

Scarborough UTC News Flash

Friday 16th September 2022

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parent and Carers,

This morning we had a visit from the Director of the Trust, Mr McCluskie, he was thrilled with the atmosphere in college, the focus shown by the pupils and the palpable energy. I too am proud of the start made by all and wish to thank you in your support for upholding the excellence we require of all.

IT/MCAS/ParentPay

Thank you so much for “bearing with us” whilst we continue to work through the IT issues arising from merging onto one IT system across the Trust. We continue to work with the IT team to get everything working as it ought to be.

For those new to college, your child should have brought a letter home with Parentpay details, if they haven’t given this to you, please do call or email. Setting up Parentpay is advised, whilst your child can pay on the machine in college, the app allows you to see what they have eaten and whether the account is running short of funds.

Due to IT issues, we have allowed accounts to go overdrawn, however we will withdraw this facility on Friday 7th October. Allowing a payday to have passed hopefully gives all families a chance to address any overdraft situations.

If you are still having problems with MCAS (My Child at School), please do pop into college and a staff member will work with you to get this solved.

Attendance

I fully understand that there are times in the year when situations arise e.g., serious ill health, bereavements, hospitalisation that mean a child is unable to attend college.

In the last “normal” school year (pre-covid), National attendance in all schools was 95.3%.

We have analysed the attendance to date of our students. (Please note that Sixth form students do not attend for 28/28 sessions each week and are therefore not included).

Year 9 and 10 attendance is pleasing and remains above the national average: Year 9 = 96.2%, Year 10 = 97.1%. Thank you to all the parents contributing to this success.

Regrettably Year 11 attendance is poor. 21 out of the 41 students have had at least one day off already and we have only been back for 9 school days.

Attendance at school is required by law, we will be arranging a face-to-face meeting with any parent for whom their child has had more than one day off so far, so that we can address the barriers to attendance and support you to get your child to school.

A final reminder that college is closed on Monday 19th September for the funeral of Her Majesty the Queen.

Have a great weekend,

Mrs. Dowds, Principal

Learning through teaching@SUTC

Being prepared and equipped for the task at hand is an essential requirement for employees of any discipline, and any workplace. In the same way we need our students to reflect that business environment at Scarborough UTC through the provision of basic equipment every lesson. The lack of simple pieces of equipment such as a pencil and ruler can have a major effect on a student's progress on a day where graphs and charts have to be drawn in Mathematics and isometric projection drawings have to be drawn in Engineering Design, for example. Please do support us by ensuring that your son/daughter possesses the necessary equipment, and brings it to college each day, in order to maximise their progress across the curriculum. It is a requirement that all students have a calculator please.

BEHAVIOUR & SAFETY

Students have approached the return to college in a very mature manner with excellent business dress, we have been impressed with their attitude to personal responsibility and approach.

ASSESSMENT & CURRICULUM

All students have now completed enrichment options for Friday periods 5 and 6. There are a wide variety of study areas available including CCF, F1 in schools, fabrication and many more. This gives an opportunity for students to develop teamwork, take part in projects and to further develop important career-based skills.

Year 9 and 10

Student assessment cycles will commence on with the completion of NGRT Reading tests within English Lessons and GL CAT tests, Maths and English online tests. Student will be provided with a standard set of earphones for these tests and each of the tests will inform targets.

Year 11

The formative assessment process has commenced, and students should expect some in class testing. They completed NGRT reading tests and GL CAT 4 tests in the summer term. This data will be used to assess progress against previous targets and provide an assessment baseline. Y11 PPE Exams are scheduled to commencing Monday 7th November. Regular revision and completion of coursework is essential for success.

Y12

KS5 GL CAT 4 tests will be scheduled for week 3. This data will be used alongside student GCSE grades for analysis to set progress targets and provide an assessment baseline.

Y13

Formative assessment will continue for year 13.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

News from Programmable Systems Engineering!

This week has been really positive as our learners are getting into the routines of being in the electronics workshop, and handling components and breadboards. The Year 9 and Year 10 students have been amazing this week, I have asked them to work together, to share their thoughts and support each other, and as a result we have seen some really good collaboration and interpersonal skills development. I apologise for the number of times I have said 'what is your name again please?' as I endeavour to learn everyone's names, and there was positive progress this week! I am now getting there!

The link between voltage, current and resistance has been investigated this week, with the aim of *not* blowing anything up. In most cases, this was successful, and I am pleased to report that following last week where some smoke and sizzling was at least partly intentional learners used Ohm's law calculations and saw me demonstrate the use of Computer aided design for circuit simulation to prototype and test safely.

Year 11 students have completed some pre-assessment work for their Cambridge Nationals coursework carrying out visual inspections and using multimeters and making sure that they have a good understanding ahead of their actual assessment where they will be testing their own actual circuits and rectifying any errors. It is a daunting and exciting time for year 11 at the same time, so I have emphasised this week that getting into good habits will really help them in the long run.

Some students have an exam paper, and I have set this to be done with a mark scheme open that I have shared on google classroom. This is not a test, it is a going over things that should be familiar, and a part of long-term exam preparation, to enable students to cope with the demands of year 11. The important thing is the time spent trying with a black pen, then adding in a green pen any answers they were unsure about. Y11 is a lot about taking responsibility, and I've said I'd like to see that everyone has tried and made the effort.

For Y12 electrical pathway students, to begin with students are building a range of prototyped circuits, getting used to the concepts and language, and demonstrating CAD software capabilities and what a mistake it was to try demonstrating timing and pulse generation with buzzers very annoying indeed, but we made the link between timers and alarms and flashing lights, so there was a positive as well.

The Greenpower electric car enrichment got more interesting this week as teams started to dismantle and audit their kit cars. Teamwork makes the dreamwork and this project needs successful teamwork in order for teams to make the starting grid what a great Friday!

Have a good weekend, from Mr Brown

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Forthcoming Events

Year 9, 10, 12 Settling in Evening is scheduled on Wednesday 19th October 2022

Time: 4:30 - 7:30pm

Location: College Hall

This is an opportunity to schedule a parent appointment with Tutors and speak to curriculum Directors and Pastoral staff.

Additional Bank Holiday for The State Funeral of Her Majesty The Queen	Monday 19 th October 2022
Autumn half term:	Monday 24 th October to Friday 28 th October 2022
College Open Afternoon	Tuesday 11 th October 3pm – 5pm Tuesday 1 st November 3pm – 5pm
Professional development training day:	Friday 2 nd December 2022
Christmas holiday:	Monday 19 th December 2022 to Monday 2 nd January 2023
Professional development training day:	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023
First day of spring term for students:	Wednesday 4 th January 2023
Spring Half term:	Monday 13 th February to Friday 17 th February 2023
Easter holiday:	Monday 3 rd April to Friday 14 th April 2023
First day of summer term for students:	Monday 17th April 2023

Bank holiday:	Monday 1 st May 2023
Summer Half term:	Monday 29 th May to Friday 2 nd June 2023
Term ends:	Friday 21 st July 2023
Professional training days (given in lieu)	Monday & Tuesday 24 th /25 th July 2023