

Scarborough UTC News Flash

Friday, 27th January 2023

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have said goodbye to the winter blues with a number of events and opportunities.

Year 10 took part in a Speak Out event – the students learning how to improve their oracy skills. This leads to a national competition; we have 6 finalists who will compete in Assembly time to be the UTC representative in the National event in the Summer. The charity who run this were extremely complimentary about how much dedication the students had put into their presentations and how after a whole day they had improved.

Brilliant Club was launched too, with students attending Newcastle University and starting a project with a PHD student. This programme is designed to inspire those who might not think about Higher Education.

A mixed group of students have started the Emotion Switch programme designed to improve attendance and we wrapped up the week with a focus on Holocaust memorial day.

Covid Reminder:

The rules in school as set out by the DFE are different to the NHS website guidance. There is no need to isolate if the child feels well enough to attend school. If they feel unwell they should stay off until they are recovered. Please remember to call school before 9:00 on each day of absence.

Teacher Strike:

As a small provider with a very small number of staff in the NEU we are able to remain fully open next Wednesday and will be running school as normal. Please make sure your child knows this is “business as normal” at the UTC.

Recruitment:

I visited Scalby school this week to promote the UTC with a view to recruitment for September 2023. This is going really well, we only have 10 places left in Year 9 for September and 14 places for Year 10 – so if you know someone who is thinking of applying but hasn’t, make sure you give them a nudge!

Formal exams are fast approaching...

With only 2 weeks left to half-term, please make sure your child is in college punctually everyday – there is less than 10 school weeks to the GCSEs and A levels. So much to do in very little time!

H Dowds

Principal

SAFEGUARDING AND ATTENDANCE

Safeguarding and Attendance

Excellent attendance is an essential component to establish the ability to routinely work hard and keep up with learning and subject content.

It is very important to ensure that medical and illness absences are reported daily using our absence line or enquiries to Miss. Brown our attendance and data officer. The agreed college target is 96.5% for each student. Attendance support in the first instance ensures the safety of our students and it is vital to ensure excellent attainment and progress.

By making these phone calls to report absence in the first instance or to update on illness you support College by keeping us informed and we can prioritise other safeguarding concerns.

We work closely with NYCC attendance team to address attendance concerns.

Regular use of the MCAS parent and student portal allows us to communicate good progress and address any concerns quickly. Information is provided on attendance, positive attitudes, hard work and also initial concerns.

The first concerns we have about any student are usually small signs that relate to friendships, learning and behaviour. Consistent monitoring can provide additional encouragement for students to continue to develop and progress.

Year 11 mentor meetings have a scheduled focus each week and these provide opportunities to communicate attainment and revision planning. Students have commented that the weekly tuition on Wednesday afternoons are very helpful and they feel more confident in their preparations for Mock exams.

Year 11 students have been issued with their Prom Passports, therefore excellent attendance, hard work and taking part in targeted weekly revision are rewarded. This will give students the opportunity to attend their Prom – free of charge.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING RESOURCES

Assembly this week focussed on bullying and there was an emphasis on making the correct choices, not accepting bullying and personal resilience.

Holocaust Memorial assembly focussed on “Ordinary People” and the role of ordinary people as both perpetrators of genocide and also humanitarian roles. Further workshops took place in enrichment and featured a live stream.

[Holocaust Memorial Day Trust | HMD 2023 Theme](#)

Additional NHS resources that offer information on services to support children and young people’s mental health to ensure they get the help that they need.

Resources

[The Go-To - Emotional wellbeing and mental health \(thegoto.org.uk\)](#)

NHS – Scarlet Fever Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment

Email: info@community-counselling.org.uk

Website: www.community-counselling.org.uk

Telephone: 01653 690124

[Mobile phone safety | Childline](#)

[Physical activity and mental health | Mental Health Foundation](#)

[Kooth for Children & Young People - Kooth plc](#)

INDEPENDING LEARNING SUPPORT

Thank you for your support to ensure Independent study is completed to a good standard and meets the deadlines issued. The focus on this aspect of routine work and study is essential to determine good learning routines and serves to prepare students effectively for examinations. Should you require further assistance please contact the subject director or teacher. Your child should expect to receive at least one piece of work to do per academic subject per week. Currently Year 11 will have at least one past paper to complete per subject studied per fortnight.

TEACHING AND LEARNING@SUTC

Our Baker Dearing Trust Founding 20 students, Rosie and Eliot, have attended a workshop this week with a Cisco engineer. The engineer is undertaking research focusing on confronting stereotypes in order to attract more women and non-binary people into STEM. Our students attended a virtual session called ‘Draw a Scientist’ and made a great contribution to this project on behalf of Scarborough UTC. At their

next meeting students will be presenting their ideas about how more students can be encouraged into STEM subjects at their first introduction to a UTC. Students will also be involved in a 'Train the Trainer' session with WISE; this will give them a resource which we can use with local secondary schools to combat unconscious bias and promote careers in STEM through a personality quiz and access to role models. Later in the year our Founding 20 representatives will have the opportunity to attend two London visits to Amazon HQ and the House of Commons. A fabulous opportunity for these students and a further example of how project involvement enhances the lives and learning of our Scarborough UTC students.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

News from Programmable Systems!

This week has been a great week in the electronics workshop and in the CAD rooms. Our Year 9 Programmable Systems Foundation groups have been laser-focused with their circuit manufacture and multimeter testing. Having made a simple circuit with prototype board, our students were given the next challenge to use the photoetch method of making a printed circuit board. It was very rewarding to see that with a large range of practical operations to do in lesson everyone was either etching a board, drilling their PCB, cleaning it to remove the chemical barrier or involved in soldering, or subsequent multimeter testing - an awesome double lesson on Wednesday.

Our Year 10 Programmable Systems learners have been using their computer aided circuit design (CAD) lessons to create their coursework circuit, which is a decade counter microchip outputting to a sequence of light emitting diodes (LEDs). Similarly, to Year 9, it is rewarding to see the levels of confidence shown now using circuit design tools which were unknown in September.

The next stage of the challenge with the decade counter will be to create the printed circuit board which is a challenge and will require several iterations to get it correct but that is what we are here for to find solutions to challenges, and to learn from things not perhaps working properly to begin with. It is very nice when things work first time, but that would be unusual in an electronic system as there is usually something you have forgotten to connect, or disconnect the challenge of a circuit that is not working and to work through it with a student and identify where or why it isn't doing what it should really valuable learning experiences as it nurtures resilience essential as an engineer. Engineers are who the world makes use of to solve problems and make things better than they are. That's one of the reasons top degree level apprenticeships with aerospace and electronic engineering are offering pay in the region of £22K to £28K for learning.

This last point is something that our Year 12 students should now be actively investigating, whilst for Year 13 electrical and mechanical pathway students, applications are in for University level, and degree level apprenticeship applications are opening soon.

On to Year 11 now and within Systems, are nearing the end of the first topic area understanding embedded systems or microcontroller layouts. Their set task will be to specify and then complete a

programming task to automate a home security system and given just how many items we now use which have microcontrollers within them this is such a relevant topic to study at this level.

On the topic of programmable control, I was pleased to meet one of our business sponsors Castle Group today, to discuss developing a programmable unit for our Year 12 students, and it was really interesting to see how they programmed their systems, and to have a 'real world' view of live programming feeding into our curriculum is so amazing it means that the tasks our young professionals are engaged within Scarborough UTC are relevant, needed and valuable in the world - Technical Excellence indeed!

Have a great weekend, from Mr Brown

COMBINED CADET FORCE

CCF this last week has seen three of our cadets achieve their Ordinary Cadet Rank (Two Star).

Cadets K. Popplestone, M. Lines and I. Machin have put in extra work above and beyond what is expected of them to attend extra lessons during lunch and after college to achieve their goals.

The Cadets work on the National Royal Navy Syllabus. Last week I was pleased to announce that a large number of cadets achieved their first rank and now we have some of the older cadets achieving their next ranks.

K. Popplestone and I. Machin are currently ship's company leads and they are working towards Leading Hands Rank. To achieve this, they must attend a weekend Junior Leadership Course and they will be looking towards this award in the Summer Holidays at Britannia Royal Navy College, Dartmouth (this is where all Royal Navy officers attend prior to receiving their Royal Commission in the Royal Navy). Their much deserved Two Star rank is half of the requirements they need to achieve to be promoted. Well done for your achievements so far and hopefully you will be successful with the Junior Leadership Course.

M. Lines who is already a Leading Hand, having already attended the Junior Leadership Course is attending a Senior Leadership Course in March when a number of us head to HMS Raleigh (The Royal Navy Junior Rates Training Base near Plymouth). Well Done.

They will be working towards their Three Star Award which will lead to valuable knowledge and life skills that will be useful in civilian life post education.

All the cadets have worked very hard over the last few weeks and are helping to really establish a very strong contingent. Feedback from the Royal Navy is that we are very quickly becoming an example to other CCF contingents around the country.

I would like to congratulate all those who have achieved their promotions and within the next few weeks we will organise presentations where the cadets will receive their rank epaulettes and certificates.

Last week we are fortunate enough to welcome a guest speaker, something that I am trying to organise on a more regular basis. Adrian Wood from the National Coastwatch Institution came in and presented a lesson on water safety. Thank you, Adrian, for this and thank you to the cadets who were enthusiastic and engaged with this vital lesson.

Finally, this week we will be doing a lesson on Submarine Escape Techniques delivered by S/Lt Sowersby, a veteran of nuclear-powered submarines. This will be a hands-on lesson. The cadets will get first-hand experience of the equipment used to escape from depth. There is obviously no practical escape lesson planned, but they will understand the principles of escaping at depth and the science behind the technology and how the human body is affected.

Once again, I would like to say thank you to all the parents for your continued support in helping us deliver valuable enrichment.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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 17 th April 2023
Bank holiday:	Monday 1 st May 2023

Extra Bank holiday to mark the Coronation of King Charles 111:	Monday 8 th May 2023
Summer Half term:	Monday 29 th May to Friday 2 nd June 2023
Term ends:	Friday 21 st July 2023
Professional development training days (given in lieu):	Monday & Tuesday 24 th /25 th July 2023