

Scarborough UTC News Flash

Friday, 26th May 2023

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you for all your support and encouragement throughout a very demanding half-term; we are all very much ready for a rest and a recharge. This newsletter is rammed full of experiences and opportunities which remind me how privileged we all are to work together to share such a rich educational experience.

Year 10 Parents – please ensure you read the section on parents’ evening and ask for the letter that has been sent home. This is on 7th June from 3pm-6pm in college, we look forward to seeing you all there. It is the one opportunity in the year to have a subject by subject breakdown of how your child is doing and having had a preview of the mock results, you should be really proud of your sons and daughters who are performing very strongly even at this early stage – well done. Do call college if you get stuck working the MCAS app, we are happy to help anyone to make appointments.

As the half term approaches please can I remind you to be active parents. Having raised three daughters and always worked full time I know this isn’t always easy, but I urge you to know where your children are all the time, what are they doing and who are they with? We are sadly seeing an increase in the number of deaths in the area due to tomfoolery near the water – the sea, rivers and reservoirs around us are a delight, but also highly dangerous. In addition, there has been a rise in gang related violence; “social justice” incidents and also a rise in drug related admissions to A&E in Scarborough – please see the vape section below and let’s remember alcohol is a drug too. Young people do need to learn how to be adults and independent; they should learn this from adults and not from their peers.

When we return after half-term we have 7 school weeks remaining. I was compiling the timetable of events with staff this week, as you can see overleaf, there is loads on. At the UTC we do not “ease off” towards the end, if your child is off from college, they will miss significant bodies of work that they will need for the year ahead. Both myself and my husband work in the public sector; I have always had to have holidays in school holidays and often, due to my husband’s shifts, we have not had a holiday together as this has not aligned. Life is difficult, but education is important. Please note, I will never authorise a holiday in term time, this will always be reported as unauthorised and you will be fined.

	5	12	19	26	3	10	17
Mon			Yr11 Study Leave starts @2:30			Work Experience Y10 (some) this week	Y10 CU Cyber event (all week)
Tue	New CEO Visit to UTC Year 10 Work Experience Assembly		Year 11 Prom				
Wed	Year 10 Progress Evening	Y9/10 Health Trip @ CU Scarborough		Transition evening for new parents Founding 20 trip	Founding 20 trip		East Barnby Y9
Thu		Y10 Geography fieldwork	Y12 University of Hull visit	Green power challenge event Y9/10	Year 10 Hull Visit		East Barnby Y9 Y10 Waterpark trip
Fri				Careers fair (2) & Work Experience presentation Yr13 Last day of examinations	Year 13 Celebration Meal		East Barnby Y9 Rewards & celebration assembly
Weekend			Armed forces weekend	CCF Trip	CCF Trip	D of E Bronze Expedition CCF Trip	

Thank you once again for your continuing support.

With warmest wishes,

H Dowds

Principal

SUMMER EXAMINATION SERIES

The Year 11 and 13 have completed two weeks of exams and have a well-earned exam break ahead for half term. Attendance and conduct for examinations have been excellent throughout and all students are doing well. Students continue on their amended timetable after half term to provide specific subject masterclasses. This schedule will continue throughout the exam period, so full attendance is important. We advise that it is important to rest, exercise and keep up routine revision, the second half of the exam period can be more challenging.

The department for education states that each child **MUST** remain in full time education until their last examination. This was changed in 2014 and has been in place for a number of years. There is no such thing as study leave. Students who fail to attend the masterclasses and have repeated absences between examinations run the risk of not being permitted to attend the prom. Issues that prevent attendance should be addressed and dealt with through contact with Mrs Mcleod and Mr Connell – we cannot and will not permit parents to keep children at home between examinations – it should be school as normal.

Monitor, Report Encourage

Further Reminder

This further reminder to the dangers of vapes is related to several issues and concerns raised by North Yorkshire Police for the health of students across North Yorkshire.

Firstly, not all vapes are the same. The trade in black market vapes is widespread and young people are actively targeted by not only by legal marketing but also by criminals. Secondly, vapes are often traded and shared. In addition to the very harmful nicotine and chemicals that will advance future health concerns. Vapes can conceal and disguise drug use and may contain additional harmful substances and drugs such as THC and cocaine.

If you have any concerns or need support please contact us on enquiries. We continue to have a no tolerance approach to vaping.

Should you be concerned and feel that you need to share information please contact and refer information to the following email: dsl@su.coastandvale.academy

SUTC Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead monitor the email.

We ask parents to **closely monitor** at all times what their children are accessing on their devices on a daily basis, such posts are very prevalent on Tik Tok. This is an example of how dangerous the online world can be. Please see the guidance issued on last week's news letter or the resources below:

Resource: [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

Parents and students may find it useful to know that Childline have information on how to cope with stress, exam stress and good sleeping patterns, especially during the exam periods. www.childline.org.uk

Resources

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

ORGANISATION AND EQUIPMENT

Organisation and Equipment

It is essential for safeguarding purposes that Lanyards and identity cards are worn at all times. In addition to our business dress, this is a very important expectation. Students who forget such items have to sign into college manually and this adds to workload. It is our students' responsibility to ensure they are prepared for each day.

Being prepared and study ready includes equipment. Carrying the correct equipment and the stationery for each day is essential – a reading book, a clear pencil case with a pencil, black and green pens, ruler, maths equipment and importantly, a scientific calculator.

We also strongly advise that a padlock for locker use is essential, it allows students to store their belongings and mobile devices safely. Storing mobile devices correctly in the locker prevents confiscation in line with our policy. On the first occasion the device is stored and returned at the end of the day. Each subsequent occasion, the device is collected by parents. In order to prevent inconvenience and control access to on- line apps, please ensure padlocks are available.

KEY POINT - ATTENDANCE

Inform college immediately if your child will be late or there is a medical concern that may affect sitting an exam or if you have been held up due to transport issues. There have been cases in the past where bus services have not made pick-ups or summer traffic around Scarborough has caused hold ups. This allows us to take appropriate action to support.

TEACHING AND LEARNING@SUTC

On Tuesday, 16th May our Year 9 student participated in a project based learning activity run by Northern Powergrid giving them the opportunity to complete a range of tasks relating to the electrical engineering industry. Students worked in groups to solve routeing problems, design logos and posters, and to manufacture a structure that could support a pin insulator, a component from a full size pylon. The day concluded with presentations to the Northern Powergrid engineering team where each team had the opportunity to communicate what they had achieved. A huge thank you to Northern Powergrid for their time and expertise in giving our students an invaluable project based learning experience.



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; this being highlighted by the examination season. 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 Science and isometric projection drawings have to be drawn in Engineering Design, for example. Calculators for use in many lessons, not just Mathematics, are an essential piece of equipment, alongside a reading book for reading tasks at lesson and tutor time starts. 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.

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

News from Programmable Systems this week.

First of all, I would like to commend how well all year groups have supported our year 11 students this week. Coming to and from the electronics workshop has involved showing support and consideration for Year 11 students taking their terminal examinations, and it has been superb to see the respect and support shown for those students by people being silent when moving between lessons - it is a big ask, but given that we are a compact site - our young professionals have really stepped up and shown their maturity and I guess that sense of community that we are all working together.

With Year 9 learning this week, our robotics and coding has progressed to the final discrete taught element which learners will then be putting together into a final code challenge: using a colour sensor and coding it to recognise different colours. One issue that we explored this week is the speed at which microcontrollers can operate at - so fast that sometimes code has completed in less than the time it takes to blink. When using a sensor to read a colour, operators (our robot programmers) need to have some kind of visual or audible signal from their robot to indicate various points are on their code and so interpret if the code is working properly. One example would be if the colour sensor senses a green object, then a visual display LED should light up a particular colour. The issue we learned this week, was that unless students a) put a delay in to slow the process down and b) made the code loop and repeat, that their sensor would detect if there was something there or not and stop; what many students in one group did was to record video footage (for their showcase presentations) of their robot running loops which satisfied different conditions. This was awesome to see - if a coloured cube was brought in front of the robot, an LED display would light up with the colour of the block presented. It was effective with blue and red, and less so with green - or a specific hue of green - but it was so good to see that our young professionals worked the problem out and created some different solutions to code it. What is going to be really exciting is seeing them do that in the robot arena, when they are given a series of tasks that will demonstrate how far they have come with their VEX programming this year. Please ask you child if they have any footage from this week!

With Year 10 students nearing the end of their circuit manufacture for their electronic sports counter, there has been a reminder to ensure that photos are uploaded and transferred straightaway to their eportfolio on google classroom. With the practical element a key topic area in the coursework marks are hugely affected by a lack of photographic evidence - it may be that you are contacted about your child attending a catch up session for programmable systems - this is entirely to do with this task not being completed in the previous series of practical workshop sessions, so please encourage your child

to attend, or to check they have sent their photos to their school email or google drive. Students showing exceptional practical skills this week have been BM, GH, DH and JL - great to see!

Year 11 and 12 students have completed their courses now, and are revising for their terminal exams.

With Year 11, all systems students are members of our Revision google classroom called R113 Electronic Principles which is full of revision papers, revision questions sorted by topic area or learning outcome, online quizzes about PAT testing, several sets of flash cards I've created, and access to kahoots that have been made specifically for our student learning content. I can print additional papers as well so please encourage your child to make good use of these digital resources - the most useful of which is the online knowledge organiser - a booklet that has all the R113 exam content in it, and which is also available on the google classroom.

I'm refreshing and re-setting all the existing kahoots made for Y11 so that they are available in quiz format again. My advice has been not to cram, or stay up too late revising. Please encourage your child to use the available systems resources, and also to ask if they are unsure on anything specific. I'm always available for a support session to go over any specific topics!

Year 10 post-script - ahead of the final half term of the year: we encourage and support all our young professionals working hard and trying their very best. Thank you for your support with your child at Scarborough UTC, and after looking at the positive points for behaviour - this has been a very positive year for almost everyone. On the theme of always improving and being our best, I have sent some messages out this week. The messages stated that some of our systems students would benefit by attending our intervention support sessions. This is because, whilst there is positive progress being made, it is not yet enough to satisfy the technical and academic potential that they are capable of and could reach here at the UTC. We thrive on challenge, and sometimes we do not know what we are capable of until we try. The challenge we encounter sometimes in Systems lessons is that it is hard, a new subject area, and there is a steep learning curve. The sessions do make a huge difference, sometimes with esteem, sometimes with problem solving, sometimes with working on a problem to solve it and move on. Always though, with student resilience.

The high teacher to student ratio means that if there are issues relating to understanding - a missed lesson perhaps then we can address it there. If you did get a message about progress please can you support your child to attend.

In relation to our current Year 11 systems progress, many learners are now very pleased that they have attended and put the work in to try their best. It cannot be stated enough that Scarborough UTC, is a place of opportunity and I say each week to make the most of your opportunities and future you will be glad that you did, or something along those lines!

Year 11 post-script - well done for your efforts revising and working hard putting in time and effort for your examinations. Keep working over the break - the hours you put in will be worth it in terms of your confidence when you are in the exam hall.

Have a good break from college, see you in June after the Spring bank holiday! Mr Brown

YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING

Y10 have been issued with a letter to invite Parents to Progress Evening on the 7th June 2023. The letter has details to advise on how to book appointments between 3 and 6pm on the My Child at School App. This evening will provide a vital review of progress as the students move into their GCSE examination year. We look forward to seeing you.

TRIPS & EXPERIENCES

Year 10 moving into Year 11 Team Building Event

Last week Year 10 had a superb morning at Cayton Bay with various activities on offer, conduct was exemplary and even the weather picked up to bless us with a sunny morning. We look forward to further activities in the summer term.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

TERMS DATES 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term:	4/9/23-20/12/23 Half term 30/10/23-3/11/23 (Training day on 4/9/23, 12/10/23 and 1/12/23)
Spring Term:	3/1/24-22/3/24 Half term 12/2/24-16/2/24 (Training day on 3/1/23)
Summer Term:	8/4/24-19/7/24 Half term 27/5/24-31/5/24 (Training day 22/7/24)