exhibiting. Students came back laden with prospectuses and insights – it's never too early to start looking ahead. We have compiled a list of students' specific vocational / career aspirations – however tentative they are at this point so we can send bespoke activities and opportunities to them as they come to us.



FIRST AID

Thank you for paying for this accredited course which will run on Wednesday 30th November and 14th December. More information to follow. REACH FIRST AID, our certified provider, have agreed to run additional courses after Christmas due to the demand. Students who were unsuccessful this time need to get their name on the waiting list with Mrs Henry.



Reach First Aid Training





BAR MOCK TRIAL

Mr Gibbons has started work on this brilliant opportunity for all – and especially aspiring Lawyers. We have an allocated Barrister who will work with us and students prepare to re-act a trial as authentically as possible. Students are supplied with specially written cases so they can try the law against their peers in courthouses around the UK. The experience builds confidence, understanding and interest in the law and current affairs. A brilliant opportunity.



SABLE COTTAGE CHRISTMAS CARD SCHEME

For the last two years, whilst we were in lockdown, we drew Christmas cards and wrote letters to residents of a local care home in Kelsall – Sable Cottage. We wanted residents to feel less isolated and reach out to them. The letters were incredibly well-received, with residents and staff delighted (and emotional) about receiving them. In our allocated Enrichment Hour, students are busily designing cards and we will be able to visit the Care Home this year - bringing Christmas Carols, cracker jokes, music and laughter. This is an absolutely joyful scheme and students love being involved. (Our small study room resembles Santa's grotto with glitter / craft materials everywhere!)



We will also be involved in the **CHESHIRE WEST FOODBANK APPEAL**, collecting food and dry goods for those in need locally. More information to follow.



SUBJECT TRIPS – LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

- Art and Photography – Liverpool Museum / Gallery Visit & workshop
- Media – Aesthetica Film Festival
- Maths – UKMAT Challenge
- MFL – Spanish Study Day & Film Screening at MMU University
- Business and Economics – Young Enterprise Scheme
- History and Humanities – Holocaust Trust, Auschwitz Visit (2 Y13 students)
- History and MFL – Berlin Trip
- Psychology – Shrewsbury Prison Trip
- English – TERM magazine. Theatre Trip planned for Literature students.
- Chemistry – Keele university lab visit later this term



EMPOWERING
ENRICHMENT

SIXTH FORM ATTENDANCE

- If students are unwell then parents need to ring and explain that absence, just like lower school – we have a separate Sixth Form Attendance Line. **Good attendance is vital for academic success.**
- Medical appointments require evidence ie a letter or email. Unexplained time off will mean an unauthorised absence and contact home will be made. Students also need to officially notify us if they ever leave College mid-session. Many thanks for your cooperation and support.

SIXTH FORM KEY DATES:

- **w/c 14th November Assessment Point 1 (AP1). Progress / Effort / HW grades in report form.**
- **2nd December – INSET DAY**
- **8th December – KS4 and KS5 Awards evening**
- **20th March - Assessment Point 2 (AP2). Progress / Effort / HW grades in report form.**
- **2nd May – Year 12 Exams**
- **13th and 14th July – STAR Day – Summative Reports at the end of the academic year**

