



Dear Parent / Carer,

Students are now actively involved in Sixth Form life, with A Level courses well underway. Year 13s have settled back brilliantly and we are, of course, building up to mock exams in January. Many staff have commented on the year group's positivity, studious approach and excellent organisation.

This term is incredibly busy with exam preparation, UCAS applications / deadlines and Apprenticeship open days / application dates. It's important that students work hard, manage their time well – but also have breaks too. Year 13 is pretty relentless but managing wellbeing and stress is really important.

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 and plans for the future – 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.](#)

Mrs McMillan

Director of Tarporley Sixth Form



TARPORLEY SIXTH
FORM

@Tarporley6th



UCAS APPLICATIONS

Over 20 students have now sent off their UCAS applications, with university offers rolling in each day. Three students now have all 5 offers and many are preparing for interviews and the submission of digital creative portfolios.

We have a rigorous system with lots of support for students – from the whole Sixth Form team and subject staff. We pride ourselves on the quality of our applications, and there is no doubt that we are in a very competitive climate, as this year group has a boom birth rate and there have been many deferrals following the covid pandemic.

ALL applications must be in by Thursday 15th December - end of term. Although the official deadline is in January, it is imperative that students are organised, as we have mock exams in the first fortnight after the holidays. Students certainly do not want to be worrying about their application whilst also managing exams.

Once students have submitted their five choices (these are not placed in order of preference on the form). Students then select their two favourite universities: FIRM and INSURANCE. It is important to choose these carefully, and not rush this decision. The final two choices should offer reassurance: an aspirational top choice and lower grades for a back-up option. City visits / Mock results / realistic goals will determine the final decision.



UCAS KEY DATES:

- **THS Internal Application deadline: Thursday 15th December 2022**
- **External UCAS Application deadline: Monday 23rd January 2023**
- **University reply deadline: 18th May 2023**
- **Student reply / Firm & Insurance decision deadline: 9th June 2023**
- **Results Day: 17th August 2023**



YEAR 13 CAREERS & EMPLOYABILITY

Obviously, not all students want to go to university and Mr Brownley has planned a full programme of support to assist those seeking employment or Apprenticeships after A Levels.

Employability support has included:

- Year 12 Work Experience
- Virtual Careers newsletter (see this month's)
- UCAS Exhibition in Birmingham
- PSHE days: PLEDGE have delivered CV workshops and links with local employers. (The **Pledge** Partnership puts employers at the heart of informing and inspiring young people about the career and progression opportunities in Cheshire)
- Careers Interviews (still underway)
- Mock Interviews
- Workshop with ASK APPRENTICESHIPS
- Visits encouraged to: National Apprenticeship Show
- Visits encouraged to: PLEDGE Careers Fair, Chester
- Alumni visits – from Bentley, Racewood, Toni & Guy, Ernst and Young
- Pathway Careers Training and Mentoring (CTM) offer totally free, online Q&A service for students to help them find and apply for apprenticeships. [Link to CTM](#)

For further information or guidance, please email: jbrownley@tarporleyhigh.co.uk

THE
CHESHIRE AND
WARRINGTON
PLEDGE

THE NATIONAL
APPRENTICESHIP
SHOW

ASK
ABOUT
APPRENTICESHIPS

UCAS

INTERVIEWS AND MOCK INTERVIEWS

All students who are offered interviews – for jobs, apprenticeships or university courses – need to let Mrs McMillan / Mrs Helsby / Mrs Chapman know, then we can organise practice interviews. (Not all university courses offer interviews – some rely solely on personal statements and references).

Last week we did mock virtual interviews and also face-to-face interviews with students, as universities are offering both styles this year. I have interviewed students for: Pharmacy / Teaching / Veterinary Science and Fashion Design. Well done to Ellie, Cameron and Alex who have had interviews for exciting Apprenticeship roles.

Every student so far has gone on to receive an offer – and that is a record we want to keep up! Good luck to everyone.

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 **Jamie and Annabel**, who delivered speeches on the evening, to a packed hall. Amazing confidence and truly inspirational.



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: **Grace, Chloe, Verity, Hannah, Ed, Hannah, Amy**, who got involved, 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 and the WI left rave reviews.





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. Well done to: **Sophie, Hannah, Beth, Tom, Ella, Emily, Amelia, Niamh, Maisey, Cameron, Suzannah, Felicity** for getting involved. 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 13 Ambassadors who represented us and laid our wreath at Tarporley's Remembrance Parade. It was a very moving ceremony and **Ollie, Charlie and Cameron** really did us proud this weekend, reading prayers to a packed congregation with real self-confidence!



GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Year 13 Students will deliver an assembly to Year 12 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 always an excellent addition to personal statements / vocational applications. Well done to **Beth, Chloe, Conor, Tom, Chris, Dan and Charlie** for getting involved – a great achievement!



LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ PROJECT

Phillipa and Rosie participated in this project last week – visiting Auschwitz as part of the Holocaust Trust. They both found the experience incredibly valuable – but also very upsetting and traumatic (understandably). However both are passionate about sharing and using their experiences positively, and will present an assembly to the whole school, so a legacy of remembrance and hope continues. Congratulations to those students and thanks to Mr Lowe and Mr Brownley for making it happen.



UK YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Congratulations to **Jamie** who debated in the Houses of Parliament last week – representing Cheshire through his role as UK Youth Member of Parliament. Here he is in Westminster. As Head Student, Chair of our Debate Club and accustomed public speaker, he no doubt represented us superbly. An incredible achievement.



UKMAT – MATHS CHALLENGE

The Sixth Formers who took part in the UKMT senior challenge did very well. We had 10 receiving Bronze certificates, 1 Silver certificate and 2 students achieving Gold. (Well done to **Charlie**). He has been invited to take part in the next round which is the Senior Kangaroo on **Wednesday 16th November**. Well done to all and thanks to Mr Barlow for organising this.



CHESS CLUB

Thanks to **Ed, Will and Ollie** who are establishing and fundraising for a new Sixth Form Chess Club. A great new initiative.





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



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.**
- **'If we extrapolate across a three A level programme, the typical student with attendance below 85% will perform at least two grades lower than a student with attendance above 95%. In competitive university entrance and other contexts, two grades represents a life-changing difference.'** *Source: The Sixth Dimension Report published by SFCA*
- 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**
- **3rd January – Year 13 Mock Exams (a two week period – timetable to follow)**
- **20th March - Assessment Point 2 (AP2). Progress / Effort / HW grades in report form.**
- **May – A Level Exams start – dates tbc**

