

Scarborough UTC News Flash

Friday, 29th September 2023

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Carers,

Apologies to everyone for the delay in last weeks' newsflash. I was very fortunate to be invited to speak at a UTC conference held at Aston University UTC on Friday, so I'm only getting to this now. Seeing another UTC in action, sharing experiences with other UTC Heads reminds me of how fortunate our students are at Scarborough UTC. Aston is held up as a model of UTC best practice and I was delighted to be able to mentally tick off all that they do against all that we do. I came away really proud of the offer we have in place and know we have the highest standard of specialist education a child could have in Scarborough.

On Saturday we opened college for a workshop experience and tours. We will do a second round of these in early February at traditional options time, it was still very pleasing to meet young people and their families already keen to start their UTC journey, despite only being 4 weeks into year 8.

Two important diary dates:

Parents of Year 11 – make sure you keep the evening of 12th October free to kick start the revision journey for your child. A number of resources and guides will be shared to ensure your son or daughter is getting underway with quality revision ahead of mock week starting two weeks after half term.

We will be hosting a celebration of success, with an Awards Night on Friday 20th October. We will be presenting awards for the most progress made in each of the subject areas and also for specialist community awards. Students in last year's Year 9-13, nominated by our staff team will be recipients and will receive a letter of invite towards the end of this week.

Thank you for your continued support,

H Dowds

Principal

TEACHING AND LEARNING@SUTC

Our students continue to be given guidance and support regarding employability skills and work experience opportunities, with the week of work experience for Y11 students fast approaching and the deadline for Y10 and Y12 own placement agreement forms being Friday 6th October.

We have been working closely with NYBEP to get the last Y11 students allocated placements within local organisations ready for the end of October, many of which have been offered fabulous opportunities. We emphasise again to our Y10 and Y12 students that gaining their own placement will be of great benefit to them, with students already evidencing excellent communication skills through their contact and negotiation with employers. We would encourage our parents to support their children with this activity in the last weekend they have available to do so, helping with identifying local opportunities and calling/visiting organisations to introduce themselves. If you would like any advice or information don't hesitate to contact us, and do inform your child to come and talk to me personally if they have concerns/queries of their own. Key dates for consideration are:

Friday 6th October - all Y10 and Y12 self-found placements agreement forms must be returned by this date to the school reception

Monday 4th December - Friday 8th December - Y10 and Y12 work experience week - all students in these year groups will be attending placements

Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October - Y11 and Y13 work experience week - all students in these year groups will be attending placements

TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE

This week in Engineering Programmable Systems - Week 4! Already! The big picture with Years 10 and 11 in terms of revision readiness and making good use of home study time is now firmly established. I am really impressed with both the regularity of study now happening, and the really positive scores we are seeing in our quizzes at the start of each lesson - this is demonstrating that the flashcard-based home study tasks are accessible, not too difficult to complete, and that parents and students can see their clear benefits in terms of positive study habits and that positive result every week as a result of your actions. Please do offer some support and praise for your child for their home study success in Systems!

We are well underway with Programmable Systems coursework and having researched and demonstrated understanding with a range of 'embedded' products. Embedded system here simply means that there is a programmable element within a product or system in order for

it to work. For example, a microwave or washing machine or car collision avoidance system. They all have a range of sensors or buttons sending a voltage signal in to the programmed controller. Dependent on its' programming - e.g. microwave a potato, defrost or reheat. This sends signals out, to a range of motors, lights, screens, alarms or other devices to turn them on and off according to how it is programmed. It is a huge area within programming, increasingly linked with the internet of things (IoT).

The set task used this year by the exam board is for students to design a programmable temperature control system, with different inputs and outputs - so learning about different types of programmable systems is vital.

Year 9 this week have been trying to find their way out of a maze, with huge walls and a complex path to navigate. Virtual reality robotics and the various tasks that students are working through are fantastic to see. This week MO, BK, NG were fantastic negotiating a path for their robot through the maze - I should say that students have to code their robot to go through the maze on its own or autonomously. As in previous lessons students are encouraged to use an iterative approach -this is the technical term for have a go and see if it works, and then have another go! The especially positive thing that is now in evidence is that students are showing a degree of independence with the task, and also supporting each other and sharing their learning with others. Ask to see your child's Robotics showcase in google classroom as they are adding to it each week.

Additionally, half of their time this week was spent in the electronics workshop demonstrating how resistors affect current in their multi-LED circuit, and we spend some time becoming more familiar with quantities and terms such as voltage, current, power and resistance. Active learning strategies such as turn and talk, quizzing and bridging from the classroom into real life experiences

Year 12 and 13 students have all been engaging with testing this week; Y13 in their circuit simulation and manufacture unit showing how virtual signal generators and oscilloscopes to demonstrate that their amplifier circuits are indeed successfully making input signals into much bigger output signals. This supports their success at the designing stage prior to circuit manufacture. The Y12 Principles of Electrical and Electronic Engineering group, having completed a series of circuit theory tasks were this week using real world test equipment to measure voltage, current, resistance and continuity - with great success - and it has to be said that practical hands-on is the best way to find out about using test equipment is to actually use it.

Have a great weekend from Mr Brown

PREPARATION FOR EXAMS

The preparation for exam series 2024 has begun. Details of the exam revision evening on the 12th October 2023 will follow by letter. This will be a vital opportunity to provide exam support and specific subject guidance on the exam process and successful revision.

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, highlighters and college water bottle.

MONITOR, REPORT & ENCOURAGE

All students have been issued with emails and online accounts and all are reminded of the importance of maintaining security using college account usernames and passwords and to report concerns if they feel that accounts have been compromised.

Resources

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

AUTUMN REWARDS

Students' positives are identified and can be viewed on BROMCOM MCAS. The points identify the elements of our college ethos and that of being a 'Young Professional'. We encourage students to review progress regularly. Reward vouchers are now issued in assembly on a weekly basis to recognise achievement and hard work.

APPOINTMENTS

A reminder about appointments during college time. Where possible all appointments should be made outside of college hours. Where this is not possible parents should inform college as soon as the appointment is made by emailing enquiries@su.coastandvale.academy or calling us on 01723 821621. Please inform us as soon as the appointment is made, and not just on the morning, with the exception of emergency appointments. Please note that students leaving college for appointments must be collected from Reception by a parent or carer where they will be signed out, they will not be allowed to leave college on their own.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Full PE kit is required for all. If a student is medically excused please notify Enquiries. Should a student be medically excused they are required to change in full, their lesson is then adjusted to include personal, professional and leadership development.

SAFEGUARDING

We are committed to our students and families and we continue to provide support and points of contact.

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.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important to ensure that all medical and illness absences are reported daily by parents using our absence line or enquiries to Miss. Brown our Attendance and Data Manager.

Attendance will always be a continual reminder. Excellent attendance is above 96.5%. It is important that all students work hard to continually improve, this contributes significantly to maintain and improve overall progress and attainment. All students with 100% will receive 10 professional points per week. Student above the 96.5 target will receive 5 points per week.

Attendance monitoring and formal procedures are followed robustly. We work closely with NYCC attendance team to address attendance concerns at the earliest stage.

LOCKERS AND MOBILE DEVICES

Each student has been assigned a locker and this must be used to store all bags, equipment, and mobile devices. Students do require a padlock.

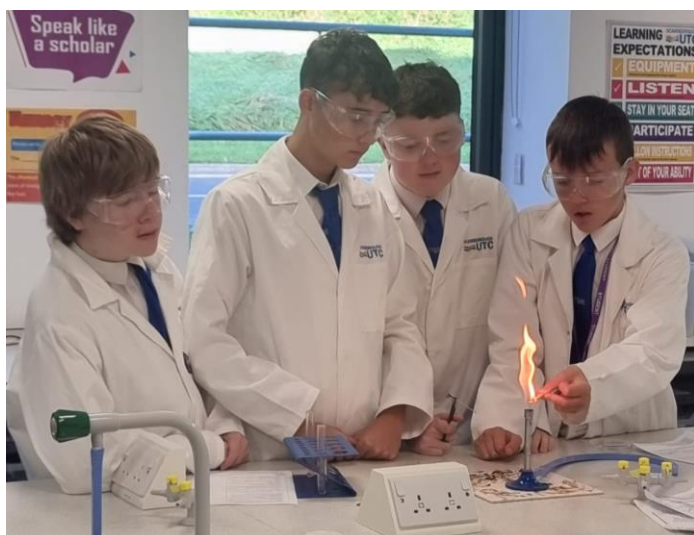
Use of padlocks provides essential security for valuable items including mobile devices, smart watches and ear buds etc. Storing mobile devices correctly in the locker prevents confiscation in line with our policy. On the first occasion the device is stored and returned at the end of the day. On each subsequent occasion, the device is collected by parents. To prevent inconvenience and control access to on-line apps, please ensure padlocks are available and devices are stored correctly.

Mobile device procedures protect students from on-line access and messaging throughout the day to ensure focus is on College work, social interaction and the break and lunch activities that provide opportunities for mental and physical well-being.

SCIENCE OBSERVATION TRAINING

Year 9 are continuing their programme of science observation training. It's all part of our intensive syllabus to enhance practical experimental skills prior to embarking upon the GCSEs. This week they had 15 separate investigations to complete including flame tests and gas tests (see picture).

Mr. Instone
Teacher of Science, Physics Specialist.



ACADEMIC YEAR DATES

Year 11 Information Evening – Revision	Thursday, 12 th October 2023
Autumn Half Term Holiday	Monday 30 th October 2023 – Friday 3 rd November 2023
Professional Development Training Day	Friday 1 st December 2023

Christmas Holiday	Thursday 21 st December 2023 – Wednesday, 3 rd January 2024
First Day of Spring Term for Students	Thursday 4 th January 2024
Spring Half Term Holiday	Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February 2024
Easter Holiday	Monday 25 th March – Friday 5 th April 2024
Professional Development Training Day	Monday 8 th April 2024
First Day of Summer Term for Students	Tuesday 9 th April 2024
Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May 2024
Summer Half Term Holiday	Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May 2024
Term Ends	Friday 19 th July 2024
Professional Development Training Day	Monday 22 nd July 2024